



Minutes WFTO-Europe Board meeting 30 April 2018, 14:00-16:00, gotomeeting

Present: Tadeusz Makulski (President), Emilie Durochat (Vice-President and Secretary), Gabriella D'Amico, Stephanie Brookes (Treasurer), Stefan Nijsen and Francesca Giubilo (Coordinator).

Excused: Estelle Vanwambeke

AGENDA
1. Approval of minutes (05-04-2018)
2. Strategic plan 2018-2020 & Work plan 2018-2019
3. Approval AGM docs (provisional budget, Annual Report,...)
4. Update on the WFTO-Europe Biennial Conference (7-9 June 2018, Brussels)
5. AOB

Stephanie, Chair of the meeting, welcomed everyone in the meeting.

1. Approval minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously approved.

2. Strategic plan and Work plan

Thanks to the work previously done by the Sub-working group on the Strategic plan (Emilie, Estelle, Tadeusz and Francesca), the strategic plan presented to the Board was approved without changes. The Board also welcomed the related Work Plan 2018-2019 and approved it without further comments. Members will be asked to send comments on both prior to the meeting in June, so as to have a more fruitful discussion during the AGM.

3. Approval AGM docs (provisional budget, annual report,....)

On the 8th of May, the coordinator will send the official call together with the set of documents for the AGM. In order to let members prioritise the most important documents to read, the Board suggested to keep at the end all the documents shared "for information" and which do not require a vote. Apart from the legal documents, the Board mainly discussed:

Provisional budget

The figures clearly showed the need to increase the income of the organisation in order to cover the core costs. Therefore, increasing the membership as well as looking for more funding are still the two options to focus on.

Annual Report

The Board congratulated the Coordinator and the staff for the Annual Report 2017-2018. Some minor changes were suggested to make it more appealing and give visibility to the new members.

The Board suggested to also make a proper use of this well drafted document, by spreading it widely and, if possible, printing some copies in the occasion of the Biennial Conference in June.

4. Update on the Biennial Conference (7-9 June 2018, Brussels)

The Coordinator gave an update to the Board on the number of participants and the agenda of the conference. Considering the low participation, it was agreed to extend of one week the registration process. The Coordinator showed also her surprise not to see any registration from some organisations who used to participate in such a Conference. Financial reasons and conjunctions with other national events seem to be the main constraints. The Coordinator did encourage again the Board members to spread the voice at national level and to cover their travel and accommodation costs from their own "Trade Fair Live Fair" project budget, whether it is possible. This would allow WFTO-Europe to reduce its costs.

5. AOB

Accounts 2017

The Coordinator presented the new updated figures of the Accounts 2017 to the Board. A more accurate calculation of the human resources costs to be covered by the EC project for the 2017, showed a deficit of around 6000€, a bit less than the one initially presented. The board approved the new figures.

Research on the Fair payment policy

The call for a consultant was closed on the 18th of May. The advisory group, set up within WFTO-Europe to follow up on this topic, is revising the applications and preparing the contract for the selected consultant. The person should start at the latest mid-May and should be able to attend the conference and present some preliminary findings to the members.

Research on gender

Based on a specific request raised up by one Board member, the Coordinator will collect more information on the status of the WFTO gender research.

ToR Committee on Retailers and Worldshops

Thanks to the work done by the Sub-working group on the Retailers and Worldshops Committee (Gabiella, Stefan, Tadeusz and Francesca), a new document with a revised Terms of Reference for the Committee, was presented to the Board. The document will be shared with the members. Then it will be further discussed in the workshop dedicated to this topic during the Biennial Conference.

The Board members will meet next time in June in Brussels during the Biennial Conference and AGM.

END.