

Oxfam Australia – Notes of Board Meeting 31 March 2017

The Oxfam Australia (OAU) board met in Melbourne on 31 March 2017 to transact some board business and also take part in one of the scheduled strategic sessions of the year. These are intended to provide the board with deeper insights into the core work that Oxfam does and are welcomed as informative and stimulating supplements to the board's governance functions.

This session was on the themes of Country Programs in Oxfam 2020 and the 2020 World in Action, held as a series of world cafes run by the OAU team and much appreciated by the board.

The board business covered in the meeting commenced with a report by the Chief Executive which traversed significant issues and particularly our operating environment, organisational health, financial matters, a briefing on Oxfam 2020 following recent global board meetings and provided program updates.

The board received, discussed and approved proposals for the FY 18 budgets of OAU and Oxfam Trading. The board was satisfied with the detail and realism of these budgets in a setting of significant challenge and uncertainty, and with provisions for review and response in the event of unexpected outcomes – it is vital for OAU to remain agile.

There was a 90 minute presentation and discussion on Workplace Health and Safety in the context of all OAU's operations. This was an important briefing as the board has clear fiduciary and legal responsibilities to ensure there are measures in place to maximise workplace safety.

Dennis Goldner

Chair

March 2017