

**Minutes**  
**WRI Board of Directors Meeting**  
**December 9, 2008**  
**Washington, DC**

Attendees: James Harmon–Chair, Harriet Babbitt–Vice Chair, Roberto Artavia, Frances Beinecke, Afsaneh Beschloss, Leslie Dach, Jamshyd Godrej, Denis Hayes, Chen Jining, Jonathan Lash, Jeff Miller, C.K. Prahalad, Ted Roosevelt IV, Stephen Ross, Alison Sander, José Sarukhan, Gus Speth, Lee Thomas, Todd Thomson, Diana Wall

Guests: John Disharoon, Caterpillar

Staff: Manish Bapna, Steve Barker, Liz Cook, Robin Murphy, Janet Ranganathan, Jonathan Pershing, Allison Sobel

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m. EST by the Chair.

Chairman’s Welcome

Jim Harmon welcomed everyone and introduced the goals of the conference call.

Approval of Minutes from September 16 Board Meeting

The Board approved the Minutes from the September, 2008 Board Meeting.

US Climate/International Climate Update: Report from Poznan

Jim Harmon introduced Jonathan Pershing who was calling from the UNFCCC COP meeting in Poznan, Poland. Mr. Pershing updated the Board on the international negotiations. The meeting is a stepping stone towards getting an agreement to replace the Kyoto Protocol at the 2009 meeting in Copenhagen. He said that the delegates were waiting to see how President Obama and the U.S. would move forward. Mr. Pershing also spoke about the negotiation process and how he believed it would be resolved.

The Board spoke about the negotiations and the need for the U.S. to move forward with climate legislation. Jonathan Lash thought that his recent CEO level USCAP meeting was encouraging. He said that Jeff Immelt was driving the group to reach a second agreement outlining a policy for the U.S. The Board discussed potential U.S. Climate policy and the role of developed versus developing countries in an international agreement. Jamshyd Godrej spoke about his meetings with U.S. officials in D.C. where he was visiting.

## China Activities Update

Mr. Lash welcomed Chen Jining to the call and to his first board meeting.

Manish Bapna reported on WRI's progress to open an office in Beijing and said there were several external events influencing this project including this U.S. elections and the financial crisis. He spoke about the Chinese government stance on climate issues and WRI's strategy to move our work forward. Mr. Bapna reported on WRI's work in China on the Greenhouse Gas Protocol, New Ventures, and WRI's research collaboration with Tsinghua University.

The Board discussed the projects and strategy and Mr. Chen spoke about the importance of WRI's work in China.

## Development Report

Mr. Lash said that both the Finance Committee and the Executive Committee have approved WRI's financial risk measures, and that he didn't intend to cover it in detail on this call, but he would be happy to field any questions on these issues.

Liz Cook said that there was positive development news to report, but that they were cautious for the future. She spoke about several new grant agreements and opportunities. Ms. Cook expects it to be hard for WRI to reach unrestricted fundraising goals in FY09 and FY10. She has set a lower goal to scale back expectations. She asked the Board to determine whether WRI should hold a fundraising dinner or is that too much of a risk. Her team is working to expand the Corporate Consultative Group and the Global Impact Fund. She spoke about several fundraising strategies and asked for feedback from the Board.

Although there were some misgivings, the Board ultimately agreed that it was important to hold the dinner, in order to gain exposure and to continue to move forward with fundraising plans. The Board also spoke about the decline of WRI's issues in the media, due to a focus on the economy.

The Conference Call disbanded at 1:30 p.m. EST.

Steve Barker  
Chief Financial Officer and Vice President of Administration