



SUMMARY OF THE 62nd GPA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Executive Committee Meeting: 05 November 2020

The meeting was chaired by Elizabeth Denham CBE, Information Commissioner, Information Commissioner's Office, UK, GPA Chair.

GPA VIRTUAL CLOSED SESSION 2020 FEEDBACK

The Chair opened the meeting highlighting the positive feedback from stakeholders regarding the recent Closed Session conference and in particular the debate on COVID-19. The event this year has shown that an online event is possible, and the Committee should not exclude the possibility of a hybrid event in future.

The results of the 2020 Closed Session Evaluation showed that around 40% of members/observers responses believed that the right agenda items were handled. It was noted that some participants would like to include some informal elements in future, eg., the use of virtual coffee breaks to promote spontaneous conversation on key topics among members.

The Secretariat will work with the next conference hosts Mexico to develop options for a virtual/in-person open and closed session event in 2021.

NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The Chair welcomed the newly elected Committee member Ulrich Kelber, Federal Commissioner for Data Protection and Freedom of Information, Germany.

The Chair also warmly thanked Raymund E. Liboro, Privacy Commissioner, National Privacy Commission, Philippines and Eduardo Bertoni, Director, National Access to Public Information Agency (AAIP), Argentina, who have now left the Committee. The Committee looks forward to welcoming Eduardo Cimato, Acting Director, AAIP, who will now represent Argentina at upcoming Committee meetings.

REFERENCE PANEL

The meeting discussed the updated Roadmap and workplan of the Reference Panel which outlines three issues to be tackled by the Committee based on a revised approach to the establishment of the Reference Panel:

- 1) The need for geographic diversity
- 2) The clarification of the assessment criteria for applicants to the Panel
- 3) The approach to shortlisting.



The new Reference Panel will be appointed by 31 March 2021, with a selection process undertaken by a new Assessment Group composed of a diverse range of GPA Members from around the world.

Committee members will contact the Secretariat with names of potential experts for the Panel taking into consideration regional diversity in particular for Africa, Latin America and South America. Other considerations will include demonstrating the independence criteria, cultural and legal diversity and gender balance.

GPA STRATEGIC DIRECTION

The Chair of the SDSC, Angelene Falk, Information Commissioner, Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC), outlined the SDSC's workplan for 2020-21 for discussion. Committee members were invited to feedback on the workplan.

The Committee supported the SDSC intent to continue to coordinate the work of the working groups, and contribute to the forthcoming GPA 2020 census (to be launched before end of the year), to support those groups.

VACANT ROLES ON THE STRATEGIC DIRECTION SUB-COMMITTEE (SDSC)

Committee members were notified of three vacant roles on the SDSC and invited to apply:

- Member of the SDSC
- Reference Panel Chair
- Future of the Conference Co-Chair

REVIEW OF STRATEGIC PLAN AND DEVELOPMENT OF 2021-23 PLAN

The Secretariat will be organising a Workshop to develop the Strategic Plan 2021-23. The SDSC will consult Working Group Chairs before drafting the paper for Committee members to consider in advance of the Workshop. The Committee was invited to submit topics for discussion. The Secretariat gathered ideas for further internal and external engagement, to promote the plan effectively.

2021 REFRESH – GPA AS OBSERVER AT INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

The Secretariat will be undertaking a refresh of the GPA representation at international organisations as Observer. As these posts are assigned for a two-year period, the Secretariat will be asking current incumbents if they want to maintain their observer role.