Governance of WWF-UK

WWF-UK is a charity registered in England, Wales and Scotland. The Board of Trustees is legally responsible for all the activities that the organisation undertakes. WWF-UK is subject to the provisions of the Charities Acts, and like many other charities in the UK is also incorporated as a registered limited company and thus also complies with the requirements of the Companies Acts 1985 and 2006.

WWF-UK BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND THE SUBCOMMITTEES

The governing body of WWF-UK is the Board of Trustees, which meets approximately four times a year. The Trustees are all unpaid volunteers who are responsible for ensuring that WWF-UK abides by its charitable aims and works within the law and to ensure that WWF-UK delivers its mission effectively by overseeing the overall policies and objectives of WWF-UK and ensuring that the work of the organisation is monitored and evaluated effectively. Trustees are entitled to claim expenses in relation to their duties.

There are a maximum of fifteen Trustees at any one time, who are elected for a three-year term, with an optional second consecutive term of three years. After serving two consecutive terms of three years, Trustees must stand down for a period of at least one year before they are eligible for re-election. The Board is led by the Chair of Trustees, and one Trustee is also appointed as Honorary Treasurer. The Chair of the Board is also ex officio a Member of the Board of WWF International.

FINANCE AND BUSINESS COMMITTEE

The Finance and Business Committee makes recommendations to the Board to ensure that the finances and assets of WWF-UK are effectively managed. The Finance and Business Committee is made up of the Chair of the Board of Trustees, the Honorary Treasurer and up to five other members nominated by the Board. Some of these additional members are not members of the main Board, and are also unpaid volunteers. The Finance and Business Committee meets four times a year.

PROGRAMME COMMITTEE

The Programme Committee makes recommendations to the Board to ensure that the programmes of WWF-UK are effectively managed. The Programme Committee is made up of at least five members of the Board and other members nominated by the Board. These additional members are not members of the main Board, and are also unpaid volunteers. The Programme Committee now meets four times a year.

PENSIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

The Pensions Subcommittee keeps under review pensions arrangements for WWF-UK staff with a view to providing access to a third party pension scheme which fully takes into account changing pensions legislation and the need to secure adequate levels of benefit on retirement. The Pensions subcommittee also monitors the performance of
the consultants managing the scheme and recommends any changes to the arrangements.

INVESTMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

The Investment Subcommittee keeps under review the investment criteria of WWF-UK’s investment portfolio to ensure that it achieves satisfactory returns whilst complying with the ethical and environmental guidelines established by the Board of Trustees of WWF-UK.

AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Audit Committee explores significant risks to the organisation and evaluates the steps taken to minimise these risks, considers and reviews the adequacy of WWF-UK’s systems of internal control, and considers and evaluates the work of the internal and external auditors.

LIVING PLANET CENTRE COMMITTEE

The Living Planet Centre Committee reports to the Board of Trustees and normally meets four times a year (or more if required). The Committee comprises four members of the Board. The Living Planet Centre Committee will manage and oversee until completion the building project for the new green HQ of WWF-UK; and report to the Board of Trustees on any matters requiring approval and/or decision to keep the Board of Trustees apprised of progress with developments.

NOMINATIONS & REMUNERATION COMMITTEE

When a vacancy arises in the Board, a Nominations Committee consisting of the Chair of the Board, the Honorary Treasurer, one other trustee and the Chief Executive meets to consider new candidates to recommend to the Board for approval. They do this by examining a matrix showing the current skills and experience of the Board and suggesting candidates who would best complement the current profile. The recommendations of the Nominations Committee are taken to the Board for a decision.

MANAGEMENT TEAM (MT)

Management Team is chaired by the Chief Executive (David Nussbaum) and includes the Directors of Fundraising, Communications, Resources, Campaigns and Programmes and the Deputy Director of Programmes. MT meets every two weeks and manages the day to day operations of WWF-UK. Agendas and summary Minutes for MT may be found on Arena.

PROGRAMMES SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM (PSMT)

The Programmes Senior Management Team (PSMT) is chaired by the Director or the Deputy Director of Programmes. PSMT manages the day to day operations of the Programmes Division and meets every two weeks.