

UN-GGIM PSN Board Meeting

2<sup>nd</sup> August 2017

Venue: UN Headquarters

Board Members Attended: Sanjay Kumar  
Denise McKenzie  
Charles Brigham  
Mark Freeburn  
Steven Hagan  
Ed Parsons  
Dieter Fritsch  
Goran Jedrehcic  
Jerry Johnston  
Kaushik Chakraborty  
Anamika Das

The meeting deliberated on the following issues:-

- The process of expanding networks of network should be pursued in a democratic manner. A working group should be created for each region/thematic group so that there is widest possible participation in the process. Vice-Chairs of different group to select five-six members from different geographies who can then participate on that particular subject in the particular geography in a meeting of UN.
- In the academic sector meeting, it was discussed to constitute a UNGGIM Joint bureau.
- The UN-GGIM High Level Forum is scheduled in Mexico from 28-30 November where the agenda would be working towards collaboration with private sector. Accordingly, private sector leaders will have significant role of providing thought leadership at the event. It will also help give a concrete shape to the larger objectives and strategies for engagement with private sector.
- One way of moving forward could be organizing industry-exchange session at UN-GGIM HLF with a select group of people representing private sector in Mexico interacting with select number (about 20-30) of public sector agencies thereby providing an informal architecture for idea exchange.
- There has been encouraging initial response to PSN with about 100+ organizations having shown their interest in joining as member. The documents generated in these discussions can be placed on the website for further discussion and exchange of views with these members. A little hand-holding may be required initially in the sense that providing them clarity about their roles and finding thematic groups more relevant for their purpose.
- UN-GGIM Secretariat has already formally introduced the Vice-Chairs of PSN with the respective thematic groups and working group Chairs through mail. Now the

Vice-Chair will need to start building the process with those Chairs. In case any assistance is required, the Vice-Chair of Secretariat can assist in connecting.

- This group is constituted with the purpose of helping in UN-GGIM process as well as to ensure that the private sector is not adversely impacted by the policies. In other words, the aim is to provide the perspective from private sector to ensure that the policies result in a win-win situation. The private sector participates in the policy process and share its views as well as concerns and significance of those concerns are going for the society. This group is not meant for addressing the internal issues of private sector around the world. The purpose is to play a positive role in contributing towards developing a more rounded policy which will have an impact on business. The platform is not about technology nor about data but about formulating policy through effective interchange of views among all the stakeholders.
- There is a broad recognition that the SMEs will play a significant role and there has to be a mechanism to incorporate their views in future.
- The term of this Board will be till August 2018.
- The prospect of organizing a webinar on PSN may be explored.
- There is a need to identify a Vice-Chair for the Arab region.
- There was a proposal from GEO Secretariat for partnership between PSN of UNGGIM and GEO. GEO is an inter-governmental Group on Earth Observations (**GEO**) and its mission is to build a Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS) through world-wide collaboration. GEO wants to engage with the private sector and accordingly they have invited a delegation of the UN-GGIM PSN to its executive committee meeting in Washington in October to exchange views with representatives from National Earth Observation Organizations. PSN Board may constitute a delegation consisting of 5 members to Washington. The delegation should have a representative character both geographically as well as industry-wise. The delegation may be led by Dr. Kumar Navalur.
- Next Board meeting, subject to agreement by all, is tentatively proposed on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2018 in Hyderabad.
- Suggestion for having a virtual meeting of Board every 3 months was also made.