

ASSEMBLY OF REPRESENTATIVES 2009
Saturday 24th October 2009 16.30 – 18.00
Hotel Hilton Kalastajatorppa, Helsinki, Finland

MINUTES OF ASSEMBLY OF REPRESENTATIVES 2009

Present: Board members and representatives of member organisations

1. Opening of the meeting

The president of NordAN, Gabriel Romanus welcomed all to the meeting. At the beginning of the meeting he presented some of the results from the past year, and the challenges facing the Nordic and Baltic network, highlighting some of the points in the annual report of the board. He underlined that all materials for the meeting had been presented in the English language on the conference web-site and to the meeting.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The proposed agenda for the meeting was adopted.

3. Election of presidium for the meeting

- a. Chairman: **Tom Anthoni**, Friends of Temperance, Finland
- b. Secretary: **Hasse Schneidermann**, NordAN
- c. Two persons to sign the minutes of the meeting
Lauri Beekmann, Estonian Temperance Movement
Marit Barene, Landslaget for Rusfri Opvækst, Norway
- d. Two persons to count votes.
This election was postponed until it would be needed.

4. Decision if the meeting is called in a proper manner

Hasse Schneidermann pointed out that the assembly of representatives was called by e-mail 4th of August and in due time. The representatives found that the meeting had been called according to the statutes.

5. Adoption of the list of members with voting rights at the meeting

Hasse Schneidermann informed the assembly that 32 organisations with voting rights were represented at the meeting (list attached).

6: Annual report from the board

The annual report from the board was presented by Gabriel Romanus.

7: Economic report 2008

Johan Damgaard Jensen, NordAN's treasurer, went through the economic report. Knut Bjarne Jørgensen, Methodist Church of Denmark, urged members to pay the membership fee and to consider voluntary contributions.

8: Auditor's report 2008

Johan Damgaard Jensen, NordAN secretariat, read the Auditor's report.

9. Decision on annual report, economic report and auditor's report

The Assembly of representatives accepted the annual report from the board, the economic report and the auditor's report.

10. Decision on membership dues for 2010

Johan Damgaard Jensen proposed that the membership fee for 2010 should be a minimum of 100 Euros and that the secretariat will use the same procedure as in 2009 (100,300,500 and above that voluntary contributions) in 2010. The assembly of representatives agreed.

11. Adoption of new members

The assembly of representatives agreed to accept two new members in NordAN, already endorsed by the NordAN board. One was presented by Hasse Schneidermann and the other was presented by Janis Caunitis, Latvian National Coalition on Tobacco and Alcohol Control:

- 1) **NGO Fontana**, Denmark
- 2) **The Baltic Tobacco and Alcohol Control Coalition** (BTACC)

12. Proposal made by the Metodistkirkens Råd for Folkesundhed (DK) to change the statutes to have the assembly of representatives only every second year and comments from the NordAN board.

Kjell-Ove Oscarsson explained the background of the displayed amendment, and proposed on behalf of the board to preserve the statutes to have an annual assembly of representatives. As Knut Bjarne Jørgensen, Metodistkirkens Råd for Folkesundhed, Denmark, maintained their proposal, the chairman called for a vote by hands. The proposal from the Metodistkirkens Råd for Folkesundhed was rejected.

13. Proposal from the board to adopt a NordAN drug policy platform

Gabriel Romanus explained the coming into existence of the proposal of the Drug Policy Platform and especially thanked the members of the Drug Policy Committee for their work. He also explained the small changes in the proposal displayed to the assembly of representatives as results of nightly negotiations in order to reach consensus in the assembly of representatives. The proposal was unanimously adopted.

14. Electing of the NordAN President for the coming year

Gabriel Romanus referred to the work of the election committee with representatives from all member countries that he had been chairing as he put forward the unanimous proposal for the new president; **Outi Ojala** from Finland to be elected by the assembly of representatives. The proposal was unanimously adopted.

Outi Ojala accepted the election, stating that she found the presidency a challenging and demanding task. She said that she was thankful for the confidence of the election committee and the trust of the assembly of representatives and was looking forward to the cooperation with the board. She said, that even though she has a lot of political experience from her daily duties in the City Council of Helsinki, the many years in the Finish Parliament, her past in the European Parliament and presidency of the Nordic Council, she still does not have the knowledge and experience of alcohol- and drug policy of Gabriel Romanus. "It is not easy to take up after "Mr. NordAN"!" she said as she pointed out that she was counting on the support from the board as well as the entire network in filling in blank spots and thus compensate the loss of the leaving president.

15. Electing of the NordAN board for the coming year

Gabriel Romanus referred to the work of the election committee with representatives from all member countries that he had been chairing as he put forward the proposal for the new board of NordAN. According to the statutes, each board member should be elected by the assembly members coming from that country. Each member of the election committee had nominated a board member from that country:

Árni Einarsson, Iceland
Anne-Karin Kolstad, Norway
Johan Damgaard Jensen, Denmark
Mats Gunnarsson, Sweden
Hjalmar Hansen, Faroe Islands
Lauri Beekmann, Estonia
Aurelijus Veryga, Lithuania
Janis Caunitis, Latvia
Ritva Varamäki, Finland

The proposal was unanimously adopted both by representatives from each member county and by the entire assembly of representatives.

16. NordAN Plan of action 2010

Gabriel Romanus pointed to the report, the economic report and explained the uncertain economic situation of NordAN, which means that the network does not have the resources to maintain a full time secretary general for the rest of 2009 as he presented the main points in the note displayed in front of the assembly. In this it is proposed, that the newly elected president and board meet later in 2009 or the beginning of 2010 to decide on a realistic plan of action 2010 building upon both the memorandum of priorities and action plan for 2009 agreed on at extraordinary assembly of representatives in Copenhagen February 2009. The proposal was unanimously adopted.

17. Resolution

The proposed resolution was presented by Gabriel Romanus and adopted unanimously. Knut Bjarne Jørgensen, Methodist Church of Denmark, urged the secretariat to see to it that the resolution was translated and thus used in all member countries in order to put the focus on the problem of marketing of alcohol and all the good news from the NordAN assembly of representatives.

18. Report on the auditor

Johan Damgaard Jensen reported that Niels Harder will be the auditor also for 2010.

19. Invitation to the annual meeting of representatives in October 2010 in Copenhagen

Before Johan Damgaard Jensen on behalf of the NordAN board had the chance to invite everybody to Copenhagen, Anne-Karin Kolstad, Actis, Norway proposed that NordAN shall hold its next assembly of representatives in Brussels in June, when Eurocare is arranging the 4th European Alcohol Policy Conference. Gabriel Romanus proposed that the question of time and place for the next NordAN conference and assembly of representatives should be referred to the new board and their work on the plan for 2010. Romanus' proposal was unanimously adopted.

20. Other business

Bo Högstedt, IOGT-NTO, Sweden, proposed that the new board also discuss if representatives from the alcohol industries should have admission to the future NordAN conferences, as he had noticed their presence at the ongoing conference.

21. Closing of the meeting

Anne-Karin Kolstad thanked Gabriel Romanus for the nine years that he had led the work of the board and the organisation. She also presented him with a gift from the board and flowers. Gabriel Romanus expressed his thanks to the fellow board members for good cooperation and to all the member organisations for trusting him to lead the organisation for so many years. He wished NordAN the best of luck for the future. He also expressed the thanks of the assembly to the presidium of the meeting. The meeting was closed.

Hasse Schneidermann
Secretary

Gabriel Romanus
Chair §§ 1-3

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Marit Barene

Tom Anthoni
Chair §§ 4-21

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Lauri Beekmann