



Freedom Online Coalition - Friends of the Chair Call #8

Wednesday 30 August 2017

Attending: Argentina, Canada, Costa Rica, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Netherlands, US; Support Unit (SU)

Apologies: Norway, UK

MINUTES

Updates on implementation of the San Jose Work Plan (SJWP):

- Operationalising the Stockholm TOR:
 - SU updated Members on revised costing option for Member review procedure
 - This would be a one-off cost, based on a honed down job description.
 - Members agreed with this way forward
 - Members discussed next steps for setting up the FOC Advisory Network (FOC-AN)
 - During the July Friends of the Chair call, the SU was requested to look into the resource implications of “Option 1.5” and gauge initial feedback
 - The SU presented a revised proposal for a way forward:
 - Between September and December 2017, an ad hoc FOC-AN Chartering Group would be set up to help develop the FOC-AN ToR;
 - Following the development of the ToR, the FOC-AN would be formally established.
 - Friends expressed general support for the SU’s proposal.
 - Members discussed Goal 2.4 of SJWP: Develop clear procedures for the development and promotion of Coalition statements, taking into consideration learnings from drafting of Turkey statement
 - Under Goal 2.4, the Coalition is required to clarify its procedures for the development and promotion of Coalition joint statements. Currently, according to the Stockholm Terms of Reference, all Coalition statements are created through silence procedure, which means consensus is required to pass any statement. There is currently no abstention mechanism.
 - The introduction of any abstention mechanism should not undermine the strength of the Coalition as a cross-regional group of countries.
 - The SU updated Members on outstanding SJWP action points:
 - Goal 2.3: SU presented the Conference Summary and Timeline
 - SU updated members on finance

Action Point >> SU to fundraise for consultant to develop evaluation framework for Member review

Coordination and Joint Activities

- Members discussed how to take forward Action Plan 2017 activities
- The SU thanked Argentina for volunteering for activity 1.2, and the Netherlands for the translation of all FOC documents to French
- The Friends approved the public version of the Action Plan 2017 and accompanying press release

Action Point >> Any Members wishing to take the lead on Action Plan activities to let SU know by COB Friday 22 September

Action Point >> SU to publicise FOC Action Plan 2017

Outreach

- Members agreed to discuss implementation of outreach strategy internally to identify target countries

Action Point >> SU to refer the question of target countries to the wider Coalition