

6:05 PM to 8:12 PM CET , the meeting has been recorded.

Participants (voting members in green)

1.	LRPCE Chairperson:	PIP Gudrun Björt YNGVADOTTIR	in attendance
	Designated ID EF Klagenfurt:	ID Barbara GREWE	in attendance
	Second Year IDs:	ID Barbara GREWE	
		ID Jürg VOGT (also Region 2 representative)	in attendance by phone
		ID Pirkko VIHAVAINEN (also Region 1 representative)	in attendance
	Immediate Past International Directors	IPID Mats GRANATH	in attendance for 1 hour
		IPID Teresa DINEEN (also Region 5 representative)	in attendance
		IPID Dr. Elena APPIANI (also Region 6 representative)	in attendance
	Area Representatives:	PID Daniel ISENRICH (Region 3)	in attendance
		PID Nicole MIQUEL-BELAUD (also EF 2024 Bordeaux President and Region 4 representative)	in attendance
		PID George Th PAPAS (Region 7)	absent*
		PID Kalle ELSTER (Region 8)	in attendance
	Programme Directors	Markus TSCHISCHEJ (EF Klagenfurt)	absent
		DG Vanessa HORROD (EF Bordeaux)	in attendance 2nd part
	Past International Presidents:	PIP Giuseppe „Pino” GRIMALDI (IP 1994-1995)	in attendance
		PIP Eberhard J. WIRFS (IP 2009-2010)	apologies
	LEF A & A and LRPCE secretary:	PID Miklos HORVATH	in attendance
	Guests	PID Sandro CASTELLANA Chair of LRPCE ROP Revision Task Force Chairperson	in attendance
		PID Geoff Leeder (Chair) Lions Task Force Europe	apologies
		PID Dr Walter ZEMROSSER (also Europa Forum 2023 Klagenfurt President)	in attendance
		ID Marcel DANIELS - 1st year ID	in attendance
		ID Halldor KRISTJANSSON -1st year ID	In attendance 2nd part
		ID Danyal KUBIN - 1st Year ID	absent
		PCC Stewart Sherman-Kahn - Board Appointee	apologies
		PDG Karl BREWI, General Secretary EF 2023 Klagenfurt	in attendance
		PDG Niels SCHENCKER, Chairperson LAE	in attendance

*PID George's mother had a health issue, she had to be rushed to hospital

1. Welcome – Chairperson PIP Gudrun

Chairperson Gudrun greeted the participants at the first meeting in the new fiscal year 2023-2024. She acknowledged the services rendered by those who are no more members of the Committee, and the new members in the new fiscal year.

Our responsibilities are important as contained in the invitation letter sent out by the A&A.

Our primary objective is to ensure continuity, quality, and experience with regard to the content of the Forum and its workshops. Therefore, we have to scrutinize the operational structure of the Europa Forum and to submit proposals for improvement if appropriate.

We also have to provide structural analyses and proposals on how to secure qualitative membership growth in Europe in coordination with any membership initiatives of the International Board of Directors (i.e. the Mission 1.5 M) and to ensure the future international leadership of the Constitutional Area Europe is befitting the ever-increasing professional standards of volunteerism.

Our Committee shall also act as an advisory body to identify fairly and with transparency a suitable recommended rotation plan which would enable fair opportunity to the members for European International Director positions, to ensure that Europe has good, strong and appropriate candidates for European continuity.

She reminded who are the voting members of the committees and greeted – as a novelty in our workings - our permanent guests, the 1st year IDs, and the European Board Appointee. This is totally new and we do that to improve communication and share experiences.

Today we have two more guests, PDG Karl BREWI (General Secretary of the EF Klagenfurt) and PDG Niels SCHNECKER (Chairperson of Lions Academy Europe).

2. Introductions – All (only name, title and country)

The only present 1st year ID, Lion Marcel DANIELS shortly present himself.

3. Apologies - A&A PID Miklos

Please see above.

4. Mid-Year Report prepared by the Program Director of EF 2023 Klagenfurt and Europa Forum Content revision (Agendas of the Opening and Closing Ceremony), as per Article 2, Appendix I of the ROP - A&A PID Miklos

According to our ROP, the Mid-Year report should be sent to the Program Directors of the 3 previous forums for comments and suggestions. This time however, because of the COVID period, only the last two Forums (EF Thessaloniki and EF Zagreb) Program Directors have been contacted.

Their comments:

Both of them congratulated the Host Committee for being so advanced in the preparations of the EF. PDG Nikos on the part of EF 2021 Thessaloniki:

-He suggested that numbers are used to differentiate the sessions from each other thus achieving a better participation, communication and understanding.

-Their members are missing the Social Media coverage of EF Klagenfurt, previous forums made FB Groups, like Friends of EF Thessaloniki and that of EF Zagreb. They suggest that a similar FB Group is created to promote more effectively EF Klagenfurt.

PDG Darko on the part of EF Zagreb:

-to use more intense colours to differentiate the different session groups more effectively.

Moreover, from ID Pirkko we received some requests (reminders on sessions asked for by MD107 previously) that have already been partly addressed in the newest version of the EF Schedule.

ID Pirkko is requested to briefly present the session proposal not yet addressed, as follows:

Kindness matters: online safety and bullying prevention in the internet

The multiple district wide From Bullying to Healthy Online Behavior KiTeNet campaign targets schoolchildren aged 10 and up and is implemented through parents' meetings, support networks and a range of materials such as guides and videos.

MD107 has had it for 2 years now and there are very positive result.

Further comments were given by ID Barbara and PIP Pino.

Forum president PID Walter thanked the suggestions and promised to build them into the Forum's schedule and program. He also hopes that the agenda for the Opening and Closing ceremonies on which the Supervisory Committee worked very hard will be approved by the LRPCE. The FAB Group will be created during August.

PDG Karl BREWI confirmed that the sessions will be numbered after another thorough overview. He reiterated that the promotion of the Forum was a two-stage approach, first personal promotion on MD and D conventions, and the Social Media now.

The Finnish sessions will be inserted, as requested.

In the Forum program there are now about 95 topics. The main venue is the Klagenfurt Messe (Exhibition and Coinference Center) and a secondary venue is the Archives of Carinthia, everything is in walking distance, the YES and Contests (Musical and Young Ambassador) are concentrated in the Gustav Mahler private Music University.

Most of the 95 sessions will be programmed on these 2 venues, around 20 concern the YEC, Young Ambassadors and Musical competition, there will also be some closed sessions will be hosted in the main hotels.

Hotels are on the lakeside and the downtown area, the number of the hotels will be enlarged to handle the registrations coming in.

Travel: there are flights in the morning and flights in the evening from Vienna, and also daily flights from Ljubljana (Slovenia – 1 hour drive from Klagenfurt) shuttle service will be arranged by the HC.

A special impetus is given to membership growth and Mission 1.5.

On the first day (Thursday) they will organize a Parade of Nations from the Congress Center to the Main Square of Klagenfurt where the Lord Mayor will receive the participants.

He then gave a detailed run-off of the daily programs, Friday is mainly Environment and Sustainability and Plenaries concentrating on Membership, Saturday the Peace Day, and the European Council will take all the decisions.

Questions regarding the HQ Hotel (Pino: Seepark Hotel) and

Barbara fists asks about the Anthems, by common wisdom, first will be the Anthem of the IP.

The second question concerns the Opening Ceremony and the presentation of the Endorsed Candidates for 3rd IVP. The suggestion is to give the floor to those who ask for it, but this is a question to discuss and decide at the Supervisory Committee (no relevant rule whatsoever in the ROP) as it is the privilege and responsibility of the Host Committee to decide upon.

5. Discussion on the contents of an Emergency Resolution to the European Council at the forthcoming Europa Forum in Klagenfurt to accept the Lions Academy Europe* as a European Task Force - Chairperson PIP Gudrun

**There is a discussion whether we can use "Lions" before the Academy Europe. We shall continue to use it in these Minutes, just for the sake of clarity and better understanding, without vindicating the right to use it before a relevant decision is reached (Miklos)*

We have discussed it before and the Committee needed more information. The Academy seems to be a great initiative, as we need new tools and structures to train more effectively new leaders. We received a White Paper which answered most of our questions, but not all.

PDG Niels Schneckner to inform us about the idea, afterwards he would be happy to reply questions.

Hopefully after this meeting, we will have all the details to submit an emergency resolution to the European Council.

PDG Niels SCHNECKER:

- this is an idea, it started and developed as an idea, it does not exist yet, it is not spread around. A Task Force is dealing with its development. It originated in the GAT last year when we realized that we need much more efficient structures and qualified leadership trainers for leadership training in Europe. Several MDs in Europe started their own FDIs and ALLIs with their own financing, but it turned out that many of the MDs/Ds do not have sufficient number of qualified trainers. Moreover in CEE we do not have official languages, we have a major problem of offering training in languages. Modified RLLIs, and two FDIs in Russian and Balkan languages.
- Based on the above, we gathered 7 Lion leaders (leadership training specialists) representing the then existing Areas in Europe (GAT has restructured since that time, now it has 11 areas).
- Other new element is the SWOT analysis we made with the GLT coordinators of the MDs/Ds. This is still a leadership training leader's point of view, we needed a grassroots Lion's point of view and that is why we initiated the survey to the 238.000 members without any intention of creating anything just to gather a grassroots Lions' point of view. This lasted almost a year and finally we sent the survey out to appr. 8.000 Lions and that is where our problems started with LCI.
- Another issue that became clear from the SWOT analysis is that we have to concentrate on young people to generate membership growth (well before Mission 1.5). that is why we started to have off-the-record discussions with the European Union, with the Education & Social Directorate and a few universities to see if our regular courses (Communication skills, project management, time management, meeting management, conflict resolution, teamwork, etc) could be recognized by the EU and get University credits. We got a positive reply in principle, but no further discussions took place. The reason why it was important is the membership issue, young people need MBA level courses on their resumes that cost a lot of money. If we can offer these courses free of charge against a commitment of 2 years' membership, we could use this to create new (campus) clubs. We have an example in MD118 Turkey, they have a program called Young Lions Leadership Seminar, they had a success rate of 70 % retention rate.
- Financing: a draft of a strategic plans has been presented in Zagreb. We were trying to find alternative ways for financing, but also looked at the traditional methods like LCI grants, co-financing by the users (MDs and Ds), etc.. We concentrate though on the alternative ways that would be branding (the mobile phone apps would run on European phone operators who would be interested in a branding deal, or we could offer MBA level courses to large corporations against remuneration, and make a way thus in the corporate environment.

PINO:

Congrats, good pitch. What is the final goal, this is not clear for me

NIELS:

The final goal is to have a Leadership Development penetration all the way through our MDs and Ds, and on top to contribute to membership development with the leadership tools and to obtaining as many as possible young members in our European clubs.

PINO: That is great, although you cannot form a real leader, either you are born a leader, or you cannot be trained to become one.

NIELS: Agree, although with the system we have, we do not know yet how to find those leaders. The Academy would have to create this system which is intended to be self-sustained.

DANIEL:

It is a great idea to europeanize the program, some comments:

- being a humble person, I have to say that the questionnaire has not been sent to 8.000 people but 22.000 people.

NIELS:

Let me react on that immediately. We requested LCI to give us a data base with the adressess of 238.000 members, after 9 months of discussions, during which we shared the goals and the letter with LCI , and finally we received 23.000 addresses. When we decided to send it out, we decided to send it in batches. The first batch has been sent out by ID Halldor and immediately generated the vehement reply of LCI. When we got that, we stopped further mailings.

DANIEL:

I had a couple of chats with Sanjeev who asked me if I have seen the letters he sent to Executive Officers, I said I have seen one, not the other.

I would like to comment on the university credit. We have to find the real audience, which is not CCs or DGs, but club presidents. The young Lions are in general minimum 30 years old, but the average age of Lions is way above that, I do not think University credits would be much attractive for a 50 years old Lion. It is a nice idea to think of university credit, but it would be priority No. 512. and we had better work on other priorities.

I can also comment on financing: I can understand the purpose and the idea behind. I am with you on Eastern Europe where Lions do not have trainings in their native languages, although an FDI seminar for a handful of Russians is like shooting on sparrows with a cannon. I have sympathy, but our first focus should be where we have the most amount of Lions, where is the largest potential in future leaders? When we have a handful of Russian Lions (although it is not a good example at present times) the pool of talents is much bigger in other countries. For them we should translate the available curriculums in LCI and/or group the languages as they do it in Scandinavian countries. That would save us on time and costs.

NIELS:

- attracting new members after Boston (Mission 1.5), is the No. 1 priority of LCI, the Alpha and Omega of all. Obtaining new members by any means in the Focus No. 1
- I agree on the age issue, unfortunately, 50 is very galant, the average age is well over 60 in CA4 and they do not need university credit. However, we do not know how to receive young members in our organization, we in our age we do not have the wherewithal, and there are initiatives, like Leo/Lion (which is undersold) which can show the way. To get young people in Lions is Priority No. 1 and the university credit is important for them.
- Agree that for existing Lions, club presidents this is not an issue, there the trainings are impeded by the low number of qualified trainers, and as far as we know it is even the case in Germany. (intermission by Barbara: This is not true, we have many LCIPOS and FDIs, the issue is that they are not used)
- languages of CEE, the penetration of Lions is low in these countries, in Romania for instance, where we have 20 millions inhabitants and 1500 Lions (and 11000 Leos!), so the penetration is low, getting new, young members in these countries is important.
- grouping of countries is important.

MATS:

Also in favour of the idea. However, we should make it in two steps. The first step would be to give ample information to the Lions countries at the European Council at the forthcoming forum, and in a second step, at the next EF create the relevant body.

NIELS:

- we need the European countries behind the initiative and they should buy in. If we do not have the buy-in and the commitment of a large number of countries, the chances of success are very small. It should be supported in order to penetrate.
- although we had a presentation in Zagreb, as it was in one of the GAZ sessions, it might not have had the necessary impact. We wanted to make some substantial progress in the second semester of 2023, but maybe, what you propose is the good approach.

MATS:

I think information is key, if we in this committee we do not have sufficient information, if we try to force it through now at the European Council, it can be a backlash and would delay this very good initiative to take off.

PINO: I second it.

BARBARA:

It is important and vital to have a good leadership in Europe. What your group proposes is not clear for me and it is a mixture of several leadership ways. As ALLI will be discontinued, for Europe, it was not a second VDG training, like in other CAs, it was the first step to international. We have to find a solution in Europe to replace that. But for this, the traditional and sometimes LCI funded leadership training possibilities, institutes are there, like RLLI and ELLI, a step for European Lions to International. This is the internal part, we can work in the existing system with some add-on. Opposite to your statement, we have many LCIP trainers in Europe, but they are not asked to facilitate training, as we do not have the sufficient numbers. As far as the external is concerned, I do not think either that you can have more members if you say that you can have courses like university courses. First who should do it, second why people would come to Lions, they could go to universities. If these courses are the main reasons to become a member, this is not the right way. I am sceptical on these offers for young people to bring them in Lions. Basically, I still do not understand – not from the White Paper and what you just said – what is the real contents of this internal and external trainings and how it should have a good impact on membership. The second point, I have no idea what material (curriculum) you will use, who will write them, who will control them, will they be Lions related, or marketing, or economy related. We have no information about that. We also have no information who will judge who are good leader material, or good trainers. And most importantly, you have interesting ideas about how you will get money, but no information on how much money you will need?

NIELS:

- Your comments show how much you know about leadership training and I also had the chance and honour to work alongside you.
- The ALLI discontinuation is a godsend said the whole team, as it gives us an incredible opportunity to us as we can show how much we are worth. I do not think RLLI/ELLI could replace ALLI, we should target a EURO-ALLI, because we used this program differently and this was a richness that we have to keep.
- Eyes, we have many LCIP trainers in Europe, but when you say they haven't been used, means only they have little or no experience. Therefore when I speak about qualified trainers, I speak about those guys who can hit the road when put before a class.
- Who would do it: anybody who is interested. You say that you do not accept being a Lion for free courses, let me refer back to the MD118 case where it was used since 2014-2015 as a retention tool for young members who were restless in their clubs, but YLLS proved to be a recruitment tool, where 70 % have remained long time members. They will work as Lions, and the commitment and the service experience will make a real good combination for long term membership. They will do their own thing, you can call them specialty clubs, if you want
- LAE has to be an authorized body for the good of European Lionism in collaboration with the Leadership Division of LCI, who have these last years a tremendous potential and track record of writing and delivering training materials. We would have them validate what LAE does, This is again the intention of the seven people as an idea level. That is why I cannot tell you at this moment what content, how much and from where. Going back to what Mats said, We have to understand what this emergency resolution will ask the Council, we do not think to ask the Council at this moment to accept the creation of a Lions Academy Europe, as there is nothing to create, we have nothing to present, we have no courses, we have no trainers, we have no finance, What we would have to ask the Council is to accept the development of an idea to the point of a concrete plan with content, with trainers, with finance which then should be brought before the Council to accept its creation. In other words, we have to get to the point to be able to answer those questions. We felt that after the mishap with LCI and the letter Daniel talked about written by Sanjeev AHUJA, we have to agree as a continent – by the way he was the one to propose that – to develop the idea to bring it to the point where all the elements of a concrete strategic plan, to put it together and bring it to the European Council and say, this is what Europe can do, do you want it or not. This is the step we would have to do now rather than later, because then, we can answer the questions Barbara posed.

How much resource we need, whether we need a building or not, how many people we need, how many MDs and Ds we need, do we need them at all, should be LAE superposed, besides them or should it be a partner. All these questions should be addressed in an operational action plan and this is what this Task Force has been trying to develop over the last year.

GUDRUN:

We could discuss this for hours, PINO has to leave. If you have anything new, comments that have not yet been said, please take the floor. Miklos?

MIKLOS:

What I would suggest is the synthesis what Niels has just said, this should be the framework to be used for our future discussions and this would be the basis for further progress towards this eventual Emergency Resolution and then the creation of the structure. I don't think we could go farther this time.

BARBARA:

I agree, but this is not material for an Emergency Resolution to allow seven people to have ideas, it has no relation to what the European Council is doing and deciding upon. You do not need an allowance to have ideas.

NIELS:

This is not just 7 or to be more exact 22 people to fantasize in a vacuum, we want to talk to the Lions, we want to exchange ideas. That was the intent of interaction why we wanted this survey that got us into hot water. And again, the suggestion was made by the Executive Administrator of LCI, Sanjeed AHUJA after the incident. We would have to have this permission to interact, to ask. We do not want to get again in hot water because we are interacting. And here the Executive Administrator is right, we would have to have a certain level of permission.

PINO:

you do not need any permission to continue to develop it further. The Chairperson could give an information that this work is going on and we would need the cooperation of Lions. We could discuss for hours, we are not ready, we can say that we are working.

GUDRUN:

Thank you Pino, maybe we will ask for support.

TERESA:

To my mind we are going in circles. The bottom line is that an Emergency Resolution is when something has to be decided, something crucial, things that hinge on us, I do not see where the Emergency is in this. There is a group of people who want to do good work and nobody denies that leadership is always at the forefront in anything we Lions do, no matter at what level. But I don't see any emergency in that.

MIKLOS

Emergency Resolution is a tool in the hands of the LRPCE to submit a proposal over the deadline of June 15. This does not describe any Emergency, this is a formula.

GUDRUN

I think we have spent much time on this, I think Niels should work on the questions raised and make another paper or have previously a meeting with Miklos and myself. Do you need something else to develop it further, Niels?

NIELS:

I understand the questions, it seems simply a misunderstanding where we are, what we want and trying to do and what is the right time to answer these questions. The question of Emergency Resolution, or resolution, or why European Council came into the picture is a suggestion, made more like a request by the Executive Administrator of LCI after the appearance of the survey and this letter.

GUDRUN.

Thank you. Miklos anything to add?

MIKLOS:

Thank you Chairperson. What we are seeking to do here is to propose to the European Council to recognize a structure, let we call it Task Force, or whatever, a structure which would work on this and would come back with concrete proposals as far as the contents are concerned. That is the issue we are talking about. I think that this we can achieve based on some more substantial information to give to the committee members.

GUDRUN:

That is what we shall do, with Niels, write some more detailed explanation so that everybody understands where we stand.

6. General discussion of Guiding Principles and Task Assignment by the Committee to the Task Force to review the existing Rotation Scheme and its transformation in the light of the decisions voted upon by the International Convention in Boston - Chairperson PIP Gudrun

GUDRUN:

This is a very important work to do before the forthcoming Europa Forum and submit it to the European Council meeting.

As you very well know it, LRPCE shall also act as an advisory body to identify suitable recommended rotation which would enable fair opportunity to the members for European International Director positions. The LRPCE therefore has the responsibility of the suggested International Director candidate rotation list for Europe and when circumstances dictate, the elected voting members of LRPCE will meet (virtually) and adjust fairly with transparency, the rotation, to ensure that Europe has good, strong and appropriate candidates for European continuity.

We had the last official version on the Web-Page, but we took it down when amendments should be made because of the 3rd IVP candidates.

We discussed with the potential countries and came to a decision, we have now a plan for the coming years that has to be upgraded in the light of the decisions of the Boston International Convention.

The Task Force that worked on the revisions of the Rules of Procedure made a very good job, therefore we have asked them to help us to revise the Rotation Scheme. Many people have discussed, there are some good things from the previous version, the present one and the Gentlemen Agreement we had earlier, we would have to take all what is good from all the previous versions and solutions.

Miklos and I have been playing with some ideas, Miklos please present them, you all can of course comment but do not please repeat what has already been said, because we have very few minutes left.

MIKLOS:

First of all let me remind you that we have new regulations – we have in fact no regulation – to propose international officers, now every Lions nation, independently from the number of members may propose and international office.

What we have been trying to do was to marry two basic principles; one is of course the membership numbers, and the other is a sort of cultural proximity between Lions countries.

We have at present six ID on the Board and we would like to keep it.

I worked out a potential and possible rotation plan which could be described, as follows (the relevant Excel table is shared on the screen) which I would like to open for discussion at the forthcoming first meeting of the Rotation Plan Task Force. I would like to stress that this is only one of the potential formulas.

What I propose is, as follows:

1. I composed 6 groups, based on membership (Cumulative Report June 30, 2023) and cultural proximity.

5 of the Groups have a relatively similar membership count (with the exception of Group 3 because of Germany), Group 6 is for the Emerging Countries and undistricted which represents much less in membership, where I suggest to determine the rotation every 3 years based on membership development.

2. I proposed a 20 year plan, every Group will suggest an ID candidate every two year, this means, there will be 10 slots for each Group in the 20 year plan.

3. Within the groups, the frequency of delegating an ID will vary according to the membership count, for example Group 4:

MD/D	Member count	Times in a 20 year period
103	22820	4
112	6895	2
117	2127	1
118	5286	2
124	1590	1
	38718	

As far as Group No. 6 is concerned, I would suggest to review the Rotation Plan every 3 years, based on the developments during that period.

4. The 20 year Rotation Plan would start in 2026, until 2026, the presently valid Rotation Scheme will prevail.

I will send by mail to the Committee Members and guests the Excel table where I made the Rotation Plan in details, I do hope it will be understandable.

I would like to stress that this is confidential at this stage, please keep it for yourselves for the time being, we do hope that our Task Force will come up with a viable solution that we can present in Klagenfurt.

GUDRUN:

We will not discuss it any further this time, we will give it to the Task Force to develop it further and come up with a viable plan, but if you have any comments, or questions to Niels, Miklos myself and Sandro, as the Chair of the Task Force, please do not hesitate.

SANDRO thanked the work done and promised to convene the Task Force and start working.

GUDRUN:

We should finish the work so that the results could be shown in Klagenfurt, but whatever we do, we will probably revise it every 3 years .

The Ad.Hoc Committee on Board Representation is working, our numbers might be revised, we are not sure to have 6 directors after this year. The Ad Hoc Committee will revise the Board Representation every 5 years, so the number of directors is not in our hands. If we have next year 6 directors, the year after we might have 5 or 4, with the total number of the Board Members reduced. Still, we have to think big, like this and be ready to make changes when needed.

We will plan a meeting very soon, please send questions, comments to Miklos, Sandro and myself any time.

PINO:

I have to leave now, all you said Chairperson was perfect, as always. We will have much work to do! Thank you Miklos for the great job, it is complicated and take up much time to do a plan like this, this will be a good basis for the work of the Task Force.

We will communicate with the Committee as soon as we have something to report and discuss.

7. General Information on notable events and decisions during the Boston International Convention and at the Board Meeting preceding it - Chairperson PIP Gudrun

We cannot cover everything during these couple of minutes left, I will mention a few, but will make it in writing and it will be part of the Minutes.

We have already greeted the new first year and second year directors, I would like now congratulate Pirkko to have become the Chairperson of the Service Committee and also member of the Executive Committee which is a great honour and privilege.

It is unusual to have 3 European Board Appointees when the IP is not from Europe, but this is the case now. The Board Appointees are PID Teresa DINEEN, PCC Stewart Sherman-Kahn and myself.

A) Voted on at LCIcon2023, and approved:

1. A resolution to **remove the minimum district requirements** from the **Third Vice President** qualifications; and the same for **International Director**. Removal of this requirement will permit qualified candidates **from any district** to contest for the office, provided all other qualifications are met.
2. A resolution to **create a distinct membership category** for members paying discounted dues as a result of any discount program offered by the association. Creation of a new category will prevent members paying discounted dues from increasing a club's total delegate entitlement at a district, multiple district or international convention.

This is how it looked like on the ballot:

ITEM 3:

A RESOLUTION TO CREATE A DISTINCT MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY FOR MEMBERS PAYING DISCOUNTED DUES AS A RESULT OF ANY DISCOUNT PROGRAM OFFERED BY THE ASSOCIATION. CREATION OF A NEW CATEGORY WILL PREVENT MEMBERS PAYING DISCOUNTED DUES FROM INCREASING A CLUB'S TOTAL DELEGATE ENTITLEMENT AT A DISTRICT, MULTIPLE DISTRICT OR INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION. (THIS AMENDMENT TO THE BY-LAWS REQUIRES A MAJORITY VOTE TO ADOPT)

SHALL THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION BE ADOPTED?

BE IT RESOLVED, That the International ByLaws, Article XI, Section 7 be amended to include "Discounted" between "Associate," and "Honorary," to become effective January 1, 2024.

Attached is the chart of the categories from **last year's** INTERNATIONAL Constitution And By-Law (2022), it has not yet been updated on the web, but will be soon.

3. A resolution to **update the duties of district officers**... with a focus on membership growth and leadership development moving forward. (**Mission 1,5**). This includes DG, FVDG, SVDG, RC, ZC.

B) Decisions made at the Board of Directors meeting before the LCIcon

- The undistricted area of **Cyprus becomes Provisional District 135** at the close of the 2024 International Convention, with Past International Director Robert Rettby appointed as Coordinating Lion. The detailed Board Decision is enclosed herewith for clarity.
- The **Republic of North Macedonia** is allowed to form a foundation, subject to district approval of changes to the foundation's name and by-laws.
- An election complaint filed in **Multiple District 103** was denied and agreed Lion Guy-Bernard Brami be declared the endorsed international director candidate.
- Approved the Ad Hoc Committee on **Board Representation** for the 2023-2024 year.
- Approved changes to ensure the "**Advisory Committee** to Review Vice President Candidates" operates independently from outside influence and issues a single recommendation once all eligible candidates have been interviewed by the committee.

- Selected group leaders shall **not be eligible to certify** as a candidate for International Director or International Third Vice President during the entire term which the individual will serve as District Governors-Elect Seminar group leader.

- Lions who are **endorsed and certified for international office** are **prohibited** from serving as GAT CA-Leader, and GAT Area-Leader.

- The **Presidential Medal**: Additional 300 exclusively for **Mission 1.5**.
- The International **Leadership Medal**: Additional 500 exclusively for **Mission 1.5**.

C) Decision made at the Board of Directors meeting after the LCIcon2023

- The Executive Officers and the Board of Directors endorsed PID Manoj Shah from Kenya for the office of International Third Vice President.

When IP Patti Hill introduced the Executive Officer's choice, and asked for the support of the Board, she said:

"This is NOT a question of who is the BEST candidate, but who is the RIGHT person at this TIME".

In June 2023 there were **7 endorsed and certified candidates**, three from Africa and four from Europe. Many thought it would be Europe's turn this time. There is not an official rotation system when it comes to selecting a candidate for 3rd VP, but diversity is important in the Executive Officers team, representing different parts of the world.

2024 MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA
ENDORSED AND CERTIFIED CANDIDATES FOR INTERNATIONAL OFFICE
 As of July 27, 2023

THIRD VICE PRESIDENT CANDIDATES	
Domenico Messina (108) Via Nicolo' Riccio 15 91100 Trapani TP Italy zancledo@alice.it	Phil Nathan (105) Grasmere Coggeshall Road Earls Colne, Essex CO6 2JU United Kingdom pidphil@yahoo.co.uk
Manoj Shah (411) 7-Kingsway House, University Way Nairobi Kenya manoj.shah@kingswaytyres.com	Alexis Gomes (403) 23 Rue du Dr. Denis Oemba BP 542 Pointe Noire Republic of Congo idavgomes@gmail.com

Chairperson Gudrun did not unfortunately have time to talk about IP Patti's message and theme, Mission 1,5, the changes on GAT, the new marketing resources and the great success of LCIF, and many other big news.

Because of Mission 1.5 there will be additional 300 Presidential Medals and plus 500 Leadership Medals.

We have now seven Group Leaders from Europe, the same number, as earlier. If they think to run for ID, they are not eligible to be endorsed, because they are Group Leaders. You are either a Group Leader, or a Candidate, you cannot be both in the same year. So we have to be careful. there were two main considerations: you should concentrate on one important job, not two, the second thing is to have more leaders and not concentrate everything in the same hands.

Also changes in the GAT, the global Chairperson, PIP Habanananda is not there any more, the previous structure was too much top-heavy. Now the Executive Officers are in charge of the GAT and the Executive Officer responsible for Europe is AP SINGH.

So if you are an Area Leader, Constitutional Area Leader in GAT, you are not eligible to be endorsed as candidate for international office. so the possibilities are limited.

8. Discussion of a EF policy to allow or not parallel positions (EF Official and International Office candidates) – the follow-up on the discussion at the last meeting – Chairperson PIP Gudrun

Because of lack of time, this point of the agenda has been tabled to be discussed at a future meeting.

9. AOB – All

BARBARA

All the Indian Lions marching together, only 20-30 minutes, also Europe should march together.

We are not regarded as others, because of our diversity. If we march together, the 35 nations, we could show that we are different, but we are united. This is what I would suggest to propose to the European Council, as maybe an Emergency Resolution, or bring it back to an MD and propose it in the regular way. This could be a tool to enhance the vision others have of Europe.

GUDRUN:

This is a good proposal, we could discuss it at the Europa Forum, but we have to send a proposal to the the Convention Committee, they have to approve the change of the schedule.

You were International Convention HC Chair, you know the procedure, we should definitely make this proposal sooner than later creating more visibility and it would be good for the world to see how big we are. The criteria on the number of IDs in a Constitutional Area are based on membership, growth, service reporting and the generosity towards LCIF and also the density of Lions in the countries. I am a member of that committee, we will have our first meeting in a week, and I am already gathering information to share with them to show our strength and I hope we can keep our 6 directors for the 5 years to come (5 years ago, we were on the edge, we were not growing, we were not reporting and we were not generous). This is something we have to work on, this is why we have established the Lions Task Force Europe to strengthen Europe within, be visible and good marketing.

10. Next meeting – Chairperson and A&A

We still have much to do before the Klagenfurt Europa Forum, we have to make a new Rotation Scheme, we have to make a proposal concerning Lions Academy Europe, as Sanjeev AHUJA suggested and there is of course the new EF Manual

We can have the next meeting **August 28**, and the one afterward on **September 25. 6 PM**.

The meeting was closed by Chairperson Gudrun with words of pride and praise to the members of this great Committee Very fruitful, good discussions.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12. PM

Prepared by: PID Miklos HORVATH A & A