



MINUTES

First Board Meeting of the Global Challenges Forum Foundation

Location:

- The first meeting of the Global Challenges Forum Foundation Board was held on 9 July 2012 in New York, NY linking by video conference with members in Geneva, Switzerland (14:00 -17:00 US; 20:00 – 23:00 Swiss).
- The New York venue was the SUNY Global Center at 116 East 55th Street, New York, NY (USA) and the linked Swiss venue was the offices of AudiConsult, Rue du Cendrier 15, Geneva.

In Attendance:

- **Board Members in New York:** H.E. Dr. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh and Ms. Samar Al Labbad.
- **Board Members in Geneva:** Mr. Joseph Riedweg

Also participating:

- **GCF Staff in New York:** Dr. Walter Christman and Ms. Alexandra Meierhans.
- **GCF Staff in Geneva:** Mr. Pedro Lagonegro.
- **Invited Guests in New York:** Dr. Mitch Leventhal, Mr. Ed Cox, Hon. Harold Jones, Dr. Ken Gnanakan, Mr. Gary Horlick, Amb. Sarbuland Khan, Dr. Maryalice Mazzara, Ms. Michele Wucker, Dr. Qin Yaqin, MG (PLA, Ret.) Zhenquang Pan, Ms. Jess Kimball.
- **Invited Guests in Geneva:** Mr. Hamid Mamdouh.

Call to Order:

- H.E. Dr. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh called the meeting to order at 14:00 in New York (EDT) with video conference participation of Geneva members, and Ms. Alexandra Meierhans recorded the minutes. All Board members were present, and the meeting, having been duly convened, was ready to proceed with business, and the following resolutions were approved.



1. Introduction and Foundation:

a) Welcome by the Chair (H.E. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh)

The Chairman welcomed all participants.

b) Establishment of the Foundation in Geneva

The Chairman confirmed that The Foundation had been officially established in Geneva on this day. It has been registered in the Commune of Geneva.

c) The Founders

The Chairman noted for participants that the Foundations founders are as follows:

- Talal Abu-Ghazaleh – Founding Chair
- Walter L. Christman – Founding Director

2. Appointments:

a) The Chairman confirmed that The Founders appointed the following individuals to serve as the initial Board.

- H.E. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh – Chairman
- Ms. Samar Al Labbad – Vice Chair
- Mr. Joseph Riedweg – Board Member

b) At request of the Chairman, the Board recognized Dr. Leonard Ferrari as Honorary Founder.

c) The Board authorized the Foundation Chairman to invite to join the Board:

- Dr. Mitch Leventhal
- Hon. Harold Jones
- Mr. Hamid Mamdouh



- d) The Chairman has been approved by the Board to invite other members to join the Board as and when he deems appropriate.
- e) The Board at the request of the Chairman appointed Dr. Walter Christman as Foundation Director.
- f) The Board will draft internal regulations and by-laws to set up an Advisory Council as well as other needed Committees and authorized the Chair to invite Partners to join such Council and Committees as may be needed.
- g) The Chairman directed that any regulation changes should first pass through the GCF legal advisor, Ms. Ludmilla Koroleva.
- h) In accordance with item # f above, the following nominees are invited to join the Advisory Council by the Board:
 - Dr. Ken Gnanakan
 - Amb. Sarbuland Khan
 - Ms. Michele Wucker
 - MG (PLA, Ret.) PAN Zhenqiang
 - Dr. Qin Yaqing
- i) The Chair on behalf of the Board confirmed as Deputy Chairs for Development on the Advisory Board:
 - Dr. Bates Gill
 - Prof. Prabhu Gupta

3. Fundraising and Invitations:

- a) The Chairman indicated that the Board shall draft rules for fund-raising in accordance with the Foundation Statutes.
- b) The Chairman confirmed that the Board shall run all changes and ideas through GCF legal advisor.
- c) The Chair invited nominations for invitations to partners of the Foundation – from all categories and countries.



- d) The Chairman proposed that there be added a calendar of events, a link on the website to all partner organizations and all appropriate and distinguished organizations with whom we could work, and official invitation information.
- e) The Chair proposed to establish associated communities of those invited to join the Foundation as partners in accordance with the Statutes.

4. Next Annual General Meeting:

- a) The Chairman and The Board have approved that the next Annual General Meeting (or major event) shall be:
 - ✓ **Objective:** To hold a major global conference, Board meeting and Advisory Council meeting in one event.
 - ✓ **Venue:** SUNY Global and The United Nations
 - ✓ **Organizing Committee:** Mitch Leventhal, Sarbuland Khan, (Walter Christman-ex officio.)
 - ✓ **Date:** The Board will explore possible dates for March 2013.

5. Budget:

- a) The first year budget has been approved by the Chairman on behalf of the Board.
- b) The Board accepted the offer of the Chairman to provide the needed funding for the first year.

6. Reports:

- a) The Board received and approved a report on The Geneva Institute for Leadership and Public Policy from Hon. Hal Jones.
- b) The Board received and approved a report on the establishment GCF efforts in Bangalore, the Office and hosting of the Transformative Education Forum in September from Dr. Ken Gnanakan.



7. Other Business:

- a) The Board was provided with a first draft of both the Geneva and Bangalore Newsletter.
- b) The Chairman and the Board would like a Press Release to follow the AGM.
- c) The Chairman on behalf of the Board stated that there shall be a Press Release released for all past and future GCF events and be posted on the GCF website.
- d) The Chairman stated that the GCF shall be a transparent institution and that all meeting minutes and press releases will also be posted on the website.

8. Liaison Offices:

- a) The Chairman proposed the following locations for GCF Liaison Offices:
 - ✓ Geneva, Switzerland – Secretariat
 - ✓ Amman, Jordan
 - ✓ Bangalore, India
 - ✓ Shanghai, China
 - ✓ San Luis Obispo, California
 - ✓ New York, New York
- b) The Board shall establish the duties and regulations of liaison offices for review by the legal advisor and registration in accordance with GCF Statutes.
- c) The Chairman accepted on behalf of the Board the offer of Dr. Qin Yaqing to explore the possibility of creating a GCF China liaison office, possibly in Beijing.
- d) The Chairman accepted on behalf of the Board the offer of Dr. Mitch Leventhal to establish a GCF liaison office at the SUNY Global Center in New York.



9. Future Business:

- a) The Chairman invited Amb. Sarbuland Khan and Ms. Samar Al-Labbad to develop the GCF's Public Outreach Document and an action plan including its activities from inception and its future plans and its objectives to make the whole world aware of its ambitious plans. The Chairman invited them to use and leverage TAG-ORG linkages and capabilities in support.
- b) The Board approved that the Foundation would use the University of Pennsylvania's Global "Go To" Think Tank Ratings to find suitable partner and networking institutions.
- c) The Board approved the following definition as the primary expression of the Foundation's identity: "*The Global Network for Strategic Research and Action.*"
- d) The Chairman invited Jesse to help the GCF find appropriate speakers and attendees for the Global Challenges Summit in 2013.

10. Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the meeting, the meeting was adjourned at 17:00 EDT in New York and 23:00 in Geneva.

Minutes approved by GCF Foundation Chairman, H.E. Dr. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a series of vertical and diagonal strokes, is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and appears to be the name of the Chairman mentioned in the text above.