Minutes - FINAL

Committee	:	**General Meeting**
Date	:	Monday, January 23, 2017
Time	:	11:30 – 13:00 hrs.
Place	:	Ratingen, Dusseldorf, Germany
Reference	:	2017_Dusseldorf_GeneralMeeting_Minutes
Chairman	:	Mr. Oosterom, AIPH
Secretary	:	Mr. Briercliffe, AIPH

Present:

Mr Bernard Oosterom	Chairman
Prof Qixiang Zhang	Vice-Chairman
Mr Kuo Cheng Chung	TFDA Chinese Taipei and Chair of Marketing Committee
Mr Andras Treer	DSZTT, Hungary and Representative Region III
Mr Bill Stensson	COHA, Canada and Representative Region IV
Ms Karen Tambayong	ASBINDO, Indonesia, Chair Green City Committee and Representative Region VIII
Ms Haiyan Kong	CFA, China and Representative Region VII
Mr Gijs Kok	VBN/FloraHolland, The Netherlands and Representative Region II
Mr Osman Bagdatlioglu	OAiB, Turkey and Representative Region VI
Mr George Franke	VBN/NTR, The Netherlands
Mr Victor Santacruz	CNLA, Canada
Ms Christine LeVatte	CNLA, Canada
Ms Rita Weerdenburg	CNLA, Canada
Mr Takuhiro Yamada	JLCA, Japan
Mr Hwang Jaw Lee	TFDA Chinese Taipei
Ms Liu Xuemei	CFA, China
Mr Torben Lippert	DanskGartneri, Denmark
Mr Edoardo Sciutti	ANVE, Italy
Ms Amy Gray	NFU, UK
Mr Martin Simmons	HTA, UK
Ms Carol Marks	IHNSA, Ireland
Ms Yolande van den Boom	MPS, Netherlands
Mr Wolfram Auer	Doppelmayr, Austria

In attendance:

Mr Tim Briercliffe	Secretary General
Mr Augusto Solano	Asocolflores, Colombia

1. Opening by the chairman

AIPH president Mr. Bernard Oosterom welcomed AIPH members to the meeting.

2. Minutes

2.1. Minutes of the General meeting September 30, 2016 (Annex 7).
Minutes of the last meeting were already approved and were noted for information.

3. Membership applications

3.1. Asocolflores, Colombia (Annex 8) – Members approved the application.

3.2. State of Qatar – T Briercliffe explained that there did not seem to be any industry associations in Qatar. There are really no ornamentals growers although there is a landscape industry. In light of this it is the Government Ministry of Municipality and Environment that looks after the interests of this industry and so this was really the only route for Qatar to be an Active Member as defined in the Charter. It did meet the requirements of the Charter which permits the following as Active Members: *legal entities, associations, organizations, agencies and authorities proposed by the board of directors or the executive committee, which support the association's objects and are involved in matters or activities relating to floriculture.* W Stensson noted that he hoped they would remain as Active Members even though their main driver for membership is their expo application. B Oosterom said he was confident that their membership would be long term. E Sciutti questioned whether their membership should be full or affiliate as they were not a growers association. T Briercliffe said that they did fit the statement within the Charter and that this would not set a precedent as in other cases, if there is an industry association then this should be the principal vehicle for membership. Members approved the application.

4. Annual report of the Secretary General, (Annex 10).

T Briercliffe talked through key points in the report which was taken as read.

5. AIPH Strategic Plan 2017-2020.

T Briercliffe introduced the draft Strategic Plan. The last time AIPH agreed a new Strategic Plan it started with a structured plenary strategic discussion during the Annual Congress in Niagara Falls in 2013. AIPH has been working on the strategy developed there since then. The Board felt that much of this strategy was still relevant so that only an update was required rather than a complete review. With this in mind the Board discussed the new plan in 2016 and have developed the draft to be discussed by members at this meeting.

T Briercliffe gave an introduction to the draft strategy with a presentation. The draft also includes an Executive Summary which can be used to show the wider industry what AIPH is doing and it includes a list of actions to be achieved in 2017. The plan includes proposed changes to the format of AIPH meetings and structure of Committees.

G Franke said he agreed with the draft plan but felt that the proposed name for the new committee – Growers Committee – sounded too limiting and we should identify a different name maybe around the word 'Production'.
C Marks asked whether AIPH members were interested in collaboration to access EU flower promotion funds. T Lippert said that recent funding calls were not friendly to the ornamental horticulture sector. T Briercliffe suggested that AIPH members from the EU should discuss this potential separately.

The draft plan was approved by members.

6. Financial Update

T Briercliffe updated members. At the last General Meeting in Antalya concerns were raised about the lack of gate fee income from Expo 2016 Antalya. It is still the case that expected income from Antalya is well below what was anticipated. This could have led to AIPH having a deficit by 2018. Since the congress there has been a lot of activity to generate new Expo

income to fill this gap. If at least two of the expos, applying for approval at this meeting, are approved then this will reduce the pressure on cash flow of the next two years as the new Expo Regulations require more upfront payment.

7. AIPH Annual Congress Taichung, Chinese Taipei, 2017

The dates for the Annual Congress are proposed to be 25-29 September 2017 in Taichung, Chinese Taipei. This is a change from the previous plan of holding the Congress in Singapore and results from the generous offer from Taichung to subsidise congress costs and the need to show support for their Expo. This was approved by members.

8. Preparation of future meetings.

Spring Meeting 2018 – AIPH have received an invitation from Melbourne to host the meeting alongside the Melbourne International Flower & Garden Show. B Oosterom said that AIPH would accept this if the Australis 2020 Expo proceeds. C Marks commented that Melbourne would have a lot of benefits for AIPH members including for growers and Green City activity.

9. Applications for International Horticultural Exhibitions.

9.1 Hatay, Turkey 2021 (B)

T Briercliffe explained that in light of the political difficulties in the region we should view this Expo differently and it maybe that the Expo could engage international participation in a way similar to that done by Tangshan (2016) where countries submitted garden designs and these were constructed by the organisers. W Stensson said that we should put aside our perceptions of this region, support it and get it to focus on regional participation. O Bagdatlioglu told members that he had visited the area twice and he recommends that members support the application. He said that four years is a long time in political terms and the war problems with neighbouring Syria could well be over by then.

Members agreed to grant provisional approval based on the following conditions:

- Successful site inspection
- Agreement on opening/closing dates
- Signed contract

9.2 Bologna, Italy 2019 (B)

T Briercliffe introduced the background to this application. B Oosterom and T Briercliffe met with representatives from Bologna during the AIPH Annual Congress in Antalya. Following that a site inspection took place in December with T Briercliffe, B Oosterom, K Chung and O Bagdatlioglu. Originally the organisers were keen to apply for a B Expo in 2018 but the Mayor of Bologna preferred to have more time so the application is for 2019. The Expo will be linked with the FICO Eataly World project that will open in Bologna in 2017.

H Peng noted that the opening of Expo 2019 Beijing is on 29 April 2019 so it will be important to avoid any clash of opening and closing dates.

E Sciutti said that ANVE supported the application.

Members agreed to grant provisional approval based on the following conditions:

- Signed contract
- Agreement on opening/closing dates

9.3 Doha, Qatar 2021 (A1)

T Briercliffe explained the background to this application. Qatar had a big pavilion at Expo 2016 Antalya and from that were keen to have their own Expo. T Briercliffe had met with the Qatar Minister of Municipality & Environment in Antalya and from that he was invited to Qatar

to present the expo options to them. T Briercliffe had visited in December where they expressed interest in applying for an A1 Expo in 2021/22.
The application was delayed in coming to AIPH as they had to wait for the approval of the Prime Minister.
T Briercliffe said that this was a unique opportunity to support the first AIPH expo in the Middle East. The main concern about this Expo was the date proximity to Floriade Almere 2022. There was a risk that another A1 expo so close could have a negative impact on international participation in the Floriade. Any approval should be subject to an agreement to mitigate any negative effects on Almere.
G Franke said that he was concerned about the potential impact on Floriade Almere 2022. This was appreciated and it was agreed that Qatar would have to take some responsibility for minimising any impact on Almere.
Members agreed to grant provisional approval based on the following conditions:

- Payment of financial guarantee
- Successful site inspection
- Agreement on opening/closing dates
- Signed contract
- Agree to mitigate any negative impact on Almere 2022 in respect to country participation
- Use AIPH to organise and manage competitions along with associated costs.
- On site AIPH representative for duration of expo

9.4 Greentech, Netherlands 2018 (D)

T Briercliffe introduced this application to members which was the first to be received within the new D Class category agreed in the Regulations in Milan in 2015.
The Board recommended approval of this exhibition but as this was the first of its kind then the financial guarantee should not be chargeable. W Stensson noted that AIPH may need to review the fee structure for this kind of application as many such exhibitions will be regular and it would be good to ensure repeat applications.
Members agreed to grant approval without requiring payment of the financial guarantee.

10. Other business.

There was no further business.

11. Closure.

B Oosterom closed the meeting.

Following the meeting the expo applicants were invited back to hear the decisions on their applications.