



# Report: First Annual General Meeting

Geneva, 21 May 2017, 13.00-15.10 hrs, at the Maison de la Paix

## Participants

G2H2 members

- Aletha Wallace, Third World Health Aid
- Andreas Wulf, Medico international
- Ann Lindsay, PPSEAWA
- Baba Aye, Public Services International
- Barbara Fienieg, Wemos
- Bill Jeffery, Centre for Health Science and Law
- Cecilia Capello, Enfants du Monde
- David McCoy, Medact
- David Sanders, People's Health Movement
- Flavio Valente, FIAN
- Francis Omaswa, ACHEST
- Gargeya Telakapalli, People's Health Movement
- Lauren Tuchman, FIAN
- Maik Dünnbier, IOGT
- Mareike Haase, Bread for the World
- Marielle Bemelmans, Wemos
- Patrick Kadama, ACHEST
- Patti Rundall, Baby Food Action Network (UK)
- Silvie de Haan, Cochrane
- Thomas Gebauer, medico international
- Thomas Schwarz, MMI, also representing Save Observer International

Other participants

- Albert Petersen, Difäm
- Auriane Gilbaud, Université Paris 8
- Emilian T Dominguez, Médicos del Mundo España
- Julian Eckl, University Hamburg
- Katherine Pettus, IAHP
- Kristof Decoster, ITM Antwerp
- Odile Frank, NGO Forum for Health (G2H2 Secretary)

## Documentation

The draft AGM report, the moderation PPT slides and the related documents are available in the G2H2 Dropbox. If you do not know how to access it, ask the secretariat for support.

### Geneva Global Health Hub (G2H2)

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## Agenda (final)

1. Opening and communications
2. Participants and credentials
3. Adoption of the Agenda
4. Reports of G2H2 meetings
5. Annual Report 2016
6. Report on admissions of new members
7. Financial Report 2016
8. Elections (Steering Committee member and President)
9. Proposed Work Plan 2017-18
10. Budget 2017 and membership fees
11. Other business
12. Adjournment of the AGM

## Report

### 1. Welcome, agenda and objectives

The chair Bill Jeffery, G2H2 Vice-President, welcomes the participants – both members and invitees - and introduces the agenda, structure and objectives of this first AGM of the association that was just founded one year ago. As the President Mariska Meurs cannot be with us, the AGM will initially be chaired by Bill (items 1-6), handing over to the newly elected President (items 7-10).

### 2. Participants and credentials

Participants (representatives of G2H2 members and guests) introduce themselves and their institutional background and sign the list of participants. Representatives of G2H2 members (including proxy) are given election ballot cards and agenda item voting cards.

According to the statutes, “the AGM shall be deemed lawful if the quorum of at least one third of the membership is met, by presence or proxy votes. Each member (individual or organization) has one vote. In the event of a tie vote on any issue, the President shall have the right to cast one vote.” The chair states that, with 17 out of 24 members participating, the quorum is reached.



- *AGM Document: 02 Members*
- *AGM Document: 02 Participants (signed, scanned)*

### 3. Adoption of the Agenda

Introduction: The agenda was sent to G2H2 members on 11 May 2017.

Discussion: none

Decision: The AGM adopts the agenda (unanimously, 17 yes)

- *AGM Document: 03 Agenda*

### 4. Reports of G2H2 meetings

Introduction: In addition to the Constitutive Assembly on 21 May 2016, two Extraordinary General Meetings were held in September 2016 (revision of the statutes) and in January 2017 (update on initial progress).

Discussion: none

Decision: The AGM approves the three reports (unanimously, 17 yes).

- *AGM Document: 04 Report Constitutive General Assembly 2016 05*
- *AGM Document: 04 Report Extraordinary General Meeting 2016 09*
- *AGM Document: 04 Report Extraordinary General Meeting 2017 01*

### 5. Annual Report 2016

Introduction: The Annual Report drafted by the Steering Committee and made available ahead of the AGM refers to the work plan of the past year and reports on initial progress. A summary of the report is orally presented by the chair and the secretariat.

In the discussion, a participant asks if the civil society meetings organized or co-hosted by G2H2 should not be opened up, e.g. via webcasting and by allowing tweets. - This is clearly rejected by some members, as strategizing on sensitive issues needs the protected space we are providing. The SC will assess the quality and terms of the four meetings having taken place in 2017 in order to take a decision on their positioning in the future (see item 9). This might lead to a new mix of strategic (closed) and networking (open) meetings.

Decision: The AGM approves the Annual Report.

- *AGM Document: 05 Annual Report 2016 – online version*
- *AGM Document: 05 Work plan 2016*

### 6. Report on the admission of new members

Introduction: Since the Constitutive Assembly in May 2016, the following new members have been admitted to G2H2 membership by the Steering Committee:

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|---|----------------|
| 1. Amref Flying Doctors (The Netherlands) | Joined in 2016 |
| 2. Baby Milk Action (UK)                  | Joined in 2017 |
| 3. Brot für die Welt                      | Joined in 2016 |
| 4. Cordaid                                | Joined in 2016 |

- |   |                |
|---|----------------|
| 5. FoodFirst Information and Action Network                     | Joined in 2016 |
| 6. Gonoshasthaya Kendra   | Joined in 2016 |
| 7. HIP – Health Innovation in Practice                          | Joined in 2017 |
| 8. International Federation of Anti-Leprosy Associations (ILEP) | Joined in 2017 |
| 9. IOGT International   | Joined in 2017 |
| 10. Medact  | Joined in 2016 |
| 11. People’s Health Movement                                    | Joined in 2016 |
| 12. Public Services International (PSI)                         | Joined in 2017 |
| 13. World Federation of Public Health Associations              | Joined in 2016 |

Decision: The AGM notes the admission of these new members.

Follow-up: All G2H2 members are called to contribute to the recruitment of further association members. The SC will discuss which organization shall be actively invited (strategic recruitment) in addition to a broader campaign.

- *AGM Document: 02 Members*



## 7. Financial Report 2016

Introduction: The financial report of the past year was drafted by the secretariat based on the accounting documents, reviewed by the Treasurer and submitted to the auditors elected by the Constitutive General Assembly for audit. The statement of revenue and expenses for 2016 shows expenses totalling CHF 18,096.45 and revenues totalling CHF 20,447.07. Net surplus is CHF 2,350.62 at the end of last year, corresponding with the net equity after this initial year of the association.

The auditing report ends with the following conclusion: "The records were systematically presented and complete. We were not able to find any inconsistencies. After the audit, we are convinced that the financial records have been maintained in accordance with the standards known as Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). We recommend that the G2H2's general assembly approves the 2016 accounts."

Discussion: none

Decision: The AGM approves the Financial Report 2016 and discharges the Board and Treasurer.

- *AGM Document: [07 Financial report 2016](#)*
- *AGM Document: [07 Financial report 2016 - auditing report](#)*

## 8. Elections (SC and President)

### Thanks to Mariska Meurs

Introduction 1: In a letter sent to the G2H2 members on 20 April, Mariska Meurs announced that she would resign as president and steering committee member, but would remain an active member of the Hub. Mariska wrote, in part. "Within a relatively short period of time, the G2H2 has grown in membership and in visibility and has demonstrated that it has an important added value for its members. I fully trust that we will continue on this path, having a dedicated Steering Committee and membership, and plenty of challenges ahead of us for achieving more democratic global governance for health."

Discussion: The SC and members express their deep appreciation for Mariska Meurs' contribution to founding the G2H2. Mariska took on the G2H2 Presidency from its inception, launch, and early growth and she did this with dedication, purpose, and patience. Her present colleagues at Wemos are invited to convey our thanks to her.

### Candidates for SC and presidency

Introduction: The SC sent out a call for two new members of the Steering Committee in conjunction with a call for candidates for the Presidency. The SC asked all G2H2 member organizations to submit nominations by Wednesday, 10 May 2017 to optimize advance notice to member organizations and facilitate smooth transitions. The SC suggested the AGM to first approve a one-year term, exceptionally, for the successful candidates of this 2017 election: "In that way, when we hold elections as scheduled in May 2018, the AGM can elect (and/or re-elect) the Committee and its officers in one slate, preparing to restore the statutory 2-year mandate for each of them thereafter."

Within the given deadline the following candidacies have been received:

- Andreas Wulf, medico international, submitted his candidacy for the SC and Presidency in a message sent to the Secretariat and President on 8 May.
- Remco van de Pas, MMI Network, submitted his candidacy for the SC only in a message sent to the Secretariat and President on 9 May.

At the AGM, Andreas Wulf introduces himself and his background in a short statement, indicating his dedication to taking over the chair, aiming at facilitating processes within the SC and the Association. The candidacy of Remco van de Pas is again introduced by the representative of the MMI Network, Thomas Schwarz.

Discussion: Andreas Wulf answers a question on his position regarding the WHO Framework of engagement with non-state actors.

### **Voting**

Voting is conducted by secret ballot with the candidate receiving the most votes being elected to the respective position. Votes received/elected:

17 ballot papers have been distributed and afterwards collected.

Andreas Wulf as SC member and president: elected with 16 valid votes (1 empty)

Remco van de Pas as SC member: elected with 15 valid votes (2 empty)

The AGM congratulates the new president and SC member.

- *AGM Document: 08 SC election - letter from the president*
- *AGM Document: 08 SC election - letter from the SC*
- *AGM Document: 08 SC election – message from Andreas Wulf*
- *AGM Document: 08 SC election – message from Remco van de Pas*

## **9. Proposed Work Plan 2017-18**

The newly elected President Andreas Wulf begins chairing the meeting.

Introduction: Based on feedback received from G2H2 members at the Extraordinary General Assembly in January and following consultation among the SC and Secretariat, the SC drafted a work plan for the current and next year and sent it to the members for initial information and feedback together with the AGM agenda, on 11 May.

An outline of the work plan is presented by the secretariat. A final version of the work plan will be drafted afterwards by the SC and shared as soon as possible with the members.

Discussion: For time constraints, only few of the elements outlined can be discussed. Members and others interested therefore agree to reconvene, half an hour after the end of the AGM, for a continued dialogue on the future work, with a focus on the working groups and meetings. During the AGM, the dialogue focuses on the terms and modalities for working groups. It is proposed that a number of “hosted” and therefore formal G2H2 working groups will be set up and mandated to continue working on key elements raised in the civil society meetings in January and May – in particular: Nutrition, food, global health and corporate power; FENSA watch; Philanthrocapitalism) – also in view of follow-up meetings in the coming year. The SC agrees to include this in the finalization of the work plan. It is reconfirmed that G2H2 is not itself an “advocacy organization” but provides the space and facilitation for initiative launched and led by members, the civil society statement “The WHO we want” being a good example of this role.

Another question relates to the “horizontal” communication via listserv: Shall it be restricted to “Geneva” processes or events or would it be possible to inform colleagues about events taking place outside Geneva, but related to Geneva institutions (mainly: WHO processes)? This is agreed.

Are now all civil society advocacy and strategizing activities merged within G2H2, with members losing visibility? This is discussed with the example of the recent strategy meeting: The former “co-owners” of this meeting such as the MMI Network, Wemos, medico international and PHM are now members of G2H2 and have agreed to have less visibility in the promotion of the meeting. However, when we undertake activities (meetings, working

groups), members and partners that take the lead and are strongly engaged (such as PHMs WHO Watch for the strategy meeting) should be given particular visibility.

Decision: The AGM expresses its general support of the proposed Work Plan 2017-2018 (format and content) and mandates the SC with its finalization and implementation.

- *AGM Document: 09 Proposed work plan 2017-18*

## **10. Budget 2017 and membership fees**

The proposed budget for 2017 proposes expenses of totally 31,300 CHF and an revenue of totally 34,100 CHF, including not yet consolidated revenue of 4,000 CHF from the membership fees of new members (promotional campaign needed) and 5,000 CHF from member and external donors (fundraising campaign needed).

An outline of the budget is presented at the AGM, and participants are invited to provide comments, including how they can contribute to the recruitment of G2H2 members and the fundraising. For the current year, the SC proposes to keep the membership fees at the level of 2016. The budget for 2018 will only be drafted once the financial perspectives for the coming year are clearer. According to the available funds, certain G2H2 activities (especially, projects related to convening and facilitation of civil society strategizing and advocacy in item 2 of the proposal) will need to be adapted.

Discussion: none

Decision: The AGM is approves the budget and membership fees for 2017.

- *AGM Document: 10 Budget 2017*

## **11. Other business**

There are no other issues raised by the SC, secretariat, members and guests.

## **12. Adjournment of the AGM**

The newly elected president closes the AGM at 15.10 hrs.

Report to be signed by:

Andreas Wulf  
G2H2 President

Thomas Schwarz  
G2H2 Executive Secretary

Report written by: Thomas Schwarz, 31 May 2017

Draft report sent to the G2H2 SC for initial review: 31 May 2017

Draft report and documents published in G2H2 Dropbox: 31 May 2017

Report approved by next AGM: pending (May 2018)