

Notes: GDLN AP- Governing Committee Meeting, May 2013

Video & Audio Conference: Wednesday May 22, 2013

Tokyo, 10:30 hrs; Colombo, 07:00 hrs; Dhaka, 7.30 hrs; Canberra 11.30 hrs; Hanoi 08:30 hrs; Washington D.C., 21:30 hrs (Tuesday May 21, 2013)

Chair: Mr. Tomoyuki Naito

Connectivity: TDLC

Governing Committee members: Mr. Phil Karp, Mr. Ishfaq Ilahi Choudhury, Prof. Hai-young Yun, Ms. Linh Nguyen

Apologies: None

Others: Ms. Maree Tait (Audio), Mr. Juan Blázquez (Audio), Mr. Nishantha Kamaladasa, Mr. Chanuka Wategama

Agenda:

- **Update on membership strategy implementation**

The membership subcommittee reported on the outcome of their May 10 meeting that discussed the applications received from:

- i. Blended Learning International Pvt Ltd and
- ii. Advance Supply Chain Solutions.

The recommendation is not to recognize these as affiliates purely based on the information provided by them and on their web site. The reasons are detailed in the subcommittee meeting report. (Please see Annex 1 below) Instead of rejecting the applications the subcommittee requested the Governing Committee guidance in involving them in GDLN activities and reconsidering their eligibility after a given period. The Governing Committee agreed to this decision and thought a period of six months is apt for reconsideration. Governing Committee also recommended before that sub-committee communicate with the two parties for more information that may make them eligible.

A new application is received from International Culture University, Bangladesh. According to the Governing Committee direction to evaluate new applications as and when they are received and not necessarily in batches (The volume is noted low) this will be evaluated immediately. BRAC University is to provide their observations to the subcommittee.

- **Update on Regional meeting planning process**

KDI School had a preliminary meeting. The zero draft of the agenda is being prepared to be distributed asap. It was requested that KDI School explore the possibility of including a session on local e-learning experiences.

- **GDLN AP web presence**

As a follow-up to the discussion at April 17 meeting an offline discussion on the role of GDLN-AP site has been initiated by TDLC. Two options were offered:

- i. **Option 1:** Discontinue the gdlnap.org website; redirect the domains associated with the site to point at gdl.org, meaning that all traffic directed at the regional website will now land on the global site.
- ii. **Option 2:** Greatly scale back the gdlnap.org website to be basically a brochure site that links to other sites for more information.

The majority of the Governing Committee agreed on Option 2 for various reasons. It was pointed out as the GDLN.org site currently doesn't include any information on regional associations including GDLN-AP, option 1 is not viable.

GDLN membership list will be maintained at the Global Ning site. Administration rights to the same will be given to a designated person from TDLC for updating and maintaining the lists.

- o **Active sharing of GDLN affiliate profile information**

As per the GDLN affiliation management strategy adopted by the Global Board in September 2012, all GDLN Affiliates are now responsible for actively sharing information with other Affiliates. This includes filling an online profile and keeping it up-to-date. Mr. Chanuka Wategama provided the update. TDLC and KDI have complied. From SAR Sri Lanka DLC information is updated. BRAC update is incomplete. BRAC is informed to contact the GDLN Global Secretariat.

The members were requested to update their profile information asap. The members are strongly reminded to provide necessary updated information to Sachiko Oda, the GDLN regional event coordinator at TDLC, continuously. Sachiko can monitor and update the information, after TDLC received the administrator right of GDLN.org website, from the GDLN Global Secretariat.

Meeting adjourned at 12.00 hrs JST, May 22, 2013.

Next meeting: To be announced.

Annex 1: Notes: GDLN-AP Membership sub-committee report on the applications received from Blended Learning International Pvt Ltd and Advance Supply Chain Solutions

Date: May 10, 2013

Attended: Ms. Linh Nguyen, Prof. Pimrumpai Premssmit and Mr. Nishantha Kamaladasa

The sub-committee members met and shared feedbacks from review of the two application based on the information provided by in the application forms and content on their web sites.

The sub-committee used the criteria of 3 competency required by the GDLN Global board as guiding principles to evaluate the applications and has the following observations:

1. Both applicants currently do not offer development related training. They specialize in other areas such as management, IT and communication.
2. The sub-committee could not find any evidence to support the ability of each to design and package content applicable to GDNL in addition to the impression that their practice is more traditional (classrooms type). Furthermore it looks like their current infrastructure facilities do not support video conferencing.
3. Both applicants show weak (or none) evidence which demonstrate their ability and/or experiences in delivering distance learning programs.
4. The sub-committee does not find current GDLN affiliates or development agencies among the references provided by the two applicants. One provides a reference of an individual at ANU, but not the organization.

Based on above the sub-committee is not inclined to offer membership to the applicants. However given the fact these are the first two applications that GDLN AP has received after the decision from the global board, the committee would like to propose the following options to be considered by the Governing Committee:

1. Contact both applications to ask them to provide additional information/justifications of their capability/references that required by the network and the committee will review the applications again upon their submission of supplement information.
2. Postpone the offering of the membership to the applications and offer them opportunities to work with GDLN (either through provision of their programs to the network or participate in few events offered by the GDLN). After 4-6 months, the committee can resume and re-evaluate their ability to make a useful contribution (if any) and review the offer of membership accordingly.