Marichal Kurt Application Mail

**From:** kurt\_marichal@telenet.be <kurt\_marichal@telenet.be>
**Sent:** Sunday, January 24, 2021 1:55:41 PM
**To:** cristina.vicini@skynet.be <cristina.vicini@skynet.be>; C Vicini <cristina.vicini@vicinistrategy.com>; roland.moreau@skynet.be <roland.moreau@skynet.be>
**Cc:** Thomas.VanCraen@triodos.be <Thomas.VanCraen@triodos.be>
**Subject:** Follow-up on our conversation on EU Chapter CoR

Dear Roland, Cristina

I hope you are well!

Referring to our enjoyable and enriching conversion of last Wednesday, I hereby would like to express my sincere interest becoming part of the EU-Chapter of The Club of Rome. In this respect, I also understand that you are looking for a new Treasurer at the level of the Board.

I understand the EU-Chapter is key in promoting the values of The Club of Rome to the European institutions. The main focus of the think tank in this respect is concentrated on the following domains: climate/planete change, the rethinking of finance, refinancing the economics, emerging new civilisation and future leadership.  Although the need for change is on the agenda of many Boards, Governments and institutions, there continues to be a need for explaining the "why we need this?" and the "urgency/timing" of this (r)evolution.

From a professional perspective, my main insights are mainly linked to

(1) sustainable finance - our society is rightly calling upon the financial services sector to contribute to a more sustainable future. Credit institutions and the development of other ways of financing should become a key contributor in ensuring new technologies can be brought to their full potential, all contributing to a more sustainable environment (and thus not only economical). On the other hand, change also entails new emerging risks and uncertainties (both at company level as at individual level) - as a society, we should not forget to address those as well and to ensure we keep everyone on board.

(2) mobility - being involved in the audit of many key players on the belgian leasing market, I can ensure that mobility (and how this will evolve) is clearly an attention point in this sector.

From a personal perspective, I strongly believe change is needed. However and as said before, we need to ensure everyone remains involved/connected with this transition. Going through a period of transition - be it a evolution or revolution - always creates a certain level of uncertainty and not everyone has the ability to deal with these changes in the same manner. I told you that I'm often surprised how badly informed we can be on certain matters - although we have had all the luck of good education and access to many sources of information. Therefore, I consider it more and more as a moral duty to inform people on the topics I  master and to continuously deepen and question the complexity of these challenges. Hence, the reason why I look forward to becoming part of your organisation.

Finally, the role of Treasurer requires certain expertise in amongst others finance, legal and reporting. Based on my professional experience as an external auditor over the past 20 years, I believe I can bring the expertise to the table that you are looking for as a Board of Directors. Bringing figures to life, providing input on agreements (to be concluded), highlighting potential attention points by monitoring budgets and providing insights are at the heart of what I do on a daily basis. And although the mission of your organisation goes well beyond the figures, ensuring sound and professional (financial) management of the organisation itself from a reputational perspective should be key as a Board today and tomorrow.  The Board should be able to focus on its core mission - conveying a clear message for a need of change - while maintaining control over its organisation and related initiatives. I would be glad and honoured to contribute with my experience and expertise to these overall objectives. In this respect, please find enclosed my summary CV in attachment.

To round-up and as explained during our call last Wednesday, taken into account the fact that I'm an accredited auditor and director at the level of PwC Bedrijfsrevisoren BV, I will also need some further information allowing me (1) to address any potential independence issue/conflict of interest as from the outset and (2) to obtain internal approval from PwC to take up this role. Please find enclosed my main questions/information requests in this respect:

* Legal structure of the organisation? ***If I understood well, it is an ASBL***
* Mission/vision of the organisation: **Can I take over this statement from the website?**
* *Our aims are:****\* To identify the most crucial sustainability problems facing European society, to analyse them in the global context and to reflect on alternative future solutions for a sustainable European society, including the elaboration of specific scenarios for the future of the European continent.
\* To initiate and facilitate cutting-edge research, in which the major theme is the development of groundbreaking concepts for globally sustainable development and for the specific contributions that Europe can make.
\* To organise a societal discourse on the implementation of European policies for sustainable development in a global context, involving key public authorities, private sector decision-makers, the media and the general public.
Full members are individuals with high ethical standards and professional ability, with well-established reputations in their activities, acting in a personal capacity. Associate members are individuals who are interested in the association’s work and willing to support it. Other member categories are: Honorary members, Corresponding members and Institutional members.***
* Latest financial information of the organisation (latest financial statements)
* Envisaged start date of the mandate
* In case of a Board or Committee membership (Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary or Member of Board or Committee ): Who are the present members and what are their professional occupations besides this membership?
* Will the role also envisage fund raising?
* Will you receive a remuneration for your external appointment? **Can I presume No**
* Will there be an insurance for the board members
* Who is the auditor of the organisation?
* Is this organisation a PwC client?  ***I do not think so.***

Do not hesitate to contact me further in case you would have any questions in this respect.

Finally, I would like to thank Thomas as well to bring me into contact with you, your organization and this exciting opportunity.

I'm looking forward to our further conversations in this regard.

Best regards

Kurt Marichal