

AIDA Europe Assembly 3 November 2016

#### **Minutes**

AIDA Europe – Assembly - 3 November 2016 at 08.45 am, Le Meridien Hotel, Vienna

# 1. Presence / Apologies of Members

Colin Croly, Chairman AIDA Europe welcomes all present. He explains that the Assembly has been duly called and that together with the Notice a copy of the Minutes of the AIDA Europe Assembly of 13 September 2012 in London had been sent to the Members.

The Chairman finds that out of the 31 Members the 15 Members are represented at today's Assembly either through one of their National Chapter's Members or through a proxy namely: Turkey, Greece, France, Switzerland, UK, Denmark, Italy, Portugal, Russia, Belgium, Germany, Hungary, Sweden, Netherlands, Austria.

As there have been no additional items suggested for today's Assembly, the Chairman proposes to conduct the Assembly in line with the proposed Agenda (Attachment 1).

Furthermore, the Chairman appoints Christian Felderer as the secretary for taking the minutes of today's meeting.

# 2. Approval of the Minutes of the Assembly meeting in London on 13 September 2012

The Members unanimously approve the Minutes of 13 September 2012

# 3. Report of the Chairman with regard to the past four years activities of AIDA Europe, including resolutions by corresponding vote

The Chairman briefly elaborates on the revision of AIDA Europe's By-laws, which were the subject of detailed discussion in the AIDA Europe Committee and also led to an active exchange with the Members. One of the main changes comprises the establishment of a clear seat for AIDA Europe in Zurich/Switzerland. He comments that the respective motion of the AIDA Europe Committee for a Written Resolution by the Members of 9 August 2016 has been approved, adopting the proposed revision. He defers to the revised By-laws which are available on the AIDA Europe site. All Members present acknowledge the result of the voting process and the resulting changes to AIDA Europe's By-laws, in particular, but not limited to, AIDA Europe's seat being Zurich/Switzerland.

The Chairman delivers a short report on the developments concerning AIDA Europe mainly pointing out the key events taking place since AIDA Europe's first conference in Hamburg in 2008. He underlines the important activities undertaken by AIDA Europe in supporting young academics and welcomes the presence of two winners of an AIDA academic award at the Vienna Conference. He emphasizes the new section on the AIDA Webpage offers information on hot topics and

topics and developments, for which contributions by all members are vital. He also underlines the interesting cooperation with other organizations such as the FDCC or the contact with certain chapters interested in newly joining AIDA Europe, but also the formation or reactivation of new respectively existing chapters (e.g. Malta, Croatia, Russia). The introduction of an inhouse counsel initiative lead by Stefan Speyer and Christian Felderer has proven to be very beneficial increasing the participation of in-house counsel in AIDA events.

In respect of the latter development he welcomes today's presence of the Frank Schauff, representing the reactivated Russian chapter. Frank provides a brief profile of the Russian chapter, its history and structure.

The Chairman thanks Committee who supported him over last years and also expresses his deep appreciation for the work done by Sandra Dellimore. Finally, he expresses his appreciation for the support received from sponsors over the years. Committee supported but now step aside.

The Members thank the Chairman for the report with acclamation.

## 4. Approval of financial accounts

The Chairman summarizes the current financial situation of AIDA Europe. AIDA Europe maintains no other assets than a Bank Account at the Royal Bank of Scotland, London, which currently has a balance of approx. GBP 150'000. This was built up since the first Conference in Hamburg in 2008 He mentions that as a result of AIDA Europe's now defined seat in Zurich/Switzerland, certain governance procedures will have to be introduced in the future, including an annual approval of AIDA Europe's annual financial accounts by an AIDA Europe Assembly in line with Swiss law.

The Members acknowledge the comments of the Chairman and unanimously approve the financial situation as presented.

# 5. Election of 12 Committee Members and Chairman, in globo, for the term of 2016 – 2020

The Chairman turns to the election of 12 Committee Members as per item 5 of the Agenda stating, that he has decided not to stand for re-election.

He then explains that the present Committee Members have all indicated their willingness to be re-elected. He furthermore mentions that, in addition, Tim Hardy, who has been acting as Treasurer, is willing to be elected to the vacant Committee position and Christian Felderer has agreed to make himself available as the new chairman.

The Chairman then proceeds to the election of the Committee Members and the nomination of the Chairman as per item 5 of the Agenda. The Members present unanimously elect the Committee Members as per the proposed motion for the term of office 2016 until the Assembly in the year 2020, as follows (who are all present, except those with an apology):

- Torben Bondrop, Denmark, Member
- Herman Cousy, Belgium, Member apology
- Otto Csurgo, Hungary, Member
- Slobodan Jovanovic, Serbia, Member apology
- Robert Koch, German, Member
- Pierpaolo Marano, Italy, Member
- Sjoerd Meijer, Netherlands, Member

- Jose Maria Munoz Paredes, Spain, Member apology
- Ioannis Rokas, Greece, Member
- Peggy Sharon, Israel, Member
- Samim Unan, Turkey, Member
- Tim Hardy, UK, Member
- Christian Felderer, Switzerland, Chairman

The Chairman congratulates the Committee Members and the new Chairman for their election.

#### 7. Any other business

There are no matters to be discussed under this item.

#### 8. Next Assembly Meeting

The Chairman explains that the new AIDA Europe Committee will set a calendar reflecting the annual corporate calendar to be pursued for legal purposes. It is however intended to proceed in the most efficient manner, in particular, to allow for a process by Written Resolution of the Members in order to approve AIDA Europe's annual financial accounts.

He comments that at the occasion of the 2018 AIDA Europe Conference, which will take place on 12/13 April 2018 in Warsaw, it is intended to schedule an Assembly with physical attendance.

The Chairman closes the meeting at 0915 and wishes all a successful conference. All present thank him with acclamation for the extraordinary services he has provided to AIDA Europe, which has benefitted greatly from his leadership.

Vienna, 3 November 2016

Colin Croly, Chairman

Christian Felderer, Secretary

### **Attachments**

- 1. Notice and Agenda for Assembly
- 2. Report of Chairman