

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY

LOCATION: Nicosia – NATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE OF CYPRUS  
DATE AND TIME: November 15, 2019 09.00 – 13.00

### MEETING MINUTES

Chair of the General Assembly: Manfred Laemmer, EOA President.

#### WELCOME

The floor was given to Prof. Dionyssi Gangas from the International Olympic Academy (IOA) who presented the plans and projects for the renovation of the IOA premises, which include the overhaul of the lecture hall, living quarters and utilities. The inauguration of the new IOA complex is supposed to take place in June 2021.

#### VERIFICATION COMMISSION AND MEETING MINUTES

Nominations: The verification commission was established, consisting of Tiago Viegas (Portuguese OA), Milan Pavlović (Serbian OA) and Zsuzsanna Bukta (Hungarian OA). The Commission stated that Delegates of 19 NOAs were present and eligible to vote. Thus the simple majority is 10 votes. The minutes of the meeting were to be written by EOA General Secretary Marion Guigon-Lacroix with a backup copy written by Alexandra Nikiforova (Russian OA).

The verification commission and the minute-takers were approved unanimously by the General Assembly (GA), 19/19

#### AGENDA

1. Approval of the minutes of the first EOA General Assembly
2. President's report
3. Membership and financial situation
4. Management of the commissions
5. Rules of Procedures
6. Good Governance Regulations
7. Honours and Awards
8. Communication
9. EOA program
10. Conference and General Assembly 2020
11. Miscellaneous

The agenda was approved unanimously by the GA 19/19

## 1. Approval of the minutes of the first EOA General Assembly

The minutes of the first EOA General Assembly were approved unanimously 19/19
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## 2. President's report

The floor was given to the President for a report on the EOA activities.

The President reminded attendees that the Association of the European Olympic Academies was established in September 2018 in Ljubljana (Slovenia) as an umbrella organization covering 24 National Olympic Academies from Europe. Regarding the Executive Board (EB) meetings, it was decided that these meetings will take place three times per year (the first one at the beginning of the year, the second one in Olympia, during the NOA's Presidents and Directors Session, and the third one before the meeting of the annual General Assembly). The first EB meeting was held in Frankfurt (Germany) in January, 2019. At this meeting the official operations of the EOA started and administrative structures were set up. The second EB meeting in Olympia was dedicated to the organization of the 2<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly, but also to the issues of the EOA registration and funding. The third EB meeting in Nicosia finalized the preparations for the 2<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly and drafted a plan for the next year.

The President thanked the Czech Olympic Academy for hosting the next EB meeting in Prague from March 9 to 11, 2020. The registration process of the EOA in Frankfurt under the German law was successfully finished and the bank account was opened. Further details will be sent after the GA to all EOA members as soon as possible.

The EB rules of procedures as well as the Good Governance Guidelines were developed and confirmed by the GA 19/19. The EB also stated the necessity of establishing EOA honors and awards. The President commented on the importance of communication within the EOA. The EOA website serves as a major means of communication. In the near future the current website will get a more professional design, including a new logo.

In addition to three EOA commissions that were agreed upon by the GA Ljubljana (Media and Communication, Olympic Education and Olympic Heritage) the EB suggested to set up a Commission for Development and Cooperation. The President underlined that the EOA strive to include as many European Olympic Academies as possible and to promote cooperation throughout the continent.

The floor then was given to EOA Treasurer Aleš Šolar to provide details about EOA activities. He informed the GA that certain minor additions had to be made to the EOA Statutes in order to comply with the German law. The amended Statutes were approved unanimously 19/19.

Aleš Šolar also presented the results of the photo contest on the occasion of the II European Games in Minsk in 2019. More than 200 photos were submitted. The winning picture was submitted by the Lithuanian OA. Another initiative was to prepare national posters for the NOCs and NOAs.

### 3. Membership and financial situation

The floor was again given to EOA Treasurer Aleš Šolar. He referred to the Statutes that stipulate that the GA has the authority to set a membership fee. Some NOAs expressed interest in joining the EOA and the vote on accepting them would be held at the 3<sup>rd</sup> GA in 2020.

The subject of membership fee was presented to the GA for discussion and vote. The EB proposed the amount of 300 Euros per year, to cover in the first instance expenses for administration and communication (website maintenance, operational costs, registration and legal processes). In addition, the EB stressed that it would be difficult to ask for financial help from foundations and organizations without any contribution of its own.

The delegate of the Hellenic OA suggested that the EB should present a list of the expenses covered by the membership fees. The delegate of the Cyprus Olympic Academy stated that the proposed amount is more than reasonable for a European Organization. The President pointed out that the membership fees of comparable European non-profit organizations are higher.

The Serbian OA regretted that the proposal for the amount of the membership fee was not communicated to the EOA members in advance so that they had an opportunity to discuss it within their NOAs. The EB acknowledged the concern and explained that the final proposal by the EB regarding the membership fee was made only a day ago during the meeting in Nicosia.

The Polish participant inquired if the EB considered the option for the members to pay for 2 or 3 years in advance with the possibility of some "discount". The EB will take this idea into consideration.

The EB also clarified that the obligation to pay the membership fee will start in 2020. Payment for 2019 is voluntary. The EB also offered to contact the NOCs to support the NOAs that might be struggling to pay the fee. Aleš Šolar announced that the EOA expenses would be subject to external audit and would be made available to the members.

The subject of the membership fee was put to a vote. 17 members in favour of a membership fee of 300 Euros per year, 2 members abstained.

#### 4. Management of the commissions

EOA General Secretary Marion Guigon-Lacroix presented the candidates for the four EOA commissions: the Media and Communication Commission, Development and Cooperation Commission, Olympic Education Commission and Olympic Heritage Commission.

The GA unanimously approved the establishment of these four commissions, 19/19

It was decided that the Olympic Education Commission and the Olympic Heritage Commission would be under the management of EOA Vice-President Maria Bulatova and the Media and Communication Commission as well as the Development and Cooperation Commission under the management of EOA Vice-President Lozan Mitev. The EB asked the GA for comments and questions on the issue.

The Spanish OA expressed doubts that it was necessary to have that many commissions at the start. The French delegate asked how the commissions would function and if their members would get compensation from their NOAs to travel to the meetings. The EB clarified that the initial plan is to hold most meetings via Internet and on the occasion of the GA.

The Polish participant commented that it would be helpful to have an outline of the goals and activities of each commission before the decision about the number of commissions and the number of their members. The EB explained that such information was presented to the members of the EOA and is also available on the EOA website.

Marion Guigon-Lacroix presented the members for each commission.

##### COMMUNICATION COMMISSION

1	Albania	Pano Xhixho
2	Bulgaria	Boryana Toncheva
3	Cyprus	Erodotos Miltiadous
4	Czech Republic	Alexandr Kliment
5	Estonia	Revo Raudjärv
6	Greece	Alexandra-Maria Grispou
7	Russia	Alexandra Nikiforova

##### DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION COMMISSION

1	Azerbaijan	Abiyev Aghajan
2	Czech Republic	Jana Janotova
3	France	Julien Buhajezuk
4	Greece	Vassiliki Balta

## OLYMPIC EDUCATION COMMISSION

1	Albania	Enkelejda Caushi
2	Croatia	Danira Bilic
3	Estonia	Reele Remmelkoor
4	Greece	Denise Panagopoulou
5	Hungary	Lilla Szijj
6	Israel	Yarden Har Lev
7	Latvia	Antra Gulbe
8	Lithuania	Asta Sarkauskiene
9	Portugal	Cláudia Santos
10	Romania	Simona Tabara Amana
11	Russia	Maria Koreneva
12	Slovenia	Petra Robnik

## OLYMPIC HERITAGE COMMISSION

1	Czech Republic	Zdenek Skoda
2	Estonia	Kalle Voolaid
3	Greece	Vassiliki Tzachrista
4	Russia	Vitaly Melnikov
5	Slovakia	Frantisek Seman

After the presentation of the candidates the EB asked for comments and questions.

The Polish participant asked how many people each NOA could suggest for the commissions. The EB clarified that each NOA could suggest only one candidate for each commission.

The subject of electing the members for the commissions was put to vote. All candidates were approved by the GA unanimously 19/19

### 5. Rules of Procedures

The floor was given to EOA Executive Board member Saša Ceraj who presented the draft of the Executive Board Rules of Procedures.

This draft was examined and approved by the legal department of the Olympic Committee of Croatia. The draft was handed out to the GA delegates and sent beforehand to all EOA members via e-mail.

The GA voted unanimously to accept the EB Rules of Procedures 19/19

## 6. Good Governance Regulations

EOA Treasurer Aleš Šolar presented the principles, values and guidelines for the Good Governance Officer (GGO). A GGO should be a person not directly involved in the EOA but familiar with the Olympic movement. Each NOA should have the right to nominate one candidate. Candidates would have to confirm to assume the role of a GGO. Then the EB would present the candidates to the next GA to vote for.

The EB asked the GA for comments and questions.

The Spanish OA asked if a GGO is necessary for the EOA. The EB confirmed that this position is necessary for an organization such as the EOA.

The representative of the IOA remarked that they don't have a GGO as it is not explicitly stipulated in the Olympic Charter. The EB answered that most NOCs in Europe as well as other similar organizations have such a position.

The Spanish OA inquired if a GGO would be paid. The EB explained that the GGO could not receive any payments, but his/her operational expenses such as travel costs would be compensated by the EOA.

The Cyprus OA asked if the GA had to vote for a GGO during this meeting. The EB clarified that without an approval of the guidelines the NOAs could not nominate their candidates.

The subject of GGO regulations was put to the vote. The GA approved them unanimously 19/19

## 7. Honors and Awards

EOA Treasurer Aleš Šolar, on behalf of the EB, made the proposal to introduce EOA awards and honors.

These could be given to individuals as well as to organizations for a) services and contributions to the EOA and b) services and contributions to Olympism, to the Olympic movement, and to Olympic education, and for other extraordinary merits.

Proposals for awards and honors could be made by any EOA member. The decisions on awards and honors would be made by the EB.

The subject of EOA awards and honors was put to vote. The GA approved the proposal unanimously 19/19

## 8. Communication

General Secretary Marion Guigon-Lacroix reminded that the EOA website remains one of the major means of communication for the EOA members, especially the “Members area”. The EOA accepts all kinds of information such as news, activities, projects etc. In the near future the website will get a new URL, and a new generic address with a professional domain name. She also reminded that the survey of NOAs was still going on and NOAs could send in general information about themselves for the EOA website.

Concerning the logo, a new one will be designed, if possible close to the EOC logo. Ales will work on this topic with EOC and will present a proposal at the next EB meeting.

## 9. EOA program plan

The EB urged the EOA members to make suggestions and proposals on the future activities of the EOA. Some examples were given such as involvement in the Erasmus Program, starting projects on Olympic education and Olympic legacy, cooperating with other international associations and federations.

A suggestion was made to send questionnaires to the members so that they could give their plans and projects for future EOA activities. The EB stated that having a strategic plan confirmed by the EOA members would make it much easier to undertake more complex tasks.

## 10. Conference and General Assembly 2020

The EB announced that it accepted the proposal of the Russian Olympic Committee and the Central Olympic Academy of Russia to host the 3<sup>rd</sup> Conference and General Assembly of the EOA in Sochi (Russia) in 2020.

The 4<sup>th</sup> Conference and General Assembly of the EOA will take place in Olympia (Greece) in 2021 on invitation of IOA President Isidoros Kouvelos.

The EB is also open for proposals for the EOA Conferences and General Assemblies in 2022 and 2023.

Marion Guigon-Lacroix  
EOA General Secretary



Manfred Laemmer  
EOA President



ANNEX: List of the 19 member delegates.



2<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly of the European Olympic Academies

Nicosia - Cyprus, 15.11.2019

List of delegates of the 2<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly of the European Olympic Academies

Country	Delegate	Signature
Albania	Zekoljola Çourek	
Austria		
Azerbaijan	Abiyev Aghajan	
Bulgaria		
Croatia	SARA ČERNAJ	
Czech Republic	ALONDR KLIMEŠ	
Cyprus	Παναγιώτης	
Estonia	Kalle Jookaid	
France	Arnaud RICHARD	
Germany	Tobias Ueack	
Greece	Γιάννης ΑΝΔΡΕΑΣ Σ.	
Hungary	Zsuzsanna Bukta	
Italy		
Israel		
Latvia	IVANS KLEMENČEVI	
Lithuania	ASTA JARNAVIČIENE	
Portugal	TIAGO VIEIRA	
Romania	AMĂNAR SIMONA TABARA	
Russian Federation	VITALY MELNIKOV	
Serbia	MILAN PAVLOVIC	
Slovakia		
Slovenia	ALES SOLAR	
Spain		
Ukraine	Maria Buletska	