

Special Session of the TDR Standing Committee

13 May 2021, virtual

Summary of decisions and recommendations

<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Decisions, Recommendations</i>
Welcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Toomas Palu welcomed everybody and explained the need for the special session.
Contingency plan related to a reduction in funding for the next biennium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcomed the update on the recent changes in funding level from one of TDR's core donors. • Commended the Secretariat's cautious approach to planning and budgeting in anticipation of potential risks that has allowed to minimize immediate impact on funding changes. • Commended the Secretariat's rapid preparation of the contingency plan for discussion, and the balanced approach taken. • Endorsed the 2022-2023 contingency plan presented and the proposed undesignated planned cost reduction details. • Endorsed the approach to pausing recruitment to vacant positions during the contingency plan, except for the programme management position (Unit Head) that will become vacant and should be filled as planned, given its importance for programme management to ensure TDR impact and for financial management at the time of funding uncertainty. • Recommended that the plan be presented to the JCB next month and that part of the mitigation plan should include fundraising efforts to help fill the gap.
JCB membership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appreciated the opportunity to review the status of JCB elections. • Took note that seven applications were received for the eight vacancies under paragraph 2.2.1 and four applications were received for the four vacancies under the paragraph 2.2.3. • Recommended that, considering the limitations of organizing elections during a virtual meeting, and the fact that the number of applications is the same or less than the number of vacancies, that no elections be organized and that JCB memberships be confirmed by acclamation. • Requested the Secretariat to inform JCB members of this recommendation in advance of the June meeting.

Participants

Members

Dr Toomas Palu, World Bank (Chair)
 Dr Mandeep Dhaliwal, UNDP*
 Dr Robert Scherpbier, UNICEF
 Dr Soumya Swaminathan, WHO *
 Dr Vic Arendt, Chair JCB
 Dr Ning Xiao, Vice-Chair JCB
 Professor Hannah Akuffo, Representative of the JCB resource contributor group *

Professor Babatunde Salako, Representative of the JCB disease endemic countries group *

Professor Charles Mgone, Chair STAC

Special Programme (TDR)

Dr John Reeder, Director
 Dr Garry Aslanyan, Manager, Partnerships and Governance
 Dr Beatrice Halpaap, Unit Head, Programme Innovation and Management
 Dr Michael Mihut, Programme, Monitoring and Evaluation Officer

* Not able to attend.