



Trust Fund Committee Meeting
19 August 2019

Meeting Minutes Summary Outcome

The following members or their alternates were in attendance:

Novena Itsimaera – Chair and Secretary for Finance and alternate for Hon David Adeang, Government of Nauru (GON) – attended Brisbane office for dial in

Bruce Soar, Director, Micronesia Section, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Government of Australia (GOA) – dial in

Dean Hai-long Wang - Ambassador to the Republic of Nauru and Alternate for Baushuan Ger, Director General, Department of East Asian and Pacific Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of China (Taiwan) (GOT) – dial in

Nicci Simmonds – Unit Manager and non-resident High Commissioner to Nauru, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, New Zealand (GONZ) – dial in

Apologies:

Claire Shirley – Advisor at Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, New Zealand (GONZ)

Others present:

John Petersen – Financial Advisor to the Minister for Finance, GON

Rhona McPhee – Director, Micronesia Section, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, (GOA) – dial in

Caitlin Dixon – Executive Officer, Micronesia Section, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, (GOA) – dial in

Shau Ann Lee - Ministry of Foreign Affairs, (GOC - Taiwan) – dial in

David Hutton - Review Consultant – dial in

Michael Maher - Principal, Mercer – dial in

Craig Hughes – Client Unit Leader, Mercer – dial in

Maree Griffin - Executive Administrator, Financial Management Consulting, BDO (Qld) Pty Ltd – dial in

Meeting Opening

The meeting was the thirteenth official meeting of the Intergenerational Trust Fund for the People of the Republic of Nauru (the Fund) and opened at 10:05am with a prayer by Chair Itsimaera.

Trust Fund Business

1. Approval of 28 May 2019 Meeting Minutes confirmed.

Decision: The Committee endorsed the minutes.

2. Financial Information

Decision: The Committee endorsed the financial information prepared by BDO.

Decision: The Committee endorsed the cash flow statements and budgets prepared by BDO based on the information known to date.

Action: GOA, GOC – Taiwan and GONZ to provide any changes to contributions once known.

Action: Mrs Griffin to update the Management Committee's Declaration in paragraph a).

Action: Mrs Griffin to provide an update on any reporting changes from the BDO auditor's review.

Action: Mrs Griffin to work with Mr Maher to complete the relevant notes relating to fees and capital commitment.

Action: Mrs Griffin to confirm the treatment of the Mercer investment fund market value and distributions receivable and advise accordingly.

Action: Mr Maher to forward the Mercer Fee Agreement to Ms Simmonds.

Action: Mrs Griffin to include a discussion about the possibility of an additional Committee member on the agenda for the next meeting.

Action: Mrs Griffin to update the Key Outputs Delivered and Other Highlights section as discussed.

Action: Mr Soar to forward recommended changes to Mrs Griffin to update.

3. Independent Consultant Report

Decision: The Committee endorsed the information included in Mr Hutton's Monitoring Paper.

Action: Mr Maher to forward an additional breakup to the Committee of which Mercer investment funds make up the various asset allocation categories.

Action: Mr Maher to provide prior period Mercer reports to Ms Simmonds for her information, in particular transitioning from the initial investment strategy to the bespoke investment strategy.

4. Mercer Investment Information

Decision: The Committee endorsed the information included in the Quarterly report prepared by Mercer.

Action: Mercer is to complete the annual full strategic review and present at the November 2019 Committee meeting.

Action: Mercer is to review the PIP program and advise recommendations in due course.

5. Review Consultant contract extension

Decision: The Committee endorsed a 12 month extension to David Hutton's contract through Vinstar based on the terms of the existing contract.

Action: Mrs Griffin to forward signed DM to Mr Petersen to finalise the Fund's contract with Vinstar.

6. Other business

Mr Soar advised he is moving to another position within DFAT.

The Chair thanked Mr Soar for his time working with the GON and the Fund.

Decision: The Committee endorsed Ms McPhee as a Committee member.

Action: Mrs Griffin to forward paperwork to appoint Ms McPhee as a signatory on the Mercer accounts.

7. Future meetings

Action: BDO to tentatively pencil in the next Committee meeting on Thursday 28th November in Nauru and will liaise with Mr Petersen and Committee members to confirm the details.

Meeting Closure

The Chair thanked everyone for participating and the meeting closed at 11:40am with a prayer by Chair Itsimaera.