



## Minutes WFTO-Europe Board meeting 30 April 2019, 14:00-16:00, Skype

Present: Juanjo Martinez (President), Estelle Vanwambeke, Gabriella D'Amico, Giorgio Dal Fiume, (Secretary), Stephanie Brookes (Treasurer) and Francesca Giubilo (Coordinator).

Guest: Sophie Tack (WFTO-Europe representative at the WFTO Global Board)

Excused: Emilie Durochat.

**Chair:** Estelle Vanwambeke

AGENDA
1. Approval of minutes (11-02-2019 Skype)
2. Update from Sophie on WFTO Global (board meeting and Lima summit, and her candidature)
3. Approval all AGM documents
4. Draft agenda for the AGM – division of responsibilities
5. Overview members meeting – final division of responsibility
6. AOB – next physical Board meeting (5th of June – Brussels)

### 1. Approval minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously approved.

### 2. Update from Sophie on WFTO Global (board meeting and Lima summit, and her candidature)

- Last WFTO Global Board meeting held from 8 to 10 of March. Minutes not yet approved but initial feedback shared:
  - Last board meeting with the current composition (several Board members will be leaving. 3 people would like to go for a second mandate in order to also ensure a certain stability. Sophie, Peter and Luis would like to renew their mandate.
  - Membership growth across the world.
  - Concerns in some regions for participation in Lima due to the high costs
  - Several importers organisations are struggling across the world.
  - Good financial situation. Reserves increased
  - Office environment very positive. Very motivated staff and great connection with the regions.
  - Communication, plan for WFTDay and key activities much more organised
  - Appraisal for Erinch Sahan finalised – permanent contract offered
  - Approved changes in the GS criteria to make sure that WFTO in the future will only be composed by mission led business organisations – 3 new criteria :
    - Mission statement has to be included as a legal document
    - Reinvesting profit - mandatory by year 4
    - Participation and decision making process – still as a continuous improvement but phrased with different wordings.
    - Regarding the 2 years of legal existence for new organisations, it was agreed to drop it in order to allow also young organisations to join. Financial situation will be anyway checked to see the viability of the organisation.
- Great exchanges with Sergi (FTAO) and recognition of the FTAO added value. Discussion around the contribution of WFTO to FTAO. To be discussed with WFTO Europe as well.
- Overview from Erinch on engagement with new actors (social and solidarity economy actors, new economy,...)
- Legal work on the constitution – members will receive the new constitution in August.
- Conference in Lima (16-19 September) – several workshops to listen, to be inspired and to interact – discussion on the challenges that importers and consequently producers are facing. – FT breakfast in the EU embassy in Lima planned
- IFTTC – new ToR approved in Madrid for the new Steering Committee – ongoing work on revision of the guidelines, next meeting in Cardiff
- 16<sup>th</sup> of September next Board meeting in Lima

Sophie officially presented her candidature as next WFTO-Europe representative in the Global Board. The European Board welcomed her decision and strongly endorsed Sophie's candidature.

### **3. Approval all AGM documents**

All AGM docs were previously circulated. No comments were arisen and the documents were unanimously approved.

The Board also agreed to have a more deeper discussion on the financial overview for the next 3 years in the next Board meeting. Despite the deficit already present for the 2020, the Board agreed not to propose any membership fees increase from 2020, but to start a strategical discussion on finances and overall strategic plan to be presented in the next AGM in 2020.

The Board also acknowledged the decision of Emilie Durochat to resign as Board members.

### **4. Overview members meeting – final division of responsibility (5')**

Based on the programme of the next Members' meeting in June, Board members expressed their interest in leading one or more sessions. Following steps to finalise content and format of each of them were set in cooperation with the Coordination.

### **5. Draft agenda for the AGM – division of responsibilities (30')**

A draft agenda of the AGM session was previously circulated and the Board agreed on the main session and division of responsibilities. Based on that, the coordinator will set up bilateral calls with the responsible per session.

### **6. AOB – next physical Board meeting (5th of June – Brussels)**

The next physical Board meeting will take place on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June in village Partnaire from 2.30 to 6pm. Estelle and Giorgio will chair the meeting. Sergi Corbalan from FTAO and Michael Fivet (consultant on finances) will be the guests of the meeting.

END.