



STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

17-19 February 2015

FAO HQ, Rome, Italy

Participants:

1. Fabiana Loguzzo, Argentina – Governments of South America (Chair);
2. Sam Kanyamibwa, ARCOS – Civil Society of Sub-Saharan Africa (Vice Chair)
3. Francis Dany Matip Nougua, Cameroon – Governments of Sub-Saharan Africa
4. Alfredo Guillet/Grammenos Mastrojeni, Italy – Donor Organizations to the MP Secretariat
5. Eduardo Rojas Briales/Eduardo Mansur/Susan Braatz, FAO – Host institution of the MP Secretariat
6. Pier Carlo Sandei, UNEP – Intergovernmental Organizations
7. Andrew Taber, TMI – Global Major Groups Organizations
8. Abdollah Ashtari Nakhaei, MEPS – Civil Society of Middle East and North Africa
9. Karinjoo DeVore, AIMF – Civil Society of North & Central America and the Caribbean
10. Basanta Raj Shrestha, ICIMOD – Civil Society of Asia and the Pacific
11. Martin Price, Euromontana – Civil Society of Europe
12. Marisa Young, Fundación Agreste – Civil Society of South America

Observers:

13. Thomas Hofer, MPS
14. Rosalaura Romeo, MPS
15. Alessia Vita, MPS
16. Sara Manuelli, MPS
17. Mia Rowan, MPS

Overview:

This was the first formal meeting of the SC after the Fourth Global Meeting of the Mountain Partnership (MP). Items discussed include: the MP annual report, the communication and advocacy strategy, membership issues, workplan priorities for 2015 and resource mobilization. The SC provided support in guiding the Mountain Partnership Secretariat (MPS) in its work and in its advocacy efforts to champion the mountain agenda both globally at key UN events, especially those relating to climate change and the SDGs, as well as at regional level. Membership criteria and responsibilities were discussed, and it was underlined that the MP members should be more actively engaged and the SC should be in regular contact with its constituency with the aim of ensuring a stronger commitment and a more representative participation of MP members in the future.



Summary

Tuesday 17 February

Welcome remarks

Fabiana Loguzzo and Eduardo Rojas Briaes welcomed the Steering Committee (SC) members, highlighting the global context in which the Partnership works. Both noted the three mentions of mountains in three targets in the proposed Sustainable Development Goals.

All meeting participants introduced themselves.

Reflections by the MPS Coordinator

“One year after Erzurum” – Thomas Hofer reminded the SC of the MP’s overall mission, outlining the importance of sustainable mountain development - mountains provide goods and services that can help respond to the biggest global challenges – water, energy and food. Stating that the MP now has 249 members, he reviewed some of the Partnership’s achievements in its six functions (capacity development, advocacy, communication and knowledge management, joint action, innovation and resource mobilization) since the Fourth Global Meeting in September 2013. He reminded the SC of the responsibility the MP shares – to contribute to the advancement of the mountain agenda by bringing in their expertise and promoting mountains everywhere they go. A brief round table of reactions ensued, most of which focused on the various parts of the Partnership coming together to realize the MP vision and mission.

Discussion of core documents

SC members discussed the Narrative report of MPS; Draft of Communication strategy; Draft of Advocacy strategy and Potential goodwill ambassadors and made the following decisions:

- The Narrative report is an internal document assembled by MPS for the SC members, some modifications are needed and will be sent to SC for approval.
- The Communication and Advocacy strategies will be modified by the MPS and then circulated to SC by email approval by 13 March 2015.
- One strategy only for both communication and advocacy should be developed for the next biennium. The current strategies remain separate.
- MPS to produce an attractive annual report to document 2014 with pictures to use in outreach and for marketing and fundraising purposes which must be revised and approved by the SC before print it.
- The SC from now on will endorse the documents before their implementation starts.
- The MPS should every quarter request SC members to provide information on activities in which they had been involved, and add these to a bulleted list of MPS activities to produce a report on key activities, to be distributed to SC members.



Financial report

Hofer presented the 2014 and 2015 financial report. The SC members discussed where to seek funding for the MPS and how the MP could achieve and demonstrate more tangible 'results on the ground'. They made the following decisions:

- Resource mobilization is a priority; the SC will send a letter to the current donors to the MPS (Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Swiss Development Cooperation) to request a continuation of funding.
- The SC will also send letters to other potential resource partners to justify why it is important to fund mountains and organize meetings with embassies in relevant capitals (Nairobi, Rome, etc).
- The private sector will be asked to directly finance specific activities, such as capacity building activities. (The MPS to provide a draft of these letters to SC before sending them out).
- Voluntary contributions are to be requested from members – MPS to draft a letter from the SC to the members.
- The two donors' representatives recommended the MP to focus on the current global priorities when seeking funding.
- The MPS should investigate the Green Climate Fund and inform countries of the procedure for contacting their focal point and requesting FAO as an implementing agency.

Wednesday 18 February

The morning started with a session that was closed to MPS staff in which SC members discussed ways to improve coordination with the MPS; when they could meet next; what resource mobilization efforts they could undertake.

The Roles and responsibilities of the MP Membership, Steering Committee and Secretariat

SC members reviewed their responsibilities in representing electoral groups. Some SC members expressed interest in improving the communication and collaboration with the MPS, in particular in the areas where their respective electoral groups are concerned. The SC would like to see a more active and engaged membership. The following decisions were made:

- The membership needs to be more actively involved; It was agreed that no governments can be removed. The criteria must be of a case by case and there must be flexibility. The Steering Committee member responsible for that electoral group should always be consulted and informed.
- Civil society members' promotion of sustainable mountain development (SMD) should be more active.
- More governments should be encouraged to join the MP.
- Government members will not be removed even if they are inactive. The MPS should regularly update the list of government focal points to ensure liaison with the most appropriate person.
- The MPS will send the SC the request from Central Asian members for a dedicated SC seat. ICIMOD to follow up on the request. They will be invited to the next SC meeting as observers, but the Global Meeting is the only body that can add a SC seat.



- SC members should have a set of MP information and brochures wherever they go.
- The MPS will send a reminder to the SC before the deadline of requests.
- The SC meeting report will be shared with the Partnership.

The MP in 2015 and beyond

Acknowledging the past successes of the MP in advocating for mountains at international level, the SC advised advocating for mountains in major international discussions in 2015, such as those on climate change and the Post-2015 development agenda. The meeting reviewed the key events planned for 2015 and shared their perspectives from the six regions. Decisions included:

- The MPS will prepare language on mountains and climate change for advocacy purposes and circulate to SC and MP members.
- The SC supports Nepal's call for the formation of a group of mountainous countries to speak on behalf of mountain countries during climate change negotiations in Bonn, Nairobi, New York and Paris; MPS should facilitate and ICIMOD should follow up with Nepal.
- The Mountain Agenda should be made more visible also through mountain ambassadors, such as Reinhold Messner and Jake Norton.

Work planning

The SC went through the 2015 workplan and discussed the responsibilities set forth therein. They also looked at possible dates and venues of the next SC meeting and the Fifth Global Meeting. The SC decided:

- The MPS must implement a strategic prioritization in selecting which global and regional events the MPS and SC members should attend, on the basis of available resources.
- The MPS should encourage MP members to take part in the task forces created in Erzurum on the six functions.
- The MPS will share information about how the work it is doing in Papua New Guinea could benefit other countries involved in REDD+.
- The MPS will send a request to SC members to select date and venue for 2015 SC meeting.
- Consideration should be given to holding the Fifth Global Meeting in conjunction with the Global Mountain Forum in 2016.

Resource mobilization/funding proposals

Having discussed resource mobilization extensively the day before, the SC provided feedback on the funding proposals drafted by the MPS, reiterated its commitment to help with resource mobilization and desire to see the Mountain Facility established. The SC decided:

- To approve the resource mobilization strategy once the MPS has made a few small modifications. The resource mobilization strategy will be modified by MPS, sending to the SC and then shared to the Task Force (composed by members of the Working Group from Erzurum meeting) to make a final document to be approved by the SC.
- To begin implementing the strategy immediately.

The meeting adjourned at 20:00.



Annex 1

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

17-19 February 2015

AGENDA

Tuesday 17 February

09.00-09.30 Welcome and introductory remarks

09.30-11.00 One year after Erzurum: achievements, lessons learned and future challenges (Item #1)

- Considerations by the MPS Coordinator
- Reports about the electoral groups by Steering Committee members
- General discussion

11.00-11.30 Coffee break

11.30-12.30 Discussion of core documents

- Annual report (Item #2)
- Communication strategy (Item #3)
- Advocacy strategy (Item #4)
- Potential goodwill ambassadors (Item #5)

12.30-13.00 Financial report

13.00-14.00 Lunch

14.00-16.00 Roles and responsibilities (Item #6)

- Membership (Item #7)
- Steering Committee
- Secretariat

16.00-16.30 Coffee break

16.30-17.00 Conclusions of day one



20.00 Group dinner

Wednesday 18 February

09.00-09.30 Introduction to day two

09.00-11.00 The MP in 2015 and beyond

- Priorities in 2015
- Key events in 2015 and beyond (Item #8)
- Regional perspectives – presentations by SC members

11.00-11.30 Coffee break

11.30-13.00 Work planning

- 2015 Workplan and discussion of responsibilities (Item #9)
- Dates and venues of the next SC meeting and the Fifth Global Meeting

13.00-14.00 Lunch

14.00-15.30 Resource mobilization/funding proposals (Item #10 and Item #11)

15.30-16.00 Coffee break

16.00-16.30 Other matters and general discussion

16.30-17.00 Conclusions of the meeting and next steps

17.00-17.30 Introduction to the field visit

Thursday 19 February

08.00 Field visit meeting point: FAO entrance at Viale delle Terme di Caracalla (in the parking lot, inside the gate)



ANNEX 2

Mountain Partnership Steering Committee Members List of Participants		
categories	participants	
Governments	1. Nepal	--
	2. Turkey	--
	3. Tunisia	--
	4. Mexico	--
	5. Argentina	Fabiana Loguzzo
	6. Cameroon	Francis Dany Matip Nougá
Civil Society - Regional	7. International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)	Basanta Raj Shrestha
	8. Euromontana	Martin Price
	9. Mountain Environment Protection Society (MEPS)	Abdollah Ashtari Nakhaei
	10. Aspen International Mountain Foundation (AIMF)	Karinjo DeVore
	11. Fundación Agreste	Marisa Young
	12. Albertine Rift Conservation Society (ARCOS)	Sam Kanyamibwa
Civil Society – International	13. The Mountain Institute (TMI)	Andrew Taber
Intergovernmental organizations	14. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	Pier Carlo Sandei
Resource partners to the MPS	15. Italy	Alfredo Guillet Grammenos Mastrojeni
Host of the Secretariat	16. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	Eduardo Rojas Eduardo Mansur Susan Braatz