



## IAG General Meeting 2019 and Gathering

The General Assembly of the International Ambassadors Guild (IAG) was held in Brussels, Belgium on the 23<sup>rd</sup> March at 3 pm at Les Scouts Pluralists, next to ISGF World Bureau, with 28 Ambassadors present.

We were very happy to have Nathalie Henrard, the new ISGF Secretary General, with us since some of us met her for the first time.

The members of the Board present were Bjorg, Mida, Mathius, Anthony and Nana, (Jane sent her apologies), plus members of the General Assembly and observers.

After the warm welcome and reflection by Bjorg, we approved the minutes of the previous year and the Agenda of the General Assembly and then:



*Welcomed the new members who received their IAG certificate: Cecile Bellet, former ISGF Secretary General, Roeland de Boel from Belgium, Margarita Garcia Arrizabalaga from Spain, Meinhard Perkmann from Austria.*

Martine Levy was welcomed as the new Board member. It was confirmed that the Board Members for the year 2019-2020 are:

*Bjorg Walstad Chairman, Mathius Lukwago Chairman ISGF World Committee, Mida Rodrigues Projects, Anthony Florizoone Treasurer, Jane Wardropper, Martine Levy, Nana Gentimi Secretary.*

The resignation from the General Assembly for health reasons of Werner Weilguny, from Austria was accepted, and his replacement by Hans Slanec, also from Austria confirmed.

Then Bjorg read the annual report and Anthony the Financial report 2018. Both were approved.

Last year to celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of IAG it was decided that the grants for the years 2018 and 2019 amounting to 20.000 Euros will go to scout/guide projects linked to the environment, up to 2.000 Euros for each project.



Martine reported positively on Ivory Coast project saying that the money was spent on uniforms, tents and training.

We reviewed the 2 applications for support from Romania and decided to support the one with a training course which will involve more people with 2.000 Euros.

Bjorg informed us of a special grant of 250 Euros, given to IAG by the St.Georgs Guild in Drammen, Norway. The General Assembly decided to give the grant to the Kinyago Scout and Guide group in Nairobi, affected by the recent fires within the slum. The scout and guide leaders had worked hard to distribute and organize basic support to 61 families. A "Thank you letter" will be sent to the Guild.

Bjorg informed us that a North Norwegian Fellowship, who work very well with members with disabilities are planning a camp and need support to clean the area around the campsite. More information is to be requested about this activity so that it can be evaluated by IAG.

Mathius gave a short update on the World Committee meeting in Madrid and then presented a request for grants for projects from WAGGGS for 9 Africa countries for a total amount of Euros 25.000.

After a discussion it was decided among various ideas and proposals to ask WAGGGS for more detailed information and then decide on the further steps to be taken in order to give grants to some of the African countries proposed, for example Rwanda, Malawi, Madagascar, affected by catastrophes and/or on combined projects.

Mida will make and send us a plan on projects and will contact Mozambique for a project on the environment.

In order to promote the visibility of IAG we decided to produce a video of the projects supported by IAG and Virginia will be responsible for it using material supplied by IAG members. A new updated leaflet is needed.

After the meeting members had a very pleasant dinner at the Brasserie de la Patinoire. On Sunday we visited Waterloo and spent the sunny day together in this historic venue, so important for Europe's history, 204 years after the famous Battle. We visited the Wellington Museum, the Waterloo Battlefield, the Memorial 1815 and had a light lunch before returning to Brussels and say goodbye.