



The Donor Committee for Enterprise Development

# Business Environment Working Group

## Meeting Minutes

14 December 2022

*Approved via email on 23 December 2022.*

### **PRESENT**

Sylvia Solf (WBG, BEWG co-Chair)  
Moussa Traore (USAID, BEWG co-Chair)  
Tania Ghossein (WBG)  
Stefan Kratzsch (UNIDO)  
Judith van Doorn (ILO)  
Sandra Yu (ILO)

Jonas Bolzen (GIZ)  
Jim Tanburn (DCED Secretariat)  
Ella Duffy (DCED Secretariat)  
Simon White (Consultant to BEWG)

### **APOLOGIES**

Toru Homma (JICA), Laura-Kristin Baric (GIZ), Steffen Felix (BMZ/GIZ), Anastasia de Santos (USAID)

## **1 Welcome**

At 14:00 CET, Sylvia Solf (WBG, BEWG co-Chair) opened the meeting and welcomed all participants.

## **2 Introductions and confirmation of the agenda**

The meeting agenda was confirmed.

## **3 Minutes of the last Meeting**

The Minutes of the BEWG Meeting of 21 September 2022 were previously approved and re-confirmed.

## **4 Work item updates and discussions**

### **4.1 Role of the business environment in GVCs**

Sylvia Solf (WBG) provided an update on this work item. A second draft report has been received, and BEWG members were previously invited to comment on this draft.

The consultant, Stacey Frederick, gave a presentation on the study findings. A Q&A discussion followed this.

While the draft report has previously been circulated, it was agreed that it would be circulated again to allow for the last opportunity for members to comment by Friday, 23 December 2022.

See Attachment 1.

**AGREED**

Circulate the draft report (again) with draft meeting meetings allowing for a last opportunity for comments by Friday, 23 December 2022.

**TIME FRAME**

Friday, 23 December 2022.

## 4.2 BER and Covid-19 Responses

Moussa Traore (USAID, BEWG co-Chair) updated this work item. He described the process of selecting and appointing the consultation, William Smith.

Mr Smith has submitted a brief inception note. See Attachment 2. He has begun the assignment, and it currently reaching out to relevant donor and development agencies. He is happy to reach out and discuss this assignment with any other interested agencies.

**AGREED**

Agencies are invited to indicate if they would like to connect with the consultant. Please provide comments to Simon White by Tuesday, 17 January 2023.

**TIME FRAME**

Tuesday, 17 January 2023.

## 4.3 BER and Investment Facilitation

Tania Ghossein provided an update describing the consultant selection process.

The consultant, Mark Reichel, has been appointed. An inception note has been prepared, and BEWG comments are welcomed. See Attachment 3.

Also, for reference, the scope and principles covered in the IFA can be found in the annex here: <https://web.wtcenter.org.tw/DownFile.aspx?pid=367074&fileNo=0>

**AGREED**

Members are invited to provide comments on the inception note to Simon White by Tuesday, 17 January 2023 and to indicate any colleagues from other organisations who the consultant can contact.

**TIME FRAME**

Tuesday, 17 January 2023.

## 4.4 Simplified Legal Status

Judith van Doorn (ILO) provided an update. Gabriel Rizza Ferra (based in Brazil) has been selected as the consultant. The following country cases will be investigated:

- Brazil - Simples/MEI
- Cabo Verde - REMPE
- OHADA Model Law Umbrella/ Zoom in into Morocco - Auto-entrepreneur
- Ecuador/Colombia - SAS/RISE (country selection to be confirmed)
- El Salvador
- Argentina – Monotributo
- Vietnam - Law on Support for SMEs

Members are invited to share any leads or relevant documents with Judith who can pass this on to the consultant.

Timing:

- The inception report is due on Monday, 9 January 2023.
- The first draft report is due 27 January 2023
- The second draft report is due on 24 February 2023

#### **AGREED**

Members are invited to provide any leads or relevant documents to Judith van Doorn by Friday, 23 December 2022.

#### **TIME FRAME**

Friday, 23 December 2022.

## 4.5 Informality in Fragile and Conflict Settings

The research on Informality in Fragile and Conflict Settings is almost complete. The consultant, Nancy Benjamin, will submit the final report next week. Once received, this will be circulated to members.

## 4.6 BER for the Digital Transformation of the Economy

Moussa provided an update. A consultant, Gatana Kariuki (based in Kenya), has been appointed and is eager to connect with any relevant organisations.

See TOR – Attachment 4.

#### **AGREED**

Agencies are invited to indicate if they would like to connect with the consultant. Please provide comments to Simon White by Tuesday, 17 January 2023.

#### **TIME FRAME**

Tuesday, 17 January 2023.

## 4.7 Webinars

Two webinars were organised recently:

- **Role of Social Dialogue:** 30 November 2022 – Up to 19 participants logged in.
- **Legal identification for women:** 13 December 2022 – Up to 26 participants logged in.

Both webinars were recorded, and the DCED Secretariat will be emailing links to these recordings in its next mail.

The program of possible webinars was discussed. The following webinars are being planned:

- **Measuring BER:** date to be confirmed – need other speakers. Currently considering the case of Liberia.
- **Informality in Fragile and Conflict-Affected Settings:** Simon and Tania will consider dates and other speakers. Nancy Benjamin will present her report. Tentative date: Tuesday, 21 March 2023, at 14:00 CET.
- **Role of the business environment in GVCs.** Stacey Frederick will present her report. Other speakers and date to be determined.

## Other business

There was no other business.

## Next meeting

The next meeting will be on 22 February 2023 at 14:00 CET.

This meeting will provide an opportunity to consider ideas for inclusion in the BEWG Work Plan and Budget for 2023/24.

## Close of Meeting

Moussa Traore closed at 15:25 CET.

END.