

# STROKE ALLIANCE FOR EUROPE (SAFE) General Assembly 2015

## Minutes

Friday 9 December 2016

Held in Amsterdam, Netherlands

## 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 21 sufficient to be quorate.

These were:

Schlaganfall-Hilfe Österreich	Austria
Fundacio Ictus	Catalonia
Croatian Stroke Association	Croatia
Cyprus Stroke Association	Cyprus
Heilafelagið	Faroe Islands
Aivoliitto ry	Finland
Hellenic Action / Alliance for Stroke	Greece
Stiftung Deutsche Schlaganfall-Hilfe	Germany
Heilaheil	Iceland
Neeman Association for Stroke survivors	Israel
Associazione Lotta Ictus Cerebrale (ALICE)	Italy
Hersenletsel	Netherlands
Association for a fight against stroke, STROKE Ohrid	Macedonia
Norsk forening for slagrammede	Norway
Stroke Fundation	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

Also present, without voting rights, Associate Members:

Victory over the stroke Ukraine

Apologies for non-attendance were received from:

Belgische Vereniging tegen cerebrovasculaire accidenten	Belgium
National Stroke (Prevention and Rehabilitation) League	Hungary
Heart For Arrhythmia Association	
(Stowarzyszenie "Serce dla arytmii")	Poland

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

- The 2015 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**

- Sandra Jackson and Lucinda Shaw were proposed and approved as vote counters for the board elections

## **4. Nominations for elections**

- The board agreed during the year that specific roles should be drawn up for all board members. These were:
  - President
  - Vice President
  - Secretary
  - Treasurer
  - Country cluster representatives for
    - North
    - South
    - Central
    - East
    - West
- All board members had stepped down from the board and were eligible to apply for new positions.
- Unopposed nominations were:

○ President:	Jon Barrick	UK
○ Vice President:	Markus Wagner	Germany
○ Secretary	Elisabeth Ortinez	Catalonia
○ Treasurer	Grethe Lunde	Norway
○ North Cluster	Kolbrún Stefánsdóttir	Iceland
○ East Cluster	Ivan Milojević	Serbia
○ West Cluster	Monique Lindhout	Netherlands
- Two nominations were received for the Central and South Clusters. These were:
  - Adam Siger (Poland) and Anita Arsovska (Macedonia) – Central
  - Nicoletta Reale (Italy) and Pina Rosenzweig (Israel) - South
- A confidential vote took place and the votes counted by the elected vote counters. Pnina Rosenzweig received the most votes for the South cluster and was therefore elected to the board.

- An identical number of votes were received for the nominations for the Central sector. After a second round of voting, Anita Arsovska received the most votes and was therefore elected to the board.

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

Jon Barrick	President
Markus Wagner	Vice President
Elisabeth Ortinez	Secretary
Grethe Lunde	Treasurer
Kolbrún Stefánsdóttir	North Cluster
Ivan Milojević	East Cluster
Monique Lindhout	West Cluster
Pnina Rosenzweig	South Cluster
Anita Arsovska	Central Cluster

- The President gave many thanks to leaving board members and presented an idea of ambassadors or champions from previous board members to continue representing SAFE in various ways. Further discussions on this will take place on the board.

## **5. Membership Applications, Resignations and Terminations**

- There were three applications for ordinary membership:
    - Portugal AVC
    - BLETZ (Luxembourg Association of concerned of a cerebral lesion)
    - Medical Foundation “Mkurnali” (Georgia)The statutes of all three organisations were available to view on the SAFE website prior to the GA
  - France AVC had applied to re-join SAFE
- All 4 applications were approved and the organisations were welcomed to SAFE.
- ARNI (UK) resigned from SAFE during 2016.
  - The Secretariat reported that contact had not been available with Sdružení pro rehabilitaci osob po cévní mozkové příhodě (Czech Republic) and Heart Association (Bulgaria) and membership fees had not been paid for 2 years. The GA therefore agreed that both memberships should be terminated.

## **6. Constitutional Changes**

- The board agreed the closing of the SAFE AISBL organisation as at 31/1/2016, and agreed for the new organisation SAFE ASBL to begin trading on 01/01/2017.
- The SAFE President Jon Barrick was appointed as the liquidator of SAFE AISBL.

## **7. SAFE Annual Report**

- The SAFE Annual Report was presented to the General Assembly, along with the draft SAFE Strategy 2017 to 2021 and the SAFE Partnership Framework with ESO and the Industry Partners Group
  - Both the Strategy and the Framework Agreement were passed by the GA.
  - The President Jon Barrick gave details to the GA of the SAFE / ESO joint meeting with EU commission:
    - a first draft of a stroke action plan in Europe
    - update of Helsingborg declaration – Bo Norrvig to lead.
  - Jon also gave details of discussions with commercial organisations to fund research on the economics of stroke care across Europe, to be launched in 2019
  - Jon further gave details of a Memorandum of Understanding between SAFE and the ESO on joint working.
- The 2015 accounts were presented and passed.
  - The President shared with the GA the current cashflow position

## **8. Regional Conferences 2017**

- The GA was advised that we would again receive sponsorship from Boehringer Ingellheim to hold conferences during 2017. Countries recommended and approved by the GA for the conferences were:
  - Germany (Berlin)
  - Portugal (Lisbon)
  - Latvia (Riga)

## **9. GA Ratification of Board Decisions and Proposals**


- The GA had no questions on any board decisions made by the board during 2016, and all decisions were ratified.

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

- This was decided as being Zagreb, Croatia on 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> December 2017.

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

Signed and ratified by



Elisabeth Ortinez  
(Secretary)



Jon Barrick  
(President)