

## **Note of Oxfam Australia Board Meeting – 15 February 2019**

The Oxfam Australia (OAU) Board met for its first meeting of 2019 on Friday 15 February. We welcomed our 2019 participant from the Observership Program, Kate Gilkison. There was full attendance at this meeting.

The meeting started with an update from the Chief Executive (CE) Helen Szoke on OAU's activities and performance. The agency had just participated in a demanding but rewarding reaccreditation process for participation in the DFAT Australian NGO Partnership Program, the outcomes of which will be known in the coming months. The CE and Board discussed OAU's proposed new operating model – Partnering for Impact – and its implications for resourcing and organisational structures and the Board came back to Partnering for Impact in a separate agenda item later in the meeting. The CE's report covered a wide range of further issues spanning programs, financial and HR matters and safeguarding.

The next segment of the Board meeting traversed an update on the income and operational plans and discussion on Oxfam Australia Trading's operations and outlook. This was followed by the customary detailed review of financial performance, budgeting and other financial matters, and the risk, compliance and legal report.

The Board received reports from the Public Engagement (PEC) and Governance Committees, and in relation to the former, considered and approved new Terms of Reference for PEC which reflected future oversight requirements for public engagement.

A minor change to the Constitution was passed in a brief General Meeting in adjunct to the board meeting.

The Board thanked the CE and her team for its considerable hard work over the period gone by.

Dennis Goldner  
Chair

February 2019