



## **DRAFT MINUTES OF VICTIM SUPPORT EUROPE GENERAL MEETING**

**Friday 27 May 2016 (9:00-12:00 am)**

Held in  
Muntgebouw Utrecht  
Leidseweg 90  
3531 BG Utrecht

### **1. Opening and welcome**

João Lázaro opens the General Meeting and welcome participants:

I am delighted to see you all here this morning after 2 days of intensive work and fruitful exchanges at our Annual Conference. The fact that 16 VSE full members (out of 21) and 10 associate members (out of 22) are represented today shows again your deep interest in VSE activities and your commitment to our European work.

I would like to start by expressing my very special thanks to Victor and to the whole conference organizing team who did a wonderful job and who can be proud about the result we have all seen over the past days.

Today is also Victor's last day as an Executive Board Member of Victim Support Europe after two mandates of 3 years. Victor has been a very committed Board Member over the past 6 years and we are extremely thankful for his hard work.

Before we move to the agenda, I would also like to warmly welcome new associate members who joined VSE after our last General meeting in November:

- ATENIN (Sociedad Cooperativa Andaluza de interés social) from Spain. They officially became a member of VSE on 22 March 2016.
- The Commission for Victims and Survivors from Northern Ireland. They officially became a member of VSE on 8 April 2016.
- Rete Dafne Onlus from Italy whose application for membership has just been approved by the Executive Board. They will thus soon be officially registered as a new member.

### **2. Apologies and Present**

See list of attendees and apologies at the end.

### **3. Minutes**

- a) GM 15 May 2015, Lisbon  
The minutes are unanimously approved.
- b) GM 10 November 2015, Brussels  
The minutes are unanimously approved.

#### **4. Annual Report 2015**

##### **Office Bearers' report – President João Lázaro**

João Lázaro presents the Annual Report 2015 (see draft Annual Report in paperwork)

##### **Financial report – acting Treasurer and Vice President Helgard van Hüllen and Administrative Officer Hélène Heinrichs**

Helgard van Hüllen presents the Annual Accounts 2015 and the statutory auditor's report on the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2015 (see accounts and auditor's report in paperwork).

Hélène Heinrichs presents a financial report at 31 March 2016.

##### **Future plans – Executive Director Levent Altan**

Levent Altan provides an update on the activities 2016 and future plans

#### **5. Treasurer's post**

Helgard has been acting treasurer to bridge the time between the resignation of Jo Keaney in November 2015 and the election of a new Treasurer.

Nominations should be received 14 clear days in advance of the General Meeting according to article 10.8(e) of VSE constitution. No nomination was received within the deadline defined by the constitution. According to article 10.8(i) of the constitution, "if, for whatever reason, no-one can be elected using the normal procedures, the President of the meeting may call for further nominations at the meeting and an election will take place forthwith."

The President João Lázaro calls for nominations. One nomination is received from Victim Support Northern Ireland: Brendan Loughran, Chair of Victim Support Northern Ireland.

Brendan Loughran introduces himself. The President Joao Lazaro proposes to an anonymous vote after the vote on resolutions 1 to 4.

#### **6. Resolutions and Election of Treasurer**

There is a quorum for the vote as 16 full members out of 21 are represented.

##### **Resolution 1 – Annual report and Accounts 2015**

This GM approves the Annual Report and Accounts 2015 as presented on 27 May 2016

##### **Resolution 2 – Discharge of responsibility of the Executive Board**

This GM discharges the Executive Board of its responsibility regarding the Annual Accounts 2015

##### **Resolution 3 - Discharge of responsibility of the Auditor**

This GM discharges the Auditor of her responsibility regarding the Annual Accounts 2015

After presentation of resolutions 1, 2 and 3 the President proposes to have the vote on the 3 resolutions. The GM unanimously approves Resolutions 1, 2 and 3.

**Resolution 4** – Applications for associate membership: change regarding endorsement letters

This GM agrees the following changes in relation to the application process for associate membership:

- If there is a full member in the country where the applicant for associate membership is from, the applicant will not be required anymore to provide an endorsement letter from the full member but will be encouraged to provide a recommendation letter from the full member.
- If there is no full member in the country where the applicant for associate membership is from, the applicant will not be required anymore to provide an endorsement letter from a recognized public body or non-governmental organization but will be encouraged to provide a recommendation letter from a recognized public body or non-governmental organization.

The GM unanimously approves Resolution 4.

**Election of Treasurer:** the nominated member's representative is Brendan Loughran from Victim Support Northern Ireland.

The vote is made anonymously. The result is 15 yes, 1 abstention. Brendan Loughran is elected Executive Board Member and Treasurer of VSE.

## 7. Presentation of new associate members

Commission for Victims and Survivors (UK, NI) is presented by Judith Thompson.

ATENIN (Spain) is presented by Fernando Moreno.

Rete Dafne Onlus (Italy) is presented by Silvia Taravan.



João Lázaro

President

## **List of attendees:**

### **Full Members**

**João Lázaro**, President of Victim Support Europe - Associação Portuguesa de Apoio à Vítima (Portugal)  
**Helgard van Hüllen**, Vice President of Victim Support Europe – Weisser Ring Germany  
**Victor Jammers**, VSE Executive Board Member – Slachtofferhulp Nederland (NL)  
**Leena-Kaisa Åberg**, VSE Executive Board Member - Rikosuhriipaivystys Suomessa (Finland)  
**Barbara Unterlerchner** – VSE Executive Board Member - Weisser Ring Austria  
**Mark Castle**, VSE Executive Board Member - Victim Support England and Wales (UK)  
**Kurt De Backer** – Steunpunt Algemeen Welzijnswerk (Belgium)  
**Marketa Vitousova** - Bily Kruh Bezpeci (Czech Republic)  
**Ludmila Cirtkova** - Bily Kruh Bezpeci (Czech Republic)  
**Else Marie Buck** - Offerrådgivningen (Denmark)  
**Barbara Wüsten** - Weisser Ring Germany  
**Christoph Gebhardt** – ADO (Germany)  
**Viktória Kósi** - Fehér Gyűrű (Hungary)  
**Ákos Harmath** - Fehér Gyűrű (Hungary)  
**Isotta Rossoni** – Victim Support Malta  
**Carmen Rasquete**, APAV (Portugal)  
**Maria Yanshina** – Soprotivlenye (Russia)  
**Geraldine Hanna** - Victim Support Northern Ireland (UK)  
**Brendan Loughran** - Victim Support Northern Ireland (UK)  
**Stephen Meigham** - Victim Support Scotland (UK)  
**Susan Gallagher** - Victim Support Scotland (UK)  
**Sven-Erik Alhem** - Victim Support Sweden  
**Eva Larsson** - Victim Support Sweden  
**Fredrik Mellqvist** - Victim Support Sweden

### **Associate members**

**Nikica Hamer Vidmar** – Ministry of Justice (Croatia)  
**Mónika Ördögh** – Office of Justice, Victim Support Unit (Hungary)  
**Lisa Kennedy** – ITAS (Ireland)  
**Joan Deane** – AdvIC (Ireland)  
**Massimo Tettamanti** – I-CARE (Italy)  
**Elisa Corbari** – LIBRA Onlus (Italy)  
**Silvia Taravan** – Rete Dafne Onlus (Italy)  
**Judith Thompson** – Commission for Victims and Survivors (UK, Northern Ireland)  
**José Miguel Ayllón** - ANVDV (Spain)  
**Fernando Moreno** – ATENIN (Spain)

### **Staff**

**Levent Altan**, VSE Executive Director (VSE office Brussels, Belgium)  
**Hélène Heinrichs**, VSE Administrative Officer (VSE office Brussels, Belgium)  
**An Verelst**, VSE Policy Officer (VSE office Brussels, Belgium)

### **Apologies**

**Sabrina Bellucci**, VSE Vice President – INAVEM (France)  
**Livija Plancic**, VSE Executive Board Member – Bijeli krug Hrvatske (Croatia)