



Candidate Set for the Board Election

**Background material to the
Extraordinary General Meeting
on Sept 18, 2024**

Recruitment process

- The Transitional Board held month from January through August, identifying and prioritizing candidates
- The Staff and ED conducted interviews and coordinated introductions and weekly updates
- Approximately 50 candidates identified and contacted, over 25 candidates interviewed



Criteria for Recruitment

Per the approved Board Terms of Reference:

- Contribute to board diversity and holistic strength
- Expertise in one of seven key areas
(Finance and budget, Private sector business development, Global regulations and policy, Fundraising, Growing an effective organisation, Public speaking, Community activation)
- Networks and understanding of a key stakeholder group
(Funders, Policymakers, Thought leaders, Corporations)

Per Transitional Board agreement:

- A “good fit” whereby board membership would be mutually beneficial
- A balance of long-time members and fresh energy



Candidate recruitment process

1. Identification

Candidates are identified and prioritized by the board, and contacted by the ED

2. Exploratory discussion

A first meeting discusses alignment and interest.

3. Detailed discussion

A second conversation discusses the practical and operational implications of board work and the MyData strategy, critically considering demands, capacity, and goals.

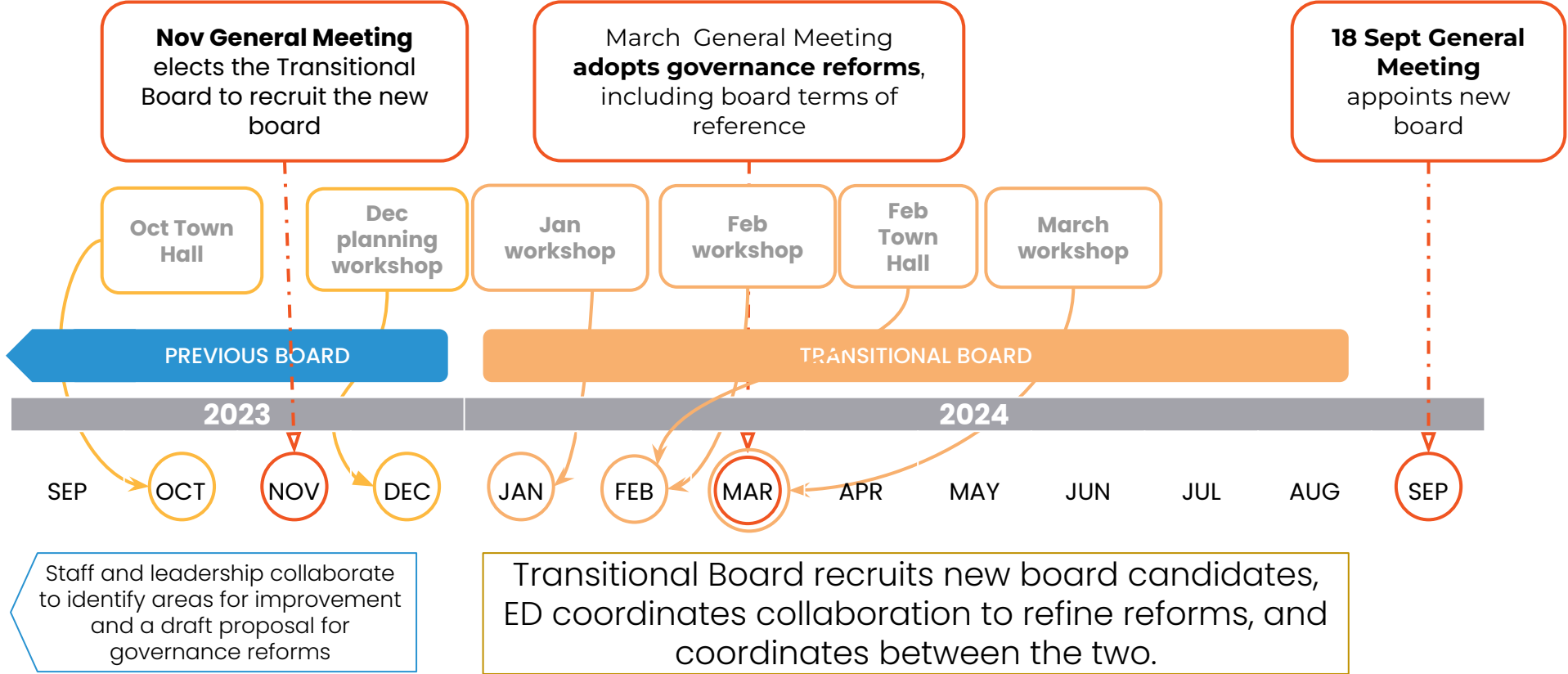
4. Road test

Candidates participate in an internal leadership meeting addressing a key strategic issue

5. Recommendation

The ED makes a recommendation to the Transitional Board, which is then discussed and a decision is made on whether to include the candidate on the set recommendation to the General Membership.

Community input to Reform and Recruitment



Final recommended Candidates Set



MyData Global

9 candidates
recruited through
an 8-month process
and according to
specific criteria



[Teki
Akuetteh](#)



[David
Alexander](#)



[Paula
Bello](#)



[Alexander
Galt](#)



[Miapetra
Kumpula-Natri](#)



[Michael
Lee](#)



[Eduardo
Mercovich](#)



[Eric
Pol](#)



[Robert
Schuschnig-Fowler](#)



Teki Akuetteh Falconer



Teki is Senior Partner an [Accra-based law firm](#) specializes in African information technology and telecommunication law, and the Founder and Executive Director of the [Africa Digital Rights Hub](#)... She was the first Executive Director to set up the Data Protection Commission of Ghana and facilitated the implementation of Ghana's Data Protection Act until her exit in July 2017.

Motivation:

My motivation to join MyData Board comes from the importance of continuing to advocate for a human-centred approach to the development and use of technologies.



David Alexander



With over 40 years private and public sector experience in mission critical systems development, software architecture design and engineering, proposition development, innovation and commercial management, David leads for [Mydex CIC](#) on its Programme engagement with UK Government and key collaborative programmes relating to Identity, Identity Assurance and Personal Data Empowerment.

Motivation:

David and Mydex CIC were one of the first signatories of the MyData Declaration... Placing the individual at the centre with independence, control, agency and guardianship [...] is core to the mission of personal empowerment Mydex CIC was created for.



Paula Bello



A product/service design manager, with over 25-years' experience leading teams to understand people and develop human-centric solutions across sectors and regions. Former MyData Global board member and active participant in MyData initiatives and Thematic Groups.

Motivation:

I want to leverage my experience in design to create value for members. I am motivated to hear the individual stories of members on why MyData is important to them, how they want to change the world, and how MyData organization can support them to fulfill their purpose.



Alexander Galt



Alex is the global lead for digital ethics at Inter IKEA Group with responsibility to develop digital ethics practices across the IKEA value chain. Has contributed to developing data ethics frameworks in the UK Government and Deloitte and has been a signatory of the MyData Declaration since 2020.

Motivation:

I see joining the board as a privilege to respect the historic achievements, but also to accelerate on the current technology development and global regulatory movements [...] whilst also bringing the business perspective on readiness toward an ethical and humanistic adoption of digital technology.



Miapetra Kumpula-Natri



Current Member of the Finnish Parliament and recent Member of the European Parliament with a focus on digitalisation and telecommunications (contributing to regulation roaming regulation, telco sector legislative pact, Data strategy for EU, Data Act, Data Governance Act, AI Act, Cybersecurity in EU institutions).

Motivation:

I am curious to find together ways to create a data economy that will be the best version of many possible futures... what will be the role of society and even legislators?



Michael Lee



CEO and technical founder of [SNPLab Inc.](#), a MyData operator focused on empowering individuals to regain ownership and control over their personal data. He is also a professor in Kyung Hee University's AI Technology Management department, teaching courses on MyData.

Motivation:

...to further advocate for ethical data practices on a global scale and contribute my expertise in building secure, decentralized systems. ...ensuring that technology serves people, not the other way around.



Eduardo Mercovich



A Free Software enthusiast with decades of experience working on hypertext, information and knowledge management, and interaction design/usability for enterprises, NGOs and governments in a handful of countries.

Motivation:

I believe that privacy is a human right, and also a necessary part of a healthy and diverse society. Working with MD is a great opportunity to put privacy in the public agenda in Latin America and the world and to push the present limits of today (sad) state of things in this area.



Eric Pol



Currently the chair of MyData Global's Transitional Board and of the international not-for-profit association [A New Governance](#), Eric has 30 years of experience in innovation and investment across three continents. His work has focused primarily on the health sector, with strategic leadership and engagement with decision-makers.

Motivation:

...MyData, with its hard work, integrity and strong image has a key role to play in [strengthening attention to people's data in the EU investment in data spaces], and can stand up to this. It is time to start a new chapter, and get involved into the phase of deployment of the EU Data Strategy in a more concrete way.



Robert Schuschnig-Fowler

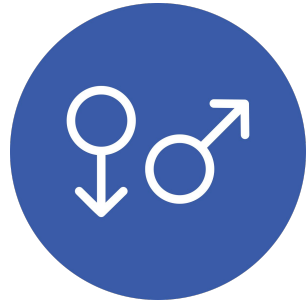


A bilingual German/American dual citizen, Robert has more than 20 years of experience working at [SAP](#), where he has served as employee representative at German, European and Supervisory Board level, and is currently retiring as an Expert Support Engineer.

Motivation:

I have been propagating human-centric data management and processing for years and this was the focus of my last moonshot project at SAP. I have been engaged as an individual member of MyData Global for years and taking on more responsibility is the next step. I see MyData as a key player for disseminating and supporting the human-centric concept.

Board composition and diversity



Gender
balance:
6m, 3f



Non-European
perspectives:
4 out of 9



Sectoral representation:
civil society (4)
small companies and consultancies (3)
public sector (2)
global enterprise (1)

Expertise profiles



Finance and budget management



Private sector business development



Global regulations and policy



Fundraising



Growing an effective organisation



Public speaking



Community activation

Detailed
descriptions
in the notes

Network profiles



Funders

Policymakers

Thought leaders

Corporations

Detailed
descriptions
in the notes

Presumptive officer and committee roles

Board roles and committee functions will be finalized by the Board after taking office. Below is a list of candidates that have volunteered willingness to assume specific roles.

- Eric is willing to continue in handover period as **Chair** ✓
- No candidate interest for **Vice-chair** ?
- Robert willing to advise and support re **Finance Committee & Treasurer** ?
- Alex and Eduardo willing to serve on **Governance Committee** ✓
- Presumptive candidates recruited for the **Membership Committee**: ✓
Paula (individuals), David (not-for-profit orgs), and Michael (for-profit orgs)



Concluding remarks on the candidates

1. This candidate set is presented as a holistic set and will be a balanced set and the recruitment team is very happy with the outcome
2. The board will **take office in October** and a handover meeting will be held on the week of Oct 21 with the Transitional Board
3. There remain **two open board seats** that the board may wish to fill, after refining its mandate and establishing a mode of working



Election information

- > 30 days before the extraordinary general meeting (EGM), all members received the invitation to the AGM with instructions about the elections.
- > 7 days before the meeting, the roster of candidates for the leadership of MyData Global (this deck) was sent to all members.
- > 1 day before the meeting, all eligible members will receive a voting code.
- > At the start of the elections on 18 Sep, the voting form will be published in <https://mydata.org/elections>. The form will be open for at minimum 72 hours from the opening of the voting.
- > Further details are available at <https://mydata.org/elections>.

