

Vienna, 12 May 2016

**To all our members and
interested European organisations**

Minutes

11th Assembly of Delegates

Date 12 May 2016

Time 16:00 – 18:00

Location KOLPING WIEN ZENTRAL
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Chairman Gunilla Åhrén

Nations 4 votes (one member per country)
Austria, Croatia, Lithuania, Netherlands, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, Portugal,
Turkey, Romania

2 x 2 votes (two members per country, two present)
Czech republic, Finland

1 x 2 votes (two members per country, one present)
Spain (one org present)

14 Nations

Candidates Cyprus

Guests Slovakia

At the beginning of the assembly, the delegates were informed about the voting rights. The nations with one organisation have 4 votes the nations with two organisations have 2 votes per organisation.

1	<p>Approval of the minutes of the 10th Assembly of Delegates Gunilla reads all the items and asks if there are any corrections that have to be made.</p> <p>Item 9 Winnifred de Moes asks to correct this point: Winnifred was not nominated anymore by the Dutch organisation Dwarslaesie.</p> <p>The minutes of the tenth Assembly of Delegates of ESCIF from 22 May 2015 are approved by the delegates with that correction.</p>
2	<p>Approval of the President's Report The President's Report was sent to member organisations and delegates before the congress. Vice-President Gunilla Åhrén, Tomas Moravik and Nuutti Hiltunen talk about a few points of last year's activities. This report covers the period from the last ESCIF Congress and Assembly of Delegates of May 2015 to the present and outlines what has been done and achieved since the last meeting of ESCIF delegates. It was a year with quite a lot of activities.</p> <p>The annual report is approved by the delegates.</p>
3	<p>Presentation of the accounts Jani Trdina presents the Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss account. The accounts have been sent to all members. The profit of the year is Euro 1445.72. Jani proposes that the balance will be carried forward to the 2016 account. Croatia ask why there are no interest on our bank account. Urs explains that it is difficult to get interest, for the moment, the banks in Switzerland charge even minus interest.</p> <p>The accounts are unanimously approved and the profit will be carried forward to the 2016 accounts.</p>
4	<p>Presentation of the auditor's report The Report of the statutory auditors to the Assembly of Delegates on the 2015 financial statement is presented by Jani Trdina. Croatia inquires since when ESCIF works with this Auditor. Daniel Joggi explains that Switzerland made a subscription and PWC was elected again for the Foundation since they were the best, but the team at PWC has changed. ESCIF had the same Auditor as the foundation up to now, the collaboration was always very good.</p>
5	<p>Approval of the accounts and discharge of the Executive The Auditors recommend approval of the report. The Assembly approves it unanimously.</p>
6	<p>Decision on membership fees Gunilla explains why we would like to raise the membership fee. We will probably suffer a loss this year regardless the proposed raise in the fee. We cancelled some items of expenditure to minimize it, we have to concentrate on the basics. The question is raised if all members should pay the same annual fee. Slovenia does not want to raise the fee. Frans thinks that the raise is so small that it won't make a big difference and that we don't want to lose members because of the higher membership fee. Frans makes a point that now the organisations are cautioned that a raise is necessary in the near future. Daniel Joggi recommends to leave the membership fee and go ahead with the strategy group and the projects with the risk of having less money in our accounts at the end of this year. Croatia proposes to get EU funds. ESCIF has already sent in projects and tried to get money, but it's very complicated for a pan-European organisation which is why the ESCIF members need to apply and have ESCIF as partners.</p> <p>The annual membership fee remains at Euro 350; 42 votes for, 4 against.</p>
7	<p>Approval of budget 2017 Jani presents the budget 2016. As it is difficult to find sponsors we established the budget with a minimum of sponsoring. Of course we hope to get more. However the budget shows a loss of EURO 2600.</p> <p>The budget is approved.</p>
8	<p>Election of auditor The Executive committee recommends Price Waterhouse Coopers (PWC) as auditors.</p> <p>PWC is unanimously elected.</p>

9	<p>Elections of 1 member of the Executive Committee Presentation of the only candidate.</p> <p>Name Janez Trdina Organisation Zveza - Paraplegics Association of Slovenia Country Slovenia</p> <p>Janez Trdina is elected for another four years.</p>
10	<p>Presentation and admission of new members Cyprus</p> <p>Dimitris Lambrianides, president of the Cyprus Paraplegics Organisation (founded 1980) informs about the organisation and their tasks.</p> <p>Cyprus has about 800'000 habitants and from 12 – 15 new injured every year. 1978 6 paraplegics decide to form an association to represent persons with SCI. 1980 the organization was officially registered as the Cyprus Paraplegics Organization. Only persons with SCI can be members and their constitution demands to keep a safe distance from politics. Today they have 170 paras and 75 tetras</p> <p>The first rehabilitation centre was built in the 1980s with money from Cypriots living in the UK. Operation was undertaken by the state. Through strong lobbying they have earned benefits and a strong voice for their rights. Their priorities are a respectful life with accessibility participation and access to the opportunities in all aspects of life together with high quality health services. They employ specialists to support their members with a social worker and psychologist as well as transport service with adapted cars. They invest a lot in sports both for exercise but also for participation and mainly for inclusion. Participation in EU funded programs. They have signed a protocol of cooperation with the University of Cyprus regarding research studies and actions regarding disability.</p>
11	<p>Any other business</p> <p>26 Countries are ESCIF members 30 Organisations are ESCIF members (4 countries with 2 organisations)</p> <p>Portugal The Portuguese participant will go back to Portugal with the motivation of being more active in ESCIF in the future.</p> <p>Fundraising Turkey suggests that we organise a Marathon in their country and let ourselves be sponsored to generate more money. Cyprus suggests that we conclude a contract with big firms like Coloplast and get more money that way, for instance EURO 50'000.-. That way there would be no more annual fees to be paid by the members. Gunilla explains that we always have to considering the situation of not competing with the national organisations. We have had and still has support from some companies to finance the projects. If someone would like to support the executive in fundraising, we'd accept it gladly.</p> <p>Albania Albania has big problems. Sokol would like to stay active and fight for their rights in Albania. He's supported by the government and would like to found an association.</p> <p>Slovenia agrees with Croatia that we have to discuss the congress fees and how it should be split between ESCIF and the congress organisers. Gunilla explained that one third of ESCIF's budget consists of the income from the delegate's congress fees. A change in that system would have serious consequences for the possibilities for ESCIF to perform their tasks. If the congress fee are temporarily raised as they were this year, the executive committee should inform the members. Gunilla claimed that the fee is fully displayed on the website</p> <p>Not to forget Proposals should be sent it with the exact idea what has to be changed as written in the statutes. Next congresses 2017 Slovenia (Information and presentation by Janez Trdina) 2018 Croatia (Janko Ehrlich-Zvorak)</p>

Urs Styger
Secretary