

MINUTES OF THE CHS ALLIANCE AD HOC BOARD
13th November 2023: 13.00pm – 14.30pm
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

PRESENT:

Shahid Ali (SA), Michael Barnett (MB), Allan Calma (AC), Lola Gostelow (LG, Chair), Yegana Guliyeva (YG), Coleen Heemskerk (CH), Shama Mall (SM, Vice-Chair), Susan Otieno (SO), Sarah Pelicaric (SPe), Marina Skuric Prodanovic (MSP), Carly Sheehan (CS), Michael Wickham Moriarty (MWM)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Tanya Wood (TW, Executive Director/ED)

APOLOGIES:

Meg Sattler (MS), Eoin Wrenn (EW), Rehema Kajungu (RK)

MINUTE TAKER:

Charleen Kagan (CK, HR & Governance Manager)

INVITEES:

Bonaventure Sokpoh (BS, Policy & Outreach Senior Advisor), Matthew Carter (MC, Board Representative on CHS Steering Committee)

1. INTRODUCTION: WELCOME, APOLOGIES AND AGENDA

Apologies were noted.

LG thank everyone for coming and especially BS for his presence and his work on the CHS consultations he has led on.

2. CHS revision

TW provided a comprehensive overview of the CHS Revision process to date. She highlighted that the project is nearing completion after an extensive round of consultation at country and regional level as well as through webinars and surveys.

A question for today was on the inclusion of the General Requirement.

General Requirements- A discussion ensued about the inclusion of GRs as stand alone requirements (as presented) or if they should be incorporated back into the Commitment s.

Board members expressed their appreciation for the first three general requirements, but shared some reservations on the fourth requirement.

The discussion revolved around the perceived user experience and presentation of these Requirements whether in terms of integration, potential relocation within the preamble of the requirement 4, or incorporation into existing requirements. The consensus was that it would be better to put back into the Commitments.

Commitment 4 wording - LG asked for feedback from the board members on the wording on Commitment 4 between

- Access support that does not negatively affect them and the environment
- Access support that avoids causing harm for them and the environment

Members generally prefer the second formulation, which they believe aligns better with the terminology in the sector and emphasis on do no harm.

Other feedback

- Board members suggested that the introduction needed simplifying to be more articulate on the value and purpose of the CHS.
- It was appreciated that the standard has evolved towards more flexibility, clarity, and a reduced number of requirements.
- Some board members suggest that rephrasing might be appropriate to reduce the length of certain sentences, as they are attempting to convey too much information. They also add that some terms could be more user-friendly with notably simplified language, that it is need to emphasizing key points and it is important to make the distinction between what is best practice and what is non-negotiable.

These comments would be fed back by MC to the Steering Committee for the next edit. The Board would receive the next (final) version on the 24th Nov – with a one week turn around before sign off on 1st December.

The plan is still for the updated CHS to be shared publicly week of 11 Dec, ready for public launch on 21 March.

3. “CHS Localized” – a country and regional framework

TW introduced the new LOCALED Framework . Following the members' consultation, this Country and Regional Framework has been developed, with both an external version with gives a broad overview of the concept, as well as internal, more detailed, version. This is being developed to submit to two potential donors before the end of the year.

Feedback from board members on these new stages was very positive.

They suggested that the external version of the document could contain more details, explaining the "how" of the actions. They would also like to know how it would be possible to ensure that organisations has made changes to improve the quality of support and that this has an impact on the ground.

LG asked the board members if they would agree to some of them being more directly involved in the project in order to provide TW with the best possible support, to which the members replied in the affirmative and TW would follow up.



The meeting concluded, with LG thanking all participants for their feedback and presence. She also reminded board members that the next meeting would take place on 5 and 7 December 2023. She thanks BS and TW once again for their hard work and commitment.

Meeting ended 14:30pm, 13th November 2023

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lola Gostelow".

Lola Gostelow, Chair of the Board

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Allan Calma".

Allan Calma, member of the Board

Charleen Kagan

[Charleen Kagan \(Jan 23, 2024 10:26 GMT+1\)](#)

Charleen Kagan, minutes' taker

Signature: A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lola Gostelow".

Email: chair@chsalliance.org












2023.11.13 Ad Hoc Board Minutes

Final Audit Report

2024-01-23


Created:	2023-11-24
By:	HR Alliance (hr@chsalliance.org)
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