



INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE OF WOMEN ALLIANCE INTERNATIONALE DES FEMMES

Minutes of IAW Board Meeting

Agreed on and to be adopted at the next board meeting 2016

held on 7th, 9th and 10th of October 2015
at Maison des Associations, 38 Bld Henri IV, 5004 Paris

7th October 2015

Moderator: Lene Pind

1. Opening of the 2015 Board Meeting by President Joanna Manganara

Joanna Manganara opened the session by thanking Monique Bouaziz and Danielle Levy for organizing an excellent venue at short notice following cancellation (by Union of Kuwaiti Women's Association due to instability in the region).

2. Roll call and apologies

a. Attachment.

- the meeting had a quorum

b. Apologies

Soon-Young Yoon, Johanna Sterbin, Alison Brown, Marie Claude Julsaint, Sri Lanka Women's Association of the UK, Josephine Butler Society, Fredrika Bremer, Union of Kuwaiti Women, Shaika Al-Mezen, Judith Gordon

3. Adoption of agendas (International Meeting and Board Meeting)

- Agendas adopted with the addition of the Commission on Democracy be included in the group work

Welcome speech by Ms Olga Trostiansky, Deputy Mayor to Anne Hidalgo, Mayor of Paris, and spoke about Hidalgo's devotion to women's rights. One of Hidalgo's proposals is the *Laboratory for Equality* to advance equality between women and men. Hidalgo's wish was that we all work together and be united for women's rights. She also wished IAW a good meeting in Paris.

4. Appointment of moderators and minutes writers for the IM and the Board Meeting

Moderators: Lyda Verstegen, Arina Angerman, Lene Pind, Priscilla Todd, Joanna Manganara

Minutes: Signe Vahlun, Jacqueline Apollonia Meleouni, Heide Schütz, Danielle Levy and Priscilla Todd

5. Appointments of Secretary General and Treasurer for the rest of the triennium .

- In view of the fact that the secretary general resigned in March 2015, and that the treasurer resigned in July 2015, the Board decided to appoint Lyna Castillo-Javier, New York, executive secretary general and former IAW president Rosy Weiss, Vienna, executive treasurer until the next Congress, which will take place in 2016.

The appointed persons accepted the positions.

Advisory Committee

- The Financial Advisors to the Treasurer had not been active. To avoid similar problems in the future, especially after unforeseeable resignations at executive level, it was planned to look at succession planning and for people - for all the important jobs.

Board Meeting continued 9th and 10th of October 2015

1. Roll call

Board members present:

Joanna Manganara, Jessica Kehl-Lauff, Signe Vahlun, Louise Deumer, Danielle Levy, Natalia Kostus, Gudrun Haupter, Anje Wiersinga, Rakesh Dhawan, Lyda Verstegen, Rosy Weiss, Ida Kurth (proxy)

Extended Board present:

Lene Pind, Joke Sebus, , Rita Marque Mbatha, Arina Angerman, Jacqueline Apollonia Meleouni (Intern), Monique Bouaziz, Priscilla Todd, Esther Suter, Renee Gerard, Horeya Megahed, Arielle Wagenknecht

2. Adoption of the 2014 Board meeting Minutes

- Minutes from the Board Meeting held at Sion, Switzerland, 3rd to 5th October 2014 were adopted.

3. Matters arising from the minutes

- As suggested in Sion all Board members must choose a job for themselves. Therefore, Joanna will once more circulate an email with a list of jobs that need to be done and ask members of the Extended Board to put a job after their name. She will then make a complete list of jobs of all Board members.

- Jessica to produce material for the French section of the home page of the website.
- A reminder to remember good practices in emails and documents: name, date, subject/issue.

4. Decisions by the Executive/ President since the Board Meeting in Sion

- Jessica to alternate with Bettina in FAO. The decision was adopted by the Board.

5. Matters arising from the international meeting

- After consultations in the International Meeting, the Board accepted that paragraph XXI of the Constitution on the dissolution of the organization shall be modified. This change of the constitution will be voted on at the next Triennial Congress in 2016. The Board will recommend the following new paragraph XXI:

ARTICLE XXI Dissolution

The IAW may be dissolved by a resolution passed by Congress with a majority of no less than two thirds of the votes cast. The procedure of article XIX 2 has to be followed.

In the event of a decision to dissolve, the Executive Committee shall notify all concerned and shall take steps to liquidate all assets and, after payment of outstanding debts, it shall transmit any balance to a non-profit, non – governmental organization, whose Objectives and Mission conform to the Objectives and Mission of IAW, and which follows a similar aim of public good as IAW, and which is the beneficiary of tax exemption. In no case may the assets be returned to individual members or founder members, nor may they be utilized for their profit or in their entirety in any manner whatsoever. If the dissolving Congress has not elected officers, the task will fall to the Executive Committee in office at the time of decision.

Proposed by Jessica – Seconded by Louise - Adopted by the Board

- The plan for the payback of the money borrowed from IAW by Bashan Rafique is now, after several setbacks and problems, hopefully solved. She will, as agreed in Sion in 2014, pay back 200 GBP per month for five years. At a meeting called by IAW Treasurer Rosy Weiss, Bashan instead proposed instead, and it was accepted, to pay the whole year's amount in November each year. There is a document signed by Rosy Weiss IAW Treasurer, the APWA Treasurer Susan Sinclair, as well as by Bashan and Jessica. Please see Appendix 1.
- It was decided that Priscilla, Joanna and Sonia Mitralia, the Greek designer, will continue to work on the new layout of our journal, International Women's News, taking into account comments made by the International Meeting/Board. At next

Congress in Zimbabwe 2016 a final decision will be taken on the new layout of the journal, International Women's News, and the logo.

- During the IM it was pointed out that the new structure of the journal and its more sophisticated content as well as the new layout are very much agreeable. Rosy strongly opposed to the use of a new logo, replacing the old, historical and traditional one, inherited from our foremothers.
- Summaries from working groups. Please see Appendix 2.
- Side events for CSW to be worked on.
- New Convener for the Commission on Violence Against Women: Rita Marque Mbatha. Members of the Commission: Samina Haque, Sharmain Haque, Anne Pelagie, Pamela Lawson, Marie-Claude Julsaint, Anuarite Siirewabo Muyuwa and Arielle Wagenknecht.
- New convener for the Fundraising Committee: Natalia Kostus. Members of the Committee: Arina Angerman, Anne Argi, Bashan Rafique and Anne Pelagie.

The Committee on Fundraising will work to elaborate a fundraising strategy and recommendations for IAW, to be presented at the Congress in 2016.

- Congress 2016: Zimbabwe's invitation accepted.
- Cyprus Proposal to hold a future meeting in 2017 accepted. Please see Appendix 3.
- Lyda's project proposal on statelessness agreed upon.
- The Board decided by consensus to give a mandate to Natalia to start forming an IAW Programme on Climate Change and Sustainable Development to be adopted and launched at Congress in 2016 and to have the possibility of attracting funding.

6. Accreditation of IAW representatives to International Organisations - procedures

- Permanent representatives to International and Regional organizations are appointed by the Board according to article X b of the IAW Constitution
- When representatives are to be appointed for shorter periods between Board meetings, this should be communicated to the Board and to the representatives working in the field. This was adopted.
- Lyda Verstegen suggested that Arielle Wagenknecht and Mohinder Watson be representatives of the IAW at the Human Rights Council in Geneva. This was adopted.
- Anje Wiersinga proposed that Renee Gerard's appointment as IAW Representative to the Council of Europe be confirmed and that Heleen Jansen should be appointed as her alternate. This was adopted.

- The President said that all International Representatives should submit a written report to the Executive every 6 months concerning progress in their work.

7. What do we do to make IAW a stronger and more sustainable organisation?

- Proposal by Natalia Kostus to raise funds to assist organisations with limited financial resources to pay their membership fee.

8. Sharing the work better

- A closer relationship between the Membership Officer and the Treasurer is essential. Similarly it is important that the Treasurer and Membership officer are informed of payments by the donation button.
Louise Deumer proposed that the Membership Officer should be a professional paid person, for whom a sum is reserved in the budget.
- Two people are needed to do the work of the Secretary-General, one official and one assistant. Lene Pind will assist Lyna Castillo-Javier.
- Anje Wiersinga also said that IAW will need a second treasurer
- It was further discussed but not decided to have a paid editor of IWN and a paid webmaster.

9. Status of membership

- The membership report is in the Paris Booklet 2015.
- Pat wants help with the more advanced computer jobs in the near future and further down the road someone to take over her job.

10. Board Members' responsibilities and duties over the next years

- All elected members are expected to:

- Be an individual member of the Alliance.
- Be the national collector or find somebody to do the job.
- Make sure that one's own organization is paid up.
- Communicate regularly with other members of the Board, including Executive.
- Organize meetings for IAW members in one's own country.
- Send Newsletters to the Individual members in one's own country.
- Try to implement IAW policies (e.g. action programme) in one's own country by lobbying government, etc.
- Choose a job / a task for herself.

- Lene suggested that the President circulates once more the list of the Extended Board. Each one should write next to her name her job/task or the one she is willing to undertake. (See also Agenda item 3).

11. Membership Officer's Report

Refer to Agenda Item 9. Status of membership.

12.

a. A Paid Accountant for IAW

The proposal to have a paid accountant, and to have money set aside for it in the budget was accepted. Problem of language: Later in the meeting it appeared that the idea was to have a paid auditor, not accountant.

b. Financial report

The audited financial report of former Treasurer Seema Uplekar was presented. The board accepted the payment of the audits for 2014 and 2015

For the registration process in Geneva Jessika had to get all relevant documents as asked by the AFC Geneva – Direction des affaires fiscales. Therefore and confirming Art. XIV, 7 of the Constitution of IAW the Board adopted the decision of the President, supported by the appointed Treasurer Rosy Weiss, to give Jessika Kehl-Lauff authority in financial matters.

13. Admissions Committee report by Jessika Kehl-Lauff

Jessika advised to admit the Rural Women's Network of Nepal as a provisional affiliate and to propose to Congress that they be admitted as an affiliate member. The proposal was adopted.

14. Database status update

- Louise Deumer and Pat Richardson are still working on the database, but there has been a bit of a setback due to the former Treasurer and Secretary-General stepping down. The new Secretary-General, the new Treasurer and Lene Pind now have to be trained to use the system.
- The database is ready to go as soon as the above-mentioned people have been trained.
- Louise Deumer initiated setting up the system; she is still working on it and paying. She strongly advises that a sum of money is reserved in future budgets, as IAW must be able to finance the database out of its own finances.

15. Evaluation of meeting

- Lack of welcome and farewell to guests for the International Meeting.
- Presidents should be able to introduce themselves and their organisations. Suggestion of a marketplace and more networking opportunities.
- A need for a more effective organization.

- There has been a tendency to overlap the business of the International Meeting and Board Meeting. This does not work!
- Nametags could be useful.
- Joanna will write a thank you letter to the Presidents who attended the International Meeting.

16. Any other business

- Suggestion to contact older members in regard to fundraising.
- Suggestion to modernize the guidelines for Commission Conveners.
- The Nobel Prizewinner, Svetlana Alexievich, and the Václav Havel Human Rights Prizewinner, Ludmilla Alexeeva will both receive letters of congratulation from Joanna.
- La Colombe Togo had not been a member for several years (or perhaps a silent member since they could not pay their membership fee). Now they are able to pay again and have re-joined. However, they are not able to pay the outstanding fees for the years they were not an active member but are willing to pay an additional 100 euros to their membership fee this year.
- After a few changes suggested at the International meeting by Rosy and Anje on the “Political Declaration – Call for a new Accountability Paradigm” which Joanna had accepted, the text was adopted by the Board. It will be used leading up to CSW and will be put on the web-site.
- Anje Wiersinga spoke of her concern that ignoring or disregarding an existing problem does not solve the problem. Using the example of frustrated young immigrants, she warned that ignoring the feelings of people, who felt that they were not treated with respect leads to alienation unless discussed and understood. She noticed within IAW a similar situation leading to what the agenda calls “a crisis” Particularly in case these feelings are considered by others as unreasonable, the situation should be discussed to create understanding and to avoid alienation and anger and similar situations in future.

17. Closing of the meeting

Joanna Manganara closed the meeting thanking everybody for their contributions in particular Monque and Danielle for hosting the meetings at such short notice.

Jacqueline Apollonia Meleouni and Joanna Manganara on the basis of notes by Signe Vahlun, Heide Schütz, Danielle Levy and Jacqueline Apollonia Meleouni. Edited by Priscilla Todd and amended by Lene Pind on the basis of comments and proposals by a number of participants.

Lene Pind
13 January 2016