

Mission Innovation Steering Committee - Minutes

14 February 2023

1. Welcome and roll call

Chair: Julie Cerqueira

Attending: **Australia** Kushla Monro, Peta Olesen; **Brazil** Agnes da Costa; **Canada** Amanda Wilson; **China**; Jiayu You; **European Commission** Anna Krzyzanowska; **India** Anita Gupta; **Japan** Koyama Masaomi; **Saudi Arabia** Faisal Al-Musa; **United Kingdom** Lee McDonough; **United States** Maria Di Giulian; **TAG** Dean Haslip; **MI Secretariat** Eleanor Webster (and team)

Observing: Chile, Republic of Korea

The minutes of the November meeting were approved. The Chair extended a warm welcome to new members – India and Brazil.

Actions:

- Annual Gathering
 - Hosts to share the booking link for the special rate for accommodation at the Sheraton Grand Rio Hotel.
 - Members should register their delegations by the deadline of 24 February. The registration form includes an opportunity to indicate if a personalised letter is required e.g. for visas.
 - Members encouraged to review the Advance pre-read circulated on 21 February.

2. Governance – Refreshed MISC membership

The MI Secretariat presented the process and outcomes of the MISC refresh concluded at the end of 2022.

- Brazil will join the MI Steering Committee and Chile will step down.
- India will join in an *ex-officio* role as incoming ministerial host.
- The Technical Advisory Group Chair will take up an *ex-officio* MISC position.

The MI Secretariat remarked that the refreshed MISC will bring value in terms of the important role that both India and Brazil will play over the next period. The increased regional representation is also to be applauded. The involvement of the TAG Chair is commensurate with their mandate to contribute to the success of the Missions as they move into the implementation phase.

MISC agreed to the refresh.

3. Delivery Priorities for 2023 and corresponding proposal for the Annual Gathering

The Chair set the scene for this discussion. MISC meetings should be strategy focused – using the expertise around the table to advance MI’s ambitions, particularly to ensure that the Missions succeed and are well aligned with national programmes. The Chair expressed a wish to expand MI’s regional diversity, taking into account circumstances and needs globally. Another area of focus should be how to leverage financing. MI is an exciting initiative and should be promoted through communications and profiling. The Chair welcomes a discussion on these and other issues during a series of ongoing bilateral meetings with MISC members.

The Head of Secretariat recalled a successful meeting of the MI Secretariat in Seville (with thanks to the EC’s Joint Research Council for hosting) at which the team members focused on proposed priorities for 2023. The conclusions were as follows:

- Missions
 - Focus should be on translating the action plans into concrete deliverables.
 - Must be equipped to deliver – work together to ensure we have resources (including funding), expertise, funding in place – the Annual Gathering will look at identifying and tackling the key needs.
- Monitor progress
 - Across missions, but also beyond. e.g. how MI can contribute across the clean energy landscape e.g. on clean energy demos.
- Extending reach - how can we use the initiatives to reach beyond the membership to other countries and partner organisations.
- Advancing with synergies around CEM and BA engagement – the Annual Gathering aims to progress these conversations.

Member comments

- Responding to a question from members on the joint funding pot, the Head of Secretariat explained that discussions are in an early stage but may be linked to philanthropies via the Breakthrough Agenda. It was stressed that MISC would like to see the BA operating plan soon, if they are to endorse at the Gathering.
- Communicating impact of the Missions is important. In this respect, metrics to measure Mission success will need to be tailored to reflect their distinct characteristics.
- The Annual Gathering is an important opportunity to share the challenges the Missions are having.
- Members welcome a discussion on progress on the Clean Energy Demo activity at the Gathering.

4. Annual Gathering

The Chair opened this agenda point by inviting Brazil to give scene-setting introductory remarks.

- Brazil looks forward to welcoming CEM and MI delegates to Rio De Janeiro for meetings from 20 to 22 March, with optional site visits on 23 March.
- Sponsored by Itaipu, the events will take place at Sheraton Grand Rio Hotel & Resort. A booking link with special rates for delegates will be shared in the next days (action).
- Around 200 persons registered to date – delegates encouraged to complete process without delay, including requests for personalised letters for visas, if required (action).

The Head of Secretariat underlined the Annual Gathering as a key date on the calendar of senior representatives to share views, build relationships and advance with MI 2.0. Designed to reflect the

2023 Delivery Priorities (as outlined above), the Secretariat presented a summary of the entire programme to MISC.

Member comments

- It is important to use the Annual Gathering to review the gaps in the Mission commitments and resourcing so this information can be feed into the global stocktake process. In response, the Head of Secretariat explained that members of the COP28 team from UAE will be present at the Annual Gathering. The Chair agreed about the importance of the link with the COP process and raised the idea of a technology focused pavilion at COP28.

All members invited to review the MI Gathering Advance Pre-Read pack circulated to the membership on 21 February, which reflects the outcome of the MISC discussions around the Annual Gathering (**action**).

5. Missions update

Due to time constraints, this agenda point was not discussed in the meeting. However, it was agreed that the MI Secretariat would provide a written update on the Missions as part of these minutes, see below:

- **Annual Gathering preparations:** The MI Secretariat and Mission leads are working on developing backgrounders for each Mission, summarizing: proposed Mission deliverables for 2023, resourcing and member contributions to meet those deliverables, and engagement/communications opportunities. These backgrounders will help brief those attending the Annual Gathering, track Mission activities over the coming year, and help Missions explore opportunities for collaboration with each other.
- **Mission Working Group calls:** The MI Secretariat and Mission Directors will be meeting in late February to discuss preparations for the Annual Gathering and tracking Mission progress (February 22) and to discuss common challenges and enable the exchange of best practices, beginning with a deep dive on knowledge management strategies (February 28). Further networking between Missions and exchange around best practices will take place at the Annual Gathering and on future Working Group calls.
- **Communications needs / challenges:** Missions have come forward with varying communications needs and priorities, including guidance around branding, support in developing external communications products, and changes to the MI website. The MI Secretariat is in the process of compiling a list of comms needs and resourcing options to address each. In particular, revamping and improving the functionality of the MI website is a top priority so that we can better meet the needs of Missions. On this latter point, the MI Secretariat is in the process of securing resources to hire a website developer.

6. Technical Advisory Group

The Chair of the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) informed the MISC that the Group plans to feedback on Mission progress later this year, which can possibly feed into the Annual Gathering in 2024. TAG members will take part in the Annual Gathering. Two new TAG members from the USA and Germany were nominated and approved.

7. Plans for MI-8

India presented its current thoughts on CEM14/MI-8. With a proposed theme of *advancing the*

continuum of R&D towards pilot demonstration on clean energy technologies, the events will take place in Goa from 19-21 July 2023. Key points:

- **Planning** - A Ministerial Planning Team and Ministerial Operations Team will be set up, involving Ministry of Power (BEE), Department of Science and Technology, Department of Biotechnology, CEM Secretariat and MI Secretariat.
- **Content** - The MI Secretariat is working with the Department of Science and Technology on the Ministerial content, including announcements. We are exploring the avenues of announcement to the Public /Press Gathering.
- Current plan is to have separate **Ministerial plenaries**. MI Ministerial plenary would take place in the morning of 21 July 2023 in the Taj Resort and Convention Centre, Goa. The same venue is for G20 ETWG meetings. The minister and his accompanying officer who are not part of G20 but part of MI and CEM will have access to this venue and their registration process is being explored.
- **Joint sessions** with CEM will include the opening ceremony, roundtables, press conference and closing ceremony at a nearby hotel to the Taj Resort.
- **Side events** will be held at a nearby hotel to the Taj Resort from 19 to 21 July 2023. All side events will be held at Goa only. There is possibility of organising up to eight side events of 90 minutes slot in one day.
- **Invitation letters** will be sent to Ministers and Senior Representatives in March 2023.
- **Procedures** for accreditation for MI Ministerial, issuing visa letters, registration and accommodation are being explored and informed in due course.
- **Branding** – an event logo is being prepared.

Member Comments

- Member(s) expressed support for continued discussion around holding a joint MI/CEM plenary (reflecting synergies, opportunities to collaborate).
- India responded that as MI and CEM lie with separate Ministries, the top-level authorities requested the split – roundtables will be common in many instances.
- Industrial decarbonisation was suggested as a roundtable theme given its relevance to MI and CEM and link to the G20 agenda.

8. AOB

The Chair thanked MISC for their engagement and closed the meeting.