

ASSOCIATION OING-SERVICE

Maison des Associations

1, place des Orphelins, F - 67000 STRASBOURG

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Minutes of the General Assembly of 9 April 2024 from 17.00 to 17.35 in hybrid form (at Council of Europe and by videoconference KUDO)

adopted by the General Assembly of 16 October 2024

Voting instructions: The president, Annelise Oeschger, explains that a show of hands will be used for those present, and via the Kudo platform chat for those attending online.

The president thanked the members of the Bureau for the good cooperation.

1) Welcome and adoption of the agenda - vote

The agenda was adopted without comment.

2) Appointment of rapporteur

The secretary, Joyce Herrent, was appointed rapporteur.

3) Adoption of the minutes of the General Assembly of 25 April 2023 - vote

The minutes were adopted unanimously.

4) Annual Report 2023

The annual report was presented by vice-president, Marie-Claire Galibert.
It was adopted unanimously.

5) Presentation of accounts and financial report 2023

The treasurer, Heleen Jansen, thanked the 131 INGOs which have paid their membership fee in 2023 with a total amount of 19'700 €, result which is significantly higher than in previous years. The Bureau is delighted with this result and hopes that it will at least be equalled in 2024.

The chartered accountant, Philippe Burcklé, presented the accounts and financial report.
In conclusion, the result was slightly positive.

A member expressed the wish that the accounts should also be presented in English. The Chairman promised that this would be done for the 2024 accounts.

A question from a member enabled the President to explain that the principle of parity, established by the Committee of Ministers, between the Council of Europe's grant and the member INGOs' subscriptions means that the Council of Europe pays out its entire grant only if the INGOs have contributed at least the same amount, up to a limit set by the Council of Europe, which is currently €16,000/year.

The President noted that in addition to the grant, the Council of Europe also supports the OING-Service Association in kind, making secretarial work available for the website, as well as the meeting room, interpretation and technology for its General Assemblies.

A question concerned the search for other sources of funding. The President confirmed that this was possible and that it had already been tried, unsuccessfully, with the EU for a project in partnership with other bodies. OING-Service remained open to this possibility and it would be done in consultation with the Standing Committee, particularly with regard to any funds proposed by a State.

6) Auditors' report - vote

The auditor, Jean-Pierre Demange, explained that the accounts had been audited using all the appropriate documents that he had received for this purpose.

He noted a significant increase in travel expenses, which testified to the dynamism of the Conference of INGOs. He drew the attention of certain beneficiaries to the importance of providing full proof of expenditure.

He particularly thanked the president and the treasurer.

Having found no items that did not comply with the law or regulations, he proposed that the General Meeting approve the 2023 accounts and discharge the Board..

A vote was taken: no objections, two abstentions.

Discharge was given to the Board.

7) Presentation of the draft budget 2024 - vote

For the coming year, €18,000 membership fees and a €16,000 grant from the Council of Europe for OING-Service are planned. This gives an estimated, balanced budget of €34,000.

The budget was adopted unanimously.

8) Annual membership fee for 2025

Despite the increase in costs, particularly subsistence costs, the Board proposes that the amount of the annual subscription should remain unchanged - bearing in mind that many INGOs are significantly affected by budget restrictions and the increase in living costs.

Proposed annual membership fees : 150 € ordinary, 100 € min, 200 € or more for a support amount.

The proposal was adopted with one vote against.

10) Other business

Nothing to report.

The President closed the General Assembly and thanked all participants as well as the interpreters and the technicians.

The members thanked the OING-Service Bureau for its work and efficiency.