

## INTERLEGAL ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the meeting of the General Assembly held on  
12 May 2018 at Moscow, Russia

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### 1. RECORDING OF THOSE PRESENT

Gabriele Brand-Ogris	Austria, Vienna
JM Amaral Gurgel	Brazil, Sao Paulo
Frédéric Letendre	Canada, Montreal
François Boulianne	Canada, Montreal
Harris Kyriakides	Cyprus, Larnaca
Yasser Saleh	Egypt, Alexandria
Alexandre Meyrieux	France, Paris
Steffen Lorscheider	Germany, Dortmund
Nikolaos Margaropoulos	Greece, Thessaloniki
Maria Tsiligkiri	Greece, Thessaloniki
Ádám Boóc	Hungary, Budapest
Uday S. Ahlawat	India, New Delhi
Ronen Adini	Israel, Bnei Brak
Riccardo Cajola	Italy, Milan
Shimon Takagi	Japan, Tokyo
Brigitte Czoske	Luxembourg, Luxembourg
Emmanuel Reveillaud	Luxembourg, Luxembourg
Fernando A. Treviño Núñez	Mexico, México D.F.
Tone Bjorn	Norway, Sandvika
Pawel Koehler	Poland, Katowice
João Paulo Menezes Falcão	Portugal, Lisboa
Thierry Ulmann	Switzerland, Geneva
Nicolas Bille	Switzerland, Geneva
Alexandre Dupont	Thailand, Bangkok
Özlem Kurt	Turkey, Istanbul
Jim Wright	United Kingdom, Leeds
Ramón Bado	Uruguay, Montevideo
William Blum	USA, New York City

## **2. RECORDING OF OBSERVERS**

*Candidate* (BK Associes):

Mehrez Boussayene

Tunesia, Tunis

*From EuraAudit:*

Klaus Kuchenbuch

Germany, Essen

Eric Mercanton-Malikov

Switzerland, Lausanne

The President asked the members for an approval of the attendance of Eric Mercanton-Malikov and Klaus Kuchenburg which was unanimously granted.

## **3. WELCOME**

The President welcomed those present and thanked the hosts for their hospitality. In particular he welcomed Klaus Kuchenbuch and Eric Mercanton-Malikov from EuraAudit and Nikolaos Margaropoulos who attended also in his capacity as Secretary General of FICAC.

## **4. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies and proxies were received from

Marc Demartin (Belgium)

Jose Antonio Miguel Neto (Brazil)

Caroline Berube (China)

Ibrahima Bah (Côte d'Ivoire)

Kresimir Matekovic (Croatia)

Thomas Bogelund Norvold (Denmark)

Péter Nógrádi (Hungary)

Riccardo Cajola (Italy)

Ruud Voorvaart (Netherlands)

Fredrik Agerup (Norway)

Markus Wanger (Liechtenstein)

Rajko Maric (Serbia)

Milena Noskova (Slovakia)

Albert Sant i Pont(Spain)

Rickard Aridsson (Sweden)

Laura K. Christa (USA).

Apologies were also sent by Fernando Escura from the member firm Escura in Barcelona.

## **5. APPROVAL OF LAST MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting in Leeds, United Kingdom, held on 4 November 2017 were approved. A copy is attached (*Attachment 1*). It was noted that in addition to the venues mentioned therein Sao Paulo (Brazil) was still on the list.

## **6. MEMBERS' PRESENTATIONS**

The presentations of the members

Rivadenyra Trevino and De Campo (Mexico)  
Ahlawat and Associates (India)

were given.

*RIVADENEYRA, TREVIÑO & DE CAMPO S.C. (Mexico)*

Fernando A. Treviño Nuñez made a presentation about his firm RIVADENEYRA, TREVIÑO & DE CAMPO S.C. The firm has two offices in Puebla and Mexico City with 20 years of experience and 105 professionals including 18 partners. He gave an overview about the generations and personality styles as well as the areas of practice. The firm has a Russian and a German desk.

*AHLAWAT & ASSOCIATES ADVOCATES (India)*

Ahlawat & Associates and the latest developments in India including an overview of some promising sectors were introduced by Uday Singh Ahlawat. The firm has its head office in New Delhi and two remote offices in the UK and USA. The areas of practice comprise among others corporate, commercial, foreign direct investment, tax, litigation, M&A, real estate. The firm catering to domestic and international clients has a Japan desk, several collaborations and assisted clients from more than 20 jurisdictions.

### *Next Presentations*

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

Harris Kyriakides (Cyprus)  
Amaral Gurgel Advogados (Brazil)

## **7. PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF THE ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION**

The Secretary informed the General Assembly about the discussion in the Executive Committee about the suggested amendment of the Articles of Association. The proposed new wording of the Articles of Association had been previously circulated together with the papers for the Moscow meeting.

It was discussed and decided that in deviation from the draft an honorary member should be entitled to be a member of the Marketing Committee but without any voting rights.

A copy of the amended Articles of Association is attached to these minutes (*Attachment 2*).

The draft regulations for Honorary Membership were not adopted. It was decided to draft new regulations for the Honorary Membership. The Members were invited to send to the Executive Committee their proposals for regulations within two weeks following receipt of these minutes.

The President asked the members for a vote to invite Jeremy Shulman to the next meeting in Luxembourg so that Interlegal would bear the registration fee for him provided Jeremy Shulman would be elected as Honorary Members. This was voted unanimously.

## **8. APPLICATIONS AND MEMBERS**

### *Applications*

There was a presentation of the candidate firm BK Associés from Tunisia.

The candidate firm *BK ASSOCIÉS (Tunisia)* was introduced by Mehrez Boussayene in his capacity as one of the partners. The firm has an office in Tunis and was established in 2002. It provides services in the fields of litigation, legal counselling and arbitration. The team consists of 4 partners including Mehrez Boussayene and Youssef Knani and 6 associates and 3 of counsels.

BK Associés was applying for membership of INTERLEGAL and on a vote it was unanimously elected a member.

### *Written report on new members*

The President referred to the report on new members from Collin Russel which was noted. A copy of the written report is attached to these minutes (*Attachment 3*).

### *SALT*

The President explained the concerns raised by our member from Italy and the fact that he had also doubts on whether the applicant SALT complies with the requirements of the Articles of Associations for new members despite the

applicant's arguments. In light of his doubts, the President said that he would ask the General Assembly to decide and so he would ask the members for a vote on the admission of the application. Before the vote Riccardo Cajola summarized again the arguments against the new applicant. The Secretary mentioned and summarized the arguments speaking for the candidate. The admission of the application was put on vote. The majority was in favor of not accepting the application. The President announced that according to the General Meeting vote the application would not be accepted.

#### *ODEON*

Alexandre Meyrieux from the Firm ODEON from Paris explained the developments of the last months and the reasons why the membership in INTERLEGAL was continued by him and his firm. The Secretary referred to the application filled in by ODEON. The General Assembly accepted that ODEON followed as legal successor in the membership of the former French firm.

### **9. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

The President reported on the activities of the Executive Committee since the meeting in Leeds last October. The written report of the President was received and a copy is attached to these minutes (*Attachment 4*).

The President explained the reasons for the nomination of Jeremy Shulman as first Honorary Member of the INTERLEGAL association, who was nominated by the Executive Committee unanimously.

Eric Mercanton-Malikov and Klaus Kuchenbuch explained together with the President the latest developments of the joint book project with EuraAudit. The INTERLEGAL association would receive an amount of 225 books for its contribution of up to seven thousand euros. The President put on vote his proposal to spend an amount up to 7,000 Euros for the joint book project with EuraAudit which was approved by the General Assembly.

Regarding the Chambers application Uday from the Indian member firm had been contacted by Legal 500 and raised the question whether INTERLEGAL should also pursue an application to be listed in Legal 500. He would circulate the e-mail from Legal 500 he had received to all the other members so that this can be discussed finally in Luxembourg.

### **10. SPECIALIST GROUPS**

The Vice President reported back to the activities of the Specialist Groups. Attendance certificates for speakers were distributed. The Vice President invited the members who are not yet a member of a Specialist Group to become a member of a group, in particular of the groups led by Fernando and Brigitte.

Brigitte followed Jeremy Shulman as head of the practical cases Specialist Group. Ronen Adini from Israel expressed his interest to give a presentation in the next Specialist Groups meeting in Luxembourg.

It was put on vote which speaker should receive the Specialist Groups Award. The winner would be announced in the gala dinner.

Following comments from members, it was announced the Executive Committee would re-look at the Specialist Groups Award.

## **11. MARKETING**

Frederic Letendre reported back from the Marketing Committee meeting and explained the offers the marketing Committee had received for the new Website.

It was agreed to leave it to the Marketing Committee to decide which firm should be engaged with the new website provided that the budget should not be increased.

Frederic Letendre encouraged again the members to send more content for the website and other marketing measures. He referred to our new Turkish member for the excellent article about data protection.

The volunteers for the next newsletters would be contacted by Frédéric Letendre separately.

## **12. IBA CONFERENCE – ROME (ITALY) OCTOBER 2018**

The President referred to the Paid Officer's report which is attached to this minutes (*Attachment 5*).

Riccardo Cajola suggested that the Paid Officer could organize a meeting of the attending members in Rome which was decided.

## **13. FINANCE – TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Treasurer's Report including a list of the members who had not paid the annual fees was explained by the treasurer. The latest development of the payments, the main costs including the costs for the SEO project and marketing measures as well as the costs for the Paid Officer were explained by the Treasurer and discussed.

The General Assembly approved that the Treasurer Emmanuel Reveillaud could continue for some time as an Interlegal representative in the Association's bank accounts with powers to make payments and related powers after terminating his mandate due to the election of a new Treasurer later in this same General Assembly. This would facilitate the transfer of powers resulting from the mentioned election.

**14. NAME AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OF INTERLEGAL**

The Past President referred to and explained in detail the proposal for an intellectual property action plan which was approved by the General Assembly and is attached to these minutes as *Attachment 6*.

Riccardo Cajola had sent in advance of the meeting a list of internet domains using the INTERLEGAL name which was also discussed. Ádám Boóc would follow up with this.

Regarding the pending infringement case the Past President reported that he would now ask the Columbian firm for a cost estimate for a cease and desist letter or similar measures. Since the trademark was registered in Columbia this had become possible.

Regarding the question whether the members could use the INTERLEGAL name as part of their firm's name the proposal made by the Executive Committee was approved. For the avoidance of doubt the President remarked that the New York resolution would remain in force also in future.

Thierry Ulmann from our Swiss member firm proposed to the Executive Committee to consider and look for ways to market the name of INTERLEGAL in a better way. The President announced to consider this thoroughly.

**15. PAID OFFICER**

The Officer's Report was tabled (*Attachment 5*).

**16. EURAAUDIT**

Klaus Kuchenbuch made a presentation about the EuroAudit network.

**17. FICAC**

The President of FICAC was welcomed and made a presentation about the FICAC network. The President thanked both Nikos Margaropoulos in his capacity as the Secretary General of FICAC and the President of FICAC for their efforts to develop a fruitful cooperation between the two Associations.

## **18. ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS**

The President reported on the nominations received so far and asked the General Assembly whether there would be other nominations from the floor. He asked the members for their vote and the following persons were elected:

Jim Wright – *Treasurer*  
Steffen Lorscheider – *Secretary*  
Gabriele Brand-Ogris – *Auditor*

Jeremy Shulman was elected as Honorary Member unanimously.

## **19. PROPOSED VENUE AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

This was Luxembourg between 26th to 30th October 2018.

Brigitte made a presentation about the meeting in Luxembourg including the draft schedule.

Klaus Kuchenbuch pointed out that this would be a joint meeting together with EuraAudit and some things could be new for the INTERLEGAL members. The members were encouraged to make use of the early bird registration possibility to benefit from the early bird registration fee discount. For this the members would have to register and pay the registration fees before the 15th of June 2018. The last date for registration would be 31st August 2018.

## **20. FUTURE MEETINGS**

It was agreed that the India meeting will take place in October 2019.

The Thessaloniki meeting would take place at the last weekend in May 2019.

The Executive Committee would ask Miguel Neto to have the Sao Paulo meeting in May 2020.

It was decided that the Cyprus meeting should take place in October 2021.

The details of the meeting in Poland which was planned for October 2020 would need some more consideration because this was also the date of the next joint meeting with EuraAudit.

## **21. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Membership certificates were distributed and handed out to the members present.

The Secretary and Bill Blum will liaise about the idea to set up a new set of Articles of Association.

The member from Turkey will give a presentation about data protection rules in Turkey together with the members from Austria and Switzerland in Luxembourg.

The Secretary explained the offer from Brandt Rechtsanwälte in Vienna for the implementation of all necessary steps of the general data protection regulation of the European Union. It was agreed to accept the offer and to invest up to 5000 Euro.

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Steffen Lorscheider  
Secretary  
15 May 2018