

59<sup>th</sup> Europa Forum , 31<sup>st</sup> October-2<sup>nd</sup> November 2013  
Istanbul – Turkey

MEDITERRANEAN SOLIDARITY OBSERVATORY  
M i n u t e s

President PDG Aron Bengio  
Secretary PID Massimo Fabio  
Attendants Members of the MSO Board of Directors

On October 31<sup>st</sup> at 3.15 pm, the meeting of the Board of Directors, took place in a room of the Congress Centre of Istanbul, in two stages, as scheduled in the Forum program, to discuss the following agenda:

- 1 – Opening and report of the Observatory Coordinator
- 2 – Development situation of the Observatory
- 3 - New directions for the Conference
- 4 – Proposals of adjustment of Constitution and By-laws of the Observatory and of the Conference
- 5 – Themes of the Mediterranean Conference 2014 - Tangier
- 7 – Discussion on the topics treated
- 8 – Conclusions of the Coordinator

Are attending the members of the Observatory Board:

PDG Aron	Bengio	Observatory Coordinator
PID Massimo	Fabio	Observatory Secretary-Archivist
PDG Mohamed	Ben Jemaa	Immediate Past Coordinator
PCC Harris	Zachariadou	MD 117 Coordination Committee
DG Kamal	El Himdy	D 416 Coordination Committee
CC Jean-Jacques	Stoffel-Munck	MD 103 Board
CC Enrico	Pons	MD 108 Board
CC Gaspar	Albino	MD 115 Board
CC Pol	Navarre	MD 116 Board
PID Luis	Dominguez	MD 116 Board
PDG Latife	Bastug	MD 118 Board
DG Rami	Efrati	D 128 Board
DG Wajih	Akkari	D 415 Board
ZC Tom	Restall	Zone Malta Board

Il Coordinatore dell'Osservatorio PDG Aron Bengio opens the meeting welcoming the attendants and thanking them for their large participation, reminding that the traditional meeting of the Board, in occasion of the Europa Forum is not decision-making but only consultative, informative and promotional.

Agenda:

- 1 – Coordinator PDG Aron Bengio briefly describes the evolution of the Observatory and stresses how the spirit that animates it will increasingly seek to realize concrete actions. In this sense, therefore, we need to reflect on possible actions that could be taken and therefore the Coordinator lists with short explanations, a number of possible services:
  - Alzheimer : topic already discussed in Lubiana

- SO.SAN - Health solidarity
- Fight against diabetes
- Distribution of recycled eyeglasses
- “Smile network” - dental assistance
- Micro-credit
- Lions Mediterranean University
- For the youth Eloquence and Musical Competitions
- Peace Poster in the Mediterranean Area
- Aid to refugees and migrants

Finally illustrates the opportunities offered by MILAN EXPO 2015, in which a large space is reserved for expressions of civil society associations. The lions International will be present during the six months of the event giving the opportunity to learn about the many activities carried out worldwide.

Concluding his speech, the coordinator invites the members of the Board to consider the various proposals of service, to promote them within their district and possibly suggest other possibilities of concrete action.

Finally, the Coordinator reminds that most of the services listed above will be fully discussed in the open meeting of the Observatory that will be held the next November 1<sup>st</sup>.

2 - The Secretary-Archivist PID Massimo Fabio gives a short overview of the membership in the Mediterranean basin and hopes for a resumption of the expansion of Lionism not only on the southern side. The Observatory concrete action and the implementation of services in all the Mediterranean regions is the essential tool to increase the membership and gain a more highlighted visibility. The annual Conference will therefore be the showcase of the Mediterranean Lionism and it is hoped a greater presence in the media.

3 - The Lions Mediterranean Conference, said the Coordinator PDG Aron Bengio, has been changing in recent years, and more specifically with the recognition by the head quarters with the inclusion of the Conference among the official meetings of the International Association. It is time to take a more decisive step towards an innovation suitable to the evolution of Lionism in line with what happens in the world; it is therefore decreed the obligation of a working session for lionistic, organizational and service problems in addition to the meetings with the highest offices of the Association and to the enhancement of the Foundation. Therefore there's the need to approve certain amendments to the Rules of the Conference, as well as investigating the possibility of establishing the alternation of the seats between the north shore and the south coast.

4 - Turning to the proposed amendments to the Constitution of the Observatory and the By-laws of the Conference, the Coordinator explains what has been prepared by the Coordination Committee in its meeting held in Rome on June 15, 2013, the changes will be brought to the approval in the official meeting of the Board of Directors to be held in Tangier, on the occasion of the Conference. The proposals submitted are included in the two documents attached respectively to the Constitution of the Observatory and the By-laws of the Conference.

The proposals meet in general terms with the agreement by the Board of Directors which, however, reserves the right to refer to the respective district organs for a formal approval or any comments and suggestions to be expressed officially at the deliberative meeting which will be held in Tangier in March 2014.

5 - The DG Kamal El Himdy illustrates the main themes of the Conference that will be held in Tangier from 20 to 22 March 2014 and that are:

- Renewable energy and planet protection
- Cultural affluents and national identity

One session will be devoted entirely to Lionistic topics in collaboration and with the support of the headquarters and with the participation of the International President along with other international officers and particularly with the President of the Foundation.

6 - The Coordinator reminds that locations of upcoming conferences that is Tangier (Morocco) 2014, Pescara (Italy) 2015, Malta (2016) have already been approved. The presentation and explanation of the various Conferences will take place during the public meeting of the Observatory that will be held next November 1<sup>st</sup> .

The Coordinator informs that candidatures were received for the Conference in 2017 by District 352 respectively for the city of Alexandria, Egypt and District 351 Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq.

This topic will be discussed at the meeting of the Observatory to be held in Tangier also in consideration of the proposed amendments to the Rules of the Conference.

7 - The Coordinator opens the discussion that the Board of Directors prefers to postpone to the next open meeting also to hear the opinions of the International Officers attending at Istanbul.

8 - With its conclusion, the Coordinator PDG Aron Bengio is pleased about the meeting stressing that for the first time the organizers of the Europa Forum have reserved to the Observatory and to the Conference two seminars that could be divided into one reserved for members of the Board of the Observatory and in the one open to all Forum participants. Therefore expresses warm thanks to the President of the Forum PID Hayri Ulgen and to all the Organization Committee wishing that their example shall be followed in the next European Forum.

At 4.45 pm, there being no other business, the Coordinator thanks the participants for their collaboration and closes the meeting inviting to take part to the open meeting on November 1<sup>st</sup> .

Coordinator  
PDG Aron Bengio

Secretary-Archivist  
PID Massimo Fabio