

Piran, 11/05/2017

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

**Minutes**

**12<sup>th</sup> Assembly of Delegates**

**Date** 12 May 2017  
**Time** 16:00 – 18:00  
**Location** Dom paraplegikov  
Pacug 10  
6320 Portorož

**Chairman** Daniel Joggi, Patron member

**Nations** 4 votes (one member per country)  
Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Lithuania, Netherlands, Slovenia, Serbia, Sweden, Switzerland, UK, Turkey

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

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

16 Nations with 52 and 8 and 2 votes – Total 62 votes

**Candidates** Albania, 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.

No	Text
1	<b>Approval of the minutes of the eleventh Assembly of Delegates of ESCIF from 12 May 2016</b> The minutes of the eleventh Assembly of Delegates of ESCIF from 12 May 2016 in Vienna are approved.
2	<b>Approval of President's report</b> The President's Report was sent to the member organisations and delegates before the congress. Jane comments that the last year for herself was a difficult year and the executive committee had to do a lot of work without her. She thanks to the committee for the work.  There were two personal meetings one in Lobbach last year and one in Ljubljana this year. In Lobbach there was also strategy meeting with the executive committee in addition with Daniel Joggi, Frans Penninx, Fiona Bolger and the secretary Urs Styger. An external workshop leader led the meeting. We also started to be more active on Facebook and launched a new E- Newsletter. The delegates approve the president's report.

3	<p><b>Presentation of the accounts</b>  Jani Trdina, the treasurer of ESCIF presents the Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss account. The accounts have been sent to all members. The profit of the year is Euro 6'131.57. Jani proposes that the balance will be carried forward to the 2017 account. The balance amount forwarded is EURO 101'879.77</p> <p>The accounts are unanimously approved and the profit will be carried forward to the 2017 accounts.</p>
4	<p><b>Presentation of the auditor's report</b>  Jani Trdina presents the Report of the statutory auditors to the Assembly of Delegates on the 2017 financial statement.</p>
5	<p><b>Approval of the accounts and discharge of the Executive</b>  The Auditors recommend approval of the report. The Assembly approves it unanimously.</p>
6	<p><b>Decision on membership fees</b>  The annual membership fee remains at Euro 350.</p>
7	<p><b>Approval of the budget 2018</b>  Jani Trdina presents the budget 2018. 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 1600. The Assembly approves the budget unanimously.  One abstention of voting.</p>
8	<p><b>Election of the auditor (limited statutory examination)</b>  The Executive committee recommends Price Waterhouse Coopers (PWC) as auditors. Jani explains that the team within PWC changed and therefore we can select them again.  PWC is unanimously elected.</p>
9	<p><b>Approval and amendment of the statutes of the federation</b>  Last year there was a discussion about the art. 18, which is the reason why the ESCIF executive made this proposal.</p> <p><b>Actual Art. 18 Elections</b>  Members of the Executive are elected by the Assembly of Delegates for a term of office of four years renewable.</p> <p><b>New Art. 18 Elections</b>  Members of the Executive are elected by the Assembly of Delegates for a term of office of four years renewable.  Only members of a national spinal cord injury consumer organisation that holds membership of ESCIF are eligible for election to the Executive. The candidature of the person in question must have the approval of the governing board of the national organisation of which they are a member.</p> <p>The Assembly approves it unanimously.</p>
10	<p><b>Presentation and admission</b>  <b>Slovakia</b> Paraplegické motivačné centrum is presented by Milan Kašiak.  <b>Albania</b> The Albanian Spinal Cord Injuries Association-(ALSCIA is presented by Sokol Murataj.</p>
11	<p><b>Any other business</b></p> <p><b>Future ACTIVITIES</b></p> <p><b>Follow – up from the “Strategy meeting”</b>  The main ideas that came forward during the meeting in October last year will be presented in more detail in a special session on Friday morning of the Congress. A major issue that was raised was the wish to improve communication within ESCIF: between the Executive and member organisations (and vice versa) and between the member organisations themselves. Further efforts will be put into improving the ESCIF website and Facebook page. Other areas that came forward were “Risk and trends for the future”, “ESCIF brand” and “Implementation”.</p>

**Ageing well project**

The Ageing Well Project is a collaboration project between some ESCIF member organisations. ESCIF has supported the project by allocating some funds and by having a representative in the working group. Very little progress has been made with this project since the project group's last meeting in Vienna. The major hurdles are, as always, funding and manpower. Plans are currently being discussed to open a special section on ageing with SCI on the ESCIF website. ESCIF is particularly grateful to Joy Sinclair who has offered to assist.

**Possible collaboration with Manfred Sauer Stiftung**

The spinal cord injury association in Germany, Fördergemeinschaft der Querschnittgelähmten has opened an office at the Manfred Sauer Stiftung in Lobbach and, thanks to support from MSS, has employed a Managing Director for a two-year period. When the ESCIF executive visited Lobbach in October informal discussions were initiated concerning a joint project between the German organisation and ESCIF on mentoring.

**ISCoS scientific meeting in Dublin**

The 56th Annual Scientific Meeting of ISCoS will be held in Dublin in October. ESCIF has submitted a workshop proposal together with Spinal Injuries Ireland and will be heading up a consumer meeting with participants from United States and Canada. It is planned that Jane Horsewell and Gunilla Åhrén attend the meeting.

**HeSCoS meeting**

ESCIF's Vice President, Gunilla Åhrén, has been invited to be a keynote speaker at the Greek Spinal Cord Society's meeting later this year in Thessaloniki. Gunilla has been asked to speak on the topic "The role of peer support in the rehabilitation process".

**NISCI**

Jane is participating as ethics advisor in the EU project Nogo Inhibition in Spinal Cord Injury (NISCI). The project is a multicentre collaboration headed by the University Hospital Balgrist, Zurich. The project website [www.nisci-2020.eu](http://www.nisci-2020.eu) gives further details of the project.

**New website**

Is there a possibility for section where users can ask for and exchange information and advice? The ESCIF Executive has discussed this but it is difficult to do this because we would need more resources.

28 Countries are ESCIF members

33 Organisations are ESCIF members (5 countries with 2 organisations)

Urs Styger  
Secretary