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From: Board of Governors

Date: November 14, 2019

Subject: **Minutes of USAGM's Board of Governors Meeting of November 14, 2019**

The Board of Governors for the U.S. Agency for Global Media (USAGM) met today in the Cohen Building (USAGM headquarters) in Washington, D.C. The meeting was open for public attendance as seating capacity allowed and for public observation via streaming on the USAGM website.

The meeting was attended by the following Board members:

Chairman Kenneth Weinstein  
Governor Ryan Crocker  
Governor Michael Kempner  
Governor Karen Kornbluh  
Jennifer Hall Godfrey, Chief of Staff, Office of the Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs

Governor Leon Aron was not in attendance.

The agenda of the meeting is set forth in Attachment 1.

Chairman Weinstein called the meeting to order and noted that the meeting was being held in compliance with the Government in the Sunshine Act and streamed live over the internet at the USAGM website. A digital recording of this meeting can be found at the agency's website—[www.usagm.gov](http://www.usagm.gov).

The Chairman began with the topic of threats to press. He noted that in early November, the world marked the International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists. He said that, of the 18 fallen USAGM journalists, 14 journalists were killed with impunity and that their killers were never been brought to justice. There followed a short video highlighting the following:

#### Dangerous Conditions

Voice of America (VOA) Kurdish Service Stringers Faheem Omer, Mahmoud Bali, Reber Kalo and Newroz Reso live and report from northern Syria, close to the Turkish border. Turkish warplanes and artillery assaults against Kurdish forces have killed and injured hundreds of people, leveled entire neighborhoods and sparked a mass exodus from the region. While the VOA reporters continued to work, they have had to relocate within Syria and were faced with the decision of whether or not to stay in the country.

#### Arrests and Legal Nightmares

On September 20, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL) Russian Service's freelance journalist Svetlana Prokopyeva was officially charged with public justification of terrorism after an almost year-long investigation into an article published on the Echo Moskvy website.

Prokopyeva is a long-time RFE/RL contributor and one of the key freelance editors of the new regional website for Russia's northern regions, severreal.org.

Two former Radio Free Asia (RFA) Khmer Service's journalists, Uon Chhin and Yeang Sothearin, who were arrested two years ago, went to court on October 3 expecting to finally receive a verdict on their trumped up and retaliatory espionage charges. Instead, the court determined that there was insufficient evidence to convict. Instead of dismissing it, the court ordered the case to be reinvestigated. This absurd travesty of justice only guarantees that the two journalists will face a continued and protracted legal battle.

#### Accreditation and Licensing Restrictions

Despite an October 31 ruling, eleven Radio Ozodi journalists and support staff continue to be barred from working because they have not been credentialed by the Foreign Ministry, as required by Tajik law. The accreditations of another seven journalists were renewed, but for periods far shorter than the legally prescribed one year. Some of the unaccredited journalists are new hires, while the majority are awaiting required, annual renewals, including one who has been awaiting his extension since 2017. Another, videojournalist Barotali Nazarov was stripped of his accreditation in June.

The suspension of Middle East Broadcasting Networks' (MBN) Alhurra Television continues in Iraq, despite international condemnation. The government media regulator suspended Alhurra after it aired an investigative report in August, alleging corruption within the Sunni and Shi'ite Muslim endowments. Authorities are repeatedly visiting MBN's Baghdad bureau to enforce the suspension and ensure broadcast operations are shutdown.

#### Harassment and Threats

Since MBN's suspension in Iraq, many of its journalists are facing increased threats and interrogations from militia in Baghdad and beyond, including:

- There are reports that the Popular Front Intelligence is conducting surveillance on the home of an MBN journalist;
- Militia forces are visiting the homes of journalists and questioning them;
- It has been noted that some MBN staff are on an "arrest list;"
- There are also public threats being made: On local television, the leaders of a pro-Iranian militia vowed revenge on "the enemy," naming Israel, the U.S. and Alhurra Television; and
- On social media, Alhurra received a threat to the US Embassy in Baghdad

MBN is taking these threats seriously and in some cases has extracted journalists in imminent danger.

RFE/RL and Current Time reporters have again been forced to deal with so-called "umbrella men." These men armed with umbrellas tried to prevent the journalists from reporting on protests in Nur-Sultan, Almaty, and other cities in Kazakhstan on October 26. The demonstrations, against alleged "expansion" of business ties between China and Kazakstan, are deemed illegal by Kazakh authorities and were the first to target China in more than a month.

On September 25, 2019, Sudanese army and police forces prevented Alhurra's crew from

filming motorists as they were waiting for fuel for several hours in Khartoum. Alhurra was producing a report on Sudan fuel crisis when its crew was forced to delete what was taped. After the incident, Sudan's Minister of Information, Faisal Mohammad Saleh, contacted Alhurra crew to apologize and promised that this will never happen again.

### Physical Attacks

In October, VOA Horn of Africa reporter Muktar Jemel was beaten and severely injured while covering a protest in the city of Adama, Ethiopia. His equipment was stolen, as were his wallet, phone and valuables. He was hospitalized and underwent surgery for head injuries and is now recovering at home.

In October, while covering the mass demonstrations near the downtown Beirut government center, MBN cameramen were attacked. In one incident, security forces stopped Alhurra's correspondent from filming during a live broadcast. In another, an MBN cameraman was assaulted while filming.

### Imprisonment

In a case that has become emblematic of the Russia-backed separatist conflict in Ukraine's eastern region, a court in the so-called Donetsk People's Republic (DPR) has convicted RFE/RL Ukrainian Service contributor Stanislav Aseyev on extremism and terrorism-related charges.

The Appeals Chamber of the Supreme Court, an entity not internationally recognized, found Aseyev guilty in August of "organizing an extremist community," "espionage and incitement to espionage," and public actions "aimed at violating territorial integrity." All of this for blogging about the effects of Russia's intervention on daily life, schooling, politics, and culture. He was sentenced to 15 years in a penal colony, with an additional ban on journalistic activity. Aseyev was captured in the summer of 2017 and has been held incommunicado until now.

RFE/RL Ukrainian Service contributor Oleh Halaziuk has also been held for more than two years by Russia-backed separatists in Donetsk. His well-being is unknown.

### Vietnam

In Vietnam, the USAGM reporters continue to spend time behind bars. RFA videographer and contributor Nguyen Van Hoa is serving a seven year sentence for his reporting, which the Vietnamese government called "abusing democratic freedoms to infringe on the interests of the state." He has been beaten and harassed while in prison.

Le Anh Hung, VOA Vietnamese Service contributor who was arrested in July, faces the same charge of abusing freedoms to infringe on the state. He continues to serve time while awaiting trial. If convicted he could face seven years.

Truong Duy Nhat, a weekly contributor for RFA Vietnamese Service's blog section, has been held in a Hanoi prison since early 2018. He had gone missing in January while seeking asylum in Thailand after submitting a commentary on the protests in Venezuela. Months later, he appeared in a Vietnamese prison. He is still awaiting charges.

These are examples of the threats USAGM journalists face every day. For more information, please visit [usagm.gov](http://usagm.gov).

Before turning to Board business, Chairman Weinstein noted that PEN America was honoring RFE/RL Ukrainian Service contributor Stanislav Aseyev with their empty chair day. The Chairman thanked them for their support and explained that, in solidarity, the Board set aside an empty chair in the room.

On the topic of courageous journalists, the Chairman mentioned the committed, resourceful, and talented David Burke Award winners. The ceremony was held the day before the Board meeting at USAGM's headquarters in Washington, D.C. There followed a short video highlighting the event.

Turning to Board business, Chairman Weinstein stated that the presence of five or more Governors satisfies the Board's quorum requirement, permitting the Board to conduct business based on majority vote. The Chairman noted the departure of Governor Jeff Shell from the Board and thanked him for his service, for setting a high bar for the Chairmanship, and for helping transform the agency.

Chairman Weinstein said that the Board had received by email materials for the consent agenda on October 30, 2019. He added that he did not receive comments from any Governors.

Governor Kempner then made a motion to adopt the consent agenda. Governor Kornbluh seconded. Without objection, the consent agenda was unanimously adopted by the Board.

Next, Chairman Weinstein asked Grant Turner, who the Board named in September to serve as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Director of USAGM on an interim basis until the President appoints a Senate-confirmed CEO, to report on agency operations since the last Board meeting.

CEO Turner then turned to each of the USAGM network heads to report out on achievements at their respective networks.

VOA Director Amanda Bennett shared details about VOA's compelling coverage of the crisis in Syria, as led by its Kurdish and Turkish Services. She noted that whenever there was a major news event in any kind of conflict area, for VOA stringers, it is a major life event. She added that presenting objective news is difficult, and it is not just news—it is personal. Nonetheless, VOA's courageous journalists take up the charge.

Office of Cuba Broadcasting (OCB) Acting Director Emilio Vasquez highlighted new, modern branding for the Martis, as well as two new shows that aim to appeal to a younger audience on the island.

RFE/RL President Jamie Fly presented on the network's Afghan Service, known locally as Radio Azadi, which provides nationwide coverage on a variety of underreported topics. He noted that

Radio Azadi's vital reporting exemplifies how RFE/RL uniquely resonates across its broadcasting regions.

RFA's Vice President of Programming, Parameswaran Ponnudurai, highlighted RFA's original reporting on the tumultuous journey of 13 North Koreans as they made their way through China and into Southeast Asia.

Ambassador Alberto Fernandez, President of the Middle East Broadcasting Networks, detailed the network's in-depth coverage of the ongoing political and security situation in Iraq. He said that, in recently weeks, Iraqis took to the streets to demonstrate their grievances with government corruption, rampant unemployment numbers, and poor public services. He commented on how Alhurra and Alhurra-Iraq provided audiences with live, continuous coverage and expert analysis.

Finally, CEO Turner announced the appointment of Shawn Powers as USAGM's Chief Strategy Officer, and that he will lead the Agency's interagency engagement, strategic planning, strategic initiatives, and partnerships with key international stakeholders.

Chairman Weinstein then announced the appointment Jennifer Hall Godfrey in the Senior Foreign Service Officer at the U.S. Department of State.

In closing, Chairman Weinstein stated that the next Board meeting will be held at USAGM headquarters in Washington, D.C., on March 12, 2020. He said that the Governors were encouraged to give input regarding other topics that they may like to see addressed at the next meeting.

The Board of Governors agreed to the following decision elements (decisions were adopted by a unanimous vote unless otherwise indicated):

1. Adoption of Minutes of September 11, 2019 Board Meeting. The Board adopted the minutes of September 11, 2019 Board Meeting of the plenary Board as set forth in Attachment 2.
2. Resolution Proposing Board Meeting Dates in 2020. The Board adopted the resolution proposing Board meeting dates in 2020 as set forth in Attachment 3.

Other Attendees:

The following persons were also present during all or part of the meeting: CEO and Director Grant Turner; General Counsel and Board Secretary David Kligerman; Executive Director Oanh Tran; Deputy Director for Operations Matthew Walsh; Chief Global Communications Officer Nasserie Carew; Chief Strategy Officer Shawn Powers; Director of Technology, Services, and Innovation Terry Balazs; Chief Information Officer James "J.R." Reeves; Acting Chief Financial Officer John Barkhamer; Acting Director of the Office of Congressional Affairs Marta McLellan Ross; Senior Advisor to the CEO Steve Capus; Special Assistant Chelsea Milko; Executive Assistant Carol Cummings; Office of Public Affairs' Deputy Director for Strategy Yuna Jacobson; Supervisory Public Affairs Specialist Laurie Moy; Public Affairs Specialist Lesley Jackson; Public Affairs Specialist Freshta Azizi; Art Director Jenny Ramsey; Director of Budget Thomas Layou; Associate Director for Program Support Gary Thatcher; Amanda Bennett, Director of the Voice of America (VOA); Sandy Sugawara, VOA Deputy Director; Kelu Chao, VOA Director of Programming; Bridget Serchak, VOA Public Relations Director; Hasim Alikosai, VOA Extremism Watch Desk Managing Editor; Emilio Vasquez, Acting Director of the Office of Cuba Broadcasting (OCB); Jamie Fly, President of Radio Free Europe/Radio

Liberty (RFE/RL); Ben Herman, RFE/RL General Counsel; Martins Zvaners, RFE/RL Deputy Director of Communications; Parameswaran Ponnudurai, Vice President of Programing for Radio Free Asia (RFA); Bernadette Burns, RFA General Counsel; Alberto Fernandez, President of the Middle East Broadcasting Networks (MBN); Deirdre Kline, MBN Communications Director; and Laura Cunningham, Open Technology Fund (OTF) Principle Director.

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Kenneth Weinstein  
Chairman

Witnessed:

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David Kligerman  
Board Secretary

Attachments:

1. Agenda of the November 14, 2019 Board Meeting
2. Minutes of September 11, 2019 Board Meeting
3. Resolution Proposing Board Meeting Dates in 2020

**BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

**November 2019 Meeting Agenda**

(ALL MEETINGS ARE AT THE COHEN BUILDING, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.)

**Thursday, November 14**

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**10:30 - 11:30 Board of Governors' Open Meeting (USAGM Conference Room)**

- A. Chairman's Remarks
- B. Consent Agenda
  - Draft Minutes of September 11, 2019 Board Meeting
  - Proposed USAGM Board Meeting Dates for 2020
- C. Public Comment
- D. CEO & Director's Report
- E. Other Items for Consideration at Next Board Meeting

## ATTACHMENT 2

From: Board of Governors  
Date: September 11, 2019  
Subject: **Minutes of USAGM's Board of Governors Meeting of September 11, 2019**

The Board of Governors for the U.S. Agency for Global Media (USAGM) met today in the Cohen Building (USAGM headquarters) in Washington, D.C. The meeting was open for public attendance as seating capacity allowed and for public observation via streaming on the USAGM website.

The meeting was attended by the following Board members:

Chairman Kenneth Weinstein  
Governor Ryan Crocker  
Governor Michael Kempner  
Governor Karen Kornbluh  
Governor Leon Aron  
Governor Jeffrey Shell  
Jennifer Hall Godfrey, Chief of Staff, Office of the Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs

The agenda of the meeting is set forth in Attachment 1.

Chairman Weinstein called the meeting to order and noted that the meeting was being held in compliance with the Government in the Sunshine Act and streamed live over the internet at the USAGM website. A digital recording of this meeting can be found at the agency's website—[www.usagm.gov](http://www.usagm.gov).

The Chairman began with a moment of silence to remember the lives lost on September 11, 2001, and acknowledged that it was a day that forever changed America and certainly the work of USAGM.

The Chairman then turned to the topic of threats to press. He noted that every day oppressive regimes seek to control, distort, and hide information from their citizens. He also noted that USAGM's journalists work hard to keep that from happening by providing the truth. He added that USAGM journalists are working twice as hard to shine a light on the truth. There followed a short video highlighting the following:

### Vietnam

Truong Duy Nhat, an imprisoned blogger for Radio Free Asia's (RFA) Vietnamese Service, was listed as one of the most urgent press freedom cases in the world, according to One Free Press Coalition – a global press freedom initiative in which all USAGM networks participate. Nhat was forcibly disappeared in January 2019 in Bangkok, Thailand, where he had applied for

refugee status. In March, RFA learned he was jailed without charge in a Hanoi. That is one of three journalists working for USAGM-supported networks being held in Vietnam. Nguyễn Văn Hoá, a citizen journalist who worked with RFA's Vietnamese Service as a videographer, is serving a seven-year for his reporting that was critical of the government. He has been beaten and harassed in prison.

Le Anh Hung, a blogger and political contributor to the Voice of America's (VOA) Vietnamese Service, was arrested in July 2018 and is being held in prison, while he awaits trial on charges of "abusing democratic freedoms." If convicted he could face seven years.

### Cambodia

The Phnom Penh Municipal Court has postponed a verdict in the trial of former RFA Khmer Service journalists Uon Chhin and Yeang Sothearin. The two were arrested on wholly unsubstantiated espionage charges in the wake of RFA being forced to close its Phnom Penh bureau in the fall of 2017. Human Rights Watch, Reporters Without Borders, UNHCR Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, and 25 members of Congress, have joined RFA and USAGM in calling for the charges to be dropped.

### Iraq

Iraq's media regulator, the Communications and Media Committee, suspended the broadcasting license and activities of Al-Hurra Television, after an August 31 investigative report uncovered alleged corruption within the Sunni and Shi'ite Muslim endowments linked to senior religious authorities in Iraq. The report also implied ties between these state bodies and armed groups. The broadcasting suspension will last three months. However, the media regulator said Al-Hurra's activities were suspended until it "corrects its position" and broadcasts an official apology for tarnishing the reputation of Iraqi religious institutions and figures.

### Zimbabwe

In June, VOA Zimbabwe stringer Nunurai Jena was detained after taking photographs at a police roadblock. He was released after three hours without charge.

### South Sudan

VOA South Sudan stringer Viola Elias was detained by security officers after interviewing children shining shoes near the customs market for a story on child labor. Security officers released her after several hours but kept her recorder.

### Kazakhstan

On June 9, Kazakh authorities detained two RFE/RL journalists and refused accreditation to seven more during a tightly controlled snap election intended to name a successor to former President Nazarbaev, who resigned in March.

On July 6 men in black masks appearing to be security agents tried to block Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL) Kazakh Service's reporters from filming the detention of protesters. The aggressors attacked RFE/RL reporter Orken Bissenov and cameraman Yerzhan Amirkhanov with gas spray, broke a camera tripod and lights, and used umbrellas to block their views. Police were on the scene but did not intervene despite the RFE/RL personnel asking for

help. Additionally, on July 22, RFERL reporters and other journalists were covering a press conference when an unknown group of women attacked them. Several women attacked RFE/RL reporter Nurgul Tapayeva and cameraman Tokmolda Kussainov, damaging the video camera.

### Tajikistan

In a brazen example of the government's efforts to control independent press, Tajikistan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs has revoked the accreditation of RFE/RL video journalist Barotali Nazarov for his reporting.

In August, during a press conference in Dushanbe, the Foreign Minister remarked, "we will never close Radio Ozodi here, but we will probably not register those employees of Radio Ozodi who let in their articles even the smallest damage of the current state policy."

### Russia

On August 19, the Russian Duma announced a commission to investigate "foreign meddling" in the internal affairs of Russia, following recent mass protests in Moscow over forthcoming city council elections. The Duma said the commission will summon foreign journalists for questioning, including those from "media affiliated with the State Department and USA funds." RFE/RL videos of the protests have garnered millions of views on social media. The Federal News Agency, sponsored by Russian billionaire and so-called "Putin's chef" Yevgeny Prigozhin, published a "Media Classifier" that considers Current Time, the Russian Services of RFE/RL and VOA, RFERL's Tatar-Bashkir Service, North Caucasus Service, and four of RFE/RL's Russian regional news sites, as "foreign media" publishing "anti-Russian content."

Recently, Tatar-Bashkir Service's journalists in Kazan, Tatarstan, were refused accreditation to cover the United Russia party primaries in Tatarstan, even though all necessary documentation had been provided. At the same time, Russia's federal government, formed by the same United Russia party and led by the head of that party, has for years refused to register RFE/RL to work legally on Russian territory.

### Ukraine

USAGM and RFE/RL urges the release Stanislav Aseyev and Oleh Halaziuk, two RFE/RL Ukrainian Service contributors being held by Russia-backed separatists in Donetsk. Both men were taken separately and are held incommunicado.

The Chairman added that USAGM is proud and grateful for the sacrifices its journalists make every day.

Turning to Board business, Chairman Weinstein stated that the presence of five or more Governors satisfies the Board's quorum requirement, permitting the Board to conduct business based on majority vote. He said that the Board had received by email materials for the consent agenda on August 28, 2019. He added that he did not receive comments from any Governors.

Governor Kornbluh then made a motion to adopt the consent agenda. Governor Kempner seconded. Without objection, the consent agenda was unanimously adopted by the Board.

In accordance with the Board’s prior protocol for allowing members of the public to speak at meetings, the Chairman invited Anne Noonan of the Committee for U.S. International Broadcasting to address the Board for three minutes.

Before moving to the CEO’s report, Chairman Weinstein thanked outgoing CEO Lansing for the results achieved during his tenure and for his impressive leadership. All Governors present proceeded to comment on the CEO’s departure and impart their gratitude.

Next, Chairman Weinstein asked CEO Lansing to report on agency operations since the last Board meeting.

CEO Lansing began with an announcement that Nasserie Carew was promoted to the position of the U.S. Agency for Global Media’s (USAGM) Chief Global Communications Officer (CGCO). In this new role, she will continue to lead all internal and external communications for USAGM. He then announced that James “J.R.” Reeves joined USAGM as Chief Information Officer (CIO) and Director of Information Technology (IT) Operations on August 18, 2019. As USAGM CIO, Mr. Reeves manages all IT policy and day-to-day IT operations for the Agency. CEO Lansing thanked Terry Balazs for serving as CIO since April 2018 and Peter Vaselopoulos for serving as Acting Director of IT Operations since November 2018. Finally, the CEO welcomed Jamie Fly as the new President of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, effective August 1, 2019. Mr. Fly is a recognized foreign policy thought leader and proven manager and has served in many strategic roles across government and in the nonprofit sector.

CEO Lansing then turned to the ICC to report out on achievements at each of their networks. RFE/RL President Jamie Fly gave his initial impressions and talked about Russia protests, attacks on Kazakh journalists, and Farda’s Instagram graphics. Mr. Fly also updated the Board on his recent visits to RFE/RL’s bureaus in Tbilisi, Georgia, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, and Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.

VOA Director Amanda Bennett shared details about a partnership with Norfolk State University to host a live, internationally-broadcast, and well-received town hall commemorating the 400th anniversary of slavery in America called “Africa to America: The Odyssey of Slavery.” Ms. Bennett also expressed sadness over the passing of VOA South and Central Asia Division Akbar Ayazi.

Office of Cuba Broadcasting (OCB) Director Tomas Regalado discussed OCB’s climate change series and a project on the history of Havana and Miami.

RFA Executive Editor Bay Fan presented a summary of a three-part video series looking at the history of the democracy movement in Hong Kong; the identity of Hong Kong youth and how it has evolved; and the protest movement there today. “The Resistance Series” is an answer to calls from mainland Chinese audience to explore the deeper context behind the protests.

Ambassador Alberto Fernandez, President of the Middle East Broadcasting Networks, highlighted a series providing inside into America and American people, a project that aligns well with MBN’s surrogate reporting role to tell America’s story in the region. Eleven-part series

currently airing now called “My Story,” profiles Arab Americans who left their home and why they left.

Finally, Marta McLellan Ross, Acting Director of Congressional Affairs, summarized the July 10 hearing held by the House Appropriations State and Foreign Operations Subcommittee about USAGM’s efforts to counter Russian propaganda and disinformation. CEO Lansing’s testimony highlighted the broad scope of USAGM’s work against Russian disinformation.

In closing, Chairman Weinstein stated that the next Board meeting will be held at USAGM headquarters in Washington, D.C., on November 14, 2019. He said that the Governors were encouraged to give input regarding other topics that they may like to see addressed at the next meeting.

The Board of Governors agreed to the following decision elements (decisions were adopted by a unanimous vote unless otherwise indicated):

1. Adoption of Minutes of June 5, 2019 Board Meeting. The Board adopted the minutes of June 5, 2019 Board Meeting of the plenary Board as set forth in Attachment 2.
2. Resolution Honoring the 65th Anniversary of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty’s Ukrainian Service. The Board adopted the resolution honoring the 65th Anniversary of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty’s Ukrainian Service as set forth in Attachment 3.
3. Resolution on David Burke Distinguished Journalism Awards. The Board adopted the resolution on David Burke Distinguished Journalism Awards as set forth in Attachment 4.

Other Attendees:

The following persons were also present during all or part of the meeting: CEO and Director John Lansing; General Counsel and Board Secretary David Kligerman; Executive Director Oanh Tran; Deputy Director for Operations Matthew Walsh; Chief Global Communications Officer Nasserie Carew; Acting Chief Strategy Officer Shawn Powers; Director of Technology, Services, and Innovation Terry Balazs; Chief Information Officer James “J.R.” Reeves; Acting Director of the Office of Congressional Affairs Marta McLellan Ross; Senior Advisor to the CEO Steve Capus; Special Assistant Chelsea Milko; Special Assistant Yuna Jacobson; Writer-Editor Laurie Moy; Public Affairs Specialist Freshta Azizi; Art Director Jenny Ramsey; Chief Financial Officer Grant Turner; Amanda Bennett, Director of the Voice of America (VOA); Sandy Sugawara, VOA Deputy Director; Kelu Chao, VOA Director of Programming; Bridget Serchak, VOA Public Relations Director; Tomas P. Regalado, Director of the Office of Cuba Broadcasting (OCB); Jamie Fly, President of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL); Ben Herman, RFE/RL General Counsel; Martins Zvaners, RFE/RL Deputy Director of Communications; Bay Fang, Executive Editor of Radio Free Asia (RFA); Bernadette Burns, RFA General Counsel; Alberto Fernandez, President of the Middle East Broadcasting Networks (MBN); and Deirdre Kline, MBN Communications Director.

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Kenneth Weinstein  
Chairman

Witnessed:

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David Kligerman  
Board Secretary

Attachments:

1. Agenda of the September 11, 2019 Board Meeting
2. Minutes of June 5, 2019 Board Meeting
3. Resolution Honoring the 65th Anniversary of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty's Ukrainian Service
4. Resolution on David Burke Distinguished Journalism Awards

**USAGM MEETING DATES IN 2020**

**(ALL MEETINGS ARE AT THE COHEN BUILDING, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.)**

March 12 (Thursday)

June 10 (Wednesday) in Prague, Czech Republic

September 16 (Wednesday)

November 18 (Wednesday)