



Health Technology Assessment International

An International Society for the Promotion of Health Technology Assessment

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Date: July 3, 2006

Time 17:30 to 18:30 (Local time)

Location: Adelaide Convention Centre, Adelaide, Australia

1.0 Welcome

The Society's President Berit Mørland opened the meeting by welcoming all members present to the Society's Annual General Meeting and thanking them for attending.

2.0 Approval of Agenda

No amendments or deletions to the agenda were proposed and a motion to accept the agenda as submitted was moved and seconded by John Gabbay. The motion was approved with none opposed.

3. Approval of Minutes of the 2005 Annual General Meeting

After some discussion of the contents of the minutes of the 2005 Annual General Meeting in Rome, Italy, the Secretary requested any additional, deletions or amendments to those minutes. None were received and a motion to accept the minutes was seconded by David Hailey. The motion was approved with none opposed.

4. President's Report

The President delivered a report titled 'Where We Have Come to Now'. The report provided a retrospective on the previous three years of the Society from the perspectives of the six aims identified in the Society's 2003- 2008 Corporate Plan, growth in Society membership by individuals and organizations, and plans for the Society in the future related to those aims.

Highlights of the report were; the ongoing activities of the Policy Forum, launching and support of Interest Sub-Groups (ISG's) on topics in HTA, exploring sponsorship opportunities for Society activities, expanding the Society's role as an information source for HTA through the Vortal, providing opportunities for HTA colleagues from developing countries to participate in the Society's annual conferences through a travel grant program, and the hiring of a full time Managing Director for the Secretariat.

5. Treasurer's Report

The Society's Treasurer provided a report on the Society's financial situation for 2005 - 2006. The report detailed the Society's favorable revenue and expense situation and a positive closing fiscal balance, and a significant amount in reserve for the fiscal year ending May 31, 2006.

The Society's proposed budget for 2006 - 2007 was presented for approval. The budget projects the Society closing the 2006 - 2007 fiscal year with a slight surplus and a significant amount still held in reserve. It was also recognized that this budget was in draft form and that proposals for funding the ISG's have not yet been reviewed or approved. A motion to approve the draft budget was moved, and seconded by John Gabbay. The motion was approved with none opposed.

The Society's audited financial statements for 2004 - 2005 were also presented to the meeting and a motion to approve Allan Welsh and Company as the Society's auditors moved and seconded. After some discussion as to the advantages of using a small audit firm like Allan Welsh and Company, primarily; attention to smaller clients, experience with the non-profit sector and more reasonable costs, the motion was approved with none opposed.

6. Results of the 2006 Election

Chris Henshall presented the report of the Nominating Committee on the process and results of the elections to the Society's Board of Directors for 2006. In addition to Chris Henshall the members of the Nominating Committee were; Jean Slutsky (United States) and Brendan Kearney (Australia).

Chris Henshall reported that a total of four positions on the Board of Directors were eligible for election; Vice-President (one year term, followed by two years as President), Secretary (three year term), Treasurer (three year term) and Director (three year term). Some concerns were expressed in regard to turn out and the potential for voter 'blocs' emerging to support selected candidates. It was agreed that these were important issues.

Of the 1,028 eligible voters 270 participated in the election and the following members were elected:

Vice-Presentment: Reiner Banken (Canada)
Secretary: Guy Maddern (Australia)
Treasurer: Mitch Sugarman (United States)
Director: Karen Facey (United Kingdom)

A motion to accept the report of the Nominating Committee and the results of the election was seconded by David Hailey. The motion was passed with none opposed.

7. Vote of Thanks

The members of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee who had completed their terms were thanked by the President for their years of service and dedication to the Society during its formative years. Cliff Goodman and John Gabbay were the outgoing Board members. Laura Sampietro-Colom completed her term as Secretary to the Board and Diane Benner completed her term as the Society's Treasurer.

The President also extended her thanks to the members of the Board and Executive Committee for their hard work as well thanking Chris Henshall for his work as past-President of the Society, and chair of the Nominating Committee.

8. Other Business

No additional business was brought forward for discussion.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 18:15.