

International Federation of Hard of Hearing Young People

**Annual General Meeting 2014
Strasbourg, France, 23 November 2014**



MINUTES

1. Presidential Address: Welcome and Opening Remarks

Karina Chupina, President, welcomed everybody.

Present members of the IFHOHYP Board: Daria Panicheva (Acting Secretary), Ece Saygi (Acting Board member) and Karina Chupina (President). Anna Vita Ross (Treasurer) had to cancel her participation due to her health problems.

Karina Chupina presented Marcel Bobeldijk, Board member of IFHOH and President of EFHOH.

2. Election of the Chairperson of the meeting

Alper Coşkun, Turkey. No objections.

3. Election of the Secretary of the meeting

Marta Hoferova, Czech Republic and Ece Saygi, Turkey. No objections.

4. Election of the inspectors of the minutes and the vote counters

Heiko Burak (Germany) and Elisa Ostet (The Netherlands). No objections.

5. Stating the members of IFHOHYP

AFaMUT - Italy

BEKOL - Israel

Bonaventura C.V. - Spain

Bangladesh Association of Hard of Hearing People - Bangladesh

Bundesjugend im DSB e.V. (BJ) - Germany

Canadian Hard of Hearing Associatio (CHHA) - Canada

Česká unie neslyšících (CUN) - Czech Republic

FADCY - Russia

Hard of Hearing Young People Foundation - USA

Hearing Link - United Kingdom

Høreforeningen (HF) - Denmark

Hørselshemmedes Landsforbunds Ungdom (HLFU) - Norway

İşitme Engelliler ve Aileleri Derneği (İED) - Turkey

Jugehörig (JH) - Switzerland

Kuuloliitto Ry - Finland

SH-Jong (SH-J) - The Netherlands

SOMNED - Slovak Republic

Unga Hörselskadade (UH) - Sweden

Svenska Hörselförbundet R.F. - Finland

Surdus Loquens - Poland

6. Stating the Delegates and Observers in the meeting

Daria Panicheva confirmed the delegates and observers.

Name	Surname	Country	Organization	D/O	
Artashes	Hovhannisyan	Armenia	Voice of Silence	Observer	
Bowen	Tang	Canada	CHHA	Delegate	1
Marta	Höferová	Czech	Česká unie neslyšících (Czech Union of the Deaf)	Delegate	2
Sidsel	Munkebo Hansen	Denmark	Hoereforeningen	Delegate	3
Jenna	Junttila	Finland	Finnish Federation of HOH	Delegate	4
Julia	Kaasinen	Finland	Finnish Federation of HOH	Observer	
Anniina	Kauppila	Finland	Finnish Federation of HOH	Observer	
Camilla	Mattjus	Finland	Svenska Hörsselförbundet R.F.	Observer	
Victor	Rehn	Finland	Svenska Hörsselförbundet R.F.	Delegate	5
Heiko	Burak	Germany	Bundesjugend	Delegate	6
Andrea	Pietrini	Italy		Observer	
Giacomo	Pirelli	Italy	AFaMuT	Delegate	7
Francesca	Silleni	Italy	AFaMuT	Observer	
Linn	Bøyesen	Norway	HLFU	Observer	
Glenn	Storsletten	Norway	HLFU	Delegate	8
Paulina	Lewandowska	Poland	Surdus Loquens	Delegate	9
Alicja	Nowogrodzka	Poland	SURDUS LOQUENS	Observer	

Irina	Ivanova	Russia	FADCY	Observer	
Natalia	Kondratieva	Russia	FADCY	Delegate	10
Aleksandra	Lemesova	Russia	FADCY	Observer	
Pavel	Novikov	Russia	FADCY	Observer	
Nimrod	Persson	Sweden	UH	Observer	
Helene	Larsson	Sweden	UH	Delegate	11
Claudio	Nicita	Switzerland	Jugehörig	Delegate	12
Marcel	Bobeldijk	The Netherlands	EFHOH/IFHOH	Delegate	13
Sara	Kwekkeboom	The Netherlands	SH-Jong	Observer	
Elisa	Ostet	The Netherlands	SH-Jong	Delegate	14
Deren	Umit	Turkey	KID	Observer	
Cagri	Zoralioglu	Turkey	KID	Observer	
Batu	Yetisgin	Turkey	IED	Delegate	15
Alper	Coskun	Turkey	IED	Observer	
Ece	Saygi	Turkey	IFHOHYP Acting Board Member	The Board	
Daria	Panicheva	Russia	IFHOHYP Acting Secretary	The Board	
Anna Vita	Ross	Denmark	IFHOHYP Treasurer	The Board	
Karina	Chupina	Russia	IFHOHYP President	The Board	

7. Verifying the authority of the meeting

Article 11 in the constitution says *“If three General Members, the President and one other Board Member take part to the AGM and the majority of delegates are not members of the board, the AGM has quorum.”* These criteria were fulfilled and the meeting was verified.

8. Approval of the agenda of the meeting

The agenda of the meeting was approved by all delegates.

9. Approval of the minutes of the AGM 2013

The minutes of the AGM 2011 were approved by all delegates.

10. Presentation and Approval of the Annual Report 2013

The Annual Report was approved by all delegates.

11. Presentation and Approval of the Financial Report 2013

Daria Panicheva presented the Financial Report of 2013 that is prepared by Anna Vita. Daria and two external professionals checked every bank statement and everything is correct in the report. All delegates approved the Financial Report.

12. Presentation and Approval of the Auditor’s Report 2013

Daria Panicheva presented the Auditor’s Report of 2013. Participants asked about the recommendations in the report written by Jesse Okkarinen. Jesse recommends making the movement of money clear and readable from the minutes of the Board Meeting. Board meetings are usually made on Internet and face to face once a year to make less cash circulation. All delegates approved the Auditor’s Report.

13. Presentation and Approval of the Work Plan 2014

The work plan 2014 was first draft because it was not possible to arrange then in Denmark.

Meetings on representing IFHOHYP:

- European Platform of Deafness, Hard of Hearing and Deaf blindness meeting.
- Council of Europe Committee of Experts on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Annual Meeting; Council of Europe Seminar on barriers to Social Inclusion for disadvantaged young people
- EU Grants Info Day by the European Youth Forum
- IFHOH BGM and EFHOH AGM
- World Conference on Youth 2014
- IFHOHYP Representation at the UN CRPD and UNICEF Youth Council of the Global Partnership of Children with Disabilities
- IFHOHYP Study Session 2014 in cooperation with the CoE

Summer camp planned by Bundesjugend had to be cancelled because in the last moment sponsors declined in funding.

All delegates approved work Plan of 2014.

14. Presentation and Approval of the Budget 2014

Karina Chupina presented the budget that was prepared by Anna Vita. IFHOHYP could not get administrative grants. Because of two board members trying to apply for the grant could not continue their work due to their health reasons. Therefore, the rest board members could not have enough resource and time to apply for the administrative grant.

Motion of financial assistant to Treasurer is not accepted last year but due to overload work of Treasurer, a financial assistant is needed. New board can decide to have an intern position, they do not need a motion for that because the motion last year was made to be more formalised and clear to everyone.

The Budget 2014 was approved by all delegates.

15. Presentation and Approval of the Membership Fees

Daria Panicheva presented the membership fees. Membership fees are determined depending on income of each country according to World Bank Data. Serbian organisation (CRID), Ugandan federation (UFHOH) and two organisations of Burkina Faso (ASF and ASSB) did not pay their membership fees for several years so their membership was dissolved.

Membership fees were approved by all delegates.

16. Election of the Officers of the Board

a. President

Nominations: Sidsel Munkebo Hansen (Denmark)

Elected: Sidsel Munkebo Hansen (by 15 out of 15)

b. Vice - President

Nominations: Alper Coşkun (Turkey)

Elected: Alper Coşkun (by 15 out of 15)

c. Secretary

Nominations: Ece Saygı (Turkey)

Elected: Ece Saygı (by 15 out of 15)

d. Treasurer

Nominations: Daria Panicheva (Russia)

Elected: Daria Panicheva (by 15 out of 15)

e. Board Member

Nominations: Bowen Tang (Canada) and Giacomo Pirelli (Italy)

Elected: Bowen Tang (by 14 out of 15)

17. Election of the Auditor

Nomination: Viktor Rehn (Finland)

Elected: Viktor Rehn (by 15 out of 15)

18. Election of the Committees and Committee members until the AGM 2015

- Committees themselves decides how they will run the committee as well to organise the work; they can invite more people also after the AGM
- New people willing to work in any committee can apply at the Board email: info@IFHOHYP.org
- Committees work in close partnership with the Board and according to strategy of the Board; a new strategy from 2015 to 2019 has to be made by the Board
- Committees then collected research, data, feedback, to the Board and the Board takes the final decision

Ece Saygı presented the committees:

a. Communication and Information Committee

- Irina Ivanova and Ece Saygı (Editors of IFHOHYP newsletter), Natalia Kondrateva (designer of the IFHOHYP newsletter) and James Ferguson (proofreader of articles for IFHOHYP newsletter).
- Needed: one more proof reader and IFHOHYP website updater

b. Accessibility Committee

- Subtitles, co-operation with CCAC, EFHOH and IFHOH, raising awareness to hard of hearing needs
- Giacomo Pirelli

c. Nomination Committee

- To find suitable candidates for a new position: Vice-President, President, secretary, treasurer, a board Member; next task will be for 2015 as some of the Board members are elected for one year
- Paulina Ledowanska

d. Expansion Committee

- To find new members for IFHOHYP. Their task: e.g. to translate some IFHOHYP documents to spread IFHOHYP targets and ideas to other organisations in the world
- Alper Coşkun

e. Summercamp Guidelines Committee

- The meaning of this committee was to write a guideline how to organise a summer camp from previous organizers to the new ones, which still wasn't done.
- It is closed because it was founded many years ago for older reasons but it doesn't make sense anymore.

f. Study session Committee

- Camilla Mattjus, Pavel Novikov, Sasha Lemesova, Mona Belhouane, Cristina Dimitru

New committees were approved by majority of the delegates:

g. Fundraising Committee

- Proposed by Sidsel
- Aim to focus on fundraising and sponsorships
- Irina Ivanova and other members will come later - also with the support by the Board
- Marcel adds his suggestion to apply for the European commission grant, the deadline is 17th of December

h. Strategy Planning Committee

- Was closed two years ago. Pavel Novikov suggested to open it again
- Pavel Novikov, Aleksandra Lemesova
- Sidsel shares her idea to make a small conference before the AGM next year, on the base of workshops - to create new strategy plan face-to-face
- Karina Chupina suggests to have this conference on-line or to collect feedback on a new strategy plan proposal electronically to save money and also suggests Pavel's and Sasha's first task could be to help arranging member organisation workshops

- Purposal by Glenn to give the Board mandate on the next AGM to establish the committee according to needs for IFHOHYP; Sidsel welcomes this idea because talking about each committee is a waste of time at the AGM. There would be a presentation of the committees at the AGM and the AGM could move on quicker for this point.

19. Motions

a. Proposal for Board member definition in the Constitution (by Daria Panicheva, Acting Secretary)

- Was proposed at AGM 2013,
- Motion is to include the definition of the board member position in the constitution in the part e) of Article 10.
- Decision of having the 5th board member was taken by the AGM in 2009, fulfilled, however still not reflected in the constitution together with description of other board officers' attributes and duties.
- Proposal in the definition:

“Attributes and duties of the General Board Member:

- *Responsible for coordinating communication in the Board and the Committees, together with the Secretary*
- *Assisting the Secretary in his/her tasks*
- *Putting forward suggestions and implementing the ways to streamline the work and communication channels in the IFHOHYP Board and IFHOHYP in general*
- *Watching out for possible Motions and proposals to be submitted to the Board in advance before the AGM.”*

The proposal was approved by 14 delegates.

b. Proposal for Honorary President position (by IFHOHYP board)

- Proposal: The “Honorary President” should be the person who, by his/her long-term dedication, contribution and approach is acknowledged as an individual who could provide inspiration, guidance and support to IFHOHYP.
- Proposal namely for Karina Chupina, former President of IFHOHYP, to be given the title of the Honorary President for her long-term dedicated work and impact on IFHOHYP (IFHOHYP is nowadays internationally well known in the field of disability rights movements by lobbying for accessibility, access to communication and information, education and employment, social inclusion, youth policy and training; co-operates with international institutions. The title should serve as recognition of her value to IFHOHYP.
- Wide discussion why this title as IFHOHYP Constitutions has a title of Honorary member already, what this title would mean for IFHOHYP (not able to follow her goals without her?) etc. having strong advote in international levels as Karina is well known now.
- Not enough time to discuss this proposal and it's right definition and meaning

The proposal was not approved (disclaimed by 8 votes, 6 agreeing votes and one absent vote).

- Sidsel Munkebo Hasen, new president of IFHOHYP shared her intention: After having such wide discussion on issues of having Honorary Member and Honorary President

titles she wants to look deeper into it and put a new motion for the next AGM in order to try to take everything what has been said into consideration (including some wishes Karina Chupina to be made honorary president and being thus kept in the organization) in the best way according to constitution. She will make sure that the board will look into this.

c. Proposal for Honorary President election

As the secondment of the previous motion to appoint Karina Chupina an Honorary President of IFHOHYP which was not approved, this issue was not relevant and thus put aside.

d. Motion deadline - Unga Hörselskadade (by Unga Hörselskadade, the Swedish organisation for the young hard of hearing)

- Proposal to amend Article 11 of the IFHOHYP Constitution to include definition: *“All relevant documents associated with the upcoming Annual General Meeting are to be published or sent to the relevant parties one month before the Annual General Meeting.”*
- Reflects late delivery of proposals and motions to AGM preparation team for AGM 2012 in Stockholm (some of them were delivered night before AGM) although the AGM working format says that the motions should be sent to board 8 weeks before the AGM, and all documents in the final package for AGM (the Annual Report, financial report, motions...) should be sent four weeks before the AGM
- Goal: this situation not to be repeated in the future AGMs and thus by delivering all materials on time the AGM to be more accessible to the members
- Discussed if the working format can be changed outside the AGM also by the board
- Discovered that IFHOHYP Constitution says:
 - in the article 8: “... The meeting has to be convened as defined in the AGM Working Format.”
 - in the article 21: “Amendments of the present Articles or the Convention of Adhesion are decided upon by the AGM with a 2/3 (two thirds) majority. Proposals of amendments must be sent to the President of IFHOHYP at least 8 weeks before the AGM.”
 - in the article 20 on working format of AGM says: !AGM, The Board and the Auditor has their own Working Formats. ... Only AGM can modify the Working Formats and approve new ones.”

According to the findings, Nimrod Persson on behalf of Unga Hörselskadade, the organization proposing this issue, formally withdraw the motion.

20. Presentation of IFHOH, EFHOH, EDF and signing co-operation papers with these organization by new elected president of IFHOHYP

- This issue was done before the point 19 of AGM as Marcel Bobeldijk asked for earlier floor due to his earlier departure from AGM.

Marcel Bobeldijk, president of EFHOH and member of IFHOH’s as well as EDF’s board, presented all organizations: details on http://www.efhoh.org/#!about_us/c13u4 ,

<http://www.ifhoh.org/facts-about-ifhoh/> and <http://www.edf-feph.org/> . (Common goals: equality in the society for HOH people) and pointed out that IFHOHYP members are future to all of them. All of them have Facebook; they produce newsletters etc.

EFHOH and IFHOH:

- Represent at European level 51 million HOH people in the EU, world-wide more than 360 million HOH people, the biggest disability group
- Campaign for equal rights for people with hearing loss at European and international level
- Members: national organisations/associations for HOH people, including people with tinnitus, hyperacusis, Meniere's and late deafness people. .

EFHOH:

Aims of EFHOH for 2015:

- Full access to information (related to the UNCRPD article 21 and 9 and to the European disability strategy 2010 - 2020) - access to all meetings like at this AGM (palantypist, induct loop, sign interpreting), number 112 or subtitling on television,
- 11 - 12 April 2015: AGM in Essen, Germany
- Organize a hearing awareness workshop in Greece in Athens - to find new member organisation that will help people in Greece to build up an association/organisation for HOH
- Participation in different EU conferences about education for all (should be interesting for IFHOHYP)
- Conference about ICT
- Autumn: conference about tourism for all, Luxemburg
- Many conferences/seminars about the implementation of the UNCRPD

EDF:

- More the partner to the European Commission, and the EP
- Represented 50% by the national disability councils, and 50% of the board members from the European disabilities NGOs,
- Youth member committee (Sidsel is a member), committee for implementation of the UNCRPD, woman committee
- *Last year we had a top campaign the European elections, freedom of movement, implementation of the convention.*

Program for 2015:

- Election for the European Parliament: totally new EP, new European Commission (a kind of Government for the EU) - priorities for the next 5 years: jobs opportunities → EDF: non discrimination directive, alternative report to EU report on UNCRPD which is going to come together with a report about Europe in 2020 (related to the European disability strategy)
- Continues on co-operation with Adam Kosa, Hungary, 1st deaf/ HOH EP member (EDF organised with him an awareness conference in 2012 and the impact report for EU),

- 4th of March 2015: EDF organises the follow up meeting with the hearing awareness day conference (connected to the international ear care day, 3rd March) - focus to prevention,
- A conference promoting early screening,
- Quality of professional hearing care (fitting of hearing-aids and implementation of the European standard of hearing-aid professionals)
- Campaign for access to work at EP

IFHOH:

- Members: EFHOH, platform of all the organisations of deaf people, elders and young people, cochlear implant users, deafblind people (2 deafblind organisations in Europe)
- very active at United Nations level and in the international disability alliance
- IFHOH received a very big grant from Oticon: 100,000 USD (more than 100,000 Euros) - to build up on projects, UNCRPD implementation training

2016 aims: 23 - 26 June, Washington DC: international world congress for HOHP; the conference hall will be very close to Whitehouse.

Co-operation with IFHOHYP can be as bellow:

- Sidsel as IFHOHYP president (but also member of the EDF Youth Committee) is invited to the Board meetings of EFHOH - good exchange of information.
- 2015 is very special year: it's 1st year of EP, E. Commission, year when EU is coming with the report on UNCRPD – it's important IFHOHYP with other international organizations for HOH people to be at the meetings and other events to promote it's interests, e.g. UNCRPD which is very difficult to find concrete issues related to HOH people, e.g. UNCRPD definition on accessibility misses accessibility for HOH
- Common hearing awareness at European level: access to health services and hearing aids (which is important for education, without education no work)
- Karina reminded memorandum of understanding between IFHOH and IFHOHYP from 2012: joint board meeting every year – better information sharing and support of each other.

Marcel mentioned that IFHOHYP is one of the oldest disability organisations, founded in 1968, and underlined Karina Chupina's effort for last 20 years being the president of IFHOHYP: she helped to increase the meaning and voice of IFHOHYP so that it is well known international NGO in disability world. Marcel expressed her big thank you for it all on behalf of IFHOH, EFHOH and EDF.

After this Marcel asked new president of IFHOHYP, Sidsel Munkebo Hansen, to sign the co-operation agreement of the European Platform on Deafness, Hard of Hearing and Deafblindness, which was done.

21. Action Plan 2015-2016

a. Annual General Meetings

- Karina Chupina put the proposal next AGM to change the article about frequency of AGM to BGM (bi-annual meeting, every two years) after the study session due to fundraising problems when having general meeting every year GM

2015 - Jenna Juntilla from Finish Federation of HOH suggested possibility to organize it in conjunction of 5th anniversary of Finnish SIO celebration

- Also SH – Jong, Netherlands, may be organize it

2016 – Marcel Bobeldijk suggested possibility to have AGM in the USA in conjunction with the IFHOH Congress

b. Summer Camps

2015 – Sidsel suggest to leave it to for 2016 for demanding financial funding as well as many work for new board

2016 - Marcel Bobeldijk suggested possibility to have Summer Camp in the USA in conjunction with the IFHOH Congress, after AGM.

- Aleksandra Lemesova, Russia, comes with a proposal to have next Study Session in the mountains in Russia
- Glenn, Norway reminds thoughts of the Norwegian association for the HOH (hosted AGM in 2012) - will know after general meeting of his organization in March 2015
- Sidsel suggested another possible event which she would set apart as a new event, not as summer camp: in conjunction with a programme called “Front runners” runned by a Danish association, not the Danish Association of Hard of hearing. It’s non-formal international education. They contacted Sidsel if they could make some co-operation with IFHOHYP. It may be an experience, maybe to have a shorter education on international level for leadership for young HOH
- Alper Coskun, Turkey, will try to make some campaign in 2016

c. Study Sessions in Cooperation with the Council of Europe

2015 – The study session committee with two new members (Aleksandra Lemesova and Pavel Novikov, Russia) will, together with the Board, decide when will they write the application for the next study session; if for 2016, they have to apply before first April 2015, or before first October 2015 (two deadlines only). More information can provide Karina Chupina, IFHOHYP or the Board.

26. Any Other Business

No need anything else to be discuss.

27. Closing the Annual General Meeting

Karina Chupina closed the AGM with thanks to the Study Session organizing team, to all at the AGM for their active participation, the Chairman, assistants Ece Saygi and Daria Panicheva, both secretaries of the minutes, vote counters and inspectors, to heroically working palantypists Norma and Julia.

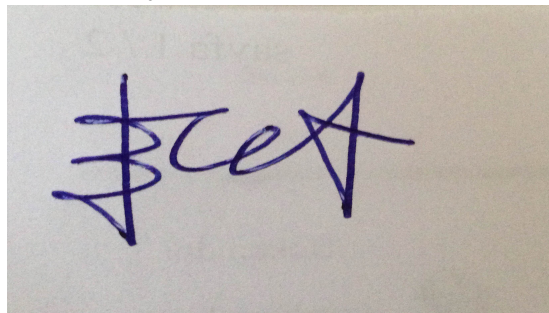
Chairman of the AGM

Alper Coşkun
IED, Turkey



Secretaries of the AGM

Ece Saygı
IED, Turkey



Marta Hoferova
Česká Unie Neslyšících, Czech Republic



Inspectors of the minutes & vote counters of the AGM

Elisa Ostet
SH-Jong, The Netherlands



Heiko Burak
Bundesjugend, Germany

H. Buran