

# STROKE ALLIANCE FOR EUROPE (SAFE) General Assembly 2015

## Minutes

Friday 6 November 2015

Held in Warsaw, Poland

### AGENDA ITEMS and DECISIONS

#### 1. Welcome and Apologies

- The President Jon Barrick (JB) welcomed the delegates to the General Assembly.

The number of member organisations present was 17, sufficient to be quorate.

These were:

Schlaganfall-Hilfe Österreich	Austria
Fundacio Ictus	Catalonia
Croatian Stroke Association	Croatia
National Stroke ( Prevention and Rehabilitation) League	Hungary
Stiftung Deutsche Schlaganfall-Hilfe	Germany
Heilaheil	Iceland
Neeman Association for Stroke survivors	Israel
Associazione Lotta Ictus Cerebrale (ALICE)	Italy
Hersenletsel	Netherlands
Norsk forening for slagrammede	Norway
Stroke Foundation	Poland
Serbian Stroke Association	Serbia
Združenje bolnikov s cerebrovaskularno boleznijo	Slovenia
Federacion Espanola de Ictus	Spain
STROKE-Riksförbundet	Sweden
Stroke Association	UK
Different Strokes	UK
ARNI Trust	UK

Also present, without voting rights, Associate Members:

ParSirdi.lv	Latvia
Victory over the stroke	Ukraine

Apologies for non-attendance were received from:

Belgische Vereniging tegen cerebrovasculaire accidenten	Belgium
Sdružení pro rehabilitaci osob po cévní mozkové příhodě	Czech Republic
Heart Association	Bulgaria
Aivoliito	Finland

## **2. Chairman's Opening Remarks, approval of previous minutes and matters arising**

- The minutes were circulated to the SAFE membership prior to the GA. No queries arose from the minutes and they were approved for signature.

## **3. Election of vote counters**

- Monique Lindhout (Netherlands) and Gavin Lambert (UK) were proposed and approved as vote counters for the board elections

## **4. Nominations for elections**

- Kjetil Gaarder (KG) has resigned from the board for personal reasons.
- Antonia Nucera (AN) had completed one term on the board and was required to stand for re-election for a second term.
- There were therefore two board places available and three nominations were received. These were
  - Antonia Nucera (Italy)
  - Adam Siger (Poland)
  - Grethe Lund (Norway)
- A confidential vote took place and the votes counted by the elected vote counters. Adam Siger and Grethe Lund received the most votes and were therefore elected to the board.
- JB thanked KG and AN for their work on the SAFE board previously.
- Due to KG's resignation, the position of Vice President became available. JB asked for nominations, and Sandra Levy was the only board member proposed. This nomination was therefore carried.

As a result of the election, this is the new Board:

Jon Barrick	President
Sandra Levy	Vice President
Lineke Dijkstra	Secretary
Adam Siger	Member at Large
Grethe Lund	Member at Large
Aleksander Bazmarevic	Member at Large
Manuela Messmer-Wullen	Member at Large
Elisabeth Ortinez	Member at Large
Thorir Steingrimsson	Member at Large

During the GA, an email was received from Allan Hedlund (AH) resigning his position on the board for health reasons. The position of Treasurer therefore also became available. Due to the lateness of this notification it was decided that no immediate election could take place, and that this issue would be discussed at the next board meeting.

## 5. Membership Applications, Resignations and Terminations

- There were three applications for ordinary membership:
  - Cyprus Stroke Association
  - Association for a fight against stroke, STROKE Ohrid, Macedonia
  - Hellenic Alliance / Action for Stroke SSO, Greece
- There was one application for associate membership:
  - Heart For Arrhythmia Association (Stowarzyszenie “Serce dla arytmii”), Poland
- All 4 applications were approved and the organisations were welcomed to SAFE.

## 6. Constitutional Changes

- The board proposed the following amendments to the SAFE Constitution:

### TITLE IV: Management

**Art 20:** Add “Candidates for and members of the board must be resident for the majority of the year within a country covered by SAFE”

**Art 21:** With respect to the resignation of a board member during the term of office, that the article be extended to read:

“In the event of a Board member resigning his/her post during a term of office, another representative of an ordinary member may be co-opted by the Board to complete the remaining term of office of the member who resigned. *The organisation to which the board member belongs can nominate a replacement for the remaining term of office, and this nomination would need to be accepted by the board*”.

Both amendments were accepted by General Assembly.

## 7. Board Member Reports

- The following reports were circulated prior to the General Assembly and presented as follows:
  - SAFE Annual Report Lineke Dijkstra (LD)
  - SAFE Fundraising Report, Jim Swindells (JS)
  - SAFE’s membership of EFNA, Manuela Messmer-Wullen (MMW)
  - SAFE’s Member of the WSO, Sandra Levy (SL)
  - SAFE’s representation on the board of the ESO, Miquel Gallofre (MG)
- MG was asked about what was expected of patient guidelines for patient groups. MG will report back to the board on this.
- The board was asked what the benefits were of SAFE being a member of EFNA as the report only describes EFNA activities.

## 8. Treasurers Report

- Due to the Treasurer Allan Hedlund (AH) being unable to attend the GA, no Treasurers Report was presented.
- The board will arrange for the 2014 accounts to be finalised and details sent to the membership as soon as possible.

## 9. GA Ratification of Board Decisions and Proposals

- The GA had no questions on any board decisions made by the board during 2014, and all decisions were ratified.

**10. Date and venue of 2016 Working Conference and General Assembly**

- This was decided as being Amsterdam, the Netherlands on 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> November 2016.

**11.** There being no further business, the meeting was closed.

Signed and ratified by

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Lineke Dijkstra', written over a horizontal line.

Lineke Dijkstra  
(Secretary)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Jon Barrick', written over a horizontal line.

Jon Barrick  
(President)