

April 2023 Board Meeting

Date: Thursday 27th April 2023 from 19h to 22h55

Location: Teachers' Canteen Woluwe & Online (ZOOM)

Present in situ: Célia ALVES RODRIGUES – Eleonora APPONI-BATTINI – Vincent CATOT – Alexander CORNFORD – Catarina DUARTE GOMES – Andrew Janis FOLKMANIS – Pim GESQUIERE – Wolfgang MÜNCH – Elita PETRAITIENÉ – Albert RÄDLER – Ulrike STOROST – Giacomo SOMMA – Monika SZULYOSZKY – Alberto TOSO – Francesca TUDINI – Christian VISANI – David ZELINGER

ZOOM: Monika BARABASZ LOPES – Andrea GRGIĆ – Maija KNUTTI – Bettina SCHMIDBAUER MOGENSEN – Johanna SCHULYOK

Absent: Peter EDLIND – Ursula HÖNICH – Nicolas LACROIX

Others: Anja GALLE – Ferhan PELISTER – Clémence EUGENE

All related documents were sent to the Board members before the meeting.

Agenda Point

1. Approval of the agenda

The working group coordinators will send their working group priorities to C. Eugene who will collect them in a document which will be timely shared with the Board members for a vote during the next Board meeting scheduled 25th May 2023.

Action Point: Working group coordinators to send their working group priorities to C. Eugene.

The Board discusses the agenda and agrees to reshuffle the order of items.

The Board approves the reviewed agenda.

2. Approval of the Board meeting report of the 20/03/2023

The Board discusses the minutes. For the future Board minutes, the Board agrees not to quote individual board members in the minutes and to summarize the topic in a synthetic way. Statements for the record will be allowed only if made during the board meetings.

The Board agrees to review the minutes of the March Board meeting, remove names in the statement for the record, and modify the place of statements for the record. The Board agrees to postpone the voting of the March minutes to the next Board meeting on the 25th of May 2023.

Action point: the final March Board report with the requested changes, such as removal of name of Board member in statement, to be mailed to the Board for voting at the May Board meeting.

Discussion points and votes

1. Conduct

The Board discusses the topic.

2. Interpretation of simple majority

P. Gesquiere, coordinator of the Statutes Update working group, presents the work and proposals of the working group on the interpretation of the concept of simple majority. Two interpretations are presented, and the Board discusses them.

Vote: The Board votes on how the expression "Simple majority" as referred to in Article 15 of the Statutes is to be interpreted, until the new Statutes come into force as follows:

A. the Board adopts the option that gets the highest number of votes of the members who voted in favour or against. Abstentions are excluded from the calculation.

B. the Board adopts the option that gets the majority (i.e. 50% + 1) of votes of the members who voted. Abstentions are included in the calculation of the majority.

Decision: The Board approves option **A** with a 67% majority.

14 votes for *option A* (David Zelinger, Francesca Tudini, Johanna Schulyok, Eleonora Apponi-Battini, Albert Rädler, Alexander Cornford, Bettina Schmidbauer Mogensen, Wolfgang Münch, Maija Knutti, Monika Barabasz Lopes, Catarina Duarte Gomes, Ulrike Storost, Vincent Catot, Alberto Toso) = 67% and 7 votes for *option B* (Pim Gesquiere, Christian Visani, Célia Alves Rodrigues, Monika Szulyovszky, Andrea Grgić, Elita Petraitienė, Andrew Janis Folkmanis) = 33%.

A member makes the following statement for the record: The result of the vote on "Simple majority" confirms the validity of the first vote held during the Board meeting of 20/03/2023 on the letter of the Comité des Elèves (CDE) to the Board of Governors, in line with the actual voting practices of the Board so far; and, therefore, that the claim by a Board member to count abstentions in the calculation of the simple majority was intended to overturn a valid vote of the Board.

3. Approach by the Board regarding the modification of the Statutes

The WG Statutes Update met already three times. Before the Easter holidays, the working group launched a call for parent volunteers (outside of the Board), to which 5 parents replied. Currently, 7 of the 9 language sections are represented (no representative of the Swedish and English sections) in the working group.

The working group was of the opinion that their mandate needs to be endorsed by the board. mandate P. Gesquiere presented the mandate which is based on a two-step approach:

The Board goes through the presentation of the WG coordinator, discusses and agrees for the following mandate:

- **Step 1:** *The revision of the statutes to be legally compliant with the requirements set out by the Belgian Code of Companies and Associations of 2019 and keep the changes to the minimum.*
- **Step 2:** *Once Step 1 is completed, the WG will start with a modernisation of the statutes. Step 2 will also consolidate the changes made during Step 1.*
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If between the completion of step 1, during board meetings, discrepancies or divergent opinions appear regarding the interpretation or application of the statutes, the board will put the matter forward to the Working Group Statutes Update which will submit to the Board a proposal for the interpretation of the Statutes.

Upon completion of Step 1, the WG Statutes Update will submit the relevant draft revised statutes to the Board. The Board shall then vote on such draft for submission to the General Assembly.

Upon the completion of Step 2, the WG Statutes Update will submit to the Board the draft revised

statutes as resulting Step 2 for the final vote. If Step 2 is not fully accomplished by the submission deadline for the Extraordinary General meeting, the vote will be taken only on the articles for which a revision is already proposed.

The submitted mandate was discussed by the board and the meaning of certain sentences was clarified. The discussion was followed by a vote.

Vote: The Board gives the WG Statutes Update a mandate to review the statutes based on a two-step approach.

19 votes for yes (Andrew Janis Folkmanis, Johanna Schulyok, Francesca Tadini, Elita Petraitienė, Pim Gesquiere, Christian Visani, Ulrike Storost, Andrea Grgić, Monika Barabasz Lopes, Célia Alves Rodrigues, Albert Rädler, Wolfgang Münch, Vincent Catot, Catarina Duarte Gomes, Alberto Toso, Monika Szulyovszky, Alexander Cornford, Eleonora Apponi-Battini, David Zelinger) = 100%.

Decision: The Board unanimously approves the WG Statutes Update mandate.

The coordinator introduces the second vote regarding the date and room allocated for the EGM. Unfortunately, as “De Gasperi” is the only room available in the Commission building which provides 442 seats, the available dates are limited. The Board discusses alternatives, such as the Salle Polyvalente of the school.

The Board discusses and agrees to ask Ms Malik whether the APEEE can use the Salle Polyvalente for the organisation of the EGM.

The WG Statutes Update coordinator confirms that the working group will go through the propositions and come back to the Board with a proposal and a new date between 27/11 and 10/12, to comply with the Strasbourg and Parliament calendar.

Action Point: Statutes Update WG to go over the propositions and come back to the Board.

Vote: For the extraordinary general meeting, the Board gives a mandate to the APEEE Director to negotiate and finalise the technical offers for electronic voting.

19 votes in favour (Francesca Tadini, Pim Gesquiere, Eleonora Apponi-Battini, Elita Petraitienė, Catarina Duarte Gomes, Célia Alves Rodrigues, Albert Rädler, Johanna Schulyok, Ulrike Storost, Christian Visani, Alexander Cornford, David Zelinger, Alberto Toso, Monika Szulyovszky, Andrea Grgić, Wolfgang Münch, Maija Knutti, Vincent Catot, Monika Barabasz Lopes) = 100%.

Decision: The Board unanimously approves the mandate to the APEEE Director to negotiate and finalise the technical aspects.

The coordinator introduces the third vote of the agenda related to the sharing of documents with parent volunteers in the working group on the Statutes Update. The Belgian Code of Companies and Associations of 2019 foresee under section 2:59 the possibility of a “*Règlement d’ordre Intérieur*” under different conditions from APEEEs existing “*Rules of Procedure*.” APEEE has a number of documents related to its internal functioning which are not mentioned in the current statutes. Such documents are, but not limited to: the Confidentiality Undertaking, the Delegation of Authority, the rules of the Social Fund, the Internal Working Methods. In order to assess a future “*Règlement d’ordre Intérieur*”, the WG would need to be able to assess these documents.

The Board takes note of the current volunteer members as part of the working group Statutes Update and reminds the working group members that only Board members have decision and voting rights.

The Board discusses the topic and proceeds to a vote.

Vote: In view of a proper assessment of section 2:59 Belgian Code of Companies and Associations, the Board agrees that these documents can be shared with the volunteer members of the WG Statutes Update which will treat them with due discretion.

18 votes for yes (Vincent Catot, Pim Gesquiere, Monika Barabasz Lopes, Francesca Tudini, Andrea Grgić, Albert Rädler, Alexander Cornford, Johanna Schulyok, Célia Alves Rodrigues, Andrew Janis Folkmanis, Elita Petraitienė, Ulrike Storost, Christian Visani, Maija Knutti, Bettina Schmidbauer Mogensen, Monika Szulyovszky, Alberto Toso, Wolfgang Münch) and 3 votes for abstain (David Zelinger, Catarina Duarte Gomes, Eleonora Apponi-Battini).

Decision: The Board agrees to share the documents with the volunteer members of the WG Statutes Update with a 100% majority.

4. Temporary move of some classes to Evere

AJ. Folkmanis, coordinator of the Overcrowding Taskforce, introduces the topic and consequences of the temporary move which will occur from September 2023 to February 2024 (Carnival holidays).

The Board discusses:

- Time spent on buses
- Parents' concerns regarding the classes that are moved, education, etc.
- Shuttles (from and to Evere) and supervision
- The Q&A document which was shared with all members for feedback and questions from sections
- The meeting with the school and the OIB on Friday 28/4/2023 to discuss the services.

A meeting is organised Friday 28th April 2023 with the OIB to discuss its decision regarding the shuttle and organisation for the temporary move. At the meeting on Monday 24/4/2023 the OIB has been informed about the proposal of the shuttle (from Evere to Woluwe). The OIB explained that they would discuss the proposal for the shuttle internally and come back to the APEEE in the meeting on 28/4/2023.

Following the proposal for the shuttle, the OIB will look into the possibility to organise an OIB Garderie for the P1/P2 pupils at Woluwe on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday. On Friday, a solution is needed for the space to welcome the P1 and P2 pupils between 13:00 and 15:00, when P3, P4 & P5 pupils are still in class.

A solution could be to bring the P1/P2 pupils from Evere to Woluwe only as of 15:00, once the classrooms will be available. This option did not seem to suit the OIB. This will be further discussed at the meeting on Friday 28/4/2023.

A meeting is organised on Thursday, 11th May 2023 in Evere by the school management, to which the OIB and the APEEE have been invited, as well as one class representative from each concerned class (current M2 and P1) to attend and discuss the modalities and logistics of the temporary move.

The APEEE members attending the meeting are APEEE Director, APEEE Transport Manager, APEEE Extracurricular Manager, Compass Canteen Evere Manager, Vice President for Administrative Affairs

and 3 additional free spots. The Board discusses and the free spots are allocated to A. Grgić, U. Storost, J. Folkmanis and agrees to request a fourth seat for N. Lacroix.

Action Point: Inform the absent members of their invitation to the 11th May meeting and inform the school.

Budget working group members have a meeting scheduled for Tuesday 2nd May 2023 at 12h30 (online) to which all Board members are invited to participate if they wish to attend.

Action Point: Transfer the Budget working group meeting invitation, on request, to Board members.

Any Other Business

1. Update from the Working Groups

- Discussion on whether/how the Board could endorse both G. Molnar's request and petition: point will be taken on by the Overcrowding taskforce.

Meeting ended at 22h55.

Next Board meeting is scheduled on Thursday 25th May 2023.