

**EUROPARC Federation
General Assembly Minutes,
27th October 2015**

Location:	Regensburg, Germany				
Date:	Tuesday, 27 th October 2015	Start :	09,40	End :	12,20
Attendees:	<p>Before the Assembly started members entitled to vote registered and collected their voting papers. Date of Invitation to General Assembly (GA): 01.09.2015 Number of members entitled to vote at GA 2015 (member category A-G: paid fee for 2014, or 2015 if joined in 2015): 74 Number of total eligible votes for GA: 97 votes Number of votes registered including proxy votes: 111 votes Simple voting majority: 56 votes</p>				
Apologies					

Agenda Item	Notes	Decisions/Procedures/Votes
1.	<p>A video presenting EUROPARC is shown. The President Ignace Schops opens the meeting and welcomes all participants.</p> <p>President introduces with Council members and EUROPARC Federation Directorate. 17 new members are welcomed to the GA</p>	<p>The president officially opens the ordinary General Assembly 2015 (GA). President introduces with Council members and EUROPARC Federation Directorate. It is unanimously agreed to vote by show of hands (i.e. voting cards), except for the Statute changes when the order of voting will be explained separately.</p>
2.	Minutes of 2014 (Paper No.1)	Decisions
	President informs the members that they had received minutes of the last GA and that he has not received any comments on them.	The GA approves the minutes.
3.	Council/President's Report (Paper N°.3)	Decisions
	President presents the report of activities of the Council. This includes among others: updates on Strategy implementation, work with Sections, Council meetings, World Park Congress Sidney and little Sidney, Policy and advocacy, Statute changes, market place and working groups (for which he anticipate that a call and terms of reference will be opened end of 2015 – early 2016)	The GA notes the report.
4.	Treasurer Report (Paper N°. 4)	Decisions
	Treasurer presents the financial report, the written report was already sent to the members before the GA.	
5.	Auditor's Report (Paper N° 6)	Decisions
	Internal Auditor gives a brief summary of his report. The Auditor thanks the President, the Council and the GA for the support and constructive cooperation along the year.	
6	Approval of Auditor's and Treasurer's reports	Decisions

**EUROPARC Federation
General Assembly Minutes,
27th October 2015**

		GA approves by majority the Treasurer's and Auditor's reports
7.	Election of Internal Auditor for 2014/2015	Decisions
	The President proposes Mr. Roger de Freitas as the candidate of the Council for the post of internal auditor of the EUROPARC Federation.	Mr. Roger de Freitas is elected as Internal Auditor for 2015/16.
8.	Directorate Report (Paper N° 8)	Decisions
	The Director refers to the report of activities for 2014 which was distributed earlier this year, gives a short outline of main activities for the current year and presents the provisional plan and budget for 2015. Voting on the outline budget and work plan 2015.	The GA unanimously approves the outlined budget and work plan 2015 presented by the Director.
9.	Members announcements	Decisions
	Peter Rawcliffe: presents the experience of SNH in engaging with young people within the Youth Scottish Council which is supporting SNH towards the implementation of the 2020 biodiversity workplan.	
10.	Report from EUROPARC Council on Council vacancy	Decision
	The President informs the GA of a vacancy within the Council, as Dominique Leveque has ended his mandate. In order to realign the mandate period of all council members, and to have one Council election once every three years, the president proposes to the GA to postpone the election of the vacant position to 2017, when next elections are due, and the whole council will be renewed. The vacant position will be filled with a cooption in the meantime.	The GA unanimously approves the proposal
11.	EUROPARC Consulting Liquidation (Paper N° 11)	
	The President provides an update on the liquidation process of EUROPARC Consulting, referring to the documentation already provided to members in the previous months. The President reports on the current process and on the appointment and work of the liquidator. The President expresses, on behalf of the Council and GA, its appreciation for the work done by EUROPARC Consulting in the course of the previous years.	The GA approves the report by majority.
12.	Discharge of Council for 2014	Decisions
	The GA is asked for the discharge of the Council for 2014 and their end of term.	The GA unanimously approves the discharge of the Council.
13.	EUROPARC partnerships with other organizations and lobbying and advocacy work in Brussels	
	Intervention from Partners organisations: Toby Aykroyd informs the GA of the work done and recent activities of Wild Europe; Andreas Thoman, provides an overview of the activities and mission of the European Network of Outdoor Sports and its cooperation with EUROPARC. He introduces the Charter for outdoor sports and proposes to establish an MOU with EUROPARC. Andrey Sovinc- IUCN/WCPA provides an update on the outcomes of the World Park Congress and on Little Sidney Conference.	

**EUROPARC Federation
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	<p>Martin Solar, on behalf of ALPARC and the Dinaric Arc network thanks EUROPARC for the fruitful cooperation and highlight the interest of protected areas of the Dinaric Arc to work on transboundary cooperation: an interesting and stimulating challenge for the region.</p> <p>Federico Minozzi – EUROPARC Managing Director, provides an update and an overview of the policy and advocacy work of the Federation with specific reference to the work delivered in Brussels with the EU Institutions.</p>	
14	Proposal for Statute Changes (Paper N° 14)	Decisions
	<p>The President informs the GA on proposed Statutes Changes as in the documentation provided. He informs that the Council received from EUROPARC France one comment, that has been incorporated in the revised proposal, circulated to members. The President informs the GA on voting procedures, which will take place using ballot papers and boxes.</p>	<p>97 Votes casted 95 yes for statute changes Statutes Changes Approved</p>
15	Proposal for Regulation Changes (Paper N° 15)	Decisions
	<p>The President informs members on the need to realign Regulations to the Statutes that have just been approved.</p>	<p>Unanimous approval of the Regulations</p>
16	Awards of certificates to long serving members	
	<p>The Award ceremony of long-term members takes place. From in total c.a. 53 long serving members 6 members are present and are awarded: Alfred Toepfer Akademie für Naturschutz (NNA); Kiskunsági National Park Directorate; Dzukija National Park and Cepkeliai State Nature Reserve Administration; Zemaitija National Park; Stichting Het Nationale Park; Administrația Rezervației Biosferei Delta Dunării</p>	
	Conference and General Assembly 2016	
	<p>The President and Director hand-over the EUROPARC flag to the next Conference host: the Parc Jura Vaudois which will host the Conference and the GA in Switzerland on the 19-23rd October 2016. The Park introduces the conference which will focus on Governance of Protected Areas</p>	<p>Conference 2016: 19-23rd October Parc Jura Vaudois, Switzerland</p>
17.	Technical announcements	
	<p>The President, on behalf of the Council, announces that Olaf Holm will stay as coopted Council member for two more years.</p> <p>The President thanks the GA and the Council, closes the GA and invites members to reconvene in Switzerland in 2016.</p>	<p>The President officially closes the GA.</p>

Ignace Schops
EUROPARC President
November 2015

Federico Minozzi
Managing Director, Minutes
November 2015