



**MINUTES**  
**of the**  
**JANUARY 2023**  
**ROTARY FOUNDATION**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

**ROTARY FOUNDATION TRUSTEES**  
**2022–23**

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Black Rock, Victoria, Australia  
Rotary Club of Sandringham

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Overland Park, KS, USA  
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**Dean Rohrs**  
British Columbia, Canada  
Rotary Club of Langley Central, BC

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*\*filed only with the official copy of these minutes*



**MINUTES**  
**of**  
**THE ROTARY FOUNDATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**JANUARY 2023 MEETING**

The Rotary Foundation Board of Trustees met on 7–8 January 2023 in Orlando, FL, USA.

Present were: Chair Ian H.S. Riseley, Vice Chair Larry A. Lunsford, Chair-elect Barry Rassin, other Trustees Jorge Aufranc, Marcelo Haick, Martha Peak Helman, Holger Knaack, Hsiu Ming Lin, Mark Daniel Maloney, Geeta K. Manek, Aziz Memon, Akira Miki, Bharat Pandya, Greg Podd, Dean Rohrs, and General Secretary John Hewko. Director Pat Merryweather-Arges attended as Board liaison. Past RI President Bill Boyd and Past RI Director Bryn Styles presented the Rotary Peace Center in MENA Search Committee report.

At the invitation of the chair, also attending were Incoming Trustees Carlos Sandoval Delgado and Dennis Shore. Chun-Wook Hyun was unable to attend.

Andrew McDonald served as secretary of the meeting with assistance from Matt Hohmann. Other staff present (in-person or virtually) were Jim Barnes, David Bender, Karena Bierman, Julie Burke, Meredith Burlew, Sarah Crawford, Paul Haisman, Eric Jones, Carol Pandak, Steven Routburg, Eric Schmelling, Tom Thorfinnson, Doris Xie, and Nora Zei. Nobuko Andrews, Sandra LeBlanc, Ligia Lima, and Eiko Terao served as staff interpreters.

\* \* \* \* \*

**43. Approval of the October 2022 Meeting Minutes**

*Statement:* The general secretary distributed the October 2022 Trustee meeting minutes to each trustee.

**DECISION:** The Trustees approve their October 2022 meeting minutes and request the chairman to sign the official copy of those minutes.

**44. Ratification of Decisions Taken on Behalf of the Trustees**

*Statement:* Rotary Foundation Bylaws section 5.10 states that any officer acting on behalf of the Trustees shall report such action to the Trustees at their next scheduled

meeting. Rotary Foundation Code of Policies section 21.010. provides for the delegation of authority to the chair, chair-elect, or general secretary to act on the Trustees' behalf on specific matters. The general secretary reported that several decisions were taken on the Trustees' behalf in accordance with this policy, including the approval of Rotary grants, Cadre of Technical Adviser audits, and PolioPlus partners funding requests.

**DECISION:** The Trustees ratify the decisions taken on their behalf by those authorized to do so between 19 August and 2 December 2022, as shown in Appendix A.

**45. General Secretary's Report**

*Statement:* The general secretary presented an update on the work at the Secretariat since the October 2022 Trustees meeting, including statistics on Rotary grants, an overview of the Rotary Foundation funding model, an update on the Foundation's disaster relief efforts in Ukraine and Pakistan, and an update of Secretariat office space use at One Rotary Center.

**DECISION:** The Trustees receive the general secretary's report on the activities at the Secretariat since the October 2022 Trustees meeting.

**46. Communications from the Board**

*Statement:* Board liaison to the Trustees, Director Merryweather-Arges, reported that at its October 2022 meeting the Board took eight decisions of interest to the Trustees. The Board had requested the Trustees to agree to review the joint committees (those reporting to both boards) at a future meeting. The Trustee further discussed the value they saw in the RI Award of Honor and suggested that addressing specific concern with the award would be better than terminating it outright.

**DECISION:** The Trustees

1. note the following decisions from the October 2022 Board meeting:
  29. Communications from the Trustees
  32. Election of Foundation Trustees
  35. RI Award of Honor
  38. Extension of Strategic Partnership with the Global Partnership for Education
  39. Joint Working Group to Develop Committee Terms of Reference Report
  40. 2023–24 Joint Annual Goals
  45. Past RI President Funding to Attend International Assembly
  54. Zone 8 Regionalization Update
2. agree that the Trustees and Board shall review the joint committees at their October 2024 meetings and also agree that either the Trustees or Board can withdraw from participating in a joint committee at any time;
3. request the Board to reconsider its decision 35, October 2022, terminating the RI Award of Honor and further request that the Board consider either reinstating or revising the award to be given to individuals to honor their impact on the world, and to develop appropriate qualification and selection criteria.

**47. Approval of 2023–24 Committee Appointments**

*Statement:* Rotary Foundation Bylaws section 6.1 provides for the Trustees to establish committees and prescribe the duties and authority of such committees. The Trustees shall determine the number of members on a committee and the terms of membership. Bylaws section 6.2 states that the Trustee chairman shall appoint the members of the committees. Rotary Foundation Code of Policies section 23.010.1. provides that such appointments are reviewed and approved by the full board of Trustees at their January meeting. Chair-elect Rassin presented his recommended committee appointments for the Trustees' consideration.

**DECISION:** The Trustees approve Chair-elect Rassin's recommendations for the 2023–24 Rotary Foundation and joint committees with the RI Board, as shown in Appendix B, filed only with the official copy of these minutes, and request the chair-elect to invite the listed persons to serve in their respective roles.

**48. Learning Committee Report**

*Statement:* The Learning Committee met virtually on 14 September, 5 and 20 October, and 10 November 2022 and reviewed current regional leader policy in the Rotary Foundation Code of Policies, Learning Center data relating to the regional leaders, regional leader key performance indicators, training requirements for Rotaractors, district training assemblies, and regionalization, among other topics. The committee suggested several amendments to the Rotary Foundation Code of Policies.

**DECISION:** The Trustees

1. thank the Learning Committee for its report;
2. reaffirm that incoming regional leaders should be provided the opportunity to attend a learning event for their specific role and recognizing the need for flexibility in how this is done, amends the Rotary Foundation Code of Policies as follows:

**24.010.2. Coordinator Training Regional Leader Learning Event**

~~Newly appointed coordinators attend a joint training institute named "Regional Leaders Training Institute," (RLTI). Incoming regional leaders attend one of two in-person learning events to orient them to their role and build capacity based on the skills their role requires. RLTI is~~ These events are planned by a moderator and ~~two~~ lead facilitators ~~representing each regional leader group~~ in consultation with the general secretary. The ~~RLTI~~ moderator is selected jointly by the ~~incoming~~ chair-elect of the Trustees ~~for the year of the E/MGTI~~ and the president-nominee. The Incoming ~~Trustee~~ chair-elect ~~of the Trustees~~ and the President-nominee ~~each~~ select ~~one of the two RLTI~~ ~~lead the~~ facilitators ~~for the roles they appoint. The names of those selected for Candidate selections for the RLTI~~ moderator and lead facilitator ~~names~~ are shared with the RI Board and TRF Trustees for review before appointments are finalized.

Second and third year ~~coordinators~~ regional leaders are provided continued ~~training~~ resources, learning, and skill-building opportunities through a structured plan provided by the general secretary.

**Adviser Training**

~~Newly appointed and first year E/MGAs attend a training institute named "Endowment/Major Gifts Advisers Training Institute," (EMGTI). E/MGTI is planned by a moderator and two lead facilitators in consultation with the general secretary. The E/MGTI moderator and two lead facilitators are selected by the chair-elect of the Trustees for the year of the E/MGTI.~~

~~Candidate selections for the EMGTI moderator and lead facilitator names are shared with the TRF Trustees for review before appointments are finalized and announced.~~

End Polio Now Coordinator Training

~~An annual training meeting shall be held for all EPNCs at One Rotary Center if possible or virtually if an in-person meeting is not possible.~~

#### 49. Policy Regarding Family Attendance at Rotary Foundation Donor Events

*Statement:* Trustee Maloney suggested that the Trustees review Foundation policy regarding donor events to make these events more family-friendly.

**DECISION:** The Trustees amend the Rotary Foundation Code of Policies regarding donor recognition events by adding a new section as follows:

**51.070. Family Attendance at Donor Recognition Events**

Minor children (under the age of 18) and other immediate family members of an invited donor are permitted to accompany the invited donor to donor recognition events organized by the general secretary on behalf of the Foundation. Such family members may attend, provided the invited donor registers them for the event and pays the appropriate ticket price (except that no ticket shall be required for children under the age of 5). Minor children must be under the care and supervision of their parents or legal guardians.

Organizers of other Foundation donor recognition events are encouraged to adopt similar policies for attendance of donors' family members to such events.

#### 50. Proposed Associate Foundation in Italy

*Statement:* In decision 65, January 2022, the Trustees, noting that Italy was among the top giving countries to The Rotary Foundation, approved exploring the establishment of an associate foundation in Italy. The general secretary reported on engaging Italian legal counsel to confirm that any new association foundation could adhere to the TRF's policies, allow the Trustees to maintain a majority control, and to comply with US general accounting principles. Legal counsel was also asked to note any restrictions on the use of the funds. After reviewing the local counsel's report, the general secretary determined that conditions were favorable for establishing an associate foundation in Italy.

**DECISION:** The Trustees

1. approve the establishment of an associate foundation in Italy;
2. authorize their Executive Committee to act on their behalf with respect to the establishment and operations of an associate foundation in Italy.

#### 51. Corporate Social Responsibility Grant Programs in Australia and Brazil

*Statement:* In decision 19, October 2022, the Trustees requested the general secretary to review and implement opportunities for the use of Foundation funds for corporate social responsibility (CSR) grants in Australia and Brazil. Based on the successful CSR India grants program, and with guidance from the associate foundations in Australia and Brazil, the general secretary developed guidelines and processes and procedures to establish a successful CSR program in these countries.

**DECISION:** The Trustees

1. receive the general secretary's report on CSR grants in Australia and Brazil;
2. request the general secretary provide an update on the implementation of CSR grants in Australia and Brazil at the April 2023 Trustee meeting;
3. request the general secretary to provide an evaluation of the CSR grants in Australia and Brazil at the April 2027 Trustees meeting.

#### 52. Disaster Response Grant Enhancements

*Statement:* Noting the success of disaster response grants in providing humanitarian aid to Ukrainian refugees and war victims and further noting Rotary members' desire to provide support to disaster victims, the Trustees, in decision 27, October 2022, requested Chair Riseley to appoint a working group to develop recommendations for expanding the disaster response grants program to appeal to donors and to provide greater assistance to victims of disasters of great magnitude. The working group met in December 2022, reviewed the disaster response grants program and agreed that establishing disaster response funds and grants for specific disasters would best meet donor requests and provide maximum aid to victims. The committee, however, sought clarification on a definition for "disasters of great magnitude."

**DECISION:** The Trustees

1. agree to establish disaster response funds and grants for specific disasters in addition to the existing general Disaster Response Fund;
2. request the working group to make recommendations on the definition of what qualifies as a “disaster of great magnitude”;
3. request the general secretary to develop procedures for the Executive Committee to approve a specific disaster response fund for disasters of great magnitude as requested by an RI director, a Rotary Foundation trustee, or by the general secretary;
4. request the general secretary to provide an estimate of resources, costs, and timeline for implementation at the April 2023 meeting.

**53. Disaster Relief for Ukraine**

*Statement:* In decision 52 of these minutes, the Trustees agreed to establish disaster response funds and grants for specific disasters in addition to the existing general Disaster Response Fund. Noting the continued demand among Rotary members to provide direct support to the victims of the war in Ukraine, and the continued need for short-term aid to Ukraine, the Trustees discussed how the Foundation can best address these disaster needs.

**DECISION:** The Trustees

1. agree that the extreme needs prompted by the war in Ukraine warrant the establishment of a separate fund for immediate relief of impacted areas;
2. agree to establish as soon as practical a separate targeted Ukraine Response Fund;
3. agree that contributions given to the Ukraine Response Fund through 31 December 2023 including District Designated funds will be expended for Ukraine Response Grants until 30 June 2024, or earlier if all funds have been expended;
4. confirm any unused contributions for Ukraine Response Grants will be transferred to the general Disaster Response Fund on 1 July 2024;
5. agree that the Trustees will review the contribution and grant deadlines set forth above at their October 2023 meeting;

6. transfer US\$250,000 from the World Fund to the Ukraine Response Fund effective with the establishment of the Ukraine Response Fund and agree that the grant funding for the previously-approved DR880 shall be charged to the Ukraine Response Fund;
7. agree that District 2232 (Belarus and Ukraine) can have open up to three Ukraine Response Grants of up to \$100,000 each simultaneously; the districts bordering Ukraine can have open one Ukraine Response Grant of up to \$100,000 at any one time, and other districts can have open one Ukraine Response Grant of up to \$25,000 at any one time;
8. request the general secretary to inform donors of this new giving opportunity.

**54. Disaster Relief for Pakistan**

*Statement:* In decision 52 of these minutes, the Trustees agreed to establish disaster response funds and grants for specific disasters in addition to the existing general Disaster Response Fund. Noting the continued demand among Rotary members to provide direct flood-relief support to the victims of the 2022 floods in Pakistan, the Trustees discussed how the Foundation can best address these disaster needs.

**DECISION:** The Trustees

1. agree to establish as soon as practical a separate targeted 2022 Pakistan Flood Response Fund for the devastating flooding, which remains a humanitarian challenge and a disaster of great magnitude;
2. confirm that grants made from the 2022 Pakistan Flood Response Fund will follow the standard Disaster Response grant policies, except that Districts 3271 and 3272 (Pakistan) can have open up to two disaster response grants simultaneously of up to \$50,000 each through 30 June 2024;
3. agree that the 2022 Pakistan Flood Response Fund will accept new contributions, including District Designated funds, until 31 December 2023;
4. agree that contributions to the 2022 Pakistan Flood Response Fund will be expended for Pakistan flood relief projects and any unused contributions will be transferred to the general Disaster Response Fund on 30 June 2024;



- request the general secretary to inform donors of this new giving opportunity.

## 55. Rotary Peace Centers Committee Report

*Statement:* At its September 2022 meeting, the Rotary Peace Centers Committee discussed possible policy amendments to enhance the peace fellowship application endorsement process and to provide for host area representation on the Rotary Peace Centers Committee.

**DECISION:** The Trustees

- amend Rotary Foundation Code of Policies sections 35.050.2., regarding the Rotary Peace Centers selection committee as follows:

### 35.050.2. Rotary Peace Centers Selection Committee

Rotary Peace Centers Selection Committee Qualified candidates must complete a mandatory interview with a trained endorser(s) who is either a member of a District Rotary Peace Fellowship Subcommittee, a member of a Rotary club or a Rotary Peace Fellow program alumnus. Endorsed candidates will move forward for consideration by a Rotary Peace Centers selection committee that is comprised of Rotarians, specialists in the field, representatives from the selected universities, or a mixture thereof. For cases when a qualified candidate is unable to complete an interview within the endorsement process timeframe due to unresponsive endorsers and inability to reassign in time, Rotary Peace Centers staff have the authority to move the qualified candidate forward for consideration by the Rotary Peace Centers selection committee in the interest of time and fairness. Rotary Peace Fellowships will be awarded on a world-competitive basis to up to 130 candidates for study at one of the seven Rotary Peace Centers. Candidates will be chosen from various countries and diverse backgrounds and regions of the world when it is feasible and consistent with the objectives of selecting the most qualified candidates for each Center's program.

- agree to appoint the Host Area Coordinator Committee chair as a liaison to the Rotary Peace Centers committee.

## 56. New Rotary Peace Center in MENA Region

*Statement:* In decision 88, February 2021, the Trustees accepted a US\$10 million pledge, plus additional commitments, from the Otto & Fran Walter Foundation to fully fund a new Rotary Peace Center in the Middle East or North Africa. A Rotary Peace Centers Select Workgroup was formed to identify the location for this

new Peace Center and in decision 82, April 2022, established a timeline to identify the top three university partner candidates. The workgroup conducted site visits at the three finalist universities and assessed each against five criteria: academic program fit, administrative capacity, long-term partnership potential, regional marketing and recruitment requirements, and financial considerations. The committee presented its findings and selection recommendation to the Trustees.

**DECISION:** The Trustees select Bahçeşehir University in Istanbul, Turkey, as host partner for the next Rotary Peace Center and request the general secretary to proceed with partnership negotiations and the development of a contract to prepare for the program's first application launch in February 2024 and initial cohort of students by January 2025.

*Note: Trustee Helman abstained from voting on this item.*

## 57. Chulalongkorn University Rotary Peace Center Update

*Statement:* The general secretary presented a status report on the Peace Centers' program in Chulalongkorn University, Thailand, which has been on pause since October 2022 while an evaluation of the program is conducted.

**DECISION:** The Trustees receive the general secretary's update on the Rotary Peace Centers' partnership with Chulalongkorn University.

## 58. Area of Focus Policy Statement Update—Environment

*Statement:* The general secretary suggested several amendments to the policy statement for newest area of focus—the Environment—that would expand funding categories, clarify scholarship options, and update policy language regarding aims of this area of focus and its scope of activities.

**DECISION:** The Trustees request the Programs Committee to review the proposed amendments to Rotary Foundation Code of Policies section 31.010.2.7. regarding the areas of focus, statements of purpose and goals with respect to the Environment policy statement, for report to the Trustees at their April 2023 meeting.

## 59. Programs of Scale Update

*Statement:* Programs of Scale provides Rotary members with a mechanism for large-scale, high impact projects

that attract partner organizations and model the types of programs that can have the greatest long-term impact in a community. The general secretary updated the Trustees on the work and milestones of the first two awardees: Partners for a Malaria-Free Zambia and Together for Healthy Families in Nigeria, and provided an update on the third Programs of Scale competition, which will be presented to the Trustees at their April 2023 meeting.

**DECISION:** The Trustees receive the general secretary's Programs of Scale update.

#### **60. Potential Strategic Partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme**

*Statement:* A "strategic" partnership is a formal, multi-year relationship with another organization to undertake large-scale projects in support of the strategic plan where both entities provide substantial financial resources, advocacy, and technical expertise to the project. Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation actively seek to develop strategic partnerships with other organizations in an effort to increase the capacity for providing service. As part of its mandate, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) engages and works with civil society on environmental issues. While Rotary has maintained a relationship with UNEP for several years, the general secretary reported on the potential for establishing a new strategic partnership with the organization to build on a shared capacity for engaging members in international service projects that support the environment.

**DECISION:** The Trustees receive the general secretary's report on a potential strategic partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme.

#### **DECISIONS 61–66**

##### **International PolioPlus Committee Report**

The International PolioPlus Committee met virtually on  
3–4 January 2023

#### **61. PolioPlus Grants: World Health Organization African Region (WHO/AFRO) Grant Request**

*Statement:* The World Health Organization African region requested a grant for polio surveillance support in Nigeria.

**DECISION:** The Trustees

1. approve a PolioPlus grant in the amount of US\$2,675,000 to WHO for surveillance support in

Nigeria, this grant to be released in accordance with Trustee policies;

2. authorize the general secretary to execute agreement letters with WHO to convey the funds on a scheduled basis. WHO will apply the funds to appropriate projects under such controls and conditions as the agreement specifies;
3. note that this is a one-year grant that must be fully expended by 31 March 2024;
4. note that this grant, if fully expended, will bring the total PolioPlus grants Nigeria to \$289,129,123.

#### **62. PolioPlus Grants: Combined World Health Organization Eastern Mediterranean Region (WHO/EMRO) and UNICEF Grant Request**

*Statement:* The World Health Organization Eastern Mediterranean region and UNICEF requested grants for social mobilization support, technical assistance, and operational support in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

**DECISION:** The Trustees

1. approve a PolioPlus grant in the amount of US\$2,629,446 to UNICEF for social mobilization support in the following countries:

- Afghanistan: \$2,030,246
- Pakistan: \$599,200

this grant to be released in accordance with Trustee policies;

2. approve a PolioPlus grant in the amount of \$2,814,085 to UNICEF for technical assistance in the following countries:

- Afghanistan: \$1,535,009
- Pakistan: \$1,279,076

this grant to be released in accordance with Trustee policies;

3. approve a PolioPlus grant in the amount of \$6,189,998 to UNICEF for operational support in Pakistan, this grant to be released in accordance with Trustee policies;
4. approve a PolioPlus grant in the amount of \$7,062,000 to WHO for operational support in

Afghanistan, this grant to be released in accordance with Trustee policies;

5. approve a PolioPlus grant in the amount of \$7,085,434 and agree to reallocate \$642,451 from unspent funds from a previous grant to WHO for operational support in Pakistan, this grant to be released in accordance with Trustee policies;
6. authorize the general secretary to execute agreement letters with WHO and UNICEF to convey the funds on a scheduled basis. WHO and UNICEF will apply the funds to appropriate projects under such controls and conditions as the agreement specifies;
7. note that these are one-year grants that must be fully expended by 31 March 2024;
8. note that these grants, if fully expended, will increase total PolioPlus grants as follows:
  - Afghanistan from \$232,873,710 to \$243,500,965;
  - Pakistan from \$377,597,500 to \$392,751,208.

#### **63. PolioPlus Grants: UNICEF OPV2 Stockpile Grant Request**

*Statement:* UNICEF requested a grant for the replenishment of the OPV2 stockpile.

**DECISION:** The Trustees

1. approve a PolioPlus grant in the amount of US\$15,000,000 to UNICEF for the replenishment of the OPV2 stockpile;
2. authorize the general secretary to execute an agreement letter with UNICEF. UNICEF will apply the funds to the appropriate project under such controls and conditions as the agreement specifies;
3. note that this is a one-year grant that must be fully expended by 31 March 2024;
4. note that this grant, if fully expended, will bring the total PolioPlus grants to UNICEF/Vaccine to \$32,050,000.

#### **64. PolioPlus Grants: World Health Organization Polio Research Committee Grant Request**

*Statement:* The World Health Organization requested a grant for polio eradication research activities in Australia.

**DECISION:** The Trustees

1. approve a PolioPlus grant in the amount of US\$250,577 to WHO for the implementation of polio eradication research activities in Australia as proposed by the Polio Research Committee;
2. authorize the general secretary to execute an agreement letter with WHO to convey the funds on a scheduled basis. WHO will apply the funds to appropriate projects under such controls and conditions as the agreement specifies;
3. note that this is a two-year grant that must be fully expended by 31 March 2025;
4. note that this grant, if fully expended, will bring the total PolioPlus grants to WHO/Research to \$39,274,402.

#### **65. PolioPlus Grants: Combined World Health Organization and UNICEF Polio Outbreak Response Grant Request**

*Statement:* The World Health Organization and UNICEF requested grants for social mobilization and polio outbreak response activities.

**DECISION:** The Trustees

1. approve a PolioPlus grant in the amount of US\$3,160,460 and agree to reallocate US\$260,490 from unspent funds from expired grants to UNICEF to support social mobilization for outbreak response activities;
2. approve a PolioPlus grant in the amount of \$3,133,000 to WHO to support operational support for outbreak response activities;
3. authorize the general secretary to execute agreement letters with UNICEF and WHO. UNICEF and WHO will apply the funds to the appropriate project under such controls and conditions as the agreement specifies;

4. note that these are one-year grants that must be fully expended by 31 March 2024;

5. note that these grants, if fully expended, will increase PolioPlus grants for outbreak response as follows:

- UNICEF from \$44,850,430 to \$48,010,890;
- WHO from \$44,515,390 to \$47,648,390.

#### **66. 2022–23 PolioPlus International Service Awards**

*Statement:* The International PolioPlus Committee reviewed nominations for the 2022–23 PolioPlus International Service awards and forwarded its recommendations to the Trustees.

**DECISION:** The Trustees approve the following nine nominations for the International Service Award for a Polio-Free World:

Kunle Adeyanju  
Antonio Amoroso  
William Ferreira  
Ramesh Ferris  
Keshav Kunwar  
Greg Owen  
Charles Robert Rogers  
E. K. Sagadhevan  
Dolly Siew Keat Yeap

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#### **67. 2022–23 Rotary Alumni Global Service Award and Alumni Association of the Year Award**

*Statement:* The Trustees annually recognize one outstanding Rotary Foundation alumnus or alumna with the Rotary Alumni Global Service Award and one exemplary alumni association with the Rotary Alumni Association of the Year Award. The Trustees reviewed the recommended recipients for these awards submitted by the Rotary Foundation Awards Review Committee.

**DECISION:** The Trustees

1. select the individuals as shown in Appendix C (filed only with the official copy of these minutes) as the primary recipient and alternate recipient of the 2022–23 Rotary Alumni Global Service Award;
2. select the alumni association as shown in Appendix C (filed only with the official copy of these minutes)

as the recipient of the 2022–23 Rotary Alumni Association of the Year Award;

3. request the general secretary to notify the award recipients and confirm their commitment to receive the award at the 2023 RI (Melbourne) Rotary Convention.

#### **68. Rotary Foundation Financial Overview**

*Statement:* To ensure that the Trustees are fully aware of the status of TRF finances before they consider Trustees items with potential financial impact, the chair of the Rotary Foundation Finance Committee reviews the current status of Foundation finances, including current and future revenues and expenses, with the Trustees at the outset of each meeting.

**DECISION:** The Trustees thank Trustee Lunsford for his report on the status of TRF finances.

#### **69. TRF Finance Committee Report**

*Statement:* The Rotary Foundation Finance Committee met virtually on 7 December 2022 and 4 January 2023 to discuss the Foundation’s funding model, fiscal year 2024 budget assumptions, investment earnings trends, a digital transformation strategy, an update on global grant applications, and year-to-date financial results, among other topics.

**DECISION:** The Trustees

1. thank the Finance Committee for its report;
2. approve the investment return assumptions for fiscal year 2023–24 as follows:
  - Annual Fund and Operating Reserve: 4%
  - Endowment Fund & other long-term investments: 5%
  - Polio: 1%

#### **70. Audit Committee Report**

*Statement:* The Audit Committee met on 14–16 November in Evanston, IL, USA and discussed recently completed audits, the 2021–22 RI and TRF audited financial statements, a risk-based audit plan for 2022–23, Secretariat activities focused on governance, risk, and compliance, a summary of management action plans, and an IT security and data engineering report from the CIO, among other topics.

**DECISION:** The Trustees thank the Audit Committee for its report.

#### **71. Investment Committee Report**

*Statement:* The Investment Committee met virtually on 15 November 2022 to review the status of market values and returns, the current investment strategy, including policy changes and investment allocations, and 2023–24 budget assumptions, among other topics.

**DECISION:** The Trustees thank the Investment Committee for its report.

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#### **Adjournment**

The foregoing is a true record of the proceedings at the January 2023 Trustees meetings.

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Ian H. S. Riseley, Chair  
The Rotary Foundation

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Andrew McDonald  
Secretary of the Meeting

#### **ATTEST:**

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John Hewko  
General Secretary, RI

## APPENDIX A

### SUMMARY OF DECISIONS TAKEN ON BEHALF OF THE TRUSTEES (Decision 44)

#### Rotary Grants

- 180 District Grants awarded for a total of US\$12,942,112 in DDF
- 31 Disaster Response Grants awarded for a total of \$779,022
- 262 Ukraine Disaster Response Grants awarded for a total of \$8,609,294
- 228 Global Grants awarded for a total of \$3,977,099 in World Fund (\$14,870,154 total funding)

Activity type	Number of grants
Humanitarian	431
Humanitarian/VTT	4
Scholar	148
VTT	3
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>586</b>

Area of focus	Number of grants
Basic education and literacy	23
Community economic development	31
Disease prevention and treatment	83
Environment	8
Maternal and child health	30
Peacebuilding and conflict prevention	7
Water, sanitation, and hygiene	46
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>228</b>

#### DG2341458: District 9800

The general secretary granted a waiver allowing expenses to be incurred in advance of fiscal year 2023 district grant approvals. The Royce and Jean Abbey endowment earnings are made available on an annual basis through District 9800's district grant to fund vocational training scholarship activities. The Abbey endowment committee and the district 9800 leadership work together to facilitate the request of the endowment

earning funds in conjunction with the request for the district grant. The fiscal year 2022 district grant was approved, paid, reported on, and closed prior to the district and/or Abbey endowment committee requesting use of the endowment earnings. Because the Abbey endowment committee requested use of the earnings after fiscal year 2022 district grant closure, they could not access the funds through the fiscal year 2022 district grant. The proposed vocational scholarship activity is time-sensitive, and the district was not ready to have their 2023 district grant approved. The district confirmed they can use district funds to fund the activity until they can be reimbursed after the approval and payment of the fiscal year 2023 district grant and the endowment earnings. Therefore, the general secretary granted a waiver to allow for eligible expenses related to the vocational scholarship supported by the endowment earnings to be incurred prior to TRF approval of the fiscal year 2023 district grant.

#### Disaster Response Grant DR741: District 2232

On 20 August 2022, the Trustee chair approved an exception to the maximum award amount and awarded disaster response grant DR741 in the amount of US\$300,000 to District 2232 to provide body armor vests and helmets for drivers that deliver humanitarian aid, and for software, for online teacher education training, kitchen equipment, food, electrical equipment, and generators for shelters in Ukraine.

#### Disaster Response Grant DR716: District 2240

On 24 August 2022, the Trustee chair approved an exception to the maximum award amount and approved disaster response grant DR716 for US\$300,000 to District 2240 to supply 20-25 ambulances to Ukraine. The chair further granted a one-time exception to allow District 2240 to have DR716 and DR706 open at the same time.

#### Disaster Response Grant DR802: District 2232

On 11 October 2022, the Trustee chair approved an exception to the maximum award amount and approved disaster response grant DR802 in the amount of US\$300,000 to District 2232 to provide furnaces, electric generators, blankets, and undergarments for Ukrainians.

**Disaster Response Grant DR805: District 6960**

On 12 October 2022, the Trustee chair approved an exception to the one-open-grant limit. He approved disaster response grant DR802 to District 6960 in response to Hurricane Ian while having another open disaster response grant to support Ukraine.

- \$21,668 PolioPlus Partners funding for social mobilization in Lebanon
- \$27,934 PolioPlus Partners funding for social mobilization in Benin

**Disaster Response Grant DR818: District 2232**

On 23 October 2022, the Trustee chair approved an exception to the maximum award amount and approved disaster response grant DR818 for US\$300,000 to District 2232 to provide medical supplies and equipment to doctors and hospitals in Ukraine.

**Disaster Response Grant DR861: District 2232**

On 16 November 2022, the Trustee chair approved an exception to the maximum award amount and approved disaster response grant DR818 for US\$300,000 to District 2232 to provide medicine, vehicles, electrical equipment, and other basic needs for Ukraine.

**Disaster Response Grant DR880: District 6450**

On 2 December 2022, the general secretary approved disaster response grant DR880 in the amount of US\$125,000 to District 6450 to support Ukraine from the general disaster response fund. The grant will provide fire trucks, ambulances, and a generator for a hospital in Ukraine. This is a multi-district grant where district 6450 works with Districts 4355, 4945, 4465, and 4320.

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**TRF Cadre of Technical Advisers**

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33 grants reviewed, including:

- 24 interim monitor site visits
- 3 random audits
- 2 disaster response audits
- 3 targeted audits,
- 1 operational audit.

All of the Cadre's reviews were in person with the exception of one virtual interim monitor site visit and two disaster response audits.

**PolioPlus Partners Funding**

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- \$56,234 PolioPlus Partners funding for social mobilization in Zambia
- \$16,442 PolioPlus Partners funding for social mobilization in Indonesia
- \$21,000 PolioPlus Partners funding for social mobilization in Cameroon
- \$38,146 PolioPlus Partners funding for social mobilization in Ghana

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*\* Filed only with the official copy of  
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