

FIATA

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GENERAL MEETING

Doc. 70/98
2004-10-20

E only

To : National Associations of FIATA

cc : Members of the Extended Board
Honorary Members of the Board
Honorary Members of FIATA
Delegates to the General Meeting
Auditors

From : Marco A Sangaletti, Secretary to the General Meeting,
on behalf of the President, Mr Issa Baluch

Re : **Ordinary Meeting of the General Meeting**
23 October 2004, Sun City Convention Centre, Sun City/South Africa

Minutes

According to Article 5.2.2 of the FIATA Statutes (Doc. 10/103) the meeting was convened by registered mail with Doc. 70/95 (2004-08-06). The Agenda had been circulated with the call of meeting.

1. Opening of the Ordinary Meeting of the General Meeting and Welcome by the President

The President, Mr Issa Baluch, opened the meeting at 15.00 hours in the "Royal Ballroom" at the Sun City International Convention Centre in Sun City/South Africa and welcomed all those present.

He first had to inform the delegates that the Secretary General Martin Oeschger (Switzerland), the Treasurer Sarosh Nagarvala (India), Senior Vice President William Gottlieb (Canada), and Vice President Freddy Sandahl (Sweden) had apologized for not being able to attend the meeting.

The delegates were informed that at this meeting Immediate Past President Aldo Da Ros will take over the tasks of the Treasurer, and Director General Marco Sangaletti the ones of the Secretary General.

2. List of Delegates (Doc. 70/96) entitled to vote according to Article 5.2.7 of the Statutes

The credentials of delegates in attendance at the meeting had been reviewed, and found to be in order. Delegates holding a total of 118 voting rights were present or represented by proxies. The list with the national association members present is shown as Annex A.

3. Adoption of agenda (Doc. 70/95)

The invitation to this General Meeting was sent together with the agenda on 20th August 2003, i.e. the demand of the statutes was fulfilled that speaks of at least six weeks prior to the meeting. No motions had been received by the Secretariat so the agenda was adopted as circulated.

4. Approval of the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the General Meeting (Doc. 70/94) held in Bali/Indonesia on 03.10.2003

These minutes have unanimously been approved as written.

5. Approval of the Annual Report 2003/2004 on the activities of FIATA (Doc. 30/252) according to Article 5.2.1 of the Statutes

The annual report 2003/2004 - distributed together with the call of meeting - was unanimously approved. The approved report will soon be distributed to all members by the FDDS (FIATA Document Delivery System).

6. Financial Matters

6.1 Approval of the financial statements 2003 (Doc. 85/03B and 85/03C) acc. to Article 5.2.1 of the Statutes

Immediate Past President Aldo Da Ros presented the profit and loss account as well as the balance sheet for the fiscal year 2003. Both documents have been distributed with the agenda. The fiscal year 2003 closed with a surplus of CHF 11'322.11 compared to a budgeted loss of CHF 69'000.00. The reason for the surplus is mainly due to increased revenues from Individual Members. The balance sheet has shown that FIATA is in a sound financial situation. With no questions asked, the financial statements were unanimously approved by a show of hands.

6.2 Auditor's report on the annual accounts 2003 acc. to Article 5.2.1 of the Statutes

The original document of the Auditors written in German has been circulated with an English translation. There was no request to read out the report, and there were no questions or comments from the floor.

6.3 Fixing member's annual subscriptions for 2005 acc. to Article 4.7.2 of the Statutes

Mr Aldo Da Ros could inform the delegates that the Presidency proposed to keep the subscriptions for the year 2004 on the same level as today. The delegates approved this decision unanimously by a show of hands.

6.4 Approval of the budget 2005 (Doc. 85/05A) acc. to Article 5.2.1 of the Statutes

The budget for the financial year 2005 - showing a deficit of CHF 46'500.00 - has also been distributed together with the agenda. Mr Aldo Da Ros has given some explanations on the main items. There were no questions or comments from the floor, and the budget 2005 was unanimously approved by the delegates by a show of hands.

7. Release Extended Board and Secretariat members from liability for any consequences of acts and omissions during the past financial year

The Director General informed that according to Swiss law the members of the Extended Board and the Secretariat have to ask for release for any consequences of acts and omissions during the past financial year. Of course the release does not include any liabilities that arose from deliberate actions or from wilful misconduct. The General Meeting unanimously discharged the Extended Board and the Secretariat from their responsibility for the conduct of business during 2003.

8. Confirmation of the new chairman of the Advisory Body Legal Matters

As Mr Peter Jones (Canada) has resigned as Chairman of the ABLM, the Presidency has nominated Miss Kay Pysden (United Kingdom) as the new Chairperson of the ABLM for the remaining term of offices until September 2005. The delegates unanimously confirmed Miss Kay Pysden.

9. Information on the FIATA Foundation Vocational Training

Mr Alberto Petrozzi (Italy) has given a brief report on the activities of the FIATA Foundation Vocational Training, especially about the very successful train-the-trainer course held in Nairobi/Kenya in July 2004.

10. Admittance of new National Association Members acc. to Article 4.2.1 of the Statutes

The Director General has informed that the following four applications for National Association membership have been received by the Secretariat:

- 1) Taiwan International Logistics Association, Chinese Taipei
- 2) Kyrgyz Republic Freight Forwarders Association
- 3) Uganda Freight Forwarders Association
- 4) Association of Freight Forwarders of Macedonia

Mr M Sangaletti has confirmed that all four associations have submitted a complete set of the required documents (such as statutes, names of the executive committee, member list, letter of support from a present member, etc) and have paid the entrance fee. The Presidency has therefore decided to propose to the General Meeting to admit all four associations as new members.

There have been no questions from the floor, and each application has unanimously been approved by the delegates in separate votings.

A representative from the Uganda Freight Forwarders Associations took the floor and thanked President Issa Baluch and the delegates for the approval of their application.

11. Exclusion of National Association Members acc. to Article 4.2.1 of the Statutes

The Director General had to inform the delegates that the Presidency has been forced by our statutes to propose to the General Meeting to exclude some National Association members because of not fulfilling their financial obligations for three years or more.

Mr M Sangaletti mentioned that in accordance with our statutes all of these members have been informed in writing about a possible exclusion. They have also been advised that they have the right to oppose the exclusion by explaining their position to the Presidency. However only one of these members has made use of this possibility.

The Presidency was proposing to the General Meeting to exclude the following three National Association members:

- Association of Freight Forwarders of Azerbaijan, Azerbaijan
- Asociacion Peruana de Agentes de Carga Internacional, Peru
- Uganda Clearing & Forwarding Agents Association, Uganda

There have been no comments from the floor.

The delegates agreed to take the decision for all three members in globo. The vote resulted in an unanimously decision to exclude all three members.

The Director General stated that FIATA will try to stay in contact with these associations and to do its utmost to bring them back into the federation once the financial situation allows them do to so.

12. Any other business

President Issa Baluch was happy to report that after some months of dialogue the Extended Board today finally approved the slogan of FIATA, which reads "The global voice of freight logistics".

At the same meeting the members of the Extended Board have decided to review the setting of our future congresses with the aim to add value to the participants. It has been decided that in future the Secretariat will take more control in organization of the congresses.

The President then proposed to the General Meeting to award "Honorary Membership of FIATA" to Mr Peter Jones (Canada), the outgoing Chairman of the ABLM, in recognition of his long-standing support of FIATA. The delegates approved it with a big applause.

President Issa Baluch had to announce with regret the departure of the Deputy Director of the FIATA Secretariat and Manager of the MTI, Mr Kersten Ohl who decided to take an early retirement at the end of 2004. The delegates showed their appreciation to Mr Kersten Ohl with a big applause. Mr Issa Baluch then introduced Mr Kersten Ohl's successor, Mr René Zimmermann. He was welcomed with a big applause by the delegates.

It has also been announced that the Presidency has unanimously decided to nominate Senior Vice President Manfred Boes (Germany) as its official candidate for the next FIATA President (to be elected at the Moscow congress in September 2005). Mr Manfred Boes thanked his colleagues in the Presidency to put their trust in him. He also stated that he will do his utmost to serve FIATA at his best.

Mr Marco Sangaletti briefed the delegates that as from 2005 there will be no more hardcopy of the annual members' directory. It has been decided to put the list of our Individual members in the Internet. That will lead to an added value for our members as the Internet member list will be open for everyone, and in addition any changes (such as addresses, e-mails or phone numbers, etc) can immediately be carried out. A side effect will be that FIATA can save the money for the postage of the directory.

The Extended Board has selected Dubai/United Arab Emirates as the venue of the FIATA World Congress 2007.

President Issa Baluch then urged the delegates to keep the dialogue open, and to let FIATA know how they feel about the congresses, the meetings and the organization. It is the members FIATA has to serve and to provide the benefits of added value.

Finally he expressed his thanks to the delegates for their participation at this meeting, the interpreters for their efficient work, and declared the meeting closed at 16.10 hours.

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