

**Association of Asia Pacific GDLN Centers
Governing Committee Meeting
Video conference: June 21, 2012**

Tokyo and Seoul, 11.00; Hanoi, 9.00; Colombo, 7:30; Washington D.C., 22.00 (Wednesday, June 20)

Governing Committee members:

Present: Dr. Hye-Kyung Chung, Ms. Linh Nguyen, Mr. Phil Karp, Mr. Tomoyuki Naito, Sri Lanka Distance Learning Center Ltd. represented by Mr. Nishantha Kalamadasa and Mr. Chanuka Wattedgama.
Apologies: None

Others present:

Ms. Ivia Martinez, GDLN Asia Pacific
Mr. Juan Blazquez, GDLN Regional Coordinator, South Asia

Proceedings:

Meeting called to order at 22:00 EST by acting Chairperson: Mr. Phil Karp.

Agenda:

Update on the GDLN Asia Pacific secretariat function:

- Following discussions at the regional meeting in New Delhi, India last December, the Governing Committee invited GDLN Asia Pacific affiliates to submit expressions of interest for fulfilling the GDLN Asia Pacific Secretariat function. Affiliates from both the East Asia and Pacific, and South Asia regions were welcomed to express interest.
- Three proposals were received by the following affiliates: TDLC, Sri Lanka DLC Ltd., and the KDI DLC. A review group composed of Phil Karp, Linh Nguyen, and Juan Blazquez assessed the Expressions of Interest in consultation with Maree Tait and colleagues from the GDLN Global Secretariat.
- The three proposals covered core the tasks/responsibilities associated with the Secretariat function as follows:
 1. Support the GDLN Asia Pacific Governing Committee: Sri Lanka DLC Ltd
 2. GDLN AP Membership management and liaison with GDLN Global Secretariat: TDLC
 3. GDLN AP Regional Programs Support: Sri Lanka DLC Ltd
 4. Regional meeting planning and administration: KDI DLC
- One affiliate sought advice as to whether taking on elements of the Secretariat function would compromise their ability to bid on World Bank-funded contracts for training services. On advice from the World Bank procurement department, the affiliate in question decided that it would refrain from proposing to provide Secretariat services, but expects to support GDLN AP in other ways.
- The TDLC and the KDI DLC have proposed to provide the services on a voluntary, self-finance basis, while the Sri Lanka DLC Ltd has requested some financial support to defray costs of providing the services. The review group believes that such an arrangement is appropriate, given the differences in the financial circumstances of Sri Lanka DLC and that of the other two affiliates.

- This is the result of the Expressions of Interest process and it is also the recommendation of the review group to the Governing Committee. Governing Committee members accepted the recommendation.
- The review group clarified that the initial period for fulfilling the GDLN Asia Pacific Secretariat functions will be of 12 months, after which a review will be conducted.
- The review group also clarified that there will be opportunities for each of the affiliates to receive an orientation to the tasks/responsibilities and to obtain the files associated with them during the regional meeting in Shanghai.
- The “GDLN Asia Pacific Update” session during the regional meeting will include an explanation of the Expressions of Interest process and its outcome.
- An email will be sent to explain the process and its outcome to affiliates that do not attend the regional meeting in person.

Shanghai GDLN Asia Pacific Regional Meeting:

Logistics:

- As of June 21 there were 57 participants registered to the regional meeting with that number expected to increase to approximately 66.
- Participants are receiving visa requirement assistance from AFDC. Should a specific case arise where the Governing Committee members could help, they will be informed.
- There was a request to obtain additional details of the logistics of the excursion, especially for participants whose flights leave on July 6.

Agenda:

- The Governing Committee’s feedback to the 6th Regional Meeting agenda draft is as follows:
 - Suggestion to include a discussion about the strategic direction of GDLN Asia Pacific.
 - “Opening Session”: The speakers are still being confirmed and AFDC might request to have a more informal and internal Opening Session depending on the representatives from the World Bank Country Office and from the Ministry of Finance that attend the meeting. Governing Committee members were reminded of the request to be part of the podium table during this session.
 - “Programs’ Marketplace” session: The Sri Lanka DLC Ltd., the TDLC and the KDI DLC indicated that they are planning to propose program ideas for the session. There was a suggestion to consider holding a round table discussion with all affiliates that express interest in a program rather than having bilateral meetings with each affiliate that expresses interest.
 - “Introductions to Chinese Content Partners” session: The World Bank Institute is helping the AFDC in identifying speakers for this session.
 - The draft agenda will be distributed to registered participants on June 22.

Governing Committee meeting in Shanghai:

- Governing Committee members discussed whether or not they will need to meet as a group during the Regional Meeting.

- The consensus was that it would be good to meet and discuss the GDLN Asia Pacific secretariat function, Governing Committee meeting organization in the future, and perhaps other topics.
- A Governing Committee meeting will most likely be held in the afternoon of July 5, after the regional meeting sessions finish for the day. The date, time and location will be confirmed via email.

Location of the next regional meeting

- There was consensus to proactively look for host organizations and to make an announcement during the regional meeting, rather than deferring the topic for a time after the regional meeting. Should no options arise before or during the regional meeting, then the topic would be deferred.
- A suggestion was made to consider combining the regional meeting with other GDLN regions in the future.
- Juan Blazquez is checking on the possibility of continuing to have one regional meeting per year hosted by a South Asia affiliate.

Next meeting: July 5, Shanghai, China (to be confirmed).

Meeting adjourned at 23:30 EST.