

## INTERLEGAL ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the meeting of the General Assembly held on 16 May 2015  
at Lisbon, Portugal

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### 1. RECORDING OF THOSE PRESENT

Miguel Neto, President	Sao Paulo, Brazil
Adam Booc, Vice-President Istvan Sandor	Budapest, Hungary
Emmanuel Reveillaud, Treasurer Brigitte Czoske	Luxembourg
Jeremy Shulman, Secretary	Leeds, England
Henk Lenaerts	Breda, The Netherlands
William Blum Robert Solomon Luca Cantelli	New York, USA
Joao Paulo Menezes Falcao	Lisbon, Portugal
Albert Sant i Pont Fernando Escura Maria Jose Esteban Ferrer Ana Escura Enzo Colarossi	Barcelona, Spain
Alexandre Dupont	Bangkok, Thailand
Thierry Ulmann	Geneva, Switzerland
Agustina Vitolo	Buenos Aires, Argentina
Gabriele Brand-Ogris	Vienna, Austria
Steffen Lorscheider	Dortmund, Germany
Tone Bjorn Charlotte Holmedal Gjelstad	Oslo, Norway
Marc Demartin	Brussels, Belgium
Nelly Shramova Yana Rudikova	Moscow, Russia
Pawel Koehler Szymon Koehler	Katowice, Poland
Riccardo Cajola	Milan, Italy
Peter Nogradi	Budapest, Hungary
Frederic Letendre	Montreal, Canada
Eduardo Mezzera	Montevideo, Uruguay

John Ansbro, Officer In attendance

2. **RECORDING OF OBSERVERS**

Thomas Bogelund Norvold Copenhagen, Denmark

Jean-Charles Gardetto Monaco

Juan Eduardo Palma Santiago, Chile

Olga Buyanovska Kiev, Ukraine

3. **WELCOME**

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

4. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Caroline Berube, China; Kresimer Matekovic, Croatia; Christian Fischele, Switzerland; Markus Wanger, Liechtenstein; Nikolay Freytak, Russia; Laura Christa, USA.

5. **APPROVAL OF THE LAST MINUTES**

Ramon Bado had written in and stated that his apologies were not recorded in the last minutes. An amendment was made accordingly.

Apart from that the minutes were approved. A copy is attached.

6. **MEMBERS' PRESENTATIONS**

Braekhus Dege

Charlotte Holmedal Gjelstad made a presentation. This was a mid-sized firm in the top 15 in Norway with 60 lawyers, who were multi-national and with an international desk and a one-stop shop for international tax.

BDSL

This was a medium-sized firm doing business law with 15 people in Montreal. They helped entrepreneurs grow. They also gave personal services. They visit clients' businesses and they have a coffee lounge for clients who pass by.

ACE – Sociedade de Advogados

This was a medium-sized firm with four partners and nine more lawyers in Lisbon whose watchwords were accuracy, reliability and experience with wide areas of practice. The main areas were Banking, 30% fee income, Pharma, 30%, and Food, 10%.

The following firms were invited to give presentations in Bangkok and those present agreed as follows:

Rivadeneira, Trevino and De Campo, Mexico  
Reymond, Ulmann and Fischele, Switzerland  
Brand Rechtsanwälte, Austria.

7. **NEW MEMBERS**

Fabritius Tengnagel & Heine, Denmark

This firm was 150 years old. It does mergers and acquisitions, dispute resolution and banking, construction and real estate, debt collection and has its own App. A hand-out was presented. A copy is attached.

T & O Buyanovska, Ukraine

This firm had worked with Kelemen Meszaros Sandor & Partners through Adam Booc for eight years specialising in international law with two offices, one in Kiev and the other in Kharkov. It does litigation, arbitration, dispute resolution and intellectual property. It supports Ukraine companies abroad and all lawyers are members of the Bar Association.

Cabinet Gardetto, Monaco

This firm has been going for 25 years and has six lawyers. It works with HJM Asia Law & Co. It does litigation and legal advice in international debt, private wealth and general business law.

Palma Abogados, Chile

This is the oldest law firm in the financial district of Santiago going through six generations with six partners and 14 associates providing all services needed for the business affairs both company and private doing general corporate and arbitration, mergers and acquisitions, real estate, dispute resolution and construction, finance and labour. It is partner led.

A resolution was put to the meeting to admit each of Fabritius Tengnagel & Heine, T & O Buyanovskaya, Cabinet Gardetto and Palma Abogados en bloc which was carried unanimously and a further resolution was put to admit each of those firms as members of the Interlegal Association.

Wintertaling, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

This is a firm in the same jurisdiction as Lenaerts Voorvaart. On behalf of Lenaerts Voorvaart, Henk Lenaerts said that there were a lot of overlaps between Wintertaling and his own firm. He said that members are well served by Lenaerts Voorvaart. After some discussion Bill Blum proposed that Wintertaling be written by the President to say that they could not proceed with their application at the next General Meeting and this was carried unanimously. The President pointed out that there had been a suggestion from Lenaerts Voorvaart that other applicants in different jurisdictions with existing members had been treated differently from Wintertaling and not to the advantage of Lenaerts Voorvaart and he wished to make it clear that this was not so.

Frouchtman Sant i Josa and Bufete Escura

Albert Sant i Pont explained that his firm had now merged with Bufete Escura and that as a result new services could be provided to Interlegal members in Spain by a bigger firm to manage all business clients.

Fernando Escura then explained that the firm was founded in 1905 and is one of the 14 biggest firms in corporate law in Spain. He also explained about the network of firms in Spain numbering 38 known as Hispajuris giving complete cover in Spain. The firm was obsessed with quality. No vote was taken but it was

agreed that the name of the member Frouchtman Sant i Josa should be changed to Bufete Escura.

It was however pointed out that the articles of association does not deal with the question of mergers and the Executive Committee was asked to look at this.

ACE Sociedade de Advogados

Joao Paulo Menezes Falcao pointed out that his firm also had been the subject of a merger and it was agreed without a vote that the membership of the firm in Lisbon should be ACE Sociedade de Advogados.

Reymond, Ulmann & Fischele

The members were informed that the firm wished to use a domain name in Switzerland with the name Interlegal in it. They were not changing the name of the firm but it had been agreed by the firm that if they ever left the Association they would surrender the domain name. This was agreed without a vote.

Kaufhold Ossola and Associates

This firm's name was now Kaufhold & Reveillaud Avocats and the membership records would be amended accordingly.

Wertheim Becker

It was reported that this firm had resigned from the Association.

Written Report – New Members

A copy of the report is attached to these minutes. John Ansbro reported that he had heard from a new firm in India who he hoped would attend in Bangkok and there was also particular interest from firms in Peru, Colombia, Panama and Turkey whom he hoped would appear in Bangkok.

8. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

The report of the President was received and a copy is attached to these minutes.

9. **SPECIALIST GROUPS**

The Vice-President reported back as to the activity of the specialist groups.

10. **MARKETING**

The question of a search engine optimisation was raised and there was a request for this to be developed. It was thought that there may be more advantages in some jurisdictions than others and that this needed more discussion, probably in the Marketing Committee.

John Ansbro encouraged members to collect information which could then be put on the website.

11. **IBA CONFERENCE – VIENNA**

Interlegal's purpose in Vienna would be to recruit members. There would be one on one meetings in respect of those who were attending. A DVD should be ready for this purpose. It would also be put on the website and on USB sticks. Members

attending included Gabriele Brand-Ogris, Riccardo Cajola, Emmanuel Reveillaud, Caroline Berube and Juan Eduardo Palma.

12. **WEBSITE**

This was now available in five languages and an offer was made to translate it into Russian.

13. **FINANCE – TREASURER’S REPORT**

A copy of the Treasurer’s report is attached to these minutes. A list of the members who had paid the annual fees was tabled and a copy is attached to these minutes.

Additionally the following expenditure was ratified:-

€800 for the video  
€90 for the video  
€3000 for the USB sticks

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

The President reported the up to date position. The registration in Colombia was ongoing and the registration would be a requirement for taking action against the use of the name in Colombia. There were a lot of persons using the name Interlegal shown on Google. It was a big cost to defend ourselves and up to now the results had not been good.

15. **PAID OFFICER’S REPORT**

This was tabled and a copy is attached to these minutes. It was agreed that the following persons would do newsletters:-

Agustina Vitolo – July  
Riccardo Cajola – August  
Emmanuel Reveillaud – September  
Adam Booc – October  
Thomas Bogelund Norvold – November  
Nelly Shramova - December

John Ansbro again reiterated the need for news items.

16. **EURAAUDIT**

The President reported that he had attended a regional meeting in South America and that the next meeting was in Miami in October which would be the annual meeting.

There was an annual meeting in Barcelona between 21 and 25 October 2016 which would be a joint meeting between EuraAudit and Interlegal.

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

This was in Bangkok, Thailand between 4-8 November 2015. Alexandre Dupont proved that he was not only a good lawyer but also a film producer, director and actor of an astonishing DVD. The video can be used for invitations of observers to the Bangkok meeting as well.

18. **FUTURE MEETINGS**

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

New York – May 2016.  
Barcelona – October 2016.  
Luxembourg – May 2017.  
Leeds – October 2017.  
Moscow.

There was also a request for a meeting in Montreal, Canada and it may well be that this would be in May 2017 instead of Luxembourg.

19. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There was none.

20. **ELECTIONS**

President – Adam Booc  
Vice-President – Joao Paulo Menezes Falcao  
Secretary – Steffen Lorscheider  
Chairman, Marketing Committee – Bill Blum  
Chairman, Law Management Group – Alexandre Dupont  
Chairman, Corporate Group – Agustina Vitolo  
Chairman, International Arbitration, Litigation and Insolvency Group – Gabriele Brand-Ogris  
Chairman, Practical Deals and Cases Group – Jeremy Shulman

Members of the Marketing Committee and each of the above groups – there were various volunteers.

The retiring officers were thanked.