

# IOB

## General Assembly

Minutes of the IOB General Assembly in Stuttgart, Germany October 11, 2012, 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Attendees: Representatives of eight of the 11 member associations as well as one associate member, the board and guests.

### 1. Welcome and establishment of a quorum

After the welcome and establishment of a quorum by the board, the representative of the German association suggests that the board consider modifying the statutes in regard to the establishment of a quorum. It should be examined whether a minimum number of participants should be required to hold the general assembly.

### 2. Approval of the agenda

Resolution: The agenda is unanimously accepted.

### 3. Resolution on minutes of the last general assembly

Resolution: The minutes are unanimously accepted.

### 4. Introduction of participants

As agreed at the last general assembly, the members briefly introduce themselves and their associations.

### 5. Report by the board

Before the general assembly in Stuttgart, the board held 14 meetings, two of those in Munich and Stuttgart and the others as teleconferences.

■ Homepage: Completion of the online library and current news as well as the calendar of events are all ongoing tasks that must occur continuously.

The new section "pin board" is intended to be used for commercial advertising and establishing contacts, e.g. when looking for franchise partners.

The assembly is reminded that, at the last general assembly in Portugal, it was agreed that the press officers of the respective member associations were assigned the task of regularly checking the website and supplying the pertinent information to the association's individual members. This is working well in some cases, while in others it is happening rarely or not at all.

Also, two IOB newsletters were sent to the member associations, which were hopefully then forwarded to the individual

## News

### International Week of the swimming pond 2013

Following a suggestion of the Austrian and German member associations this year will host the first "International Week of the swimming pond in 2013." from June, 8 until 15.

The idea is to join a remarkable number of events of its member associations and their individual members in the second week of June through open days, visits and demonstrations of swimming ponds and many special events.

### FLL directive now also in English

The "Guidelines for the design, construction, maintenance and operation of swimming pools with biological water treatment (swimming ponds)" from 2011 is now available in English. In cooperation with the German Society for natural bathing waters and Landscaping Landscape Development Research Society (FLL) IOB has made not only translation of the text version but also translated the computer program for calculating the plants into English. Individual members of the IOB's member associations get both at a discount of 30% at FLL's homepage: [http://www.fll.de/shop/gewasser-entwässerung.html?\\_\\_store=english&\\_\\_from\\_store=english](http://www.fll.de/shop/gewasser-entwässerung.html?__store=english&__from_store=english)



newsletter 12 (2/2013)

Der IOB-newsletter wird herausgegeben vom Vorstand der Internationalen Organisation für naturnahe Badegewässer (IOB) und versteht sich als vorzugsweise monatlich erscheinendes Mitteilungsorgan des Vereins für eine Information der Einzelmitglieder in den Mitgliedsverbänden der IOB. Behandelt werden Themen rund um die Arbeit der IOB und seiner Mitglieder aus der internationalen Naturfreibäder-Branche. Der IOB-newsletter erscheint nach Möglichkeit monatlich in digitaler Form auf der homepage und wird über die Mitgliedsverbände der IOB an ihre Einzelmitglieder versandt. Beiträge mit namentlich gekennzeichnetem Autor geben nicht unbedingt die Meinung des Vorstandes der IOB wider. Kontakt: [www.iob-ev.eu](http://www.iob-ev.eu)

members. A newsletter requires extensive effort, since both German and English versions must be created. Thank you, Dirk Esser, for the help with the English translation.

#### ■ Expansion of membership

Since the last general assembly in 2011, two new associate members have been acquired (Luís Filipe Pereira for Brazil and Martin Halahija for Slovakia). Luís Filipe Pereira already has contact to other colleagues in Brazil, and founding an association was the topic of a meeting that I had with Luís Pereira.

Wiljan Bruggeman is now the associate member for the Netherlands; Thijs Wijns was no longer able to take on the task due to professional obligations. He is working actively on founding a Dutch association - presumably under the umbrella of the landscaping association.

■ The study on public swimming ponds in Europe that the board and management compiled for our member in Israel played a decisive role in a ruling of the highest Israeli court on the admittance of municipal swimming ponds in Israel. It was very gratifying that this case against the Israeli health ministry was won. The first public facility in a kibbutz is currently in the planning phase.

■ Database of natural pools, DANA As an international partner to the database project on natural outdoor pools, the IOB has contact to South Tyrol (Italy) and to the operators of public pools with biological water purification in France. Negotiations on admission to the DANA of the pools in both countries are

ongoing. Public pools in Austria are also interested in the DANA.

#### ■ EU-Ecolabel project for swimming ponds

Motivated by a suggestion made by the Italian association, the IOB is preparing an application for submission to the European Commission regarding the creation of a "product group swimming ponds" within the EU-Ecolabel. The process takes several years, since the product group must first be created before the actual process of granting an Ecolabel for swimming ponds can begin. When the process has been initiated and it appears that a favorable outcome is likely, the members of the IOB will of course be involved in the actual procedure to specify the criteria of the EU-Ecolabel for swimming ponds.

#### ■ International Congress 2013

In May the IOB board met in Munich with the chairman of the Austrian association. Frank Kubacek explained the concept of the congress at the meeting. It was fundamentally agreed that close cooperation, particularly in regard to advertising and to planning the program, would occur.

There are already ongoing contacts for the project, and the congress website is being filled with content.

On the occasion of the congress, the IOB would like to create a small exhibit on the topic "Panning public swimming ponds." The IOB has asked its members to name planners from amongst their own members who have planned and

built facilities for 50 or more guests per day.

#### IOB guidelines draft

The version presented as an edited draft at the congress in Budweis was the inspiration for many successful and very positive developments in different countries of IOB members:

**Great Britain:** The BANSP has compiled a rulebook on the foundation of the draft of the IOB guidelines. The suggestion has been deliberated with the PWTAG, the British organization for bathing water quality, and it is now being published in cooperation with the British swimming pool association.

**Iberia:** After discussion of a joint Iberian version, our member for Spain and Portugal has compiled a Portuguese version and a Spanish version. Discussions with government agencies have already begun in Portugal.

**Italy:** At a meeting on the subject of a rulebook in Italy in which three members of the IOB board and many representatives of Italian government agencies participated, the Italian association presented a version of the IOB general guidelines in the national language. Government agency representatives, e.g. from South Tyrol, where six of the country's seven public pools are located, consider this a basis for regulation in Italy.

**Denmark:** Our associate member Lars Juncker achieved that the federal ministry of the

environment presented a draft of an ordinance that would allow subordinate authorities to approve public pools with biological water purification in special cases. This document, too, is based to a large extent on the draft of the IOB general guidelines and explicitly refers in many instances to our work.

During the discussion of the board's report, the representative of the French association asks that IOB managing director Stefan Bruns explain the DANA project again. It is explicitly ensured that the company Polyplan, as developer of the database, has access to the database structure but not to the data itself. In its function as a user, Polyplan can only access the data that the pool operators explicitly release. The license and thus the data is always the property of the pool operator. Only he/she can determine who can see which of his/her data by giving such persons a password. The data is managed and backed up only by the provider, the company Ravenworks. Outside of Germany, purchasing of licenses and creation of projects within the database can occur only through the IOB. The company Polyplan is merely the owner of the database structure. The structure is being continuously expanded in the course of research projects. Outside companies and institutions can send database inquiries to the provider Ravenworks. Upon payment of a fee, such companies will receive anonymized data that complies with the inquiry filter. The French association initiates a discussion on whether such inquiries should not always come from the

respective national association; the association could offer this service to its members. The board accepts the suggestion.

In regard to the 7th International Swimming Pond Congress, the German association states that the selected dates - October 23 to October 25, 2013 - are not favorable due to overlap with the dates of the aquanale (swimming pool exhibition in Germany). The representative of the Austrian association replies that the only possible venue in Bregenz is the Festspielhaus (Festival House) and no other dates are available.

#### **6. Report by the treasurer on the fiscal year 2011**

The treasurer presents the report on the budgetary situation. There are queries about the value-added tax being taken into account on the deposit made by the German association. The treasurer explains that the tax was reported, since the German federal association, as well as the IOB administrative office, is located in Germany. This means that the payments are subject to value-added tax.

The representative of the Swiss association suggests relocating the IOB headquarters to Switzerland.

The board accepts the suggestion and will look into it..

#### **7. Report by the auditors on the fiscal year 2011**

The report compiled by the two auditors, presented by the representative of the Czech association, contains no objections.

Resolution: The budget report for 2011 is unanimously approved by the general assembly.

#### **8. Presentation, discussion and adoption of the budget draft for 2013**

Queries come from the members about whether the amount of 4000 € budgeted for the International Congress in Bregenz is reasonable. The representative of the Austrian federal association and the president of the IOB both confirm that the amount is appropriate.

The actual negotiations will occur between the IOB and the Austrian association.

Regarding the research budget there is a project on the effect of UV lamps in swimming ponds in cooperation with the German Association.

Resolution: The budget plan for 2013 is unanimously approved.

#### **9. Miscellaneous**

The board informs the members that the next IOB general assembly will presumably take place on October 23 in Bregenz.

For the minutes: (Stefan Bruns)  
Chairman: (Udo Schwarzer)