



# GFAN Guide to Global Fund Board Meetings

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## Context

The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Global Fund) is managed by a Board that consists of leading global health stakeholders with a total of [20 voting members](#). There is equal representation between donors and implementers in voting seats on the board, which also includes representation from NGOs, communities affected by HIV, TB and malaria, private sector and private foundations.

Board meetings are held twice a year and the [core function of the board](#) includes making decisions on: strategy development, governance oversight, and commitment of financial resources.

The GFAN Secretariat is invited as a Guest of the Board Leadership to attend Global Fund Board meetings and to participate as an observer of the Developed Country NGO delegation. GFAN holds additional meetings with key stakeholders and allies also in attendance at the Board meeting.

This document provides an overview of the Board meeting process and additional information on the work of the three civil society delegations: Communities, Developed Country NGOs, and Developing Country NGOs.



If you wish to find out more information about the different voting members of the board and their delegations, please visit the [member's page of the Global Fund's Board page](#). There you will also find contact information for a focal point for each of the delegations listed.

## The Board Meeting Preparatory Process

All delegations start their preparations weeks before the actual Board meeting, when Board documents are slowly filling their inboxes. All have their own processes to do so, but obviously consultation with their wider delegations and broader constituencies (not only the people that travel to the actual Board meeting) is key in this phase.

For several days before the Board meeting, all hold separate, as well as joint preparatory meetings. For those who have never participated in a Board meeting the Communities and two civil society (CS) delegations (Developed Country NGO and Developing Country NGO) meet – separately and jointly - ahead of

time to determine what key interventions are needed: sometimes they agree to take those forward jointly, sometimes not.

Following that, the Communities and CS delegations have a series of meetings together and separately with various officials and other delegations of the Board (donors, implementing governments or constituencies such as Foundations and Private Sector) to raise and solicit support for the steps previously identified to address or move forward key issues.

The Global Fund Board is unique in that its delegations strive to achieve consensus, or something very close to it on all key decisions. Sometimes, issues can be “resolved” through these meetings by a more thorough understanding of various delegations positioning on different issues. At times, new Decision Points are drafted or existing Decision Points are reviewed and proposed amendments agreed upon. Other times they are raised at various points during the Board Meetings and voting needs to determine whether a Decision Point will pass.

## The Documents

The agenda, official report, Board decisions, and all other relevant documents for each Board meeting can be found on [the Global Fund website](#). Documents are not made public until after each Board meeting. So, if you are looking for documents for an upcoming meeting, they will not be available until a few days to a few weeks following the end of the meeting.

Usually there are approximately 20-30 documents and presentations shared from the Global Fund Secretariat, the Office of the Inspector General and the Committees of the Board (Audit and Finance Committee, Strategy Committee, Ethics and Governance Committee, Technical Evaluation and Reference Group and the Technical Review Panel).

In addition, delegations submit “constituency statements” – short statements of key positions on the agenda items that are circulated in the days leading up to the start of the Board meeting. The intention of this process is to allow delegations to understand potential agreement or differences of opinion and reach out to other delegations on a timely basis.

## Understanding the Issues

GFAN will release a report following the board meeting that will highlight key points, important issues, and potential advocacy opportunities for civil society. GFAN will also organize a call with representatives of the Communities and two Civil Society delegations to debrief with GFAN members on what has taken place during the Board meeting.

The Global Fund Secretariat will issue a report with all Decision Points following the meeting (and make it available [on their website](#)). They will also make available a Board meeting report in advance of the next meeting where it needs to be approved.

If you are looking for even more details regarding the Board meeting process, please have a look at this [guide](#) prepared by our friends from Eurasian Harm Reduction Association (EHRA) and this [chart](#) that explains the Board and its structures.

## Recognizing Civil Society with Critical Roles at the Global Fund Board

Do you know who represents us as civil society and communities at the Global Fund Board?

### Delegations:

- **Communities:** Maurine Murenga (Board Member), EriKa Castellanos (Alternate BM) and Bruna Martinez (Communities Focal Point)
- **Developing Country NGO:** Andriy Klepikov (Board Member), Carolyn Gomes (Alternate BM) and Lesley Odendal (Communications Focal Point)
- **Developed Country NGO:** Robin Montgomery (Board Member), Joia Mukherjee (Alternate BM), and Kataisee Richardson (Communications Focal Point)

## **Committees and Working Groups:**

In addition to participating in delegations, civil society (including many GFAN members!) actively participate in Board structures like [Committees](#) and Working Groups. We also think its important to acknowledge the important contributions and advocacy around civil society and community issues in the various Board committees and working groups etc. which is a significant, additional amount of work for these individuals and those who support them from their delegations.

These outstanding contributions are being made by:

### **Strategy Committee:**

Rico Gustav, Communities Delegation - Chair  
Carolyn Gomes, Developing Country NGO

### **Audit & Finance Committee:**

Kanna Dharmarajah, Developed Country NGO  
Maurine Murenga, Communities

### **Ethics and Finance Committee:**

Barry Nibogora, Developing Country NGO

### **Implementers Group:**

Robin Montgomery, Developed Country NGO - Chair

You can find a full list of Committee membership [here](#).

***Thank you to all for the extraordinary efforts on delegations and committees on behalf of your colleagues in civil society!***