



MINUTES OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING, July 8, 2020, Videoconference

Participating SC Members:

1. Anna Valkova (Ministry of Finance of the Russian Federation, SC Chair)
2. Thomas Stauffer (SECO – Donor)
3. Daniel Boyce (WB - Practice Manager, ECA EAST, Governance Global Practice)
4. Arman Vatyán (WB – PEMPAL Team Leader)
5. Marina Tikhonovich (Ministry of Finance of Belarus – BCOP Chair)
6. Angela Voronin (Ministry of Finance of Moldova – TCOP Chair)
7. Ljerka Crnkovic (Ministry of Finance of Croatia– IACOP Chair)
8. Ilyas Tufan (Ministry of Finance of Turkey– TCOP Deputy Chair)
9. Armanai Bekturova (Ministry of Finance of Kazakhstan – IACOP Deputy Chair)
10. Petru Babuci (Ministry of Finance of Moldova – IACOP IACOP Executive Committee member)

Observers:

11. Elena Nikulina (WB – TCOP Resource Team Coordinator)
12. Iryna Shcherbyna (WB – BCOP Resource Team Coordinator)
13. Naida Carsimamovic Vukotic (WB – BCOP Resource Team Member)
14. Yelena Slizhevskaya (WB – TCOP Resource Team Member)
15. Diana Grosu-Axenti (WB – IACOP Resource Team Member)
16. Galina Kuznetsova (WB – PEMPAL Secretariat Team Coordinator)
17. Ksenia Malafeeva (WB – PEMPAL Secretariat)
18. Ekaterina Zaleeva (WB – PEMPAL Secretariat)
19. Kristina Zaituna (WB – PEMPAL Secretariat)
20. Alta Folscher (External Evaluators for PEMPAL Strategy Mid-Term Review)

1. Opening of the meeting

Ms. Anna Valkova welcomed participants. The meeting agenda was approved.

2. Update on Switzerland Government’s VC meetings for COPs

Mr. Thomas Stauffer reported that subsequent to the postponement of the cross-COP leadership meeting originally planned for July 2020 in Berne, COPs expressed interest for virtual workshops with the hosting institutions from the Swiss administration. Mr. Stauffer noted that he and the speakers from the Swiss administration were impressed with the productive discussions held in the recent workshops with three COPs. Mr. Arman Vatyán noted very positive reaction from members of all three COPs.

3. MTR update

Ms. Alta Folscher delivered a presentation on the external evaluation, including its updated methodology, progress to date, and updated timeline. Outstanding research tasks include the second round of documentation review, financial flow analysis, conducting remaining interviews, and conducting the membership survey. The SC approved updated external evaluation methodology and timeline, confirmed the decision to include recommendations in the evaluation report, and decided that the evaluation report should also include an annex with the reflections on the impact of Covid-19 to PEMPAL’s operating environment, achievement of objectives and sustainability. The main report will make brief mention of these impacts as well, while also noting how the pandemic has so far affected particular aspects such as event attendance. TORs for the evaluation will be adjusted as required.

Ms. Galina Kuznetsova delivered a presentation on results of the second phase analysis of the financing mechanisms used by selected networks (PEMNA, OECD SBO, and CABRI). Overall, financial sustainability remains important to all three networks, who rely heavily/solely on donor funding, so they work on attracting new donors/development partners, increasing countries’ co-financing and streamlining/terminating activities with no funding/support from client countries. At the same time, none of the networks surveyed either charge or plan to charge the event participation fees, and they consider everything they do as public good. The SC noted that while PEMPAL is in a good position at present, it will be prudent to look beyond 2023 in advance, including as part of the MTR. Ms. Folscher provided further details on the CABRI network, highlighting the different operating model, governance structure and the long-term and gradual process of having countries accede to the international establishment agreement. The SC agreed to explore options for additional voluntary donor contributions from some member countries as well as exploring member countries’ abilities and interest in signing an international legal agreement and paying membership fees as a result. The SC advised the external evaluator to include questions on member countries’ abilities and interest for a potential legal agreement and membership fee mechanisms within the



external evaluation survey of PEMPAL members. The findings should subsequently be integrated within the MTR report.

Mr. Vatyán delivered a presentation on the MTR process and scope. He presented the proposed updated timeline, MTR report outline, and the role of PEMPAL leadership in the MTR process. The SC approved the MTR timeline and process.

4. General update on status of PEMPAL funding

Mr. Vatyán reported that the framework agreement is expected to be signed by the EU this week, after which the Bank will work on signing the administrative agreement with text already agreed with the EU. The SC welcomed the news. The EU representative will join the SC committee as a donor representative upon completion of signing.

5. Announcement of the new SC Chair for the next period

Ms. Valková informed that the SC unanimously voted for Mr. Stauffer to take over the position of the SC Chair for the next year. Mr. Stauffer and other SC members thanked Ms. Valková for her excellent leadership over the previous period and Mr. Stauffer thanked SC for entrusting him with the position of the next SC Chair.

6. Next meeting

The next SC (regular full) meeting will take place on October 22, 2020; and the one with focus on MTR in February 2021, both via webex.

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MEETING

	Action	Due Date	Responsible
1	Adjust the ToR for external evaluator to include an annex to the report with the reflections on impact of COVID-19 on PEMPAL's operating environment.	July 2020	WB, Secretariat
2	Prepare final membership survey questionnaire and conduct the survey.	Questionnaire submitted to the resource team in July 2020; Survey conducted in September	External evaluator
3	Continue the external evaluation in line with the approved updated process and timeline.	Preliminary findings to be presented in the SC meeting on October 22, 2020; Draft report to be submitted to the RT in late November and circulated to the SC and COP leadership for comments; Report to be presented to the SC in the February 2021 meeting for approval	External evaluator
4	Prepare the agenda and materials and organize the next SC meeting	October 2020	WB, Secretariat, External evaluator
5	Conduct the MTR in line with the approved updated process and timeline	SC to meet with focus on MTR in February 2021; Draft MTR report to be circulated to the SC in March 2021; MTR consultation with the donors to be held in April-May 2021; Final MTR report to be circulated to the SC in May 2021; MTR outcomes to be discussed with the COP leadership in June/July 2021	SC, WB, Secretariat