



Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: 14 June 2022

Location: Zoom

Attendees: Jacqui, Renee, Mandy, Sophie, Ben, Huw, George, Stan

1	HKSSC Chair	1	Technical Advisor (TA)
2	Secretariat	4	Steering Committee (SC)

Agenda:

1. Secretariat change (5 mins)
2. Membership fee collection updates (5 mins)
3. Idea of trial membership proposed by members (5 mins)
4. Feasibility of face to face meeting (5 mins)
5. WG updates (15 mins - 5 mins per WG)
6. Recruitment and World Oceans Day campaign updates (10 mins)
7. AOB (10 mins)

Summary of discussion:

1. Secretariat change

- Renee will leave ADMCF on 17th June
- Mandy Wong will be the interim Secretariat before a new Secretariat is identified

2. Membership fee collection updates

- 8 members have paid their fees, expect to be 9 shortly
- Accumulative amount of HKD 119,000 now available to contribute to running costs, HKD70,000 less than projected
- Grace period will end in July

3. Idea of trial membership proposed by O&C WG members

- O&C WG members suggested allowing companies to join the coalition for an initial period of one year for free to gain insights into benefits of being a member
- SC agreed it's important for people to see value of membership, but a trial might be unfair to members who have already paid
- Alternatively, a hiatus on payment could be considered: to have companies on board as a paying member, but the payment can be made 6 months after signing up
- Meeting with Tasting Kitchen went well - will propose the possibility of associate membership or barter agreement as a media partner

4. Feasibility of face to face meeting

- TA suggested possibility to run two parts to the member meeting on 27 July - one online to cover technical and necessary agenda items, and the second part being face to face for member networking, hosted at one of the member's venues (e.g. KIN Food Halls)
- Secretariat to contact Maggie Lee from GDST to see if she would be interested in doing a short presentation at the AGM with a focus on digitalisation



- Networking and social part - budget of drinks and refreshments might have to be covered by host and / or the members themselves
- TA to email O&C WG members to coordinate the event
- Past comments on having more networking time have been made to HKSSC before as well

5. WG updates (15 mins - 5 mins per WG)

Seafood risk assessment:

- Five new species and three updated tuna assessments have been uploaded to the SRA website
- One still needs to be peer reviewed before uploading (mud crab)
- Local aquaculture risk assessments - pearl oyster and noble scallops - both low risk - can now go ahead to upload
- Waiting for supplier contacts - this is a new element included in low risk profiles as recently requested by SRA WG members
- Consensus within SRA WG to work with WWF to see if we can work together on seafood risk assessments in view of their low membership and assessment fees
- SRA still aims to cover unique assessments and to fill resource gaps in Hong Kong
- Value of SRA is that members can suggest species and also help to influence the local market towards lower risk options
- Future direction: to tap into Foundation funding and start exploring Chinese restaurant species
- SC raised the need to get a list of common species and one proposal was to raise funds for risk assessments through a crowdfunding approach, but it might be difficult and might also be politically sensitive
- Ownership model for the assessments: better for assessment to be open source so everyone can access it

6. Recruitment and World Oceans Day campaign updates

- Featured on the homepage of [Honeycombers Hong Kong](#)
- Featured on Facebook page of [Ming Pao Weekly](#)
- Featured on the [BAP website](#)
- Featured on [Seafood Source](#)
- Social media: 29 posts under #HKSSCWorldOceansDay - participants include members and non-members:
 - Non-members: Sheraton Hong Kong, The MIRA Hong Kong, Whisk, Asaya kitchen HK, AULIS Hong Kong, Roganic Hong Kong, the Legacy House HK, NOSH, Arcane, Cornerstone, Moxie
 - Members: M&C Asia, Seafood Society, KIN Food Halls, Landmark Mandarin Oriental, Mandarin Oriental Hong Kong, Sands China
 - Wynn has also launched their own campaign featuring 8 restaurants in Macau over the whole month of June
 - Indoguna also has additional events planned across six countries
- Campaign can be useful to influence restaurants, without having them as members



- A participating supplier confirmed that he has seen a spike in sustainable seafood enquiries from chefs that are notoriously difficult to contact

7. AOB

PAS 1550

- IUU risk assessment trial was raised by HT
- A data collection framework to help businesses understand their supply chain better
- Prospect of a 2nd phase - to trial data collection framework
- Only funding requirement: company has to be large-scale
- Risk assessment info is not shared with PEW (the funders) - aim by Jan, data collection guide can be shared globally for anyone to use
- HT is happy to share the guide with HKSSC and cascade to HKSSC members
- PEW doesn't want to own the framework, they want it to be public / open source
- 2nd trial: aiming for 10 companies and 15 species
- Companies are already on board and possibility to consider Sands China (TA to follow up with HT)

GDST

- GDST becoming stand-alone, looking to introduce membership structure with fees
- HKSSC could be as support but there'd be fees from September
- Possible to have Maggie Lee present at upcoming member meeting:
- Value of GDST: common terminology for collecting information and digitization
- From landscape point of view - risk assessment is very cumbersome as it's paper based - information needs to be digitized if we want to automate them
- Making better standards for fisheries data
- Secretariat to email GDST

GSSI

- Launching a concept called Seafood Map (about aquaculture) - how to present small scale operations to the wider seafood buyer community as they are often disconnected
- They might be interested in hear about the risk assessment work that HKSSC has done
- HT to arrange a presentation from the GSSI on Seafood Map at the next SC meeting

Next Steering committee meeting: 29th August 3pm [secretariat to schedule]