



### **IOV World General Assembly Minutes**

April 1-3, 2019 \_ Sharjah U. A. E.

#### **Executive Committee**

#### **Present:**

*Ali A. Khalifa, President  
Hans Holz, Vice-President  
Emma Chen, Vice-President  
Fabrizio Cattaneo, Secretary General  
Henk Huijser, Treasurer*

#### **Minutes Convener:**

*Masooma Al Mutawah, Presidential Office  
Representative*

### **--- DAY 1 – 01<sup>st</sup> April 2019; Monday 11:40am ---**

#### **D1-1- Ali Khalifa, President**

- ❖ *Started the assembly by welcoming the executive committee, IOV members and guests. And stated that the GA will start with the executive committee members reports.*

#### **D1-2- Fabrizio Cattaneo, Secretary General**

- ❖ *Welcomed all members and guests and thanked Shaikh Sultan Al Qasimmi, Dr. AbdulaAziz Al Musalam and the executive committee board members.*
  - *Announced that the fees collection for joining IOV or renewing the membership will be in Sheraton Hotel lobby starting from 5:30 Monday and Tuesday.*
  - *Explained what is IOV today and how popular it is now.*
  - *Talked about Alexander Viegl and Marcel, asked for a moment of silent for them.*
  - *Spoke about IOV 2020 plans including: membership certificate. Fees, conferences, festivals, etc. and IOV goals including understanding IOV, understanding differences, improving international immigration, looking over minorities without discriminations, etc.*
  - *Emphasized the importance of the national sections and wished to have one in every country. Mentioned the national section chair role in collecting the fees and sending it to the treasurer. And sending the updates of the section to the Secretary General who send it to the UNISCO.*
  - *Presented a figure of the 5 regional sectors and members numbers. Emphasized the importance of paying the fees to accomplish the goals of saving the heritage and continuing holding conferences, seminars and others.*
  - *Announced the conference that will be held in ITALY in 2020 with the cooperation with F.I.T.P.*

- President, Ali: Mentioned that an important book about Alexander Viegl written by Anna Viegl will be printed. The book gives a good idea about all the aspect of IOV with pictures. President asked if there are any comments or suggestions about Secretary Cattaneo report. There was no intervention.

### **D1-3- Henk Huijser, Treasurer**

- ❖ *Welcomed everyone and started presenting his report. Presented the financial accounts for the years 2016-2017. Showed how the payment grew from 2016 and mentioned that the member administration is transferred to the office in Bahrain. Talked about the rule and assignments of the treasurer and the assignment to prepare the annual accounts 2017. Showed few figures from the balance, profit and loss and shared some notes to the financial statements.*
- President, Ali: Asked members to get a copy of the report if they want to see it closely. He mentioned that we have to find other ways to get financial support for IOV. He mentioned that this general assembly and scientific conference is a proof of the importance of the financial support, that is why the board decided to go back to an old practice of giving a medal to the people who support IOV, like they did before and gave it to Habib Bourguiba the former president of Tunisia and to Kur Josef Waldheim the former president of Austria. And this year they decided to give it to Shaikh Sultan Al Qassimi the ruler of Sharjah for his support. There was no other intervention.

### **D1-4- Hans Holz, Vice-President**

- ❖ *Welcomed everyone and started presenting his report. Showed some meetings and activities he was part of, for example: EC meeting in Bahrain, International Dance Festival in India, 14<sup>th</sup> European International Scientific Conference of Folk Culture in memory of IOV founder Alexander Veigl, UNESCO meeting in Paris and conference in Mauritius and IOV EC meeting in Valencia, Spain.*
- President, Ali: Spoke about Hans work in consulting the board and his kind invitation to 12 IOV members to Andorf to plan for "time to change". There was no other intervention.

### **D1-5- Emma Chen, Vice-President**

- ❖ *Welcomed everyone and started presenting her report.*
  - *Showed some of her NGO work pictures including handcraft, scholars and cultural exchange activities supported by UNISCO and the government. Some cooperation activities with Germany.*
  - *Spoke about the importance of music being part of the heritage, and the need of encouraging students to join the folk-art activities.*
  - *Spoke about the importance of getting governmental support to support IOV.*
  - *Shared some of her participation in activities and meetings to let people know what is IOV and promote it.*
- Intervention1: Mr. Olvin Valentin, (Portorico): Are the trips and activities that we saw is increasing our finance?
  - Emma: We need to find people to support IOV by doing this activities and trips and to introduce IOV and its goals and activities.

- President, Ali: We put plans then we find support by visiting the sectors and by participating in IOV activities.

**D1-6- RED for America: Clerton Vieira IOV Brazil - Activity report**

- ❖ *Welcomed everyone and started presenting his report.*
  - *Mentioned that he is happy from Barazil members contributions to IOV, and that they are willing to work with all members even outside Brazil.*
  - *Mentioned their plan to build new partnerships with universities.*
  - *Mentioned that they have a challenge with their new mission called 'National Commission for Heritage'.*
  - *Presented a video about their activities in Brazil.*

**D1-7- RED for Europe: Javier Rodrigo Illarri. IOV SPAIN – Activity report**

- ❖ *Welcomed everyone and started presenting their report for the last year, from when he was appointed.*
  - *They invited the executive committee for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Valencia University.*
  - *They started to work in analyzing the distribution of IOV members within 44 countries mentioning the active and none active countries. Report was presented.*
  - *The report showed some distribution which might not be accurate and need to be look through, for example 12% of IOV members (which is the most) shows in Romania, while Italy or Austria might have more. They will work in improving the accuracy of these data.*
  - *Working on a website showing 12 national sections. and IOV Spain Web page.*
  - *Working on elections coming on 2020, status will be sent to the government.*
  - *Working on the national foundation of IOV Spain.*
  - *Working on annual report templet for IOV Europe National Chairs.*

**D1-8- RED for ASIA: Dunguu Munkhnasan. IOV MONGOLIA– Activity report**

- ❖ *Welcomed everyone, thanked IOV Mongolia members for their contribution, and mentioned that IOV Mongnolia was registered by 2004. Started presenting their report.*
  - *Mentioned their art and cultural events.*
  - *Mentioned that they will start to host their first conference and first festival very soon.*
  - *Talked about the number of members they have and how many of them are active.*
  - *Presented a video about Mongolia activities.*

**D1-9- RED for AFRICA: Mohamed Joudat, IOV Morocco – Activity report**

- ❖ *Welcomed everyone, Sharjah and president Ali and thanked him for improving IOV by his vast experience in culture and Heritage preserve. Started presenting his report.*
  - *Mentioned that they were able to stablish the biggest sector of Africa in Morocco, started with a small project about culture.*
  - *Started cooperation with different universities.*
  - *Arbitrate many thesis and research papers in African culture.*

- President, Ali: Thanked everyone for their input and reminded all members to come with their typical and traditional clothing of their own country tomorrow for the WGA official photo in open air.

**--- DAY 2 – 02nd April, 2019; Tuesday 09:35am ---**

**D2-1- Festivals & Practices Commission. Chair Geert Nijhof**

- ❖ *Welcomed everyone. Started presenting his report.*
  - *Explained his work for IOV, and his main objectives.*
  - *Mentioned his activities since 2016 in traditional cooking, scientific seminars, handcrafts, etc.*
  - *Talked about his work with festivals in Netherlands, new IOV website and the IOV world youth commission.*
  - *Mentioned his future wishes: project to support all members of IOV, evaluation of festivals, releasing new projects for fund raising, and to extend the festival commission.*
- Intervention1: Mr. Wieslaw Kraika (Poland): I always ask myself what benefits I will get by being an IOV member? If you get profit from IOV then you should be a member of IOV!
  - President, Ali: When IOV hold scientific events like this conference in Sharjah, that helps to get scientist from all over the world to be IOV members and IOV becomes more open organization. That is a huge benefit.
- Intervention2: Prof. Eman Mahran (Egypt): I think we need to make more road festivals with traditional games and including average people. We need make IOV members more cultural and IOV more traditional.

**D2-2- Science & Research & Financial Support Commission. Chair Mohammed El Nouri**

- ❖ *Mentioned that even though the priority of the papers at the scientific conference should be for IOV members, but the quality of the paper is important too, so at the end we chose the best 20 papers from 600 papers from the Arab region and 200 from western. He also spoke about the complement of the 5 parts book which contains 1000 traditional tales. Finally, he said that they are working on a new conference will take place in November hopefully.*
- Intervention1: Dr. Mohamed Joudat (Egypt): In IOV from more than 10 years we are assuring the importance of the scientific conferences. There are many organizations specialized in Folk art, but their role was absent from our conference. I think the scientific committee should be more open to these organizations to have more members in the structure of the scientific committee.
  - Dr. Mohamed El Nouri: The scientific committee is already open to all organizations, those who was absent from the conference are absent by their choice, we don't choose the people by their sentiments, but we choose who we think is proper.
- Intervention2: Prof. Letizia Bindi: One of the most challenges is to invest in research. I suggest for the future; we need to meet with the scientific committee to look for some type of investment.

- Intervention3: Prof. Eman Mahran (Egypt): Maybe we can pay to distribute the Logo and the publications of IOV for promotion.
  - President, Ali: IOV is moving forward with its scientific projects. I suggest that the scientific committee maybe can meet in China with the invitation of Emma to look over the suggestions.

**D2-3- Youth Commission: Shereen Rafea.**

- ❖ *Welcomed everyone. Mentioned that they have 20 participants passionate about the work they are doing. They strength their network by using YouTube, Facebook and blogs. She spoke about their publications, the way of being a member in the commission and some of their activities.*

**D2-4- RED for MENA: Abdulaziz Al Musallam – Activity report**

- ❖ *Spoke about his joining to IOV, starting from Italy with the invitation of Mr. Ali. Mentioned that since Sharjah is a city of heritage, we met and decided that I will be heading the section of the MENA region. Our new IOV building will be ready soon, and we are ready to support IOV.*

**D2-5- Presenting an award to Dr. Abdulaziz Al Musallam, Ms. Anna Vigel and Dr. Valko Lubenov.**

**D2-6- Legal Committee Chair: Hanady Al Jowder. Amendments to IOV Bylaws.**

- ❖ *Welcomed everyone. Voted on changing the title of the "treasurer" to "financial director". It was approved.*
  - ❖ *Voted on dividing the commission of "Scientific & Research & Financial Support" to two commissions "Scientific & Research" & "Financial Support" because of the two different objectives they have. It was approved with the following interventions.*
- Intervention1: Mr. Olvin Valentin, (Portorico): We are voting on something we don't have any information about.
    - President, Ali: Explained the role of the two commissions and the need to divide them.
  - Intervention2: Prof. Letizia Bindi: Only one doubt about the relationship between the financial needs and the research. As it is necessary to have connection between them.
    - Hanadi: All the commissions are connected and working together.
    - President, Ali: Mentioned that IOV needs not only for research, that is why it is important to divide the two commissions. Also, he want to formally register the board apologies for Dr. Noor Al Huda Badis, as she was one of the research committee members who reviewed the conference papers and was supposed to present a report about IOV publications. But unfortunately, she was not able to come to Sharjah because of some visa issues.
  - Intervention3: Prof. Eman Mahran (Egypt): It is better to call the "Financial Support" commission "Resources Support".
    - Fabrizio: We are not opening a new commission to discuss the name. we are only dividing the one name we have to two names within their objectives.
  - Intervention4: Emma: We need to open the door to new members that can support the financial support.

- Fabrizio: It is the commission role to do that.
- ❖ *Voted on opening a new commission for "Childhood". It was approved with the following interventions.*
- Intervention1: Dr. Mohamed Joudat (Egypt): The childhood commission should be part of the scientific & research commission with some changes in the commission structure if the goal was to do research about the childhood.
  - Fabrizio: Educational line and proposals for media attention about childhood is far from our minds now. We need a platform to take care of the child, it is an idea that we can try.
  - Emma: I support Dr. Mohamed; it can be under the scientific committee.
  - Fabrizio: We are talking about a commission not a committee.
  - President, Ali: The children field needs a special attention with people really specialized in everything related to childhood, so I think it need to be separated from the scientific & research commission.
  - Dr. Ahmed Mursey (Egypt): I think it is important to have this commission to develop generations understand the value of heritage and how it is connected to our live and society.
  - Prof. Letizia Bindi: I think it is important to have this commission and it should be linked to the scientific and research commission. We need to decide what type of knowledge we want to make the children and the community aware of. For example, children harassment.
  - Camila Leal (Brazil): I agree to have this commission and would like to be part of it and help since I am specialized in childhood education.
  - Prof. Eman Mahran (Egypt): It is important to concentrate on the neglected children and the children celebrations.
  - Mr. Olvin Valentin, (Portorico): My concern is having broad structure and having more commissions that might lead to have empty commissions. Again, we really need to know what we are voting for.
  - Fabrizio: All the commissions are connected, and they are all at the end under IOV.
  - Hanadi: We are working on developing our commissions work, in case the commissions were not active we can cancel them in the future.

### **D2-7- Members Interventions**

- Intervention1: Dr. Wielsaw Krajka (Poland): I have a recommendation, the board should pass the information to the chair of the national section, and he is the one who is responsible to pass the information to the section members instead of emailing all the members direct.
  - Fabrizio: Not all the section chairs are active and sharing the information to the members in the country, and sometimes the section might consist only from the chair and two members. I will send the information to the chair only if he was active and doing what he should do.
- Intervention2: Mr. Sliven (Nigeria): It is a big shock. we have 3 people was ready to come to Sharjah, they wasted time, effort and money for tickets but they were not able to join.
  - President, Ali: Some people was not able to come because of some security issues that is outside of our control. We should respect the efforts of the hosted country and respect their rules and regulations. We will try to compensate their tickets if possible.

- Intervention3: from Sao Paulo (Brazile): Talked about their 2020 event and asked anyone interested to sign in their website. Showed a video about their activities.

**D2-8- Helena Lourenço, IOV BRASIL, ABRASOFFA. Presenting History of the IOV.**

- ❖ *Presented their activities from 1988 and how the number of members increased.*
  - *Mentioned their cooperation with their country and activities they are doing with youth and children. And activities with UNESCO.*
  - *Talked about the meetings they have in Europe and Korea. And that they were awarded two prizes in Greece and France.*
  - *Established many committees that are working on justice and peace.*
  - *Presented some photos.*
- ❖ *Suggested few things:*
  - *We need to find ways to get funds. And to be informed what ways to get funds.*
  - *We need to invite journalists and media to have members from them to cover our activities.*
  - *Need a list of people attended the general assembly to communicate with them after the conference and make friendships.*

**D2-9- Tahir Amiraslanov, IOV AZERBAIJAN. Azerbaijani Traditional Cuisine Culture.**

- ❖ *Presented some slides from their activities about different festivals with the participation of many countries.*
  - *Showed pictures of their national cuisine competitions.*
  - *Publications about their resorted old dishes.*
  - *Stated postage stamps of 26 pieces of 4 brands in 2018 representing traditional cuisine.*
  - *Mentioned that IOV did not accept yet their invitation to the cuisine.*
- Intervention1: Dr. Mohamed Joudat (Egypt): I suggest having a certificate to the countries like Azerbaijan who are doing special efforts in saving the cultural tradition.

**D2-10- Anna Viegl Documentary Book.**

- ❖ *Presented the Alexander Viegl book. Which talks about the history of IOV, and the role of Alexander in conserving the heritage in all over the world. After his death his wife Anna Viegle started to check all the available documents and pictures for IOV efforts to save and commemorate Alexander effort. She expressed her thanks and gratitude to President Ali for his support in publishing this book and wish that many of IOV members will have the time to read this book to see Alexander's years and IOV efforts all over the past years.*

**D2-11- Anna Brzozowska Krajka Scientific Book.**

- ❖ *Started with thanking everyone who helped in preparing the book. The book talked about the conference took place in Poland. Presented the cover and explained the idea of the picture on it which was about old toys look like dancers with traditional costume. Then presented the content of the book by going over the content list.*

**--- DAY 3 – 03<sup>rd</sup> April, 2019; Monday 04:15pm ---**

**D3-1- Special Projects Commission Chair Parul Shah**

- ❖ *Started with welcoming statement. Spoke about her role in IOV, about what is the intangible cultural heritage. IOV special projects like producing educational materials, cultural tourism and others.*

**D3-2- Etienne Vankeirsbilck**

- ❖ *Shared a welcoming statement.*

**D3-3- Joerje Frances, the Previous General Secretary**

- ❖ *Started with thanking the organizers of the general assembly and the conference.*
  - *Mentioned few things about his previous work as the general secretary and the importance of networking in this type of events.*
  - *The need of not only looking to the future but also looking to the back and to the history of IOV.*
  - *Mentioned that the board should ask the members about what is needed and why we are here, because there are many people who want to help and cooperate.*

**D3-4- Mr. Wieslaw Kraika (Poland)**

- ❖ *Made a proposal about a conference in Andorf that will be discussed in the board.*

**D3-5- Mr. Paulo (Nova Petropolis)**

- ❖ *Spoke about their international festival that runs for 17 days and the tourists comes from everywhere to attend it. Showed videos about their festival.*

**D3-6- Mr. Clerton Vieira (Brazil)**

- ❖ *Welcomed everyone.*
  - *Talked about the technology and the transition of tradition in one click.*
  - *IOV Brazil projects integrating technology, and the APP they are using in IOV Brazil. Invited everyone to look to their projects through their APP.*

**D3-7- Emma Chen, Vice-President**

- ❖ *Shared an 8 minutes video about some china general traditions for tourism advertisement. And mentioned that we need to make more connections with African countries.*

**D3-8- Ali Khalifa, President**

- ❖ *Thanked everyone for the successful general assembly. Thanked all the board members and Dr. Masooma the convener of the general assembly meetings. Thanked Shaikh Sultan and Dr. AbdulAziz for their hosting and effort. Thanked all the members, organizers and translators. Mentioned that we will step all together for forwards steps and hopefully IOV will always be at the beginning of saving the folk art. And our hands will always be open for new friends and we all will be brothers and sisters hoping for a beautiful future.*

**--- End of the General Assembly Meetings ---**