

IRDR IPO Office Report

27 May 2015
Agenda item 6.2



Staffing

- **New Science Officer:**
 - Some 50 applications received (MA to PhD / assoc. prof. level)
 - Contract from 5 May; successful hand-over mid-May to mid-June
- **End of contract Junior Science Officer**
- **Resignation of Communications Officer (1,5 years)**
- **Resignation of ED (after 1 year)**
- **3 interns (monthly contracts) to update contact database**
- **Employment handbook completed and revised**

IPO / RADI Management Issues

- **Audit (January to March 2015)**
 - Launched at two days's notice (with high and unstructured labour input needed at times of Tokyo and Sendai conferences)
 - No terms of reference provided in English
 - Complete information not shared (CAST, IPO, ICO components; finances)
 - Sessions with auditors without translation
- **Examples for ad hoc measures restricting autonomy of IPO**
 - New restrictions on expenses (transport, procurement)
 - Gentlemens' Agreement on funding for projects (also abroad) withdrawn
 - Authority to sign withdrawn without notification or explanation
- **Retrospective tax claims on non-salary benefits**
 - Mistaken information provided by RADI on health insurance benefits during contract negotiations
 - Health insurance retrospectively taxed (2012-1015), detracting up to 80% from monthly salaries, pushing up tax bracket by up to 250%
- **Salaries withheld and payments delayed without explanation**

Communication Successes

- **IRDR contact database increased from 1000 to 5000**
- **Daily IRDR news items generated mainly from IPO**
 - **Paris commitment (30 parties > 30 news item pcm) only party honoured**
- **IRDR website improved but still clunky**
- **IRDR Publications issued in a timely fashion**

Communication Challenges

- **Solutions needed for**
 - Google services blocked (e-mail, maps, fonts, scholar, cloud, etc.)
 - Social media blocked (FB, Twitter)
 - inefficient work arounds (shared drive / email / attachments)
 - use of private laptops, credit card payments and home-wifi-solutions to make up for these office blockades
- **Internet is wired at RADI / Wifi unreliable**
 - No remote access to office files
 - WiFi on office mobile devices blocked in-house
- **No dedicated IT support for IPO offered by RADI**
(ad hoc help is welcome but cannot be controlled or held accountable)

IPO Work Environment

- **Air Quality**
- **RADI Canteen / food quality**
- **Public health: measles epidemic**
- **Transport situation**

Thank You!

For more information visit: www.irdrinternational.org

Or email: connect@irdrinternational.org