

Outcomes

As part of the strategic review, the Board agreed to recommendations concerning GNI's shared learning and policy advocacy, organizational capacity and fundraising, communications strategy, and independent assessment process. In February 2015, the Board approved revisions to the GNI Governance Charter and Accountability, Learning, and Policy Framework to reflect these decisions.⁹

Learning and Policy

GNI renewed its commitment to increase its policy and learning activity and approved strategies for policy advocacy and shared learning as part of the review. From our successful advocacy in support of intermediary liability reforms in India, to our efforts to increase transparency around government surveillance and content removal with the Freedom Online Coalition, our activities are already demonstrating the impact of multi-stakeholder collaboration on policy advocacy.

Organizational Capacity and Fundraising

As part of a comprehensive effort to increase and diversify GNI's sources of funding, the board has developed a fundraising policy to determine what sources of funding, including from governments as well as private sources, GNI will accept. This policy has been posted on the GNI website.

Communications

The Board approved a revised communications strategy, updating GNI's processes for public statements and communicating its work to the public. Communications will focus on two objectives: 1) advancing the adoption of the GNI Principles worldwide; and 2) Influencing policy to create an enabling environment for implementing the principles and guidelines.

Accountability and Assessment

As part of the review of the assessment process, the Board has agreed to changes to the process to make it more efficient, effective, and transparent.

The assessment process will now combine the review of company policies and processes with the

case review into a single independent assessment of participating companies, which will occur every other year. Participating companies complete a self-assessment within one year of joining GNI, followed by an independent assessment following their one-year anniversary as a full member. Companies will use best efforts to provide more transparency on the results of the independent assessment, and each company will produce a public description or report based on the independent assessment within six months following the completion of the assessment process.

2014 Financials

GNI is an independent non-profit organization exempt from federal income taxation under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. GNI is funded by member contributions and through additional support including from the MacArthur Foundation.

2014 Financial Statement

PUBLIC SUPPORT & REVENUE:

Contributions & Grants	\$200,000
Membership Fees – General	\$383,286
Membership Fees –	
Telecom Industry Dialogue	\$149,955
Interest Income	\$54
Total Public Support & Revenue	\$733,295

EXPENSES:

Salary & Benefits	\$314,866
Consultancy	\$42,083
Travel and meetings	\$106,005

Professional Fees	\$15,236
Office Supplies & Miscellaneous	\$16,166
Rent	\$44,872
Publications & Conferences	\$8,667
Administrative Support	\$34,150
Total Expenses	\$582,045

Increase in Net Assets	\$151,250
Net Assets – Beginning	\$186,205
Net Assets – Ending	\$337,454

⁹ See <https://globalnetworkinitiative.org/news/gni-strategic-review-outcomes-and-next-steps>.

¹⁰ Available at <https://globalnetworkinitiative.org/about/index.php>.