



Steering Committee meeting

Summary report

13 December 2017

FAO headquarters – Rome, Italy

Participants:

1. Carolina Adler, Mountain Research Initiative – Global Civil Society Organizations;
2. Manrique Lucio Altavista, Argentina – Governments of South America;
3. Anara Alymkulova, Institute for Sustainable Development Strategy Public Fund – Major Group Organizations of Central Asia;
4. María Argüello, Consortium for Sustainable Development of the Andean Ecoregion – Major Group Organizations of South America;
5. João Azevedo, Centro de Investigação de Montanha and Euromontana – Major Group Organizations of Europe;
6. Karinho DeVore, Aspen International Mountain Foundation – Major Group Organizations of North & Central America and the Caribbean;
7. Ramiro Espino, Dominican Republic – Governments of North & Central America and the Caribbean;
8. Matthias Jurek, United Nations Environment Programme, on behalf of Musonda Mumba, United Nations Environment Programme – Intergovernmental Organizations;
9. Andrey Kushlin, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations – Host Institution of the MPS;
10. Grammenos Mastrojeni, Italy – Governments of Europe (Incoming Chair);
11. Abdollah Ashtari Nakhai, Mountain Environment Protection Society – Major Group Organizations of Middle East and North Africa;
12. Bob Nakileza, Makerere University, on behalf of Paul Mafabi, Uganda – Governments of sub-Saharan Africa;
13. Justice Sama Nchunu, Foundation for Environment and Development – Major Group Organizations of sub-Saharan Africa;
14. François Pythoud, Switzerland – Donor Organizations;
15. Samir Ben Haj Salah, Tunisia – Governments of the Middle East and North Africa;
16. Gobinda Bahadur Shahi, Karnali Integrated Rural Development and Research Centre – Major Group Organizations of Asia and the Pacific;
17. Andrew Taber, The Mountain Institute – Global Major Groups Organizations (Exiting Chair);
18. Marie Venus Q. Tan, Philippines – Governments of Asia and the Pacific

Observers:

1. Luxmi Kumari Basnet, Nepal (Alternate for Governments of Asia and the Pacific)
2. Susan Braatz, The Mountain Institute
3. Altaire Cambata, Aspen International Mountain Foundation
4. Sıtkı Eraydın, Türkiye (Alternate for Governments of Europe)
5. Bilal Güneş, Türkiye
6. Zekeriya Mere, Türkiye
7. Eric Smith, Aspen International Mountain Foundation

8. Ibrahim Yamac, Türkiye
9. Marisa Young, Fundación Agreste (Alternate for Major Group Organizations of South America)

Mountain Partnership Secretariat

1. Samantha Abear
2. Michelle Geringer
3. Giorgio Grussu
4. Thomas Hofer
5. Sara Manuelli
6. Rosalaura Romeo

Overview:

This was the first meeting of the Steering Committee (SC) after its election at the 5th Global Meeting of the Mountain Partnership (MP). The members elected a new chair and vice chairs, discussed the mode of operation of the new SC, identified follow up actions to the 5th Global Meeting and decided the date of the next SC meeting. Alternate SC members were also present at the meeting as observers.

The participants identified priority areas of work and delegated the Mountain Partnership Secretariat (MPS) several follow-up tasks to complete for the preparation of the second SC meeting, to take place in early 2018.

Welcome remarks and introductions

The exiting SC chair, Andrew Taber, The Mountain Institute, welcomed the newly appointed SC members and observers. He stressed the importance of their role and reminded the SC members to represent their constituencies and not their own institutions.

Election of the chair and vice chair

The exiting SC chair explained the process of nominating a new chair and vice chair(s), and briefly described their roles and responsibilities as outlined in the MP Governance Paper:

- The chair coordinates and helps set up SC meetings in consultation with the MPS;
- The chair also provides support to the MPS on issues when they arise;
- Being chair involves attending COPs, being involved in and often moderating high level side events; and
- The chair also provides leadership to the SC, pushing forward the mountain agenda and working with members as issues arise.

The Coordinator of the MPS added that the SC chair is an important point of entry for the MPS to the SC.

The Government of Italy, representative of European Governments, was nominated and elected to be SC chair by acclamation.

KIRDARC and UNEP were elected as vice chairs of the SC.

Mode of operation of the new Steering Committee

The SC members briefly reviewed the mode in which the SC has been operating since the last Global Meeting in Erzurum, Türkiye in 2013. The following suggestions were made regarding improving the mode of operation of the new SC and planning for the next meeting:

- A portion of the MP's work, particularly that work related to advocacy and relations with governments, could be conducted in Rome because several countries and regional groups have embassies and offices located there, through which organizations could also channel Partnership work. This would allow for organizing more frequent meetings and for greater flexibility in scheduling.
- The MPS should set up a mailing list specifically for the SC.
- A plan should be developed as soon as possible for the next two years, aligned with the international agenda, to identify key events and begin planning activities and meetings.
- Thematic working groups for advocacy and communication, creating policy briefs, developing a political alliance of governments, and dealing with issues of governance, such as membership, membership fees, the creation of new electoral groups, and how the MP deals externally, should be established.

Work priorities

The following priority areas for follow-up work were identified by the SC:

- Advocacy, communication and resource mobilization;
- Developing a political alliance; and
- Reviewing the MP Governance Document.

Thematic working groups organized around these priority areas will be established. SC members may subscribe to the working group of their choice but are not obliged to subscribe to any working group. The working groups will be expected to be active and self-organizing. The MPS will not be responsible for organizing the groups.

Follow up actions to the 5th Global Meeting

- FAO proposed to have a milestone meeting on mountains in 2018 to keep the momentum and visibility generated by the 5th Global Meeting going.
- The next SC meeting was discussed. SC members noted several upcoming international meetings of importance that the SC could consider aligning its next meeting with. Suggestions included the 10th World Congress on Snow and Mountain Tourism (21-23 March 2018, Andorra) and the 8th World Water Forum (18-23 March 2018, Brazil).
- The SC members should look at the MP 2018 Planning Calendar and see if the meeting could piggy back on any other relevant international event.
- The date of the next SC meeting will be decided via a survey, to be circulated by the MPS, with possible meeting dates aligning with upcoming events. The time period will be for the middle of March to the middle of April 2018.

Other issues

On the issue of advocacy, some SC members noted that with the MP now having over 300 members, the number of meetings where mountains could be raised as an agenda item is significant. SC members were urged to raise awareness about the mountain agenda and the Mountain Partnership at any possible occasion taking advantage of the MP communication material available.

The SC Chair closed the meeting by thanking the participants for their active participation, by giving special thanks to former chair Andrew Taber for his outstanding work and wishing everybody a safe journey back home.

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

DRAFT AGENDA

13 December 2017

Rome, Italy

1. Opening
2. Round of introductions
3. Election of the chair
4. Election of the vice chair
5. Mode of operations of the new Steering Committee
6. Follow up action to the 5th Global Meeting
7. Discussion of 2018 Operational plan and time and venue of the next Steering Committee meeting
8. Other issues

Mountain Partnership Steering Committee Members and Alternates		
Electoral Group	Steering Committee member	Email
Donor Organization to the MPS	Switzerland Focal Point: Alwin Kopše A. Focal Point: Daniel Baumgartner	
Host Institution of the MPS	FAO Focal Point: Hiroto Mitsugi A. Focal Point: n/a	
Intergovernmental Organizations	UN Environment Focal Point: Musonda Mumba A. Focal Point: Harald Egerer	
	ICIMOD (Alternate) Focal Point: Basanta Raj Shrestha A. Focal Point: Laurie Vasily	
Governments of Asia and the Pacific	Philippines Focal Point: Marie Venus Q. Tan A. Focal Point: Lorenzo Caranguian	
	Nepal (Alternate) Focal Point: Luxmi Kumari Basnet A. Focal Point: Akhanda Sharma	
Governments of Europe	Italy Focal Point: Grammenos Mastrojeni A. Focal Point: n/a	
	Türkiye (Alternate) Focal Point: Sıtkı Eraydın A. Focal Point: Erda Çeler	
Governments of the Middle East and North Africa	Tunisia Focal Point: Salem Trigui A. Focal Point: n/a	

Governments of North and Central America and the Caribbean	Dominican Republic Focal Point: Ramiro Espino A. Focal Point: Francisco Domínguez Brito	
	Guatemala (Alternate) Focal Point: Adolfo Revolorio A. Focal Point: n/a	
Governments of South America	Argentina Focal Point: Marcia Levaggi A. Focal Point: Baldomero Castillo	
	Chile (Alternate) Focal Point: Isaura Torres Negri A. Focal Point: Alejandra Godoy Droguett	
Governments of sub-Saharan Africa	Uganda Focal Point: Paul Mafabi A. Focal Point: n/a	
	Cameroon (Alternate) Focal Point: Francis Dany Matip Nougua A. Focal Point: Georges Fopa Lamgouo	
Major Group Organizations of Asia and the Pacific	Karnali Integrated Rural Development and Research Centre Focal Point: Geeta Pandey A. Focal Point: Gobinda Bahadur Shahi	
	Pan Himalayan Grassroots Development Foundation (Alternate) Focal Point: Anita Paul Focal Point: Kalyan Paul	
Major Group Organizations of Central Asia	Institute for Sustainable Development Strategy Public Fund Focal Point: Kubanych Tagaev A. Focal Point: Anara Momunova	

	<p><i>Snow Leopard Conservation Foundation (Alternate)</i> Focal Point: Bayarjargal Agvaantseren A. Focal Point: Tserennadmid Mijiddorj</p>	
Major Group Organizations of Europe	<p>Centro de Investigação de Montanha Focal Point: João Azevedo A. Focal Point: Isabel CFR Ferreira</p>	
	<p>Euromontana Focal Point: Martin Price A. Focal Point: Juan-Andrés Gutiérrez Lazpita</p>	
Major Group Organizations of the Middle East and North Africa	<p>Mountain Environment Protection Society Focal Point: Abdollah Ashtari Nakhaei A. Focal Point: Mina Mahani</p>	
Major Group Organizations of North and Central America and the Caribbean	<p>Aspen International Mountain Foundation Focal Point: Karinjo DeVore A. Focal Point: Rebecca Wallace</p>	
	<p><i>Fundación CoMunidad (Alternate)</i> Focal Point: Alberto Pascual A. Focal Point: n/a</p>	
Major Group Organizations of South America	<p>CONDESAN Focal Point: María Argüello A. Focal Point: Dora Arevalo</p>	
	<p><i>Fundación Agreste (Alternate)</i> Focal Point: Marisa Young A. Focal Point: Julián Varela</p>	
Major Group Organizations of sub-Saharan Africa	<p>FEDEV Focal Point: Nchunu Justice Sama A. Focal Point: Electha Bih Tawah</p>	

	<p><i>Les Compagnons Ruraux (Alternate)</i> Focal Point: Fatima Lambony A. Focal Point: Takassi Djoré Ninkabou</p>	
Global Civil Society Organizations	<p>Mountain Research Initiative Focal Point: Carolina Adler A. Focal Point: Grace Goss Durant</p>	
	<p><i>The Mountain Institute (Alternate)</i> Focal Point: Andrew Taber A. Focal Point: Jorge Recharte</p>	