

Agenda Item: Chair's and DG's progress report

The war continues in Ukraine, hostilities in Sudan turned into civil war (3.5 million people displaced since April) and at the time of writing an Israeli-Hamas war pushes us all towards the abyss - literally for the Palestinians. Devastating earthquakes in Morocco and Afghanistan add further instability. Violence against women and girls in their homes goes unabated and political fights continue to be waged on the backs of LGBTQI people and women. The 9/11 script makes a comeback. These last few months reveal a new dawn of misinformation, with new technologies and an ever-shrinking concentration of social media ownership oiling the machinery of established media, leaving many of us longing for a 24 hour news cycle. Global growth is historically weak, from ~3.5 percent in 2022 to 3.0 percent in 2023. These are such tough times for millions and tough times for SRHR.

Against that context three of our MAs launched **humanitarian responses** with stream 3 support: Ecuador (flood), India (Manipur violence) and Afghanistan (earthquake). With the emergencies that have occurred in the last month alone, Secretariat teams are supporting six MAs with Stream3 proposals (Morocco, Libya, Chile, Armenia, Palestine and Israel). As of writing, \$940,336 (78%) of the annual Stream 3 budget has been committed, with pipeline proposals bringing this to 110%. It is for those reasons we will seek your approval to go beyond the stream 3 budgeted allocation.

An IPPF grant-making mechanism for grass-root organisations looking to reinforce their SRHRJ humanitarian preparedness and response is being explored with FCDO, DFAT, GAC, the Netherlands and Denmark. The Ukraine portfolio is drying up. Only OSF funds (\$400,000 across three countries for two years) are confirmed for 2024, with FCDO funding running out by EOY. While Ukraine is still requiring humanitarian programming, neighboring countries are transitioning into recovery.

UNGA dialogue focused on the polarisation and pressure on Sexual Orientation Gender Identity Expression (SOGIE) and women and girls. Once again **UN negotiations** were in and of themselves polarising; the political declarations on health and the SDGs yielded devastating outcomes. SRHRJ was not even mentioned in the SDG political declaration, which aims to review the implementation of the SDGs midpoint to the 2030 Agenda. In better news the ICPD High-Level Commission wrapped up its work with a call for progress on sexual and reproductive justice; critical as we gear up for ICPD30 next year. In the autumn we anticipate coordinated pushback from the anti-gender movement, who for the first time is holding a summit inside UN premises on 'the right to life'. Mainstreaming reproductive coercion into these settings is a big step back and the team are strategising on how to better prevent this creep into the UN agenda.

As a connection point in between IPPF General Assemblies, **regional meetings** have provided an opportunity for connection and action on the implementation of the strategy, consultation on the brand and the charter and progress on the Anti Racism Programme of Action.

Membership: as you will see in the MC report, we took swift action to ensure the integrity of MAs, and recommended a number of suspensions (Namibia, Sierra Leone) to turn them around, with mixed results. On the more positive side, one MA (APROFA, Chile) that left in 2019 has now decided

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to risk a core grant through the then WHRO, to return to IPPF. Another positive request from Bhutan, again an MA who had voluntarily decided to surrender membership, showing immense courage and readiness to change with modern monarchy and our readiness to be flexible.

On **the reorganization**, much effort has gone into recruiting for the re-aligned Secretariat. While we are not completely there (a handful of redundancies have been delayed to year-end) we can report that we are going to make it within (or very close to) the approved re-structuring budget. Amongst those recruited, two new members of the directors' leadership team who started early November:

- Micah Grzywnowicz (they/them) has joined as Director of IPPF European Network. Micah comes to us from the Danish Institute for Human Rights (Human Rights, Sustainable Development, Gender Justice), has worked for the Swedish Federation for LGBTQI Rights (RFSL) and has been Co-Chair & Executive Board Member of ILGA Europe for over 5 years. Micah is originally from Poland and has a master's degree in human rights from the Central European University in Budapest. A driven, mature, and collaborative leader that is seeking to make an impact and uplift the lives of others, Micah is an "activist at heart."
- Lucy Fernie (she/her) has joined as Director, People Organisation and Culture. She has worked in the private, public and NGO sector and comes to us from Adam Smith International. Lucy has a passion for creating working environments where people can be their best and comes with strong background in delivering large scale people change programmes using her Occupational Psychologist and professional HR expertise to excellent effect. Lucy is experienced across all aspects of HR with a people, culture and organisation development focus; she has led safeguarding and also led anti-racism and diversity work. She replaces Claire who joined as interim to help us through the realignment process.

The DG travelled to Rwanda for Women Deliver, where opposition to SRHR from Hungary was allowed into the meeting and were met with a response that left many of the attendees cold. MA visits showed great promise for how we engage with sex workers (Aruba) but were more troubling in the Netherlands, where the government is failing to support those in the crosshairs of a growing opposition. The DG also attended regional meetings of the Americas & Caribbean (Panama City) and Europe (Sofia), with plans to visit Indonesia and Germany imminent. The Vice Chair also attended the Panama City and Sofia regional meetings, bringing greetings from the Board and strong messages about the new strategy and the Board's commitment to youth leadership. The Chair took the opportunity of a visit to the UN University in Kuala Lumpur, to also visit our East & South East Asia & Oceania regional office (ESARO). The exchange with the RO staff – both present and on line – on the implementation of the Come Together strategy was both encouraging and inspiring.

After a highly competitive bidding process, USAID awarded IPPF to lead their West Africa regional FP/SRH program. USD45 million over 5 years in 4 Francophone MAs from Togo, Mauritania, Cote d'Ivoire, and Cameroon. We are undertaking a review of our systems and processes to ensure full compliance.

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After the Swedish government's decision to reduce ODA as well as prepare a new SRHR strategy, IPPF's core funding from Sweden in 2023 was reduced by 60% to SEK45Million. At the time of writing we are still waiting for the 2023 funding agreement from Sweden. Funding discussions for 2024-2026 are pending, and it is anticipated the government will share the funding envelope with SIDA in December.

As at the end of September 2023, the **total income year** to date (draft figures pending month end closure adjustments) stands at circa US\$ 91.1 million as compared to a budgeted income of US\$ 95 million. Similarly on the expenditure side the total year to date expenditure is at circa US\$ 82.9 million as compared to a budget of US\$ 96.9 million. You'll find more info on this and the year-end forecast as we finalise finance papers in time for the upcoming C-FAR on the 17th November 2023.

**IPPF BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING:
 15 & 16 June 2023
Decisions/Action List**

	ACTION ITEM	RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	STATUS
1.	<p>Minutes of the previous meetings</p> <p>The Board adopted the Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees held on 9 & 10 March 2023, as a true and accurate record.</p>	Personal Assistant to the Director General	Immediate	Done
2.	<p>Review of Board Work Plan</p> <p>The Board noted that the Board Work Plan Objective on communication between the Board and MAs needed action, noted further that the IPPF Charter and Rebranding would be a major focus of communication with MAs leading up to the next GA and agreed that MA communications and governance reform would be items at the next meeting.</p> <p>The Board agreed to have a discussion at a future meeting on IPPF's "footprint", linking this with MA governance, in the context of the Federation being like a living organism, requiring constant renewal to remain relevant and to achieve its purpose.</p>	Dir Ex Rels to ensure dialogue takes place Director, Governance & Accreditation	September 2023	Done
3.	<p>Board Committee Membership</p> <p>The Board agreed to allocate Trustees to Board Committees and Working Groups as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finance, Audit & Risk Committee (C-FAR) – Patrick Mwebesa • Resource Allocation Technical Committee (RATC) – Hayathe Ayeva (move from C-FAR) • Branding and Charter Working Group (BCWG) – Jon Lomoy (to replace Santiago Cosio) 	NGC Chair C-FAR Chair RAT-C Chair BCWG Chair ARWG Interim Chair	July 2023	Done

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	ACTION ITEM	RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	STATUS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anti-Racism Working Group (ARWG) – Sami Natsheh (Chair) – interim role, pending the appointment of new Trustees. 	Director, Governance & Accreditation		
4.	<p>Secretariat alignment update</p> <p>The BoT noted the DG's update on the progress made towards restructuring the Secretariat with a focus on the Financial Sustainability Unit and approved the establishment of a Chief Commercial Officer position.</p>	DG	Immediate	Recruitment under way
5.	<p>Capacity building areas for the Governing Bodies</p> <p>The Board noted the proposed capacity building areas for the BoT and Board Committees, and suggestions for their implementation. The proposed areas were Membership Standards, Financial Management, IPPF SRHR policies and onboarding of new Trustees. It was agreed that the BoT would review these recommendations and would consider how to move forward, perhaps including some capacity building training within BoT meetings.</p>	NGC Chair BoT Chair Director Governance & Accreditation	July 2023	Done
6.	<p>Report from the Membership Committee</p> <p><u>Re-accreditation</u></p> <p>As recommended by the Membership Committee, the Board of Trustees agreed that the following MAs be re-accredited as Full Members of the Federation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cameroon National Association for Family Welfare Associação Moçambicana para Desenvolvimento da Família (Mozambique) Association Malienne pour la Protection et la Promotion de la Famille (Mali) Association Tchadienne pour le Bien-Etre Familial (Chad) Associação Guineense para o Bem Estar Familiar (Guinea-Bissau) Association Nigérienne pour le Bien-Etre Familial (Niger) Association pour le Bien-Etre Familial/Naissances Désirables (Democratic Republic of Congo) Belgische Federatie voor Seksuele en Reproductieve Gezondheid en Rechten / Fédération Belge pour la Santé et les Droits Sexuels et Reproductifs (Belgium) Societatea de Educatie Contraceptiva si Sexuala (Romania) Israel Family Planning Association Samoa Family Health Association Korea Population, Health and Welfare Association Vanuatu Family Health Association Kiribati Family Health Association <p><u>Update on suspensions</u></p> <p>The Board of Trustees, upon the recommendation of the MC agreed that the suspension of Seimos Planavimo ir</p>	RD Africa RD ESEAOR RD European Network Director Governance & Accreditation	Immediate	Done

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	<p>Seksualines Sveikatos Asociacijabe (MA of Lithuania) be continued until the next meeting of the MC, when the response from the MA would be considered.</p> <p>The Board of Trustees, upon the recommendation of the MC agreed that the suspension of Asociación Demográfica Salvadoreña/Pro-Familia (MA of El Ssalvador) be continued until the next meeting of the MC, when the response from the MA would be considered.</p> <p><u>Recommendations for suspension</u></p> <p>The Board of Trustees, upon the recommendation of the MC, agreed that the Namibia Planned Parenthood Association be suspended from IPPF membership.</p> <p>The Board of Trustees, upon the recommendation of the MC, agreed that the Planned Parenthood Association of Sierra Leone be suspended from IPPF membership.</p> <p><u>Recommendation for expulsion</u></p> <p>The Board of Trustees, upon the recommendation of the MC, agreed that the process to expel the Association Djiboutienne pour l'Equilibre et la Promotion de la Famille (MA of Djibouti) from IPPF membership be completed.</p> <p><u>Implementation of Accreditation Phase IV</u></p> <p>Considering the impact of the Secretariat restructuring on the accreditation review plans, the Board of Trustees, on the recommendation of the MC approved the delay of six months to the official starting date of the implementation of Accreditation Phase IV, so that the cycle would be implemented from July 2023 – June 2027 to allow for vacancies to be filled and trainings to be conducted with the reviewers.</p> <p><u>Application for Associate Membership</u></p> <p>The BoT, on the recommendation of the MC, approved the application from Respect Educate Nurture Empower Women (RENEW) (Bhutan) for Associate Membership.</p>	<p>RD ENRO</p> <p>Director Governance & Accreditation</p> <p>RD ACRO</p> <p>Director Governance & Accreditation</p> <p>RD ARO</p> <p>Director Governance & Accreditation</p> <p>RD AWRO</p> <p>Director Governance & Accreditation</p> <p>All to note</p> <p>RD SARO</p> <p>Director Governance & Accreditation</p>		
7.	<p>Branding and Charter updates</p> <p>The Board was updated on the development of the IPPF Charter of Values and Global Rebrand. The Board welcomed the progress to date.</p>			

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	<p>Discussion then focused on the contexts where threats to SRHR for all were escalating. The BoT agreed that IPPF would further develop its response to those threats under the time horizons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Action when threats are immediate – Action for people at risk:</u> Assess what action is required to step-up protection of individual staff, volunteers, partners, and services that are being directly targeted for the SRHR work they do. Develop scenarios and contingencies, with aligned escalation of action protocols, to ensure IPPF fulfils its duties of care to those on the frontlines of threat. <u>Action to counter threats in the midterm - A campaign to step-up push-back action:</u> With an emphasis on coalition building with others in the SRHR sector and beyond, and consolidating lessons from work already underway, design a focused, influencing campaign for implementation over the next 24 months at a minimum, that enables a marked step-up in push-back against opposition to SRHR at national and global levels. <u>Action to strengthen response to threats over the longer term - Scan the horizon to help preposition strategic action:</u> To help IPPF be better positioned to take effective action to counter regressive trends and developments in the longer term, undertake a forward looking scan of IPPF operating contexts /"markets"/settings globally. Identify and analyse those likely to be subjected to escalations in targeting by regressive forces, or which are otherwise vulnerable to regressive developments, over the coming five years and beyond. Analyse likely escalation and de-escalation pivot-points and consider related mitigation possibilities. Develop tools as appropriate, e.g. modules to be added to IPPF's risk register, to help build up and effectively monitor threat profiles for IPPF operating contexts/"markets"/settings including risks to people, financial sustainability, reputation, property, assets, and operations. 	<p>Director, External Relations</p> <p>DG</p> <p>BoT Chair</p>	<p>August 2023</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Specialist agency recruited and work starting in country Trust building and joint planning underway with global leading organisations from the LGBTQI, feminist, SRHR and HIV sectors Initiated at the regional meetings
8.	<p>Finance updates</p> <p>The BoT noted the report submitted by the C-FAR Chair.</p> <p>On recommendation of the C-FAR, the BoT approved:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> the strategic Risk Register 2023-24 with agreed changes. the abridged version of the Going Concern note 2023-24. the Annual Report and Accounts for the year ending 31 December 2022. Revised plan and budget for the year 2023. Designations of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> US\$ 200k for moving ACRO office from Colombia to Mexico. US\$ 500k for induction and training of staff. 	<p>Director, Finance & Technology</p>	<p>July 2023</p>	<p>Done</p>

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	ACTION ITEM	RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	STATUS
	f) Close designated funds (subject to final adjustments in accounts, in case required): i) SEAP fund \$20.5k. ii) 2021 Stream 2 Sex og Politikk (Norway) \$95k.			
9.	Election of the Board Chair The BoT approved the recommendation from the Nominations & Governance Committee to elect Kathryn (Kate) Gilmore as Board of Trustees' Chair for a second and final term, to end on 15 May 2026.	All to note	Immediate	Done