



Minutes of the IHGC General Assembly meeting

Lublin, Poland – August 1, 2024

A G E N D A

1. Opening and Delegates' Quorum
2. Adoption of Minutes from the General Assembly in 2022 (Praha, Czechia)
3. Report of the General Secretary
4. IHGC Commissions' brief Reports
 - Economic Commission
 - Scientific-Technical Commission
 - Commission on Regulatory Harmonization
5. Auditor's report
6. Adoption of the financial Reports between the 2 Congresses and a Budget Plan for 2024/25 and 2025/26 with a Discussion on Reports
7. Appointment of the Auditors
8. Ceremony for Awards of the Order of the Hop 2024

Point 1

Just after the organizers' featured topic – presentation of the brewing market in Poland - the president IHGC Leslie Roy opened the meeting of the General Assembly. He proposed the above agenda that was adopted unanimously. Based on the Constitution - the quorum was constituted, since more than a half of the delegates were present or represented by proxy (26 of 38).

Point 2

The minutes of the General Assembly meeting in Prague, CZ in 2022 had been posted on the website. In addition, a link with related documents had been sent to all representatives of the IHGC members within the newsletter. The minutes were adopted unanimously.

Point 3

On behalf of the IHGC, its general secretary expressed thanks for organising the formal congress in Poland for the 4th time (1962, 1975, 1987, 2024). The last formal IHGC event in Poland was the Lublin hop tour in 2004. He summarized briefly the activities between the two congresses. The IHGC secretariat activities ([link #01](#)), contained management of common hop industry interests for its members ([link #02](#)). There were issued over 30 IHGC group e-newsletters, regular web site

(ihgc.org) updates with documents and events, the social network X information and usual telephone and email member contacts with the secretariat. He exposed a successful work of all three Commissions as well as lobbying activities linked to various plant protection chemical issues. Furthermore, he expressed appreciation to the IHGC President Leslie Roy (US), to the four Vice Presidents Bernard Ingwiller (FR), Adi Schapfl (DE), Pascal Piroué (DE) and Zdeněk Rosa (CZ) as well as to all - below (in Point 4) - mentioned Commission chair persons for their contributions. More activities' details related to the IHGC Commissions followed during the General Assembly within separate their chair persons' reports.

Point 4

The 3 Commission chairpersons presented their brief reports to IHGC delegates. Most important documents of all 3 Committees are available on the IHGC home page www.ihgc.org.

Based on three reports per year within the Economic Commission in chair with Zdeněk Rosa (CZ) - the world hop market statistics and trends estimations have been regularly debated from hop growers' ([link #03](#)) and from hop traders' ([link #04](#)) viewpoint.

The Scientific-Technical Commission chairperson Dr Florian Weihrauch (DE) illustrated with slides an interesting STC conference in Slovenia, which took place in June 2023. Furthermore, he announced as well the next STC conference to be held in the Bavarian Spalt region ([link #05](#)). Another important activity mentioned was a regular yearly updated list of global producing hop varieties ([link #06](#)).

The Commission on Regulatory Harmonization in chair with Maggie Elliot (US) and dr. Erich Lehmail (DE) is being focused on lobbying and regulatory harmonization issues that impact the international market of hops, particularly in chemical residue tolerances i.e. MRLs and so called Channels of Trade ([link #07](#), [link #08](#)). Regular updated comments and documents were put available – posted in the website members' area.

Point 5

On behalf of the BE/FR auditors - appointed on the General Assembly in 2019 - Luc Dewulf (BE) presented the auditors' report for the fiscal years 2022/23 and 2023/24. In the IHGC accountancy for the fiscal year 2022/23 it appeared EUR 24,550.00 of expenditure and EUR 24,550.00 of planned revenues. The accurate income onto the IHGC bank account was EUR 5,100.00 lower within the fiscal year i.e. till 31st March 2023 - because of membership fee paying delays or older fee debts. According to a balance sheet 2022/23 (March 31st, 2023), the reserve was EUR 7,787.83. Such a reserve (passiva-liabilities) is justifiable particularly because of considerable debts (activa-assets), i.e. still unpaid membership fees for 2022/23 and fee debts from the past.

The IHGC accountancy from the fiscal year 2023/24 demonstrated EUR 25,800.00 of expenditure and EUR 25,800.00 of planned revenues. However, the realistic income onto the IHGC bank account was EUR 800.00 lower – till the 31st March 2024 – again, because of membership fee paying delays. According to the balance sheet (March 31st 2024), the reserve was EUR 1,154.66. Such a reserve (passiva-liabilities) was again justifiable particularly because of still present debts i.e. unpaid membership fees for 2023/24 of the IHGC members and fee debts from the past.

The auditor Luc Dewulf proposed therefore to adopt the auditors' report and the IHGC annual budget plan of 25,000 EUR (revenues/expenditures) for fiscal years 2024/25 and 2025/26. Additional details are available on the web site posted general secretary's report ([link #01](#)).

Point 6

No discussion on previous reports appeared. In accordance with this – all the reports as well as the statement of accounts of the IHGC for the fiscal years 2022/23 and 2023/24 and the IHGC financial plan estimates for 2024/25 and 2025/26 were adopted unanimously.

Point 7

The proposal for the two IHGC auditors for the next four fiscal years included again the two IHGC delegates - from Belgium and France. The proposal was approved.

Point 8

Based on the Charter for Award of the Order of the Hop ([link #09](#)), the 30 proposals by country organizations and IHGC bodies have been submitted to the secretariat: 28 nominations for the 1st degree (Knight of the Order of the Hop), 1 nomination for the 2nd degree (Officer of the Order of the Hop) and 1 of them for the 3rd degree (Commander of the Order of the Hop). The IHGC Executive Committee approved the list of the nominees ([link #10](#)) on its formal meetings on May 17 and July 30, 2024. During the traditional ceremony (since 1957) the delegates of the member countries presented with brief CVs the approved candidates, who were invited to receive congratulations and for them prepared medals, together with decorations - wax sealed and signed by the Vicar-General and the Grand-Master of the Order of the Hop.

After the ceremony the IHGC President Leslie A. Roy expressed appreciation to all who contributed to the Congress organization as well as to all IHGC delegates and closed the meeting.

General Secretary IHGC
Dr Martin Pavlovič