

# Advanced and Indirect Mitigation (AIM) Platform

Governing Committee Meeting Minutes | September 4, 2025

An initiative jointly developed by:



**Gold Standard**<sup>®</sup>

The Advanced and Indirect Mitigation (AIM) Governing Committee  
September 4, 2025 | 10:00AM – 11:00 AM US Eastern Time | Meeting #25.5.3

**Attendees (via Teams):**

Governing Committee Members:

- Alexia Kelly (High Tide Foundation)
- Kelley Kizzier (BEF)
- Peter Skovly (Maersk)
- Tim Juliani (WWF)
- Arianna Baldo (RSB)
- Devon Lake (Meta)

Observers:

- Brad Schallert (Winrock)
- Kai Nino Streicher (Independent Consultant)
- Michael Macrae (WRI)
- Luca Carbonara (VERRA)
- Abhilash Desu (SBTi)

Secretariat:

- Owen Hewlett (Gold Standard)
- Kim Carnahan (GMA)
- Sam Pearl-Schwartz (GMA)
- Stacey McCluskey (GMA)
- Laura Hutchinson (GMA)
- Laura Draucker (GMA)
- Michelle Kolacz (GMA)
- Rebecca Berg (C2ES)

## **Discussion Topics:**

### Introduction

- Kim Carnahan welcomed everyone to the meeting. Kim asked Arianna Baldo, the newest Governing Committee member, to introduce herself. Arianna introduced herself and shared information about her background in sustainability.
- Sam Pearl Schwartz welcomed the Governing Committee and Observers to the meeting and provided an overview of the agenda. Sam noted the goal of the meeting is to conduct a more detailed walkthrough of the electricity annex as a follow-up from last week's meeting.
- Sam Pearl Schwartz specified that no action or vote will happen at the end of this call; rather, the goal is to obtain a pulse check from the Governing Committee. A vote to send the draft out for public consultation would be conducted over email at a later date, so that everyone has time to sit with the content.

### Electricity Annex Review

- Sam Pearl Schwartz established that he would frame the major components of the Electricity Annex, walk through them, and then discuss what has changed for each one compared to version 1.
- Sam Pearl Schwartz shared an update Electricity Annex flow chart that mirrors the structure of the main Association Test but is tailored to its sector-specific considerations.
  - Sam noted that details were removed on how decisions made for association may impact the accounting options due to conflicting feedback received on the appropriate attributional boundaries for scope 3 electricity interventions.
- Sam Pearl Schwartz introduced the topic of identifying, sizing, and locating interventions.
  - Sam Pearl Schwartz stated the goal is to be relatively broad on what types of interventions related to electricity systems are allowed, but this does affect how it can be tracked and quantified. Noted the main change in this section is allowing conversion between MWh and emissions to aggregate but specified that they would be open to thoughts from the Governing Committee or Observers.
    - An Observer inquired about the nuance of the word replace in “replace fossil generation with renewables”, if it meant a literal one-for-one substitution at an interconnection point or simply the addition

of new renewable capacity to the grid, noting that the term “replace” could be misleading.

- Sam Pearl Schwartz responded saying “replace” refers to adding renewable capacity rather than a literal one-for-one swap. Noted that this would be made clearer.
- Sam Pearl Schwartz provided an update on the changes to the section on quantifying electricity subcomponents. Changes included adding language that companies may convert one unit of measurement to another. Sam noted the text advises companies to consider the tradeoffs involved, both in terms of the assumptions required for conversion and the types of interventions that such data combinations enable.
  - A discussion was held between Governing Committee members and Observers over whether the AIM Platform should be prescriptive over the conversion method, or if requiring transparency in the methods used is sufficient.
    - Kim Carnahan noted this was a sufficiently open question and that it will be included in the consultation for public feedback.
- Sam Pearl Schwartz explained the challenges with identifying where subcomponents occur. Sam shared the solution for determining where electricity subcomponents occur in both downstream and upstream.
  - A Governing Committee Member inquired if there was a reason why the focus was on where they were sold versus where they were produced.
    - Sam agreed that the verbiage could be clarified.
- Sam Pearl Schwartz discussed assessing the Basic Association electricity intervention sizing requirement. The change in this section was reframing Basic Association around the product and emissions matching methods.
  - Another Governing Committee Member questioned whether limiting conversions to only MWh → CO<sub>2</sub>e would hinder emissions matching, suggesting flexibility is needed to allow both directions.
    - Sam responded, acknowledging the point.
    - Kim Carnahan clarified that it would be added as a question for consultation.
- Sam Pearl Schwartz shared the changes made to the Further Association methods. For the Supplier and Customer method, Sam specified that the goal is to provide certainty that it can continue into the future, even if the relationship changes. Two changes were shared with their rationale. Sam Pearl Schwartz shared that these changes came from the review process.

- Sam Pearl Schwartz asked if there were any comments or questions. None were raised.
- Sam Pearl Schwartz shared information on Sourcing and Use Region method.
  - Sam Pearl Schwartz asked if there were any comments or questions. None were raised.
- Sam Pearl Schwartz shared information on the Hard-to-Abate Sector method, noting the change and rationale.
  - A Governing Committee Member was trying to think through the practical implications (i.e., enforcement and confirmation) of the requirements for the method. The member noted that these implications should be considered.
    - Kim Carnahan said that they would think about how to add a question to appropriately seek feedback on the enforcement and confirmation.
- Sam Pearl Schwartz shared that in the first round of feedback, there were competing preferences on how to account for electricity interventions. Sam shared that most feedback pushed for a broader boundary.
  - A Governing Committee Member asked to clarify that the proposal was putting the two questions into the consultation.
    - Kim Carnahan clarified that, on the proposal for accounting that, it would be cleanest if the GC said they could write a new requirement into the text.
    - A Governing Committee Member said they supported the approach because of the challenges previously mentioned.
    - Another Governing Committee Member wanted to acknowledge that even though they understand why they landed where they did, that where we landed was no less accurate. The member requested language be added to the text that acknowledges all the work that had gone into this decision and shows that this is a compromise. They feel that without this discussion, readers will feel it to be too broad.
    - An Observer asked what we are trying to do and how we are trying to report this. They inquired how the methodology handles geographic and market boundaries, providing an example that contrasted a company that sources all semiconductors from Taiwan and reports factory-level Scope 3 data with others relying on broader regional or less precise assumptions.
      - Kim Carnahan responded, saying the questions raised were useful, and brought up the subjectivity challenge and how it is difficult to get that into an assurable place. She responded one possible approach would be that of a hierarchy.

## Next Steps

- Sam Pearl Schwartz thanked everyone for attending and informed everyone to expect an email within the next week with a final draft. Included in the email will be a motion to bring the revised Electricity Annex to public consultation for Governing Committee members to vote on.

**Meeting concluded at approximately 10:59AM US Eastern Time.**

### **Post-Meeting Update:**

The Governing Committee was asked to provide votes on the following motion via email on 9/17/2025.

*“Move the draft Electricity Annex forward for stakeholder consultation, and enable the AIM Platform Secretariat to make any necessary editorial, non-substantive edits prior to the draft being released.”*

On 10/3/2025, the motion received the requisite number of approvals to move the Electricity Annex forward for stakeholder consultation.