



OCP Governing Board Virtual Meeting

6 April 2022

Public Minutes

Objectives of the Meeting

The objectives of this meeting were to:

- Welcome and appointment new Board members **(for decision)**
- Review OCP's plans for the year and discuss progress and challenges so far **(for discussion)**
- Discuss OCP's vision for refining its data support work **(for discussion)**
- Review finances, including approving FY21 close out reports **(for decision)**

Attendance

Governing Board

- Attending: Joseph Asunka, Alan Detheridge, Mukelani Dimba, Lea Raquel Gimenez Duarte, Sally Guyer, Michael Owh, Max Nefyodov
- Sent apologies: Jennifer Bradley

OCP

- Attending: Gavin Hayman, Kathrin Frauscher, Lindsey Marchessault, Steve Chaplain, Cindy Cervantes (note-taking). OCP staff joining for programmatic updates included: Andie Okon, Edwin Muhumuza, Yohanna Lisnichuk, Viktor Nestulia and Volodymyr Tarnay

Decisions

The Governing Board approved:

- The [minutes](#) of last Governing Board meeting on November 15, 2021
- The extension of OCP contracts for its data helpdesk until December 31 2022 before OCP will bring these services in-house
- The appointments of Lea Raquel Gimenez and Joseph Asunka to the OCP Governing Board
- The close out of the FY21 financial report
- Giving the EC authority to approve the FY21 audited financial statements upon completion
- Scoping and research of setting up a wholly-owned EU subsidiary

Actions

The following actions came out of the Board meeting:

- OCP will appoint new Board members in its annual meeting in July
- OCP will conduct research into setting up a wholly-owned European subsidiary
- OCP will circulate a two page funding pitch summary to the Board OCP to send out a calendar doodle for scheduling the summer and fall board meetings

Summary of Discussions

Executive Committee update

The Board Chair gave an update on Mukelani Dimba and his role as an Executive Committee member. Mukelani noted that he is now the acting-CEO of Information Regulator in South Africa. He is delighted to remain as a General Board member but feels that it is appropriate to stand down from the Executive Committee as his bandwidth is limited at the moment with these overwhelming new responsibilities. The Board thanked Mukelani for his huge contribution to OCP as an Executive Committee member including overseeing OCP's spin out as an independent charity and expressed their appreciation for his dedication and support. OCP discussed

who might be able to replace Mukelani on the EC. Sally as Board Chair will engage other members and seek a replacement although under OCP's Board Manual, the Executive Committee can be just two people.

Progress Update

OCP gave a comprehensive overview of its progress towards its annual organizational strategy targets and provided updates of work in key countries and programs. Highlights from the updates and discussion with the Board include:

Ukraine: OCP Ukrainian team members joined to give updates on Ukraine. Volodomyr shared a message of resilience and optimism and planning for the future reconstruction of Ukraine. The Board agreed that OCP should support Ukraine's reconstruction and play a role in promoting voices of local reforms who want to push for open contracting as a core part of that. Volodomyr explained that OCP has been leading on creating a coalition of NGOs in Ukraine to contribute to development of strategy and vision of reconstruction. OCP also shared that it hired a medical procurement expert from Ukraine, Zoia Zamikhovska, to lead the global medicine work.

Pay review: OCP has completed its annual voluntary gender and team pay analysis and found no evidence of material differences. Pay is equal for men and women and for people of color or not of color (based on a voluntary survey of team members to check on equity and inclusion). Overall OCP will continue training and learning about inclusion and belonging and will be conducting these surveys regularly as part of that.

Fundraising: OCP secured \$100,000 funding from McGovern Foundation, \$150,000 from Transparency International UK via OSF's Global Health Program, \$75,000 from the Eurasia Foundation (SICA), and \$50,000 from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). OCP pointed out that it has a number of other proposals out to Microsoft, Mastercard, the IDRC, the FCDO and the World Bank.

OCP shared that the fundraising gap is \$1M and noted that the team is confident it can close the gap, and is focusing on a newer and broader reach with funders. There have been some delays with the UK government and waiting for FCDO's 5

year budget plan. The Board gave helpful advice on how OCP can further tailor its message to specific funders and offered to make connections. The Board especially discussed the issue of raising unrestricted funding which is becoming more difficult. The Board encouraged OCP to highlight stronger that it tallied \$1.6 million in support to local partners through grants & consultancies in 2021.

Advocacy: OCP updated the Board that it has made solid progress on engaging the US Summit for Democracy process, and with specific G7 economies, especially with Italy now publishing and commitment from Germany. OCP continues to build a strong network of contacts around the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) Coalition that will allow OCP to influence the next Conference of States Parties (CoSP) in 2023, hosted by the US.

OCP also highlighted that we have just launched an advocacy support program for local CSOs, including a host of updated and refreshed pitches and evidence and a mini-grants program to pursue compelling opportunities. The Board appreciated the team's focus on advocacy coming out of the annual field survey.

Africa: OCP presented an overview of current work in the region, highlighting the potential of new prospects with FCDO in South Africa and that 23 States are working on implementing OCDS across Nigeria. OCP also shared key findings from recent research on eGP in Africa which we think will be really strategic in shaping better PFM reform programs. The Board discussed OCP's engagement with SmartAfrica and an alliance of African countries to advance economic development. The Board thanked the OCP team and noted it was really inspiring to hear about the growing momentum on the continent, particularly focussing on economic inclusion and women owned businesses.

Data Support Model: OCP presented the current data support model, the challenges, and the proposed changes. OCP proposed a data support model that is fully in-house at OCP and targeted at user problems, taking users on a journey to produce, publish and use better data for their purposes.

To implement these improved services, OCP proposed to hire two new roles by 2023 - one of which should be a Russian speaker with technical skills.

OCP asked if the Board had any concerns or objections to OCP moving the data support team fully in-house, noting that it does remove some flexibility in spending that comes from having contract labor but gives OCP added learning and integration of our service offer.

The Board appreciated the clear presentation and supported a more integrated model of support, particularly its focus on impact. The Board discussed the pros and cons and how under the new model OCP will still be able to work at scale and deliver even better results. They also highlighted how important it will be to both onboard the new team members and continue good relationships with the current helpdesks.

FY21 Close Out Report

OCP provided a summary of the financial report covering October 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021. This was a “mini budget” meant to cover the three-month period between the end of OCP’s old fiscal year under Fund for the City of New York, which was OCP’s fiscal sponsor, (end Sept 30) and the beginning of the new independent OCP full fiscal year (1 Jan), covering October 1 to December 31, 2021.

OCP expected an income of \$3.07m and received \$2.8m or 91% of our expected income. The main difference is that OCP anticipated receiving the final balance from FCNY earlier.

OCP’s retained revenue going into FY22 was \$2.3m for FY22 program activities.

OCP ended the year with \$3.2m in cash. This was higher than normal since delayed funding from GIZ, UNODC came in very late in the year due to the spinout. This includes the total reserves of \$903K which remained unchanged. The Board had a good conversation about the close out report unanimously approved the FY21 close out report.

Audit Update

OCP highlighted that FY21 mini audit from October 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021 is wrapping up. Draft financials will be ready by May. OCP thanked the Board Treasurer for overseeing auditor selection. **OCP stated that the auditors expect**

an unmodified opinion on the financials and that a board letter will accompany the financial statements. OCP also explained that the auditors are reviewing the internal controls as to whether any recommendations can be made.

Upon Board acceptance of the audited financial statements, OCP will begin completing the IRS Form 990 which is due on July 15, 2022. OCP accountants have already received an extension in case it is needed. OCP confirmed that going forward, OCP will have complete audited statements for the whole financial year.

The Board gave the Executive Committee the mandate to approve the FY21 audited financial statements upon completion of the final report from the auditors.

Next meeting

OCP noted that the next Board meeting is a virtual meeting in July. The focus will be on reviewing and approving the budget refresh and this will be OCP's annual meeting. OCP is hoping to invite the Board to DC for an in-person meeting in the Fall. During that meeting OCP could begin to focus on the next strategy cycle which will begin in 2024.