

Annual General Meeting 2017 Minutes

Helsinki, Finland 29.10.2017

1. Presidential Address: Welcome and Opening Remarks

Meeting started at 09:16 by Victor Rehn, President

2. Election of Chairperson & Secretary of the Meeting

Chairperson: Camilla Mattjus, Finland.

Secretary: Jenna Junntila, Finland.

No objections.

3. Election of the Inspectors of the Minutes and Vote Counters (2)

Minute Inspectors: Ece Saygi, Turkey and Karina Obro, Denmark.

Vote Counters: Sara Kwekkeboom, Netherlands and Johan Wikström, Finland

No objections.

4. Stating the Members of IFHOHYP incl. new/dissolved members

Organization Name	Country
Academy of Sports and Education for Deaf of Tunisia	Tunisia
Bangladesh Hard of Hearing Association	Bangladesh
Bundesjugend	Germany
Canadian Hard of Hearing Association	Canada
Česká Unie Neslyšících (CUN)	Czech Republic
FADCY	Russia
Høreforeningen (HF)	Denmark
Hørselshemmedes Landsforbunds Ungdom (HLFU)	Norway
İsitme Engelliler ve Aileleri Derneği (IED)	Turkey
Jugehörig (JH)	Switzerland
Kuuloliitto Ry	Finland
SHRUTI	Nepal
Sh-Jong	Netherlands
Surdus Loquens	Poland
Svenska Hörsselförbundet R.F.	Finland
Uganda Federation of Hard of Hearing (UFHOH)	Uganda
Unga Hörselskadade (UH)	Sweden

Two members were dissolved at the AGM:

Organization Name	Country
AFaMUT	Italy
Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA)	USA

5. Stating the Delegates and Observers in the meeting

1	Pavel Novikov	Russia	FADCY	Delegate
2	Katrine Einan	Norway	HLFU	Delegate
3	Karina Obro	Denmark	Horeforeningen	Delegate
4	Ece Saygi	Turkey	IED	Delegate
5	Manuel Rohrbach	Switzerland	Jugehörig	Delegate
6	Jenna Junttila	Finland	Kuuloliitto ry	Delegate
7	Mikael de Vries	Netherlands	SH-Jong	Delegate
8	Johan Wikström	Finland	Svenska Hörsselförbundet	Delegate
9	Paulina Lewandowska	Poland	Surdus Loquens	Delegate
10	Hanna Mullis	Sweden	Unga Hörselskadade	Delegate
11	Juha Hietala	Finland	EFHOH	Observer
12	Camilla Mattjus	Finland	Svenska Hörsselförbundet	Observer
13	Irina Ivanova	Russia	FADCY	Observer
14	Marie Henriksen	Denmark	Horeforeningen	Observer
15	Ediz Tekok	Turkey	IED	Observer
16	Heikki Niemi	Finland	IFHOH	Observer
17	Rasmus Draklander	Sweden	IFHOHYP Honorary Member	Observer
18	Kevin Wieser	Switzerland	Jugehörig	Observer
19	William Skarbö	Finland	Kuuloliitto ry	Observer
20	Sara Kwekkeboom	Netherlands	SH-Jong	Observer
21	Maartje Schutte	Netherlands	SH-Jong	Observer
22	Karolina Czaban	Poland	Surdus Loquens	Observer
23	Behnam Arya	Sweden	Unga Hörselskadade	Observer
24	Hanieh Madani	Iran		Observer
25	Karolina Blaszk	Poland		Observer
26	Maria Skoczynska	Poland		Observer
27	Sheila Cristobal Amoros	Spain	Federation ACAPPS	Observer
28	Beatriz Guasch Prado	Spain	Federation ACAPPS	Observer

6. Verifying the Authority of the Meeting.

Note: The delegate of Unga Hörselskadade was not present yet.

The AGM has quorum with 4 board members, 9 delegates, and 17 observers. Approved.

7. Approval of the Agenda of the Meeting

Approved; no objections.

8. Approval of the Minutes of the AGM 2016.

Approved; no objections.

9. Presentation of the Annual Report 2016-17

Victor Rehn, President and Bowen Tang, Vice-President presented the Annual Report on the activities of IFHOHYP, which included: study session in Budapest, summer camps in Denmark and Norway, continuing the good work with committees, applying for the next study session, which waits for the approval from the Council of Europe, establishing a summer camp committee in Netherlands which will take place in summer 2018. IFHOHYP also published 2 newsletters and was active in social media, Facebook-pages with 1180 likes.

In addition, the board had altogether 9 virtual board meetings and has done administrative work, especially finding a stable solution for finances because there have been problems with the current bank account.

10. Presentation of the Financial Report 2016

Daria, Treasurer, presented the financial report. As of December 31st 2016, IFHOHYP has a surplus of €13549, 46.

Discussion:

- Katrine from HLFU asked why the Board has taken so long to fix the bank situation.
- Board informed about the problems with banking situation, and how it has been a long process. Establishing the bank account needs to be stated clearly in the AGM minutes. Most of the paper work is done and just need approval from the AGM.
- Heikki Niemi from IFHOH made a comment about the difficulties with working with Nordea bank.
- Glenn Storsletten from the Board moved that the bank situation be listed as a separate item on the agenda. All in favour, approved.

11. Bank Situation

- Sara Kwekkeboom from Sh-jong asked about the IFHOHYP's official address.
- Board answered that official address used to be the incumbent Treasurer's address, but now they want to establish something more long term where there is no need to change the address all the time.
- The new official address is: Castberggård · Østerskovvej 1, Urlev · DK-8722 Hedensted
- Irina Ivanova from FADCY asks about the access of the bank account and is worried what would happen if both Treasurer and President will drop out.
- Board answered that if President and Treasurer dropped out, it would be a case of emergency AGM and then the case would be solved out.
- Katrine asked how long it will take to fix the bank situation and the Board answered that it will take about 2-3 months.
- Heikki made a comment about to have all the needed papers ready for the bank.

The following motion is put forward by the Board:

The AGM authorizes the Board to open a new account for IFHOHYP in a bank that will allow the elected President and Treasurer access to make transactions online and in person.

Approved; no objections.

12. Presentation of the Auditor's Report 2016

Jenna Junttila, the Auditor, presented and read aloud her report:

As an auditor of IFHOHYP I have checked the financial report, the cash flow report and the minutes of the board meetings. The incomes and expenses of 2016 are correct in the financial report.

Notes: The documents for auditing were clear and detailed. Since I made the auditor's report also last year, I am pleased to see that my previous advice is taken into consideration. Although I would recommend even more detailed financial information specifically concerning the expenses that are being paid in the following year in order to be able to follow them more easily. Also it would be desirable to create an elaborate report of cash money transactions and use only certain bank account for organization's needs to simplify the financial action.

Note: The delegate of Unga Hörselskadade arrived.
The new quorum was declared: 4 board members, 10 delegates, and 17 observers.

13. Approval of Annual Report, Financial Report, and Auditor's Report

Approved; no objections.

14. Presentation and Approval of the Work Programme 2018

Bowen Tang, Vice-President, presented the Work Programme. Approved; no objections.

15. Presentation and Approval of the Budget 2018

Daria Panicheva, Treasurer, presented the Budget. Approved; no objections.

16. Presentation of Committees

a. Communication & Member Committee

Committee members Irina Ivanova, Ece Saygi, Ediz Tekok and Manuel Rohrbach presented the work over the past year: managing social media, newsletter, and website. They want to encourage more youth to submit the articles for newsletter and join the committee.

b. Study Session Committee

Bowen Tang shared that the application for the next Study Session was submitted and is awaiting a decision from Council of Europe in December 2017

c. Summer Camp Committee

SH-Jong will be hosting the summercamp in the Netherlands from July 30th to 5th August in Veldhoven, close to Eindhoven. Registration is open now!

www.summercamp2018.nl

17. Presentation of EFHOH/IFHOH

Juha Hietala, Treasurer of EFHOH, presented to the AGM.
Heikki Niemi, Treasurer of IFHOH, presented to the AGM.

18. Motions

a) Revision of Constitution Article 8 (Membership Fee)

The membership fee will be reviewed and approved by the AGM. General and Individual Associate members must pay in full their membership fee to ensure their membership status.

If a General Member did not pay membership fee for ~~for more than two years (two succeeding AGMs)~~, the present year the Board reserves the right to suggest the AGM to dissolve the membership.

The membership fee have to be paid by March 1st every year.

Discussion made about the bill reminders, two reminders will be sent. Comments about how there should be clear timelines about all the deadlines.

5 in favour, 5 against, motion rejected.

b) Revision of Constitution Article 9 (AGM)

*If three General Members, **three Members from the Board are in attendance at the AGM** and the majority of delegates are not members of the board, the AGM has quorum. The meeting has to be convened as defined in the AGM Working Format.*

Rationale:

1. *AGM is a crucial part for the IFHOHYP to reach its various aims and make progresses. Therefore, presence of most Members of the Board during the AGM is essential.*
2. *Participation of the President is highly preferred; however, this is not mandatory since all members from the Board work in collaboration.*
3. *If any extreme situation (e.g health, family issues) happens to cause a last minute absence of any member from the Board, participation of any board member must be managed remotely to fill the minimum number of participation of board members during the AGM.*

Board members who cannot manage to attend an AGM that is usually hold on Sunday, would better be attending AGM remotely

8 in favour, 1 against, 1 abstain; Approved.

*The AGM is primarily ~~held every year before 1st of May~~ **within a maximum period of 15 months in between.***

Rationale:

1. *It is not always possible to organize an AGM before a certain date due to availability of host organizations and factors of timing (when most people can attend). Past AGMs have shown a pattern that shows the current requirement is not realistic: Apr 2013, Nov 2014, Nov 2015, June 2016, Oct 2017. We will ensure that the AGM takes place every year.*

All in favour; Approved.

c) Revision of Constitution Article 11 (Board positions)

Motion is about establishing one additional board member position and one vice-board member position to increase the size of the Board and share workload. Discussion made to clarify role of board members and support for committees.

7 in favour, 2 against, 1 abstained. Approved and put in effect immediately.

d) Revision of Constitution Article 11 (Board term limits)

*The Board follows and puts into action the decisions made in AGM and has the power to act in the name of the IFHOHYP. It is authorised for all actions and operations carried out in conformity with the aims of the IFHOHYP. Each Board Member's term lasts two years. **Each individual can only be in the same position for two terms consecutively, and has to wait a term before nominating themselves again. However, they are allowed to:***

- 1. **Nominate themselves for other positions.***
- 2. **If there are no nominees for their current position, the Board must ask if any of the participants are interested in the said position before the Election of the Officers of the Board starts. In this case, this rule can be held exempt.***

9 in favour, 1 against. Approved.

e) Revision of Constitution Article 14 (Committees – proposed by IED)

The AGM may decide on the creation of Committees responsible for the preparation, organisation and realisation of specific tasks within IFHOHYP. The Working Groups act fairly independently regarding their special subject and are responsible only to the AGM. These Committees will consist of at least:

- a) Coordinator, responsible for the Working Group towards the AGM and obliged to be permanently in touch with the Board;*
- b) Treasurer, sole responsible for the finances towards the Board.*

For Study Session committee, should there be an excess amount of applicants, applicants who have never been in the preparatory team should have the priority over the experienced applicants to be part of the committee.

The Committee Members are elected by the AGM.

Comments about how the rule should be effective immediately on the current committee applicants. Discussion about how there is a lot of use if there is a experienced person with the committee, but also important to give a chance for new members.

The motion was withdrawn.

From the floor:

- Johan Wikström, representing Svenska Hörselförbundet, had to leave and so will give the voting rights and the vote counting duty for Jim Lindgren.
- Pavel Novikov, representing FADCY, had to leave and so will so give the voting rights for Irina Ivanova.
- Hanna Mullis, representing Unga Hörselskadade, had to leave and so will give the voting rights for Behnam Arya.

Approved; no objections. Quorum: 4 board members, 10 delegates, and 14 observers.

- f) Revision of Constitution Article 21 (Working Formats)
All in favour; Approved.

19. Election of the Officers of the Board

3 positions are slated for election this year: Secretary, Treasurer, and General Board Member. Nomination Committee Chair Paulina Lewandowska presented the committee work and introduced the candidates for the positions.

- a) Secretary (2-year term)
Nominee: Jenna Junttila, Finland. Elected with 10 out of 10 votes.

Discussion arised about open voting. 5 are in favor, 5 are against. Open voting continues.

- b) Treasurer (2-year term)
Nominee: Hanna Mullis, Sweden. Elected with 7 out of 10 votes.

- c) General Board Member (2-year term)
Nominees: Karina Øbro, Denmark
Manuel Rohrbach, Switzerland

Since the motion to revise Constitution for Article 11 (Board positions) was approved and put in effect immediately there are 2 General Board Member positions available. Both Karina and Manuel are elected with 9 out of 10 votes.

- d) Vice Board Member (2-year term) – added due to revised Constitution Article 11
Nominee: Glenn Storsletten, Norway. Elected with 8 out of 10 votes.

20. Election of the Auditor for 2018.

Mikael de Vries, Netherlands, is elected with 9 out 10 votes.

21. Election of Committees

- a) Communication & Member Committee
- b) Nomination Committee
- c) Study Session Committee
- d) Summer Camp Committee
- e) Fundraising Committee

Approved, no objections.

22. Future Planning

- a) Annual General Meetings
2018 – Istanbul, Turkey in September-October, hosted by IED
- b) Summer Camps
2018 – Netherlands, hosted by Sh-Jong
2019 – Canada (a tentative possibility)
- c) Study Sessions in cooperation with the Council of Europe
2018 – awaiting approval from Council of Europe

23. Any Other Business

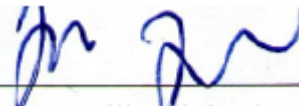
Daria Panicheva, outgoing Treasurer, was recognized for her many years of services with IFHOHYP. The Board thanked everyone for attending and Kuuloliitto Ry for hosting the AGM.

24. Closing the Annual General Meeting

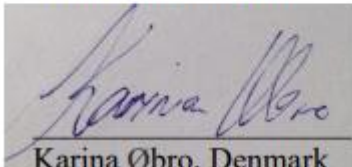
The AGM is closed at 15:59.



Camilla Mattjus, Finland
AGM Chairperson



Jenna Junttila, Finland
AGM Secretary



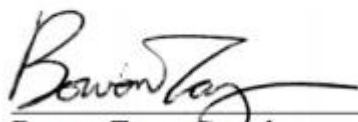
Karina Øbro, Denmark
Minutes Inspector



Ece Saygi, Turkey
Minutes Inspector



Victor Rehn, Finland
IFHOHYP President



Bowen Tang, Canada
IFHOHYP Vice-President