INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

COUNCIL BOARD (CB)

SUBJECT
CB TF SDGs Terms of Reference and Membership

ORIGIN
CB

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
As reported in Council Board document CB/1131/RV, CB approved the creation of a CB TF on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The SMB AhG 84, which was working on this topic to date, has thus been asked to support the transition and knowledge transfer towards the CB TF on SDGs.

In order to advance the Council Board decision and launch the task force, the proposed scope (developed based on input from the SMB AhG 84 and the Finance Committee) and membership of the CB TF on SDGs is provided in Annex for Council Board consideration:

CB members are requested to take a decision at the October 2020 meeting on the scope and membership of CB TF on SDGs.

If approved by Council Board, the CB TF on SDGs will commence its work, with a first report due for the October 2021 CB meeting and the final report anticipated for the October 2022 CB meeting.

ACTION
DOCUMENT FOR DECISION
At its 2020-11-12 meeting, the Council Board is invited to set the scope and membership of the CB TF on SDGs.

PROCESS
The Task Force is expected to report its findings to CB as follows: first report in October 2021 and final report in Oct 2022.

BACKGROUND
At the occasion of the CB June 2020 meeting (agenda item 8.1), the attention of the CB members has been drawn on two future strategic topics where the SMB was seeking a decision from CB: digital transformation and Sustainable Development Goals. This led to the action 5/2020: “CB Secretariat to circulate SMB requests for CB decisions/actions as a document for vote by correspondence.”
In document CB/1127/DV, the Council Board were invited to consider the recommendations from the Standardization Management Board regarding the UN SDGs. By the end of the voting period on 2020-07-10, nine (9) votes had been received, all positive (CB/1131/RV). Therefore, by its Decision 2020/016, the CB approved “the creation of a Task Force to support SDG initiatives, requested the General Secretary to propose the membership of such CB Task Force, and transferred the request for extra marketing budget to the Finance Committee for further review”.

It should be noted that at the FinCom held on 8 September 2020, FinCom recommended to not include the requested funding in the 2021 budget. FinCom also recommended that the Treasurer invite the CB task force to further evaluate IEC-wide needs and Central Office to subsequently indicate whether the current resources would be able to accommodate the additional activities. Should additional funding be requested, a clear business case should be presented to FinCom.

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ANNEX TO DOCUMENT CB/1152/DV

Proposed scope and membership for CB TF on SDGs

Proposed scope:
Driving change toward SDG-focused work and inculcating SDG-oriented thinking across the community, and deliver societal value by:
1. Creating a strategic framework to enable SDG-focused work and leading the change across IEC community including all boards, experts, NCs, CO;
2. Evaluating IEC-wide needs associated to SDGs and invite Central Office to indicate whether or not current resources would be able to accommodate the additional activities (e.g. Communication plan on SDGs). In the case where additional funding is to be requested, develop a clear business case;
3. Make recommendations to Council Board regarding the inclusion of references to SDGs initially, and later to SDG targets and indicators, in their work;
4. Reviewing the ongoing implementation of IEC SDG-strategy in standards development, conformity assessment and market watch, and guiding any course-correction; and
5. Encouraging development of standards, assessment programmes and other services integrating the SDGs so as to enable countries attain their SDG goals.

The CB TF will provide strategic insights on SDGs and will meet as may be required, with one face-to-face meeting annually. The task force is expected to report its findings to CB at successive IEC GMs and conclude work by IEC GM 2023.

Proposed membership:

Convenor: Mr Vimal Mahendru (IN NC)

Members:
Mr Weijun Liu (China) – CB member (to be confirmed)
Ms Sonya Bird – SMB member
Mr Theerasak (Beer) Opatsuan – SMB alternate
Mr Pierre Selva – CAB member, FinCom member
Mr Rajeev Vagdia – CAB member
Mr Ian Oppermann – former MSB member
1 Young Professional (to be appointed via the YP process)