

1. Apologies from :

Franz Ennser, Independent Director, Austria Juice
Jun Fujikuma, Japan (had to leave during the AGM)

2. Welcome by President

Anthony Snell thanks all the participants of the AGM. He congratulates France for the organization of a successful conference, interesting visits and good speakers.

As Jun Fujikuma has to leave, Anthony Snell thanks him for the proposal of Japan to host the next conference. After several discussions with other conference attendees, he thinks that for the moment, a conference in Japan would not find enough welcome: the global situation for blackcurrant growers is not very good at the moment, and Japan far away for most of the IBA members. Many growers would not attend the conference.

Jun Fujikuma understands this point of view and adds that if the IBA wishes to have a meeting or event in Japan, Osaka would be the best place. He underlines that the IBA can count on the support of the Japanese growers association and Beneseed.

3. Minutes of 8th AGM held in Ashford, United Kingdom, in June 2016

Tabled as read, no comments arising. (*approved unanimous*)

4. IBA Financial Statement 2016 and 2017

Already presented in the Board meeting. The IBA is solvent, no comments arising. The statements are approved. Anthony Snell thanks Mike Kearney for his continuous involvement and work. The transfer of the IBA accounts to a European country (and thus the whole association) needs the approval of the AGM. Anthony Snell points out that this does not mean that New Zealand is less important. All people present agree for the transfer, the matter had already been discussed in the Board meeting and during the conference days. No further comments arising (*approved unanimous*).

5. Election of officers:

Elections to be conducted by another person than the current representatives. Anthony Snell asks Stefanie Sharma to conduct the elections.

The first vote is for non serving officers. Anthony Snell suggests that even if the IBA accounts were moved to Europe, Mike Kearney could continue his work. Mike Kearney is ready to continue.

All non-serving officers are thus reconducted unanimous: Mike Kearney=treasurer, bank signatories=Mike Kearney and John Tavendale, auditors=Heiko Danner and James Tavendale.

The following vote is the vote for the IBA presidency. Anthony Snell declares that although he enjoyed being the IBA president for the past two years, he would like to step back for several reasons: he had already declared in 2016 that for several other commitments, he could not invest more time than the two years. Also, as the IBA wants to move to a European Union country, and as the UK is going to leave the EU, he finds it more appropriate to have a president from an EU country.

Stefanie Sharma asks for nominations. Anthony Snell suggests Florent Baillard (France). Florent Baillard feels honored, but declines the offer, feeling not enough comfortable with English. He suggests Jens Pedersen (Denmark).

Anthony Snell also suggests Piotr Baryla (Poland). Piotr Baryla explains that he is not ready (yet) for taking this responsibility, as there is still a lot of work to accomplish inside Poland and the Polish growers association. He declines.

Jens Pedersen accepts to stand for presidency. All participants agree. (*elected unanimous*)

Anthony Snell congratulates Jens Pedersen and declares that he will stay fully involved although he left his position. He wishes that everyone present could take over the IBA presidency once.

Stefanie Sharma asks for nominations for vice-presidency (two posts). Dirk Herdieckerhoff suggests that Piotr Baryla keeps his post. He agrees. Anthony Snell suggests Florent Baillard for vice-presidency. He agrees.

Both are elected unanimous.

Stefanie Sharma explains that 2 positions are free for representatives of independent members. Franz Ennsner had declared his availability before the conference. Mirosław Korzeniowski also suggests to represent the independent members. No other candidates declared their availability. Both are therefore elected unanimous.

Anthony Snell congratulates Mirosław Korzeniowski.

All elections now being finalized, he asks Mike Kearney to clarify who from New Zealand will represent the country over the next two years. As James Tavendale was absent from this year's conference, Geoff Heslop took over the representation. Yet, for discussions and decisions during the coming two years, New Zealand has to state who will represent the country.

6. IBA conference 2020

Several options for the conference in 2020:

- Poland (Lublin area), with a one day visit to Ukraine. Piotr Baryla declares that the KSPCP is not ready yet to involve in the organization of another conference, having too many other things to deal with for the moment. But 2022 can be an option.
- Germany (Southern part), probably with a trip to Austria to have a closer look on the organic production in Austria (more than 20 years experience). It would be easy to reach for all countries. Dirk Herdieckerhoff explains that he needs to discuss with those who will be most involved in the organization of the conference and cannot confirm yet.
- Norway. Torgeir Toverud thinks that Norway is not ready for hosting such a big conference for the moment, but will discuss the matter to see if it is possible.
- Ukraine had been the first option, but remains difficult, because it has no country association member of the IBA. Country membership has always been compulsory for the organization of IBA conferences. It would still be an interesting place to hold the conference, and their representative, Aleksandr Yareshchenko, had expressed Ukraine's willingness to host the conference in Ashford, and reconfirmed it in 2018.

Given the current situation, Mirosław Korzeniowski suggests to postpone the decision until the country associations from Germany and Norway check their availability. He also suggests his help with his contact persons in Ukraine for further discussions about their potential membership and hosting the conference.

Jens Pedersen thanks Mirosław Korzeniowski for his help and declares that the decision is postponed. The deadline for announcing the place of the next conference (either Germany or Ukraine) is 1st October 2018.

Announcements of these decisions and of elections are to be made at the afternoon session of the conference.

7. General Business

No general business

Minutes end

Stefanie Sharma, General Manager IBA