

1. MINUTES OF THE EXTRA ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING HELD ON SUNDAY 23 MAY, AT 1.30PM AT THE TAIPEI COUNTY HALL, TAIPEI, DURING THE 7TH INTERNATIONAL PWS ORGANISATION' CONFERENCE.

2. PRESENT:

Chair: Shuan-Pei Lin (Taiwan- voting rights)
 Secretary: Linda Thornton (NZ)
 Vice Secretary: Jackie Waters (UK)
 Treasurer: Jan Haanaes (Norway – voting rights)
 Board members: Janalee Heinemann (USA)
 Tiina Silvast (Finland – voting rights)
 Dorica Dan (Romania – voting rights)
 Legal adviser: David Gordon (USA)
 Auditor: Beppe Quaglia (Italy)
 Chief Executive:
 Giorgio Fornasier (Italy)

Parent and Scientific Delegates, and other attendees:

Australia, Georgina Loughnan, Australia, Barry Greensmith Australia, Elly Scheermeyer Australia, Janene Lowe, Austria (proxy: Giorgio Fornasier) Denmark, Susanne Blichfeldt Denmark , Djaniy Gade, France, Maithe Tauber Germany, Monika Fuhrmann Greece, Vicky Biliou Israel, Larry Genstil, Italy, Giorgio Fornasier Japan, Daisuke Kawaimura Japan, Eiko Shoji	Japan, Kazue Matsumoto Japan, Tomoko Hasegawa Netherlands, Gerard Meywaard Netherlands, Leopold Curfs New Zealand, Melanie Sweet New Zealand, Cindy Adams-Vining New Zealand, Karen O'Reilly New Zealand, Emma McConnachy South Africa, Rika du Plooy Spain, Pedro Alvarez, Sweden, Charlotte Hoybye Taiwan, Shuan-Pei Lin UK, Tony Holland USA, Dan Driscoll USA, Joan Gardner
---	---

3. **Quorum:** Before the meeting was declared open, the auditor reported a correct quorum with 19 countries represented.
4. **Welcome:** The Chairman welcomed all country delegates and other attendees and declared the Extra Ordinary General Meeting open. He stated that the meeting had no agenda other than to discuss the proposed Amendments to the Constitution that were sent to all delegates two months before the meeting.
5. **Apologies:** Received from Jean Phillips Martinsson (UK), Martin Ritzen (Sweden), Engelena Honey (SA)
6. **Amendments:** The legal adviser, David Gordon, read through the proposed amendments which had been posted on the internet , answering any questions and describing why the board had requested the changes.

- a. The Board disagreed with the Further Amendment (also posted on the internet) proposed by the Swedish delegation and proposed the following:
 - i. "IPWSO was founded on 5 May 1991 at the First International IPWSO Conference held in The Netherlands and was registered as a charity in Sweden. The Board of IPWSO decides from time to time if and where IPWSO will be registered."
 - b. Re Article 12.1
 - c. The Board disagreed with the amendment proposed by the Swedish Delegation and has discussed this with Charlotte Hoybye, representing Sweden at the conference. Sweden accepted that the amendment be omitted.
7. **Proposal by the Chairman on behalf of IPWSO Board: THAT the IPWSO delegates accept the changes, with minor amendment.**
8. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (19 votes) This meeting was closed at 2pm

Secretaries to the meeting: Linda Thornton, Jackie Waters

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF IPWSO HELD ON SUNDAY 23 MAY AT 2.00PM AT THE TAIPEI COUNTY HALL DURING THE 7TH INTERNATIONAL PWS ORGANISATION CONFERENCE

1.00 PRESENT:
 Chair: Shuan-Pei Lin (Taiwan- voting rights)
 Secretary: Linda Thornton (NZ)
 Vice Secretary: Jackie Waters (UK)
 Treasurer: Jan Haanaes (Norway – voting rights)
 Board members: Janalee Heinemann (USA)
 Tiina Silvast (Finland – voting rights)
 Dorica Dan (Romania – voting rights)
 Legal adviser: David Gordon (USA)
 Auditor: Beppe Quaglia (Italy)
 Chief Executive: Giorgio Fornasier (Italy)

Also present: Parent and Scientific Delegates, and other attendees:

Australia, Georgina Loughnan, Australia, Barry Greensmith Australia, Elly Scheermeyer Australia, Janene Lowe, Austria (proxy: Giorgio Fornasier) Denmark, Susanne Blichfeldt Denmark , Djaniy Gade, France, Maithe Tauber Germany, Monika Fuhrmann Greece, Vicky Biliou Israel, Larry Genstil, Italy, Giorgio Fornasier Japan, Daisuke Kawaimura Japan, Eiko Shoji	Japan, Kazue Matsumoto Japan, Tomoko Hasegawa Netherlands, Gerard Meywaard Netherlands, Leopold Curfs New Zealand, Melanie Sweet New Zealand, Cindy Adams-Vining New Zealand, Karen O’Reilly New Zealand, Emma McConnachy South Africa, Rika du Plooy Spain, Pedro Alvarez, Sweden, Charlotte Hoybye Taiwan, Shuan-Pei Lin UK, Tony Holland USA, Dan Driscoll USA, Joan Gardner
---	---

2.00 WELCOME The Chairman welcomed delegates and representatives to the 7th IPWSO General Assembly and asked for any apologies:

3.00 APOLOGIES: Engelen Honey (South Africa), Jean Phillips Martinsson (UK), Martin Ritzen (Sweden)

4.00 IN MEMORIUM The Chairman asked the meeting to stand for a few minutes in memory of Pam Eisen, IPWSO’s previous Chair.

5.00 MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING The Secretary asked for indulgence from the meeting as there had been no receipt of Minutes from the previous secretary from the meeting held in Cluj, but she read notes from the meeting and asked for any further additions. There being no further additions, the secretary asked that these might be accepted.

Proposed: Linda Thornton
Seconded: Joan Gardner
PASSED

6.00 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Shuan-Pei Lin referred those present to his written report in the IPWSO Annual Report for 2009. He added that he would like to express his deep and sincere appreciation of the work of Pam Eisen, who passed away in 2009. Without Pam, IPWSO would not be like it is today.

Proposal: THAT the President's report be accepted

Proposed: Linda Thornton;

Seconded: Leopold Curfs.

Passed unanimously.

7.00 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

Giorgo Fornasier referred those present to his written report in the IPWSO Annual Report for 2009. In addition, Giorgio asked delegates to ensure that their servers were configured so as to be able to take large email files – some which he has sent out has been rejected as too large for delegates' mailboxes.

Proposal: THAT the Chief Executive's report be accepted

Proposed: Joan Gardiner:

Seconded: Larry Genstil

Passed unanimously.

8.00 TREASURER'S REPORT AND AUDITED ACCOUNTS

8.1 Jan Haanes reported that the main concern, as stated in his written report in the IPWSO Annual Report for 2009, was that IPWSO needs additional sources of income. Jan also highlighted the reluctance of some countries to pay membership fees – either not at all, or very late. Giorgio said member countries should send a cheque to IPWSO if banking fees were too expensive. Payments should be made in Euros.

8.2 The auditor, Beppe Quaglia, said that IPWSO needs to create a situation where countries are motivated to participate. There will be an open discussion in the next few months to understand who really believes in IPWSO. If countries do not want to pay membership fees, they are stating an intention that they do not wish to be part of IPWSO.

8.3 Giorgio responded that membership fees account for 10% of IPWSO income. 47 out of the 83 member countries do not have an official Association – sometimes a country is represented by a single parent or professional, who pays fees personally. He cited the case of Latin America, where there are 19 member countries, but only 3 of these countries have Associations.

8.4 Linda Thornton reminded the meeting that last year the IPWSO Board had decided to send invoices directly to Associations, rather than Parent Delegates.

8.5 Tiina Silvast commented that "rich" and "poor" countries were not so clear cut. Even if the country itself was "rich" that did not necessarily mean the Association was rich. There was further discussion around this matter and the problem of including countries within IPWSO. The Board will look at this in detail in the future

Proposal: THAT the Treasurer's Report be accepted

**Proposed: Jan Haanes;
Seconded: Janine Lowe.
Passed unanimously.**

9.00 RATIFICATION OF MOTION IPWSO/1/2010 and IPWSO/2/2010 FROM EXTRA ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

The Secretary asked for a ratification from the meeting of the changes agreed to at the Extra Ordinary Meeting for the Constitution: This was passed unanimously with 19 votes

10.00 MOTION FROM JEAN PHILLIPS-MARTINSSON CARRIED FORWARD FROM CLUJ GENERAL ASSEMBLY: That the concept of Regional Officers be adopted by IPWSO

This proposal had been looked at by the board and a discussion of the delegates agreed that the concept held merits but not at this point in time when there was a feeling that cohesion in IPWSO was needed.

PROPOSAL: THAT the new board re-look at this before the next GA.

PROPOSED: Linda Thornton

SECONDED: Joan Gardner

PASSED

11.00 ELECTION OF BOARD FOR BOARD:

11.01 All postal nominations had been passed and put before the Board:

Nomination for Chair: Dr Suzanne Cassidy (USA)

Nomination for Board: Barry Greensmith (Australia)

11.02 Board members standing down:

Shuan-Pei Lin (Chair)

Jan Haanaes (Treasurer)

11.03 Board members standing for re-election:

Linda Thornton

Dorica Dan

Tiina Silvast

11.04 Coopted board members standing for election:

Jackie Waters

Janalee Heinemann

11.05 At this point the retiring Chairman stood down from the meeting with a round of applause and a vote of grateful thanks for all the work he had done, particularly with the organisation of the Taiwan conference, and taking over from Pam Eisen.

11.06 A vote of thanks was accorded to the Treasurer for his two terms on the IPWSO Board and for his help in preparing the annual budgets.

11.07 Both new nominations were presented to the meeting and were elected unanimously.

11.08 Election of President, Dr Suzanne Cassidy, and Vice President, Janalee Heinemann were accepted unanimously.

11.09 It was noted by the meeting that the recommended number of 8 allowed room for a member to be coopted at a later date.

12.00 BID FOR 2013 IPWSO CONFERENCE

The United Kingdom was the only country bidding for the 2013 conference and the following points were made:

- The PWSA (UK) would be in partnership with the Cambridge Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Research Group: www.cidddrg.org.uk .
- The Conference would take place in Cambridge
- The theme would be “From Research through to Practice”
- Conference dates would be July 11-14, 2013 at the Fitzwilliam College of the University of Cambridge www.fitz.cam.ac.uk
- There were large auditoriums and good break-out rooms. Onsite accommodation (single rooms housing up to 200-300) but hotels nearby.
- From London Stansted airport it was 48k to Cambridge with a direct train link. London is 96k away with fast trains taking 50 minutes.
- Gala dinner would be held at one of the oldest colleges (over 800 years old), at the 2nd oldest university in the UK.
- Cambridge University is noted for its science and scientific research as the highest standard in Europe.
- Also on offer and not to be missed: punting on the river, Kings College choir, large outdoor markets.
- For families with children there would be special arrangements made at the local hotel. However, all children/adults with PWS must be accompanied by their own caregiver or parents at all times. There will be crèche facilities for the very young. There would be day trips to London, Sandringham, and the Norfolk Broads
- The PWSA (UK) and CIDDRG would be seeking funding grants and sponsorship with a fundraising committee in charge.
- Arrangements would be made for the medical journal of Intellectual Disabilities Research to have a Special Edition on PWS before the conference.
- There would be 2-3 day tours after the conference
- There will be no simultaneous translation on offer.

12.01 As there were no further bids for the 2013 IPWSO Conference, it was agreed unanimously that the UK would be the next venue. A round of applause greeted this decision.

The meeting closed with no further business, at 3.30pm