

INTERLEGAL ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the meeting of the General Assembly held on 17 May 2014
at Barcelona, Spain

1. RECORDING OF THOSE PRESENT

Miguel Neto, President	Sao Paulo, Brazil
Adam Booc, Vice-President	Budapest, Hungary
Emmanuel Reveillaud, Treasurer Brigitte Czoske	Luxembourg
Jeremy Shulman, Secretary Andrew Bradley	Leeds, England
Ruud Voorvaart	Breda, The Netherlands
William Blum Robert Ladislav	New York, USA
Joao Paulo Menezes Falcao	Lisbon, Portugal
Albert Sant i Pont	Barcelona, Spain
Alexandre Dupont	Bangkok, Thailand
Fernando Trevino	Puebla, Mexico
Caroline Berube Deborah Loedt	Guangzhou, China
Christian Fischele Thierry Ullmann	Geneva, Switzerland
Daniel Vitolo	Buenos Aires, Argentina
Eduardo Mezzera Ramon Bado	Montevideo, Uruguay
Gabrielle Brand-Ogris	Vienna, Austria
Eliska Tomanova Daniel Barton	Prague, Czech Republic
Robin King Cherrie Homer	Sydney, Australia
Tone Bjorn	Sandvika, Norway
Frederic Letendre	Montreal, Canada
Steffen Lorscheider	Dortmund, Germany
Petter Pettersen	Oslo, Norway
Alexandre Meyrieux	Paris, France

Riccardo Cajola

Milan, Italy

John Ansbro (Paid Officer)

In attendance

2. **RECORDING OF OBSERVERS**

Nelly Shramova of Freytak & Sons, Moscow, Russia.

3. **WELCOME**

The President welcomed those present and thanked our hosts for their hospitality.

4. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Thomas Koeneke, McAllen, Texas, Laura Christa, Los Angeles, USA, Peter Nogradi, Budapest, Hungary and Markus Wanger, Vaduz, Liechtenstein.

5. **APPROVAL OF THE LAST MINUTES**

The minutes of the last meeting were approved. A copy is attached.

6. **MEMBERS' PRESENTATIONS**

Solomon Blum Heymann LLP, New York, USA:

Bill Blum made the presentation. The firm was founded in 1996. It has 3 partners, Bill Blum, Rob Solomon and Andy Heymann. It does international law. It has 10 lawyers in New York. Robert Ladislav, who was present at the meeting, does tax. The firm has associates and counsel. The firm also does trusts and estates, banking, immigration, real estate, corporate and family law. It has connections in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, US Virgin Islands (USVI), Florida, Oregon, Guam and the Marshall Islands, and friends in many other US states. The firm is fully aware of Delaware law. The firm now had an arrangement with Kellerhals Ferguson in USVI doing tax, litigation, real estate, commercial law and banking. Robert Ladislav was also a qualified accountant doing work under the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act, which forces banks worldwide to report on US citizens.

Shulmans LLP:

Andrew Bradley gave a presentation on Shulmans LLP, which is now in the top 200 firms in the UK. The firm deals with cross border issues and acts for owner managed businesses, banks and local government. It has nineteen partners and 142 staff, having made 52 new appointments since 2008. It had broadened its business into specialist areas such as IT, construction, property litigation, insolvency, regulatory and planning law, in addition to the usual service to business. It was strong on talking to clients, pricing, training and IT. It has a London base and would have new head office premises from 2 June 2014 with a new website.

The following firms agreed to give presentations in Malta:-

Kaufhold Ossola & Associates, Luxembourg.

Spieker & Jaeger, Dortmund, Germany.

BDSC, Montreal, Canada.

Koehler Rak Kurowski, Katowice, Poland had agreed to give a presentation in Barcelona but was not present and may wish to give one in Malta.

7. **NEW MEMBERS**

Freytak & Sons:

Nelly Shramova gave a presentation in relation to Freytak & Sons. She apologised for the absence of Mr Freytak. He was a well-known scholar and an author of tax matters and had a number of publications.

The firm was known for tax, mergers and acquisitions, litigation and arbitration. Its clients were owners, beneficiaries, businesses, financial institutions and politicians. There were 10 lawyers and they had a closed approach to each client. Clients included Gas Prom, Amazon and Unilever. They had an office in Cyprus.

Freytak & Sons were applying for membership of Interlegal and on a vote was unanimously elected a member.

Matekovic Law Firm:

The Vice-President expected that there would be an application from Matekovic Law Firm, a Croatian firm in Malta.

New Members Report:

The meeting was referred to a new membership update report from the Paid Officer (a copy is attached to these minutes). The President stated that he expected an attendance from a firm in Santiago, Chile in Malta as that firm had a connection with Malta, one of the partners being the Honorary Consul. He also thought that a firm from Panama might be present.

There was also strong interest from a firm in Cyprus.

Riccardo referred to the possibility of a new member in India and he would follow this up.

Bill Blum said he would assist with recruitment in the Caribbean and Central America in tandem with the USVI office with whom his firm had an arrangement.

The President appealed for the help of the members to recruit new members using their contacts.

8. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

The President referred to his report, which is attached to these minutes. He stated that he was very happy with the turnout at this meeting, which showed the importance of Interlegal and the significance of Albert Sant i Pont as a member. He expressed his appreciation to Bill Blum and John Ansbro for the delivery of the website. He acknowledged that new members were hard to develop but he anticipated at least 3 new members at the next meeting.

9. **SPECIALIST GROUPS**

The President said that there were no rules for the introduction of new blood to the Specialist Groups and the Marketing Committee and that he would like to stand down as Chairman of the Law Management Group and was looking for a replacement for Malta. Alexandre Dupont volunteered for this. The President said that the Executive Committee would be looking at rules to deal with rotation of Group/Committee members.

He looked to the existing members of Specialist Groups to develop themes for Malta and asked Riccardo Cajola to undertake work for the Practical Deals and

Cases Group. He said that in Law Management Alexandre Dupont and Ruud Voorvaart would talk about obligations to audit companies and he looked for a further initiative from the International Arbitration Litigation and Insolvency Group and Corporate team. Caroline Berube agreed that she would talk about the Corporate Group to Robin King. The President asked all chairmen to let Adam Booc know their topic.

10. **MARKETING**

Bill Blum reported on the Marketing Committee. He first of all talked about the fact that using Google analytics we would be able to analyse who visited the website, categories of visits and where they were from on a quarterly basis.

He said it was important that members did things. They should fill in their own section in the big box. It was important for everyone to fill it in.

They should complete the Referrals Register, which was interesting to members of Interlegal and potential members.

They should give news items for the website.

They should participate with newsletters of between 500 and 2,000 words.

The following volunteered to give newsletters for the rest of 2014:-

June – Ramon Bado
July – Albert Sant i Pont
August – Robin King
September – Alexandre Meyrieux
October – Eliska Tomanova
November – Caroline Berube
December – Alexandre Dupont.

Bill also stated that there should be more activity on the LinkedIn group site and that if people had not joined they should do so.

As to budgeted items an overall budget of €35,000 was agreed for marketing in accordance with the list which had been in front of the Marketing Committee.

The President stated that he wished to have a short video for the joint presentation at EuraAudit. The cost was included in the €35,000. Additionally there was €5,000 for the website, €5,000 to attract new members, €10,000 to increase new members, €5,000 for outreach, €5,000 for business cards and €5,000 for the video, total €35,000.

So far as EuraAudit were concerned, members committed to contacting EuraAudit members within one month of the meeting as per the attached list.

11. **IBA CONFERENCE – TOKYO**

The following stated that they would be attending Tokyo: Caroline Berube, Riccardo Cajola and Cristina Salvador. Daniel Vitolo and Emmanuel Reveillaud may attend. The date of the IBA meeting was close to Malta.

Cristina Salvador would contact the others attending and one on one meetings would be arranged, as had been the case in the previous IBA meeting, either over coffee, breakfast, lunch or dinner, to explain Interlegal and try and arrange another meeting with a view to inviting membership.

12. **WEBSITE**

This has been fully covered during a presentation the day before and by item 10.

13. **FINANCE – TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Treasurer reported that costs had increased mainly because of the extra time put in by John Ansbro, and also because of an improved website.

Certain members had not paid their subscriptions and the Treasurer would follow these up, in addition to issuing requests for new subscriptions.

The Treasurer's report, which was tabled, is attached to these minutes.

14. **POSSIBLE DISPUTE OVER THE TRADING NAME OF INTERLEGAL**

The President reported that the offender traded in Colombia. He was authorised to tell the lawyer in Colombia to go ahead with our application for a mark in Colombia subject to Riccardo Cajola agreeing that he felt it was alright for Interlegal to go ahead. If he did not, then the matter would have come back to the General Assembly. In the meantime, a budget of €5,000 was authorised for registration.

This raised a wider issue of global registration and it was agreed that the Association should utilise trade mark watch.

15. **PAID OFFICER'S REPORT**

This was given and a copy is attached to these minutes and thanks were recorded to John Ansbro for his work.

16. **PROPOSED VENUE AND DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING/JOINT MEETING WITH EURAAUDIT – MALTA 24-28 OCTOBER 2014**

In the absence of Christian Fischele, Thierry Ullmann gave a report. This item was taken earlier in the meeting.

The intention was to start the meeting on 24 October 2014 and finish on 28 October 2014.

The proposed itinerary was as follows:-

24 October 2014 – Drink in the evening with EuraAudit or Dinner maybe with or without EuraAudit

25 October 2014 – Social – walking visit to Valetta jointly with EuraAudit. Cruising, Dinner, Barbecue, Interlegal only.

26 October 2014 – Visit the Grotto and temples with EuraAudit. Free time in which the Marketing Committee may take place. Dinner with EuraAudit.

27 October 2014 – Presentation with EuraAudit on a common issue, e.g. money laundering or compliance. Lunch with EuraAudit.

Specialist Groups and Marketing – Interlegal.

Gala Dinner Interlegal only.

28 October 2014 – General Meeting Interlegal.

Later in the meeting Christian Fischele reported that the fees were included with the hotel and that members must book quickly and could only book for either 2 nights, Sunday and Monday, or 4 nights, Friday to Monday.

17. **FUTURE MEETINGS**

It was agreed that a meeting in Lisbon would take place in May 2015.

The following venues and, where applicable, dates were offered:

Thailand – October/November 2015.

New York – May 2016.

Luxembourg.

Leeds.

Canada.

Australia.

18. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There was none.

19. **ELECTIONS**

Treasurer – the only candidate was Emmanuel Reveillaud and he was unanimously elected.

Secretary – the only candidate was Jeremy Shulman and he was elected unanimously.

INTERLEGAL ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the meeting of the General Assembly held on 13 October 2013
At Puebla, Mexico

1. RECORDING OF THOSE PRESENT

Miguel Neto, President	Sao Paulo, Brazil
Adam Booc, Vice-President	Budapest, Hungary
Emmanuel Reveillaud, Treasurer Brigitte Czoske	Luxembourg
Jeremy Shulman, Secretary	Leeds, England
Ruud Voorvaart	Breda, The Netherlands
William Blum	New York, USA
Joao Paulo Menezes Falcao	Lisbon, Portugal
Albert Sant i Pont	Barcelona, Spain
Alexandre Dupont	Bangkok, Thailand
Fernando Trevino	Puebla, Mexico
Caroline Berube	Guangzhou, China
Christian Fischele,	Geneva, Switzerland
Pawel Koehler	Poland
Maria Agustina Vitolo	Buenos Aires, Argentina

2. RECORDING OF OBSERVERS

There were none.

3. WELCOME

The President welcomed those present and thanked our hosts for their hospitality.

4. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Filip Seifert, Prague, Czech Republic, Peter Nogradi, Budapest, Hungary, Solomon Gordon, Johannesburg, South Africa, Robin King, Sydney, Australia, Laura Christa, Los Angeles, USA, Markus Wanger, Vaduz, Liechtenstein, Petter Petterson, Oslo, Norway, Petre Toman, Prague, Czech Republic, Frederic Letendre, Montreal, Canada, Ramon Bado, Montevideo, Uruguay, Marc Demartin, Brussels, Belgium, Gabrielle Brand-Ogris, Vienna, Austria, Steffen Lorscheider, Dortmund, Germany and Riccardo Cajola, Milan, Italy

5. APPROVAL OF THE LAST MINUTES

The minutes of the last meeting were approved. A copy is attached.

6. MEMBERS' PRESENTATIONS

ACE Advogados

Joao Paulo Menezes Falcao gave a presentation in relation to ACE Advogados. The firm has four partners and 14 lawyers. It does banking, debt collection, corporate, including pharmaceutical, labour and real estate and is working towards more specialisms. The firm is a merged firm and is now working in the same office. The reason for the merger was to give more specialisms, obtain cost synergies and bring in younger blood.

Joao Paulo Menezes Falcao agreed to send the slides of his presentation to the Members.

The following firms agreed to give presentations at Barcelona:

BDSC, Montreal, Canada
Solomon Blum Heymann LLP, New York USA
Koehler Rak Kurowski, Katowice, Poland
Shulmans, Leeds, England and
Kaufhold Ossola and Associes, Luxembourg.

7. NEW MEMBERS

It was reported that the Vice-President was now taking responsibility for new members with John Ansbro.

The new members report, which is attached to these Minutes, was noted.

Other countries where there was a possibility of new members included Lebanon and Russia.

The Vice-President had particular interest from Croatia and The Ukraine. The Vice-President was asked to liaise with Albert Sant i Pont so that appropriate invitations could be issued to the Barcelona meeting.

Fernando Trevino suggested that there should be more firms in the USA.

All firms were asked to mention possible candidates.

Pawel Koehler mentioned a firm that he knew in Israel which needed a follow-up and he would liaise with the Vice-President.

Joao Paulo Menezes Falcao mentioned a firm in Macau.

The President confirmed that the Association was looking to firms in the G20.

The President mentioned that at the IBA meeting he had attracted interest from firms in Lithuania, Chile, Columbia and possibly Peru and felt that the first three of these firms were likely to join.

The President emphasised that it was important to use the website and other tools at the disposal of the Association and that we should all think about how best to sell the Association. For this we should be promoting our own and all law firms and maximise all leads. He felt there was a need for someone to assist on sales and he himself was intending to attend a meeting of UIA in Macau in October/November 2013. At this point the collective meetings of UIA were mentioned but it was clear that the Association had limited interest in them.

The meeting moved on to proposed amendments to the Articles of Association relating to new membership.

There was tabled for the meeting amendments to Article 5 Sub 1. Article Sub 5. Sub 6. Sub 7. Sub 8. Sub 9. and Sub 10.

Bill Blum explained how the Association had invited an Australian law firm to the China meeting and that this invitation was probably premature and that it highlighted difficulties in relation to new members where there was a member in an existing jurisdiction and also the addition of an office of an existing member in another jurisdiction where there was already a member.

Admission or otherwise of these types of member required an 80% majority of the entire membership which Bill Blum submitted was a very high threshold and difficult to meet. The quorum required was 50% of all members and at the moment if there was not a quorum the President could conduct a mail vote. It was felt this was not fair as those who voted by mail were not there to hear the debate.

Bill Blum was now proposing a majority of 60% for new members where there was an existing member in a jurisdiction or for a new office of an existing member in a jurisdiction where there was already a member. He also proposed that if there was insufficient quorum another meeting would have to take place but there would be account taken of votes at the first meeting.

It was recorded that the firm of Brown Wright Stein Lawyers, who were not present at the meeting, felt that the majority should be at least 75%.

Christian Fischele pointed out that this majority only applied if an existing member opposed entry of a new member.

At this meeting there was a quorum by reason of the numbers present and sufficient proxies lodged. After a vote, including proxies, 20 were in favour of the changes and 4 (including Brown Wright Stein's proxy) were against, with one abstention.

The Secretary was asked to prepare a new set of Articles of Association. A copy of the amendments to the Articles of Association is attached.

The Secretary would also prepare some guidance to the Executive Committee as to how to deal with applications which were the subject of these amendments, which he would agree with Bill Blum and then present to the Executive Committee for adoption.

8. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

This was tabled, a copy of which is attached, and supplemented by the President's remarks under item 7.

9. **SPECIALIST GROUPS**

Joao Paulo Menezes Falcao reported back from the meeting which took place on 12 October 2013. The Specialist Groups for Barcelona were then mentioned.

Corporate – Caroline Berube would work on this with Robin King and Andrew Bradley, if he was attending the meeting.

International Arbitration, Litigation and Insolvency – Joao Paulo Menezes Falcao would co-ordinate this group with Tone Bjorn, Alexandre Dupont, Gael Airieau, Gabrielle Brant-Ogris, Steffen Lorscheider and the Vice-President.

Law Management – the President would co-ordinate this and Ruud Voorvaart, would give a presentation in Barcelona. Jeremy Shulman was also in this group.

Practical Deals and Cases Group – Riccardo Cajola would co-ordinate this group.

The number and nature of specialist meetings in Barcelona would be co-ordinated by the Vice-President.

10. **MARKETING**

Bill Blum reported on the proceedings of the Marketing Group.

There was now focus on the website and there would be at least one telephone meeting of the Marketing Committee between each General Meeting. He anticipated that the next Marketing Meeting would take place in January 2014. He was also meeting with the advisory group in between.

11. **IBA CONFERENCE – BOSTON**

The President had partially reported on the IBA at Boston under item 7. He had offered to potential members lunch and dinner but they were not interested. He therefore had one-on-one discussions over coffee which he felt were very effective and had six meetings in all which were positive.

It was stated that in the past dinners and breakfasts had not been an efficient or cost effective way of attracting members.

12. **WEBSITE**

It was noted that there was no member of the Executive Committee appointed to work with John Ansbro on the website and the Executive Committee agreed to consider this. The up-to-date position on the website was as noted in John Ansbro's reports.

Bill Blum stated that there would be a need for more money for the website design and the meeting authorised a figure of up to 10,000 euro.

Alexandre Dupont stated that he had some ideas for the website and would contact John Ansbro direct.

13. **FINANCE – TREASURER'S REPORT**

This was tabled and is attached to these minutes.

The Treasurer reported increased activity from John Ansbro and therefore cost to support the development of the Association.

There were some members who had not paid their subscriptions but the details were shown in the report.

14. **POSSIBLE DISPUTE OVER THE TRADING NAME OF INTERLEGAL**

At the moment the lawyers of the Association in Columbia were proceeding to register trademarks and once registered a letter would be sent to the infringer. If that did not work then a case would be filed as per the budget approved in Venice.

15. **PAID OFFICER'S REPORT**

The two reports filed by John Ansbro were noted and are attached to these minutes.

Further volunteers for the newsletter were as follows:

February 2014 – Pawel Koehler
March 2014 – the Vice-President
April 2014 – Joao Paulo Menezes Falcao, and
May 2014 – Maria Agustina Vitolo.

Members were asked to be responsive in relation to requests by John for website information and information for the twice yearly newsletter.

16. **EURAAUDIT JOINT MEETING**

Christian Fischele reported that the Association was required to underwrite the costs for the hotel in Malta. The total cost was £16,000, with three instalments of £4,900. One instalment has already been paid and there were further instalments in February and May 2014. Whilst Interlegal had reimbursed Christian Fischele with the first instalment it would pay the next two.

Christian then ran through the programme for the Malta meeting. There would be a joint dinner on the Sunday with 2 hours networking before. There would be a joint technical session on the Monday morning, probably about money laundering and tax, and the specialist groups would meet. There would be a lunch on the Monday and then our Marketing Committee would meet in the afternoon, with a Gala Dinner on Monday night and the General Assembly on Tuesday. Christian Fischele agreed to write to the members with more details of the meeting in Malta.

17. **PROPOSED VENUE AND DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

Barcelona, Spain – 14 to 18 May 2014.

Albert Sant i Pont reported that the hotel known as The Gallery Hotel would be approximately 150 euro per person.

15 May 2014 would be an acclimatisation day, with 16 May 2014 for work sessions and 17 May 2014 the General Meeting.

Albert Sant i Pont was asked to make sure that marketing and specialist meetings were included in the programme.

He would send the programme to the Executive Committee for approval.

18. **FUTURE MEETINGS**

Malta – October 2014

Other meetings:
New York
Luxembourg
Thailand
Leeds

19. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Philip Nicholls – Philip Nicholls had resigned his membership owing to personal circumstances.

Interlegal – New Membership Update – April 2014

This report summarizes the position regarding recent and live enquiries for membership.

Chile – Santiago – Palma Abogados

This firm was introduced by the President and Ramon Bado following a legal conference in Uruguay. They have been provided with membership information and are actively considering an application for membership. The firm is also known to Bill Blum who has contacted them to add his support to an application for membership.

Colombia – Bogota – Cavalier Abogados

This firm was introduced by Cristina Salvador. They have been provided with full membership information and are still considering their position.

Croatia - Zagreb - Matekovic Law Firm

This firm has been introduced by Adam Booc and has submitted an application for membership. They will now be unable to attend the Barcelona meeting due to an accident to the main partner but have expressed a wish to be considered for membership at the Malta meeting. The Vice President will continue to keep in touch with this firm.

Indonesia – Jakarta – Suhardi Somomoeljono & Associates

This firm made an enquiry following a look at the website. They have been provided with full details regarding membership. Alexandre Dupont at Orbis has also contacted the firm with an offer to meet with them if the opportunity arises.

Malta – Satar - CSB Advocates

This firm was introduced by Pawel Koehler following his attendance at the EuraAudit meeting in Warsaw in October 2012. I have spoken to their Managing Partner and they have been sent details of the network. It seems more likely that they will attend the meeting in Malta in October.

Panama – Global Corporate

This firm was introduced by the President .They have been provided with full membership information. Cristina Salvador is following up with this enquiry.

Panama – Fabrega Molino Mulino

This firm was introduced by the President at the IBA in Boston. They have been provided with full membership information but have not responded.

Peru – Lima – Gallo Barrios Pickmann

This firm was introduced by the President and Ramon Bado following a legal conference in Uruguay. They have been provided with membership information and are actively considering an

application for membership. The President and Ramon Bado are continuing to encourage their application.

Romania – Bucharest – IBS Professional Solutions

The firm has asked for their membership to be considered at the Malta meeting.

Russia – Moscow – Freytak & Sons

The firm has applied for membership and will be attending the Barcelona Assembly meeting. Please see the Agenda papers for more information.

Ukraine - Kiev – T&O Buyanovskaya

This enquiry came through a business contact of Adam Booc's. They have been provided with information and despite initial enthusiasm, as a result of the domestic situation in the Ukraine, they will not attend the Barcelona meeting in May 2014. The Vice President will continue to keep in touch with the firm.

Previous enquiries

Belarus – Minsk – Arzinger and Partner

Reminders have been sent but we have not received any further response from this firm.

Cyprus – Limassol – Andreas M. Mylonas & Co LLC

This enquiry was received through the website in September. Details of membership have been sent but despite reminders no reply has been received.

John Ansbro
Interlegal Officer
14 April 2014

Presidents report to Interlegal General Assembly – Barcelona, Spain – May 2014

My Dear Friends,

I would like to welcome you all to our Assembly meeting in Barcelona. Although I am writing this some way ahead of the actual meeting I know that we already have a large number of Interlegal members registered to attend and we are on course to hold our largest meeting to date. The interest that has already been shown in this Assembly demonstrates your own enthusiasm for the network and it is a clear demonstration of the global span and commitment that we have already achieved.

I am also anticipating that we will have some new candidates at the meeting and I would like to extend my welcome to them. The Interlegal network's philosophy is based on a commitment to quality business relationships for the benefit of clients founded on strong personal relationships. This Assembly is an opportunity for our new members to start to develop these relationships with member firms from all over the world.

Therefore a strong presence of our members will reinforce our philosophy and show to the new members how important our networking is and the importance that our members give to the semi-annual meetings in order to tie our relationships and to the exchange of experiences between our members.

Saying that, I would like once more to invite those members that so far did not have the opportunity to confirm their presence in Barcelona to make it now in order to have a meeting full of interaction and participation. Only the presence of all our members in the meetings can make us stronger and bring to the network the contribution of all the law firms involved.

So if you have not already committed to the Assembly, let's go now, take your computer get the Registration forms and join us to make the Barcelona meeting the biggest ever for Interlegal!!!

Since we met in Puebla in Mexico last October the global economic situation has continued to change. Although global trade grew in 2013 it is still less vibrant than it was a few years ago. There are significant variations in business and economic activity between different continents and even within different economic regions and there remain considerable global economic risks as well as new political uncertainties. As business lawyers we will use our knowledge to ensure that the needs of our clients can be achieved whatever the wider business and political environment.

At this forthcoming Assembly we have revived interest in our Specialist Groups. The meetings of the Groups will create the opportunity for greater interaction between firms from all over the world. This will enable us to find new ways of dealing with cross border issues as well as learning from the experience of others. However the work of the Specialist Groups is not confined to our twice yearly Assembly meetings and we need to continue the enthusiasm that is always present at our Assembly meetings into the periods between meetings.

You will have already seen that our new website is in place. This is another step in improving our overall marketing of the network and the challenge we now face is how to further improve our own marketing of the network. We will hear in Barcelona about the plans for our joint meeting with the EuraAudit accountancy network in Malta in October. This is a major opportunity for us and how we prepare in advance for that meeting will help determine the benefits that we can achieve both in Malta and after from the relationships we will have as organisations and as individual firms.

I would like to thank Albert Sant i Pont and everyone at Frouchtman, Sant i Josa Advocats Associats for organizing this Assembly meeting in their wonderful city. Albert and the firm are one of our founder members of Interlegal and their sustained enthusiasm for the network and attending the meetings is a great example to us all.

Our Assembly meetings are a demonstrable way of showing our support for the network and the high level of interest in this meeting reinforces the message that we are an attractive, dynamic and interactive organization.

I look forward to seeing you.

Miguel Neto

President

Interlegal

Interlegal/EuraAudit Matching				Notes - Details of initial Interlegal contact
Country	Interlegal Member	City	EuraAudit Member	
Europe				
Albania			nH EUROCONSULT sh.p.k Milchram & Stich Wirtschaftstreuhandund Steuerberatungsges. OG PIK-Audit	Tirana
Austria	Brand Rechtsanwälte Gmbh	Vienna	TAX ACCOUNT LTD	Vienna
Belarus				Minsk
Bulgaria			EURAAUDIT de GHELLINCK	Sofia
Belgium	Alpha Juris	Brussels	K. TREPPIDES & CO	Brussels
Cyprus			G. PAPADOPOULOS & CO	Nicosia
Czech Republic	Toman, Devátý & Partneri advokátní kancelář, s.r.o.	Prague		Nicosia
Denmark				
France	Airieu Meyrieux Associés	Paris	NEJSTGAARD & VETLOV COCERTO	Copenhagen
			EURAAUDIT REVISA	Paris
			01-AUDIT ASSISTANCE SARL	Paris
			COCERTO AQUITAINE	Bordeaux
			BORDAUDIT	Bordeaux
			COMEXPERT	Calais
			COCERTO	Lamballe
			COMEXPERT	Lille/Roubaix
			EURAAUDIT C.R.C.	Lyon
			REVISA SUD EST	Lyon
			FIDEC S.A.S	Macon
			COCERTO	Nantes
			INSTITUT PIXEL FORMATION	Nantes
			REVISA CENTRE	Orleans
			COCERTO	Rennes
			COCERTO	La Roche-sur-Yon
	CHEVALIER BAUER ASSOCIÉS			
	EURAAUDIT TOULOUSE	Toulouse		

Notes - Details of initial Interlegal				contact	
Country	Interlegal Member	City	EuraAudit Member	City	
Germany	Spieker & Jaeger	Dortmund	Audit Assistance SARL COCERTO	Boulogne Billancourt Vannes	
			OEOTAX Revisions-und Treuhandgesellschaft mbH	Essen	
			TREUHAND UNION GmbH DTAX AG	Munich Saarbrücken	
Hungary	Dr Peter Nogradi Kelemen, Mészáros, Sándor	Budapest Budapest			
Ireland	Dixon Quinlan Solicitors	Dublin	ROBERTS NATHAN CORPORATE & PRIVATE ROBERTS NATHAN CORPORATE & PRIVATE	Dublin Cork	
Italy	Cajola & Associati	Milan			
Liechtenstein	Wanger Advokaturbüro	Vaduz	EUR AUDIT TRIVENETO SRL	Vicenza	
Luxembourg	Kaufhold Ossola & Associés	Luxembourg	EURAAUDIT LUXEMBOURG SA	Luxembourg	
Malta			FIDUCIAIRE JEAN-MARC FABER CSB GROUP	Luxembourg Valletta	Christian Fischele
Montenegro			AUDITING COMPANY - AUDITOR ANDRIJEVICA	Andrijevica	
Netherlands	Lenaerts Voorvaart Advocaten	Breda	GRAHAM SMITH & PARTNERS IUS STATUTORY AUDITS COOPERATIE U.A.	Amsterdam Amsterdam	
Norway	Braekhus Dege Consilium Advokatfirma DA	Oslo Sandvika			
Poland	Koehler Rak Kurowski ACE – Sociedade de Advogados	Katowice			
Portugal	RL	Lisbon	FRANCISCO MANUEL CONSTANTINO PINTO	Lisbon	

Notes - Details of initial Interlegal			contact	
Country	Interlegal Member	City	Euraudit Member	City
Romania			DRAL CONTEXPERT S.R.L.	Bucharest
			DRAL CONTEXPERT S.R.L.	Breaza
Russia			TILDA-AUDIT LLC	Moscow
			GORISLAVTSEV & Co	Moscow
			GORISLAVTSEV & Co	Bryansk
			GORISLAVTSEV & Co	Ekaterinburg
			GORISLAVTSEV & Co	Krasnodar
			GORISLAVTSEV & Co	Murmansk
			GORISLAVTSEV & Co	St.Petersburg
			GORISLAVTSEV & Co	Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk
			AUDITING COMPANY -	
Serbia			AUDITOR	Beograd
			ACTIVA AUDITORIA &	
Spain	Frouchtman, Sant i Josa	Barcelona	CONSULTORIA	Barcelona
Switzerland	Reymond Ulmann & Fischele	Geneva	VERIFID SA	Geneva
			FIDUCONSULT SA	Fribourg
	Reymond Ulmann & Fischele	Lausanne	FIDEXAUDIT SA	Lausanne
			FIDEXAUDIT REVISION SA	Lausanne
Sweden	Advokatfirman Nordia	Stockholm		
		Gothenburg		
Turkey			RASYONEL BAGIMSIZ DENETIM	
Ukraine			ve YMM A.S.	Istanbul
United Kingdom			LLC AF OLGA AUDIT	Kiev
	Shulmans LLP	Leeds		
			EUR AUDIT UK LSCP	Harrogate
				Northallerton
				Ripon
				Shipley
				Sheffield
				Tadcaster
			ABG GROUP	London
Asia				
China	HJM Asia Law & Co LLC	Shanghai		
				Gabriele Brand-Ogris

Country	Interlegal Member	City	Euraudit Member	City	Notes - Details of initial Interlegal contact
India		Guangzhou	ALOK SINHAL & CO	New Delhi Gurgaon	Alexandre Dupont
Indonesia			KAP. BUDIMAN, WAWAN, PAMUDJI & REKAN	Jakarta Surabaya	Alexandre Dupont
Malaysia			JASON TAN & ASSOCIATES	Kuala Lumpur	Caroline Berube
Singapore	HJM Asia Law & Co LLC	Singapore	LIXIN INTERNATIONAL	Singapore	
Thailand	ORBIS Legal Advisory Ltd	Bangkok	ORBIS ACCOUNTING LTD.	Bangkok	
Vietnam			HUONG VUONG AUDITING COMPANY LIMITED	Hanoi	Caroline Berube
			VIETNAM NATIONAL INDEPENDENT AUDITING CORPORATION - KTQGVN	Hanoi	
North America & Caribbean					
Canada	Boivin Desbiens Senécal Letendre	Montreal			
USA	Christa & Jackson	Los Angeles			
	Ellis Koenike & Ramirez	McAllen, Texas			
	Solomon Blum Heymann LLP	New York			
			THE HENRY LEVY GROUP	Folsom, California	
				Oakland, Californie	
			RIOS MEDINA & ASSOCIATES	Orlando, Florida	
				Pembroke Pines, Florida	
South & Central America					
Argentina	Vitolo Abogados	Buenos Aires	AGLIANO & BIANCHI	Buenos Aires	
Brazil	Amaral Gurgel Advogados	São Paulo			
	Miguel Neto Advogados	São Paulo			
		Rio de Janeiro			

Country	Interlegal Member	City	Euraudit Member	City	Notes - Details of initial Interlegal contact
Burundi			CABINET GEORGES OUATTARA	Bobo Dioulasso	
Egypt			FIDUCIAIRE ASCO	Bujumbura	
Ivory Coast			AHMED SULTAN & CO	Cairo	Emmanuel Reveillaud
Libya			NOUVELLE SO.CO.G.E.C.	Abidjan	
			ESSAADI BUREAU	Tripoli	Riccardo Cajola
Madagascar			AUDIT CONSEIL SERVICE (ACS)	Antananarivo	
Mauritius			CAYS ASSOCIATES	Port-Louis	
			BEFEC - BUREAU FIDUCIAIRE		
			D'EXPERTISE COMPTABLE ET		
Morocco			DE CONTROLE SARL	Casablanca	
			EUR-AUDIT MAROC S.A.	Casablanca	
Central African Republic					
Senegal			AUDITEX-CENTRAFRIQUE	Bangui	
Togo			CABINET DIENG ET ASSOCIES SARL	Dakar	
Tunisia			AUDITCOM-TOGO	Lomé	Alexandre Meyrieux
			CABINET ABDELMAJID DOUIRI	Tunis	
South Africa	Wertheim Becker	Johannesburg			
<i>Oceania</i>					
Australia					
<i>Middle East</i>					
Lebanon			CABINET TANIA K. SAMAHA	Beirut	Riccardo Cajola
United Arab Emirates			ANALYTICS JLT	Dubai	Cristina Salvador
			RASYONEL BAGIMSIZ DENETIM	Adana	Gabriele Brand-Ogris to contact main office in Istanbul
Turkey			RASYONEL BAGIMSIZ DENETIM	Konya	

Country	Interlegal Member	City	EuraAudit Member	City	Notes - Details of initial Interlegal contact
Central Asia					
Kazakhstan			MEHMET UCAK - KÖRFEZ & GALATA AUDIT	Izmir	Gabriele Brand-Ogris
Uzbekistan			TOO LIRA-AUDIT AUDIT-SERVICES LTD	Almaty Tashkent	Thierry Ulmann Thierry Ulmann
This list should be read in conjunction with the <i>EuraAudit membership list which can be downloaded at http://www.euraudit.org/en/our-members</i>					

INTERLEGAL 2014

Bilan		01.07.2013 - 31.12.2013			
Actif		31.12.2013	30.06.2013	Passif	
1	ASSETS			2	LIABILITIES
10	ASSETS AND DEBITORS			20	LIABILITIES
100	ASSETS			200	ACCOUNTS PAYABLES
1030	HSBC Current account 32379538	0.00 €	0.00 €	2010	Member's expenses to reimburse
1040	UBS Current account 140639.30 (EUR)	75,622.85 €	81,924.61 €	2020	LegalConnect
1050	UBS Current account 140639.01 (CHF)	0.00 €	0.00 €	220	PROCEDURALS COSTS
110	DEBITORS			2201	Lawyers fees
1135	Receivables 2010-2011	0.00 €	0.00 €	2202	Notarial fees
1140	Receivables 2011-2012	1,000.00 €	4,350.00 €	230	PROVISIONS FOR VOTED EXP.
1141	Receivables 2012-2013	3,985.00 €	8,500.00 €	2300	Future meetings
1142	Receivables 2013-2014	10,465.00 €	22,000.00 €	2330	Website
1170	Shulmans	0.00 €	146.00 €	2340	Trademark registration
				28	CAPITAL
				299	PROFIT OR (LOSS) FOR THE LAST & CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR
				2990	Profit or (loss) for the last financial year
				2991	Profit or (loss) for the financial year
	Différence (découvert)	1,948.52 €	0.00 €		Différence (capital)
		93,021.37 €	116,920.61 €		

INTERLEGAL 2014

Pertes et Profits		01.07.2013 - 31.12.2013			
Actif		31.12.2013	30.06.2013	Passif	
4	EXPENSES			3	INCOMES
42	EXPENSES			32	INCOMES
420	MARKETING			320	INCOMES
4220	Brochures	0.00 €	3,082.00 €	3240	Subscription 2011-2012
4230	Adverts	0.00 €	0.00 €	3260	Subscription 2012-2013
427	LEGAL EXPENSES			3270	Subscription 2013-2014
4290	Interlegal Trademark	187.15 €	2,479.04 €	3400	Bank interests
440	CONFERENCE IBA				
4450	Meeting	0.00 €	0.00 €		
460	J. ANSBRO				
4600	Fees	8,750.00 €	6,099.00 €		
4601	Travel expenses	4,795.00 €	1,415.00 €		
4602	Participation to meetings	0.00 €	1,070.00 €		
610	GENERAL EXPENSES				
6100	Member's expenses		640.00 €		
6101	Travel Committee members				
6110	Conference call	593.23 €	243.00 €		
6120	Internet & Communications	0.00 €	900.00 €		
6130	General Bank charges	136.17 €	218.98 €		
6150	Loss of debtors		2,010.00 €		
	Différence (bénéfice)	0.00 €	0.00 €		Différence (perte)
		14,461.55 €	18,157.02 €		

Paid Officers Report (October 2013 – March 2014)

During this period I have supported the Executive Committee (5 meetings) and the Marketing Committee (2 meetings). In addition I have followed up a number of issues resulting from those meetings and I have supported and followed up actions from the Assembly meeting in Puebla and provided support prior to the Assembly in Barcelona.

I have worked with the web designer and with a number of members and managed the process to create the new Interlegal website. I have also supported the Vice President and other members in responding to membership enquiries.

I have worked on a number of other related projects which are summarized below:

New Website

Following the decision taken by the Executive Committee to approve the proposal to develop the website with our current webmaster a programme of work has been developed to bring the new website to completion.

At the Interlegal Assembly meeting in Venice it was agreed to establish a Reference Group to work with me and the web designers to develop the new Interlegal website.

At the Assembly meeting Emmanuel Reveillaud agreed to represent the Executive Committee, Bill Blum to represent the Marketing Committee, Frederic Letendre to help with the French language version, Ramon Bado to help with the Spanish version and Steffen Lorscheider to develop a German language version and Joao Paulo Menezes Falcao to develop a Portuguese language version.

The Reference Group played an important part in looking at the design, functionality and content of the new website. The Group agreed the basic structure and content of the English version and a full “beta” version was available at the beginning of October.

This English version formed the basis for the French and Spanish versions and these were translated by Ramon Bado and Albert Sant I Pont (Spanish) and Frederic Letendre (French). I would like to thank all those who have been involved in providing translations for these and the forthcoming Portuguese and German versions which I know are not an easy task.

The French and Spanish language versions were added to the beta English version which was then tested before the full launch in 3 languages at the beginning of March 2014. The new website is much more attractive and easier to navigate for visitors. It is also much more functional and can be added to and updated far more easily than the old site. However as with all websites the content is the most important element and the one which you as members can help to support.

Website development

The website was launched in English, French and Spanish and this will be followed by Portuguese and German versions. In the middle of the year, with your help, we will also be updating many of the photographs on the website so that they are true Interlegal people and not “photo-library” images.

A Portuguese translation of the website has been produced by Joao Paulo Menezes Falcao and I hope to have this in place before we meet in Barcelona. A German version is also in the process of being translated with the help of Steffen Lorscheider and Gabriele Brand-Ogris. There is considerably more work to do with both of these language versions than with the content in those languages we used previously.

The website designer, Sebastian Lopez, will attend the Friday sessions in Barcelona to listen to your feedback on the website and to brief you about the opportunities that the new website presents.

We will also have a professional photographer in attendance at the Friday meetings of the Assembly to obtain extra photographs of our members to add into the website, particularly the Members Area.

One of the benefits of the new website is the ability of members to update their own firm's entry, contact details and profile information. In addition members will now be able to add up to 500 words of additional information about their firm. This can either be in English or the language of your choice or in both so long as the information is within the 500 word limit. However this additional information will not be translated and what a firm adds will be the same for every language version of the website.

We are also in the process of improving the "visibility" of the website to various search engines by looking at the indexing of pages on the website and the use of keywords to ensure that Interlegal appears in response to a wide range of searches. Alongside this we will have the ability to use Google Analytics to report the number of people accessing the site and which pages they are using. Reports will be able to be given which can then be used to further improve the internet "visibility" of the website.

The new website is still only in its infancy and we need your continued help and support to add new content and to make sure that it is up to date. We also need your suggestions about how to make increased use of the website so that we can maximize the opportunity that has been created.

The initial budget for the new website of 10,000 Euros was approved at the meeting in Prague in 2012. It was reported to the Assembly in Venice that the design of the new website itself, in the original three languages only, could be achieved for approx. 5000 Euros.

Further development work, including the work of the website Reference Group, recognised the desire to have the website in at least two additional languages and to improve the photographs, graphics and download items of the website. In Puebla it was agreed to allow up to the original budget of 10,000 Euros to include these additional items. To date, the costs incurred and the first stage of development, outlined above, remains within the approved amount.

We already have an annual budget for the hosting and maintenance of the website and it is suggested that an additional annual budget should be allowed for on-going development of the site following the new language versions and the improved photographs.

Database

Another project linked with the new website has been to update the Interlegal database. This database is the basis for the list of member firms on the website although the individual entries

are able to be amended and updated by each firm. Password reminders have been sent to each firm to enable them to make these changes.

The database will be updated separately every year to cross check between the information that members provide and what is shown on the website.

Interlegal Brochure insert

An updated membership insert containing the list of current member firms was produced and distributed to all Interlegal members (approximately 100 per member firm) before the end of December 2013. It is proposed that a further update will be produced and distributed later in the year.

This insert is available for you to give to clients and to other people in your firm who may not know as much about the network.

Newsletters

Monthly newsletter

At the Assembly meeting in China it was agreed for each member firm to produce a newsletter for members on a monthly basis. A schedule of firms and dates was agreed and since then newsletters have been circulated every month to date sent from our e-mail address: news@interlegal.net.

This initiative has worked well. The contributions have been varied and interesting although they have not necessarily been suitable for distribution outside the network. However this has provided greater member involvement between Assembly meetings.

We have a list of contributors which will take us to the June 2014 Monthly Newsletter and contributors are required for the period until after the following Assembly meeting in Malta in October 2014 and beyond.

Network Newsletter

The Network Newsletter is sent not only to our own members but also to organisations such as EuraAudit and it is issued to inform potential new members about the network. Whilst the Monthly Newsletter keeps our members informed of what is happening in a particular firm the twice yearly Network News brings together news from across the network and is a way of informing members and non-members about Interlegal. It should also be available to download from the website.

There has been a poor response to requests for news items not just for this but also for the News section of the website. We need to find ways to make sure that we demonstrate the activity within the network as an encouragement to others to use our member firms and to attract new firms from new jurisdictions..

Website News

I continue to receive a small number of items on a very sporadic basis and this is a request to any firm which produces their own news releases to include me in their circulation list. As with the

Network News items, regular updates and new content on the website not only attracts enquiries for work but also improves the “visibility” of the website.

Referrals Register

The Referrals Register is now in operation and the facility for member firms to access this information is now available on the website. Members can also download a PDF of the most up to date list. To ensure the Register remains a useful document members should continue to provide me with information where clients have been referred within the network. I will also issue reminders to all members from time to time to advise me of referrals.

Membership support

During this period I have provided support to the Vice President who has taken up the role, with the support of a number of other members, of attracting new member firms. A separate report on membership enquiries is included with the Agenda papers for this meeting.

Assembly meetings

I have also provided help and assistance to our host firm for this meeting.

John Ansbro
Interlegal Officer
14th April 2014