

### **Steering Committee meeting**

Summary report

13 December 2017

FAO headquarters – Rome, Italy

#### **Participants:**

- 1. Carolina Adler, Mountain Research Initiative Global Civil Society Organizations;
- 2. Manrique Lucio Altavista, Argentina Governments of South America;
- 3. Anara Alymkulova, Institute for Sustainable Development Strategy Public Fund Major Group Organizations of Central Asia;
- 4. María Argüello, Consortium for Sustainable Development of the Andean Ecoregion Major Group Organizations of South America;
- 5. João Azevedo, Centro de Investigação de Montanha and Euromontana Major Group Organizations of Europe;
- 6. Karinjo DeVore, Aspen International Mountain Foundation Major Group Organizations of North & Central America and the Caribbean;
- 7. Ramiro Espino, Dominican Republic Governments of North & Central America and the Caribbean;
- 8. Matthias Jurek, United Nations Environment Programme, on behalf of Musonda Mumba, United Nations Environment Programme Intergovernmental Organizations;
- 9. Andrey Kushlin, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Host Institution of the MPS:
- 10. Grammenos Mastrojeni, Italy Governments of Europe (Incoming Chair);
- 11. Abdollah Ashtari Nakhaei, Mountain Environment Protection Society Major Group Organizations of Middle East and North Africa;
- 12. Bob Nakileza, Makerere University, on behalf of Paul Mafabi, Uganda Governments of sub-Saharan Africa;
- 13. Justice Sama Nchunu, Foundation for Environment and Development Major Group Organizations of sub-Saharan Africa;
- 14. François Pythoud, Switzerland Donor Organizations;
- 15. Samir Ben Haj Salah, Tunisia Governments of the Middle East and North Africa;
- 16. Gobinda Bahadur Shahi, Karnali Integrated Rural Development and Research Centre Major Group Organizations of Asia and the Pacific;
- 17. Andrew Taber, The Mountain Institute Global Major Groups Organizations (Exiting Chair);
- 18. Marie Venus Q. Tan, Philippines Governments of Asia and the Pacific

#### **Observers:**

- 1. Luxmi Kumari Basnet, Nepal (Alternate for Governments of Asia and the Pacific)
- 2. Susan Braatz, The Mountain Institute
- 3. Altaire Cambata, Aspen International Mountain Foundation
- 4. Sitki Eraydin, Turkey (Alternate for Governments of Europe)
- 5. Bilal Güneş, Turkey
- 6. Zekeriya Mere, Turkey
- 7. Eric Smith, Aspen International Mountain Foundation



- 8. Ibrahim Yamac, Turkey
- 9. Marisa Young, Fundación Agreste (Alternate for Major Group Organizations of South America)

#### **Mountain Partnership Secretariat**

- 1. Samantha Abear
- 2. Michelle Geringer
- 3. Giorgio Grussu
- 4. Thomas Hofer
- 5. Sara Manuelli
- 6. Rosalaura Romeo

#### Overview:

This was the first meeting of the Steering Committee (SC) after its election at the 5th Global Meeting of the Mountain Partnership (MP). The members elected a new chair and vice chairs, discussed the mode of operation of the new SC, identified follow up actions to the 5<sup>th</sup> Global Meeting and decided the date of the next SC meeting. Alternate SC members were also present at the meeting as observers.

The participants identified priority areas of work and delegated the Mountain Partnership Secretariat (MPS) several follow-up tasks to complete for the preparation of the second SC meeting, to take place in early 2018.

#### Welcome remarks and introductions

The exiting SC chair, Andrew Taber, The Mountain Institute, welcomed the newly appointed SC members and observers. He stressed the importance of their role and reminded the SC members to represent their constituencies and not their own institutions.

#### Election of the chair and vice chair

The exiting SC chair explained the process of nominating a new chair and vice chair(s), and briefly described their roles and responsibilities as outlined in the MP Governance Paper:

- The chair coordinates and helps set up SC meetings in consultation with the MPS;
- The chair also provides support to the MPS on issues when they arise;
- Being chair involves attending COPs, being involved in and often moderating high level side events; and
- The chair also provides leadership to the SC, pushing forward the mountain agenda and working with members as issues arise.

The Coordinator of the MPS added that the SC chair is an important point of entry for the MPS to the SC.

The Government of Italy, representative of European Governments, was nominated and elected to be SC chair by acclamation.

KIRDARC and UNEP were elected as vice chairs of the SC.



# Mode of operation of the new Steering Committee

The SC members briefly reviewed the mode in which the SC has been operating since the last Global Meeting in Erzurum, Turkey in 2013. The following suggestions were made regarding improving the mode of operation of the new SC and planning for the next meeting:

- A portion of the MP's work, particularly that work related to advocacy and relations with governments, could be conducted in Rome because several countries and regional groups have embassies and offices located there, through which organizations could also channel Partnership work. This would allow for organizing more frequent meetings and for greater flexibility in scheduling.
- The MPS should set up a mailing list specifically for the SC.
- A plan should be developed as soon as possible for the next two years, aligned with the international agenda, to identify key events and begin planning activities and meetings.
- Thematic working groups for advocacy and communication, creating policy briefs, developing a political alliance of governments, and dealing with issues of governance, such as membership, membership fees, the creation of new electoral groups, and how the MP deals externally, should be established.

### **Work priorities**

The following priority areas for follow-up work were identified by the SC:

- Advocacy, communication and resource mobilization;
- Developing a political alliance; and
- Reviewing the MP Governance Document.

Thematic working groups organized around these priority areas will be established. SC members may subscribe to the working group of their choice but are not obliged to subscribe to any working group. The working groups will be expected to be active and self-organizing. The MPS will not be responsible for organizing the groups.

### Follow up actions to the 5th Global Meeting

- FAO proposed to have a milestone meeting on mountains in 2018 to keep the momentum and visibility generated by the 5<sup>th</sup> Global Meeting going.
- The next SC meeting was discussed. SC members noted several upcoming international meetings of importance that the SC could consider aligning its next meeting with.
   Suggestions included the 10<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Snow and Mountain Tourism (21-23 march 2018, Andorra) and the 8<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum (18-23 March 2018, Brazil).
- The SC members should look at the MP 2018 Planning Calendar and see if the meeting could piggy back on any other relevant international event.
- The date of the next SC meeting will be decided via a survey, to be circulated by the MPS, with possible meeting dates aligning with upcoming events. The time period will be for the middle of March to the middle of April 2018.



# Other issues

On the issue of advocacy, some SC members noted that with the MP now having over 300 members, the number of meetings where mountains could be raised as an agenda item is significant. SC members were urged to raise awareness about the mountain agenda and the Mountain Partnership at any possible occasion taking advantage of the MP communication material available.

The SC Chair closed the meeting by thanking the participants for their active participation, by giving special thanks to former chair Andrew Taber for his outstanding work and wishing everybody a safe journey back home.



Annex 1

# STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

# DRAFT AGENDA

13 December 2017

Rome, Italy

- 1. Opening
- 2. Round of introductions
- 3. Election of the chair
- 4. Election of the vice chair
- 5. Mode of operations of the new Steering Committee
- 6. Follow up action to the  $5^{th}$  Global Meeting
- 7. Discussion of 2018 Operational plan and time and venue of the next Steering Committee meeting
- 8. Other issues



### Annex 2

Mountain Partnership Steering Committee  Members and Alternates				
Electoral Group	Steering Committee member	Email		
Donor Organization to the MPS	Switzerland Focal Point: Alwin Kopŝe A. Focal Point: Daniel Baumgartner	alwin.kopse@blw.admin.ch daniel.baumgartner@blw.admin.ch		
Host Institution of the MPS	FAO Focal Point: Hiroto Mitsugi A. Focal Point: n/a	Hiroto.Mitsugi@fao.org		
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	A. Focal Point: Anara	
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Major Group Organizations of the Middle East and North Africa	Mountain Environment Protection Society Focal Point: Abdollah Ashtari Nakhaei A. Focal Point: Mina Mahani	meps.iran@gmail.com mina_mahani@yahoo.com
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