

## **FNET Board Chair – role specification**

**Recruiter:** [Food Network for Ethical Trade \(FNET\)](#)

**Location:** Remote working, UK-based

**Salary:** Unremunerated, basic expenses will be reimbursed

**Posted:** 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021

**Closes:** 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2021

**Job Function:** Chair

**Industry:** Non-profit, Food processing, manufacturing and production

**FNET is committed to equality, diversity and inclusion and welcomes applications from all individuals regardless of personal characteristics or background.**

### **Mission**

The [Food Network for Ethical Trade \(FNET\)](#) is a collaborative network of supply chain partners established in 2017 which aims to use the collective leverage of suppliers and retailers to bring about positive change in working conditions in global food, beverage and horticulture supply chains by providing guidance, resources, training and opportunities for collaboration. We currently have 49 supplier members and 10 retailers.

### **Position**

As part of the FNET Board, made up of 8 individuals elected from FNET supplier and retailer members, the Chair will provide leadership to FNET as it transitions from a newly formed company limited by partnership into a sustainable, member-driven organisation and represent FNET externally. The Chair will ensure that the board is effective in its task of the development and implementation of FNET's direction and strategy, provides governance leadership and ensures that FNET's Sub-Committees manage oversight of FNET's governance, nominations, risk and audits. Specific responsibilities include:

- Helping to set the behavioural and cultural tone of both the board and the wider organisation, with an emphasis on collaboration, support and transparency
- Providing overall leadership to the board
- Leading the board in the determination of FNET's vision, purpose and strategy
- Being a trusted advisor to FNET's technical support as they implement FNET's strategic plan
- Ensuring the long-term financial stability of FNET to deliver on the Network's strategic plan
- Promoting the highest standards of governance and ethics within the board and its members
- Ensuring accurate, timely, relevant, honest and clear information is provided to the board to enable directors to reach an informed decision
- Planning and presiding over effective and productive board meetings
- Ensuring discussion and decision making is fair, open and balanced
- Directing board discussions towards a consensus view
- Taking responsibility for the board's composition, development and succession planning
- Getting all directors involved in the board's work, promoting effective relationships, equal contribution and open communication

- Creating an environment that allows constructive debates and challenges both inside and outside of the board meetings
- Ensuring the board focuses on its key tasks.
- Embedding robust processes to engage the board in assessing and reviewing its performance
- Overseeing the induction and development of directors.
- Representing FNET externally
- Ensuring FNET's commitment to a diverse board and technical support that reflects the communities FNET serves.

### **Board terms**

FNET's Chair (and board members) will serve a two-year term to be eligible for re-appointment for one additional term. Board meetings will be held quarterly and sub-committee meetings will be held in coordination with full board meetings.

### **Benefits of taking on this role**

**This role offers an opportunity to work with 59 major companies in the food industry with operations and supply chains reaching millions of workers globally.** FNET members are dynamic and passionate, committed to improving their organisation's approaches to human rights and improving the lives of workers in their supply chain. The organisation is now 4 years old and is looking to develop and grow its membership, scope and impact - an independent Chair has the opportunity to be at the forefront of that development.

### **Qualifications and expectations**

FNET are looking for an individual who is passionate about the work the Network and able to support its growth and development. The selected Chair will have achieved leadership stature in business, government, philanthropy, or the non-profit sector.

Ideal candidates will have the following skills and qualifications:

- Extensive professional experience with significant executive leadership accomplishments in business, government, philanthropy, or the non-profit sector
- Demonstrated success as a non-profit board member or board chair
- A commitment to understand FNET's members, beneficiaries and mission, preferably based on experience
- A natural affinity for cultivating relationships and persuading, convening, facilitating, and building consensus among diverse individuals
- Personal qualities of integrity, credibility, and a passion for human rights
- Effective communication skills
- Diplomatic and able to resolve differences.

Service on FNET's board of directors is without remuneration, except for administrative support, travel, and accommodation costs in relation to board members' duties. This may change as the organisation evolves. The Chair will be appointed as a non-Executive Director of [FNET](#).

The Chair will be expected to plan and prepare for the 4 days for Board meetings and be willing to contribute up to 6 days per year to ensure the Board and sub-committees work effectively, to represent the organisation, support the technical team and attend FNET events.

**Interested parties should share a covering letter and CV by the 23<sup>rd</sup> of July with [admin@foodnetworkforethicaltrade.com](mailto:admin@foodnetworkforethicaltrade.com)**