Minutes of the General Assembly Meeting
May 22nd, 2016

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# Decisions/Actions

## DECISIONS

### Session opening (by M. Asnake)
Many achievements have been met this year through the excellent work of the HQ, the activities of the working groups and committees, new resolutions and works with PHAs. Number and interaction and exchanges with members have been boosted. The main output and vision for the future is represented by the A Global Charter for the Public’s Health.

### Adoption of Agenda
Agenda adopted unanimously

### Minutes GA 2015
Minutes adopted unanimously

### WG reports
- WGs reports are available at the respective website pages at http://wfpha.org/about-wfpha/working-groups
- A new WG on Public Health in Emergencies and Disasters has been approved in principles. The new co-Chair, Ahmed Javed Rahmanzai and Chadia Wannaus to develop further the concept and set up the new WG.

### COMMENTS:
R. Bedi: we need to have cross WGs activities and resolutions for example on sugar in drink but many other examples can be cited. General agreement of this proposal.

### Report of the regional federations to the GA
- Regional federations reports are available at http://wfpha.org/about-us-wfpha/regional-offices-en

### Presentation from the members
- Presentation from the members are available at http://www.wfpha.org/about-us-wfpha/general-assembly

## A Global Charter for the Public’s Health (by B. Borisch)
The A Global Charter for the Public’s Health (GCPH) is the main output of WFPHA collaboration plan with the World Health Organization (WHO) to adapt today’s public health to its global context in the light of and in conjunction with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Charter aims to bring together the best of all the existing models and provide a comprehensive, clear and flexible framework that can be applied globally and within individual countries, whether low, middle or high-income. The A Global Charter for the Public's Health provides new insights into the direction of public health and provides guidance for both ‘services’ and ‘functions’. As such, when read in conjunction with the Sustainable Development Goals, the Charter has the potential to be a major influence globally. It is a document that ought to be taught in public health faculties and used to develop strategic approaches by public health associations around the world. The Charter has been published at the European Journal of Public Health. It has been officially presented at the Commonwealth meeting (May 22nd 2016), at the side event “Global and local: Public Health and Primary Care in action!” during the 69World Health Assembly and subsequently to the general public at the University of Geneva in June 2016. The implementation phase has started with the Commonwealth Implementation Tool for...
the "Global Charter for the Public's Health" and a survey that has been sent to all PHAs and IANPHI members as well as main international health related organization to see if and how the Charter can be applied locally and globally to reshape PHA strategic plan and as a tool for advocacy. The survey has been piloted and will be sent in June 2016. Public health association of Australia (PHAA) has already re-shaped its strategic plan around the Charter.

Acknowledgments to EUPHA for the support in the publication; to ML for her massive work for the setup of this Charter; to PHAA and the Commonwealth as first implementers.

COMMENTS:
- This work can have an impressive role in the future of global health and all members agreed to support WFPHA in the implementation.
- The need for a more detailed and practical guide on how to use the Charter has been debated.

HQs report (by B. Borisch)
- Acknowledgment to B. Borisch, M. Lomazzi, E. De Cata, V. Bianco and all interns for the impressive work
- The University of Geneva thanks to B. Borisch is currently hosting for free the HQ providing different kind of support but requiring more and more participation by the WFPHA to cover costs such as printing, computers etc. This expenses voice should be taken carefully into consideration and added in the budget to guarantee the correct operation of the HQs.

Media and communication
- JPHP and WFPHA have a long standing collaboration: B. Borisch is the editor and some GC members are on the JPHP board too. In each JPHP issue, Federations’ pages are published with articles non peer reviewed provided by the WFPHA. In 2016 the articles on public health in India has been completed. Acknowledgments to A. Robbins and P. Freeman.
- In 2016 there will be a special JPHP issue on the main output of the Health Equity WG & Aetna project.
- Every year the annual report reporting the main activities of the WFPHA and its members is published. Acknowledgments to E. De Cata and all members that have provided inputs.
- Since this year, the WFPHA has a new FB page, LinkedIn e Newsletter plus a twitter now reactivated. Acknowledgments to V. Bianco

COMMENTS:
- Interaction among different public health journals i.e. from Norway, EUPHA and JPHP have been debated
- A meeting of public health journals editors will be organized during the 15WCPH

Policy committee report (by I. Hernandez)
- PC will focus its main future activities on the Charter, integrating its basic concepts in all activities. These activities will include:
  - Sending a letter to all PHAs to make more effective joint advocacy
  - Preparation of common resolutions on public health hot topics such as maternal mortality and chemicals products
  - Obtain and promote indicators useful for advocacy in public health such as economic and social indicators.

Acknowledgments to ML for her work with the PC.
GA has approved the:

- Resolution “The integration of oral health into primary health care and public health system”
- Resolution “Reducing Maternal Mortality as a Human Right”
- Resolution “Regulation of Electronic Cigarettes”
- Resolution “International Trade Agreements and Public Health”
- Statement “Zika virus and the Olympics: a public health disaster in the making?”

WHO Collaboration plan

R. Krech, WFPHA DTO, has underlined the importance of the Charter in the Global arena. His report is available at [http://www.wfpha.org/about-us-wfpha/general-assembly](http://www.wfpha.org/about-us-wfpha/general-assembly)

Fundraising & finance committee (by M. Moore)

- The WFPHA financial is difficult. Colgate grant (50'000 USD/year) has been renewed for another term starting from 2016 (Acknowledgments to JC and R. Bedi) and WFPHA had increased membership fees collection (Acknowledgments to EDC). Moreover, WFPHA is now tax exempt.

However, the situation remains critical and up to now no additional sustainable fundraising approaches have been put in place. Currently M. Moore and the headquarters (HQs) are working on new possible fundraising activities.

- Of note for all further fundraising activities, 25% should be provided to the HQs as overheads with a flexible approach.

- General budget and travel budget have been approved by the GA
- M. Gissler has been elected as new co-Chair of the finance committee
- Renewal of EUPHA MoU have been approved by the GA. EUPHA will
  - continue collecting common membership fees from EU national PHA
  - invite its members to provide supplementary support to WFPHA
  - approach national PHA that will be more likely willing to give WFPHA an additional contribution
  - Strengthen links with WFPHA and vice versa and increase EU participation at WFPHA meetings i.e. GA and world congress. Different ideas have been discussed:
    - Joint project & joint fundraising related as example to Advocacy & the Global Charter.
    - combine WFPHA GA with EU regional meeting & with meetings of all regional federations together

By laws committee (by M. Moore)

Recommendations of changes in the bylaws:

1. Executive Director: The term Executive Director is applied to the person appointed by the Council to be in charge of the International Office. A series of amendments facilitate this. Note: these amendments give the Executive Director voting rights, clarify the responsibilities and clarify the right of the Council to appoint or remove the Executive Director and set the term for five years renewable for one term. It also sets the process for a temporary appointment.
   - The term executive director is applied to the person appointed by the GC to be in charge of the international office: APPROVED
   - The term of the executive director is for 5 years renewable for one term: APPROVED
The executive director should have voting rights: REJECTED

2. Membership: This removes three categories that are not currently used and introduces and clarifies the conditions of the “partner” category. This changes categories from seven to five.
   o Three categories: individual, lifetime, honorary members are removed as they are not currently used: APPROVED
   o A new “partner” category is introduced: APPROVED

3. International Office: The term is introduced to clarify the name, the role and the responsibilities of the office that is currently in Geneva: APPROVED

4. Young Professional Council Member: The introduces and clarifies parameters and conditions for the election to Council of a “Young Professional” being a person under 40 years at the time of nomination. A national Public Health Association cannot have both a “young professional” and another member elected to Council: APPROVED

5. Resignations and Inactive members of the Council: A process that allows inactive members to be removed. This also clarifies the right of Council to appoint a replacement until the following Annual General Meeting of the General Assembly: APPROVED

8. Advisory Board: Clarifies the membership, roles and responsibilities of the Advisory Board: APPROVED

9. Administrative amendments: A number of administrative changes are proposed such as ‘may’ replacing ‘shall’ when compulsion is not possible or appropriate. Ensuring appropriate/logical numbers. Increasing the transparency of annual dues. Ensuring “winding up” provision is consistent with Swiss legislation: APPROVED

Nomination committee report (by J. Chauvin)

- VP/president elect: the nomination committee has presented three outstanding candidates: L. Rispel, L. De Souza and J. Griemland. The GA has elected L. Rispel (South Africa) as new VP/president elect. Congratulations to L. Rispel and thanks to the other outstanding candidates.
- Asia-pacific seat on the GC: the nomination committee has presented two outstanding candidates: A. Bachtiar and A. Te Patu. The GA has elected A. Te Patu (New Zealand) to seat on the GC for the Asia pacific region. Congratulations to A. Te Patu and thanks to the other outstanding candidate.
  CPMA leaves its seat as Asia-pacific representative but will remain on the GC as regional office (ex officio). Thanks to CPMA and Y. Weizhong for their long-standing commitment with the WFPHA.
- Young professional: the nomination committee has presented five outstanding candidates: Mustakim, N. Folmann Hempler, T. Tillmann, T. Pigott and S. Buttigieg. The GA has elected T. Pigott (Canada) as young professional on the GC. Congratulations to T. Pigott and thanks to the other outstanding candidates.

Membership committee report (by M. Lomazzi)

- MC has received 11 applications.
- PHAs to be accepted (upgraded to) as full members:
  o Public Health Society of Panama (SPSP)
  o Malta Association of Public Health Medicine (MAPHM)
  o Public Health Association of Colombia (ACSP)
  o Jordan Public Health Association – pending the confirmation of multidisciplinary (unavailable for instance)
• PHAs to be accepted as sustaining members:
  o International Pharmaceutical Students’ Federation (IPSF)
• PHAs to be accepted as regional members:
  o Alliance of Public Health Associations of the Americas (APHAA) – pending the reception of approved Statutes
• PHAs to be accepted as partners:
  o International Association of National Public Health Institutes (IANPHI)
  o International Epidemiological Association (IEA) – mutual membership on-going
• MoU with African Federation of public health associations has been approved: 14 new PHAs will be added to the current PHAs already members from the region. National PHAs from AFPHA to be accepted as Full or Associate Members upon MC decision. Membership fees collection will remain independent.
• PHAs on hold/refused
  o Healthy Community Association (Turkey) – on hold pending on more info collection and EUPHA decision (as per MoU)
  o New World Hope Organization (Pakistan) - This PHA is a national organization focusing on specific topics, thus not fitting with the WFPHA membership criteria
  To be refused
• A more accountable system to evaluate the application of new members and have a monitoring every year should be put in place.
GA has approved all MC recommendations.

**Fellowship program (by M. Moore)**

• 2015 Fellowships program has been hosted by ABRASCO. A big thanks and a certificate of recognition has been offered to ABRASCO president.
• PHASA and CPMA have offered to run one of the next editions.

**15 WCPH (by M. Moore)**

• The 15th World Congress on Public Health will also incorporate the 50th anniversary of the WFPHA.
• The congress preparation is on track. 4000 participants are expected. 4 days conference.
• Professional meetings organizers are taking care of the logistics, H. Keleher, PHASA past president, is guiding the whole process. Main speakers have already confirmed.
• There will be a big focus on the World Leadership dialogues
• Filed visits have been planned at the end of the congress
• Acknowledgements to H. Keleher, MM & colleagues

All WFPHA members are encouraged to attend this important congress.

**50th Anniversary (By J. Chauvin)**

• Work plan has been proposed by JC showcasing different option at low, middle and high costs. The work is on track and guided by JC. Acknowledgments to J. Chauvin.
  Main points:
  o The anniversary should be an integral part of the congress and make an overview on the main milestones of the last 50 years and of the next 50 years
  o A dedicated logo is under preparation in collaboration with SOCUSAP
  o The idea to prepare an archive of all WFPHA historical material has been proposed
  o The request to have an official plaque from WHO and be cited by the GC at the
2017 WHA is under evaluation with WFPHA DTO.

Next GA
2017 GA will be during the 15WCPH in Australia.

Rapporteur: M. Lomazzi