

**Minutes of the 9th Board Meeting of the
Independent Commission for Aid Impact
7 December 2011**

Attendees

- Commissioners: Graham Ward (GW)
 Mark Foster (MF)
 Diana Good (DG)
- Secretariat: Tom McDonald (TM)
 Clare Robathan (CR)
 Alexandra Cran-McGreehin (AC-M)
 Santosh Chana (SC)
- Apologies: John Githongo (JG)

Details of the meeting: Wednesday 7 December, 9.15 am – 1.00 pm

Welcome

1. The Chief Commissioner welcomed everyone to ICAI's 9th Board Meeting.

Minutes of the 8th Board Meeting

2. The minutes of the last Board meeting were formally approved.

Action Log

3. TM went through the action log and briefed Commissioners on both outstanding and completed actions.

Other issues

4. TM updated the Commissioners on the lessons learnt from first reports meeting with the contractor the previous week and the latest activity on the technical assistance report.
5. GW also updated the Commissioners on his latest meeting with the Secretary of State.
6. The Commissioners discussed how to handle the forthcoming management response from DFID and the importance of following up on the commitments from DFID. The Commissioners agreed that there should be a formal review date as well as regular written evaluations of progress.
7. MF updated the Commissioners on his recent speech at a workshop of the International Parliamentary Conference on the Millennium Development Goals in London at which there were a number of international Parliamentarians. GW and MF also updated the group on the event they attended to close the conference, during which they met a number of stakeholders. It was agreed that it would be useful to meet formally some of these stakeholders.

Action SC: to arrange meetings with stakeholders from the International Conference on the MDGs.

8. GW thanked the Commissioners and Secretariat for their hard work in getting the reports published and congratulated the team on the reception they received.

Risk Management

9. There was a discussion of the ICAI risk register and possible risks emerging from contractor country visits.

Publication process

10. The Commissioners discussed the publication process for ICAI's first reports, noting that, while some aspects had worked well, other aspects could be improved.

Report publication and coverage

11. CR introduced a paper on the media coverage of the first batch of ICAI reports published on 22 November. There followed a discussion of the media articles, interviews by the Chief Commissioner and website traffic. Commissioners were interested in a further breakdown of website traffic data.

Action CR: to carry out analysis of hits to the ICAI website.

Report from Busan

12. Jonathan Glennie and Edward Hedger from ODI were invited to present their impressions of the outcomes from the recent High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in Busan. There was a short discussion following their presentation which included consideration of what Busan might mean for ICAI's work.

Programme Update

13. AC-M took Commissioners through a paper on the updated programme for Year 1 and a proposal for the Year 2 schedule of reports. There was discussion of the costs and of the timing of the publication of reports, working with the contractor and DFID Country Operational Plans.

Action AC-M: to present a proposal for the Year 2 topics for discussion at the next Board Meeting.

Any Other Business

Update on fraud and corruption

14. CR updated the Board on the draft protocol being drawn up with DFID and SFO and the Board agreed to discuss this at a future Board Meeting.

Select Committee Hearing

15. The Commissioners discussed the forthcoming International Development Select Committee hearing and possible lines of enquiry from Members.

Pakistan visit

16. CR updated the Commissioners on the arrangements for the proposed visit to Pakistan. The Board agreed that ICAI Commissioner overseas visits should

coincide with the visits being made by the contractor study teams conducting their research.

Action Secretariat: to take forward work on a draft protocol for discussion at the next Board Meeting.

Action SC: to book travel and arrange the visas for the visit to Pakistan.