



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Record of Discussions and Decisions

27 July 2021

PARTICIPANTS			
Name	Country	Present	Regrets
Dr. Rashed Al Arfaj	Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Prof. Kaushik Banerjee	India	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dr. Pamela Byrne	Republic of Ireland	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Dr./Prof. Hussein Mansour	Arab Republic of Egypt	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Dr. Scott Crerar	Australia	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Dr. Yongxiang Fan	China	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prof. Junshi Chen	China	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prof. Samuel Godefroy	Canada	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ms. Zeineb El Bouchikhi	Morocco	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ms. Nuri Gras	Chile	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Greg Paoli	Canada	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dr. Wiem Guissouma	Tunisia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ms. Joyce Haddad	Lebanon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## RECORD OF DISCUSSIONS AND DECISIONS – HIGHLIGHTS

### A. Review of the Agenda

Quorum was considered reached.

Agenda was approved as recommended – Joyce Haddad proposed approval, seconded by Dr. Kaushik Banerjee – approved unanimously.

### B. Review of the 26 May 2021 Record of Decisions

The Record was reviewed – Joyce Haddad proposed its adoption, Samuel Godefroy seconded – the Record of Decisions for 26 May 2021 was considered approved.

### C. Board Vacancies

The Board acknowledged the situation presented by Mr. Ali Badarneh, where his clearance request, to his own organization and employer – UNIDO – led to the impossibility of excluding a perceived conflict of interest, given that GForSS could, at some point, be a recipient of funding administered by UNIDO.

The Board was informed that a letter of thanks will be sent to Mr. Badarneh for his leadership and contribution in spearheading the creation of GForSS.

The Board was also informed of the possible / pending resignation of another member to a change in circumstances, leading to a work arrangement, with a regulated party, by a food competent authority.

Two seats will therefore become vacant on the Board.

### D. Follow-up Discussion of the May 26<sup>th</sup> Meeting

Changes were made to the procedures approved by the Board during the May meeting, namely:

- Remuneration of consultants.
- Business model and revenue sharing opportunities related to learning activities.

These documents / procedures were considered approved by the Board.

### E. New Member Approval

A reminder of the provisions of GForSS' statutes was offered as they related to membership:

- A distinction was made between memberships that are endorsed by Board members – for affiliated membership requests – and those that are stemming from direct requests.

Questions of Board members were addressed.

Board members were reminded of the mandate of the assembly of members.

A secret ballot was organized to determine the acceptance of affiliated members.

The results of the vote – requiring 75% or higher – are as follows:

- Members endorsed by Prof. Samuel Godefroy:
  - Dr. Eman Helmy: admitted as a Class A or Affiliated member.
  - Dr. Ehab Mourad Ayad: admitted as a Class A or Affiliated member.
  - Ms. Ameira Elamin: admitted as a Class A or Affiliated member.
  - Ms Nidal Hassan Hussan: admitted as a Class A or Affiliated member.
  - Dr. Zouine Karima: admitted as a Class A or Affiliated member.
  - Dr. Rabia Lahmer: admitted as a Class A or Affiliated member.
  - Dr. Moustapha Nabeel: admitted as a Class A or Affiliated member.
  - Mr. Christopher Worell: admitted as a Class A or Affiliated member.
- Admitted as Class B or Non-Affiliated member:
  - Dr. Ahmed Tabarani – Morocco admitted as a Class B or Non-Affiliated member.
  - Dr. Hassan Adebessin – Nigeria, admitted as a Class B or Non-Affiliated member.
  - Dr. Joseph Omondi – Kenya, admitted as a Class B or Non-Affiliated member.
  - Dr. Justin Manzi – Rwanda, admitted as a Class B or Non-Affiliated member.
  - Dr. Mohamed Abdelfattah Ali – Egypt, admitted as a Class B or Non-Affiliated member.
  - Dr. Ahmed Elwakeel – Egypt, admitted as a Class B or Non-Affiliated member.
  - Dr. Tega Emurigho – Nigeria, admitted as a Class B or Non-Affiliated member.
  - Mohamed Negm – Egypt, admitted as a Class B or Non-Affiliated member.
  - Ahmed Said – Egypt, admitted as a Class B or Non-Affiliated member.

#### **F. Proposed Criteria for Board Oversight on New Initiatives**

Prof. Godefroy presented the document shared with Board members.

Board members discussed the considerations shared and concurred with the proposal that:

- Board information / permission needs to be sought when a project demonstrates a strategic importance and / or when it hits the \$100,000 USD threshold in value.

The Board endorsed this proposal unanimously with a proposal made by Joyce Haddad and seconded by Dr. Kaushik Banerjee.

#### **G. Budget and Cash Flow Update**

Greg Paoli, GForSS Treasurer, presented the current financial situation of the organization.

Current cash flow is satisfactory and should allow the reimbursement of the debt of \$10,000 USD to Prof. Samuel Godefroy at an early opportunity.

The Board discussed the production of the organization's financial statements for the year ending in 31 August 2021.

The Board agreed with the financial practice for not-for-profit organizations to have the statements audited upon production of the year-end financial report.

#### **H. Presentation / Discussion of the Global Food Laboratory Platform**

The presentation was introduced by Prof. Godefroy.

Board members supported the proposal in principle and encouraged Prof. Godefroy to continue exploring the development of the proposal through cost assessment and identification of strategic partnerships.

The Board advised to follow the general caution to be pursued in the development of GForSS initiatives:

- Ensuring financial viability and sustainability.
- Ensuring that project complexity is addressed and to proceed with caution.

The Board expressed support for this initiative as a possible landmark initiative with significant positive impacts on the region.

The Board will continue to be updated by Prof. Godefroy on the initiative's progress.

#### **I. Update on Current Initiatives Being Implemented**

Prof. Godefroy updated the Board on a number of initiatives, implemented by GForSS, currently underway:

- The laboratory capacity building program in Africa.
- The AOAC study related to Allergen methods.
- The Codex Initiative for the Middle East and North Africa.

The Board appreciated the updates and acknowledged the developments.

#### **J. Proposal to Host the AOAC Section for the Middle East and North Africa Region in GForSS**

The proposal was introduced by Prof. Godefroy.

Board members discussed and supported the approach, with the understanding that it would be in-line with AOAC's policy.

#### **K. Adjournment**

The Board meeting was concluded at 9:30 Quebec City time.