BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEDITERRANEAN SOLIDARITY OBSERVATORY
MINUTES OF THE 19TH MEETING - MALTA

On March 18th 2016 at 3.00 p.m., the 19th meeting of the Mediterranean Solidarity Observatory took place in Malta, at the Congress Hall of Corinthia St. George's Bay Hotel, to discuss the following agenda:

1. Opening session and Conference theme PDG Sami Berbari
2. Report of the Secretary-Archivist and quorum verification PID Massimo Fabio
3. New adhesion to the MSO : presentation the candidate – vote
4. Report of the Conference of Pescara 2015 : PDG Aron Bengio, PID Ermanno Bocchini
5. Lions activities of general interest : Centennial 2017, Milan Convention 2019
6. Lions activities within the Observatory
   6a Communications: Alzheimer, SOSAN, Diabetes, Eyeglasses, Microcredit
   6b Proposal of new initiative: LIONS QUEST
7. Presentation and election Coordinating Committee 2015 – 2917
8. Next Conferences :
   8a Presentation of the 2017 Conference in Alexandrie, vote of the themes
   8b Candidacies for 2018 : Beirut (Lebanon) Bodrum (Turkey)Creta(Greece)
9. Open discussion
10. Conclusion of interactive works
11. Address of International Officers
12. Address of the International President
13. Closing session

The members of the Board of Directors in charge are attending:

- PDG Sami Berbari Observatory Coordinator
- PDG Aron Bengio Immediate Past Coordinator
- PID Massimo Fabio Observatory Secretary-Archivist
- Attending members of the Board: IPDG Claude Cappez – PDG Franco Marchesani - PDG Nuno Ferrao -PID Luis Dominguez-PDG Nikos Sevrisarianos -PDG Sela Ulgen -Lion Goran Saric - DG Marwan Zeibak - PDG Dorijan Marsic- VDG Mahmoud El Maghraby- PDG Jelil Bourraoui – PDG Mostafa Chouaki-PDG Kamal El Himdy-ZC Tom Restall- Lion Ezcan Ozsoy- CC Roland Chaillot - CC Liliana Caruso - CC Josè Castro Tendilla - PCC Harris Zachariadou - CC Banu E Tuzgiray- DG Moueched Hajj Chanine-DG Mr Eloias Zakhoura-DG Mohamed Damak- DG Mr Robert Said Khitmane.

Also attending: International President Jitsuhiro Yamada, IPIP Joe Preston, FVIP Bob Corlew, ID George Papas, ID Pierre Chatel, ID Helmut Marhauer, ID Gabriele Sabatosanti, PID George Placet, PID Jean Oustrin, PID Salim Moussan, PID Claudette Cornet, PID Paolo Bernardi, PID Domenico Messina , PID Oya Sebuk, PID Hayri Ulgen, PID Nesim Levi, PID Philippe Gerondal.

Works are attended by many Governors, PCCs, PDGs, VDGs as well as over two hundred Lions from fifteen out of the eighteen member countries of the Observatory. In total, around three hundred Lions are attending.

Observatory Coordinator PDG Sami Berbari opens the meeting welcoming the attendants, thanking them for the large participation.

The Secretary-Archivist of the Observatory PID Massimo Fabio declares the meeting valid being present fifteen member countries, validly represented by twenty-eight members of the Board.

Agenda:

1. Coordinator PDG Sami Berbari newly welcomes all the participants and introduces the International Officers, thanking them for their presence, in particular International President Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada, Foundation President IPIP Joe Preston, First Vice President Bob Corlew and International Directors George Papas, Gabriele Sabatosanti and Helmut Marhauer.
The presence of the greatest representatives of the Association confirms the efficiency of this initiative, approaching its twenty years of continuous activity, listed as an official event in the international calendar of Lionism. The evolution of the Observatory and the Mediterranean Conference and the ever-increasing success guarantee an active and efficient promotion of principles and values of Lionism in an area tormented by the dramatic events that took place in the Mediterranean Area.

2. Secretary-Archivist PID Massimo Fabio reminds that it is now twenty years since we started our journey around the Mediterranean, from Beirut '97 to Malta, located at the center of an area known for being the heart of a devastating human tragedy.
For this reason, our Conference is concentrating its attention, intentions and commitments on this dramatic situation of migratory flows destabilizing not just the Mediterranean area but the whole Europe. Therefore, it is crucial that Lions share their visions on such an important and soul-crushing theme for everyone, but above all for us Lions. Saturday morning Session will be pivotal in bringing into focus each potential humanitarian intervention by Lions.
The Secretary-Archivist also reminds that, for the votes to be valid, one third of the Members of the Observatory must be present and the decisions are made by a simple majority.
Since the representatives attending are 15 out of 18 Members, the meeting is fully valid and thus able to make decisions on the items on the agenda.

3. Coordinator PDG Sami Berbari communicates that the request of adhesion to the Mediterranean Solidarity Observatory from Club de Monaco, representative of the Principality of Monaco, has been submitted properly. The formal adhesion is unanimously approved, therefore, the Principality of Monaco becomes the nineteenth member country of the Observatory. The Club President Salvatore Charles Sirna thanks everyone, promising continued involvement in the work and initiatives of the Observatory.

4. The immediate Past Coordinator Aron Bengio evolves a large report on Pescara's Conference which has had a big success of attendances and where it has been held intensives works with perfect organization on themes which have keep busy the lecturers and absorb the numerous audience members in every session. A conference very enthusiastic which confirmed one more time the validity and the vitality of the Mediterranean Lions initiative, an essential premise for future meetings always more operational.
PDG Bengio, VP of the Session , during his report and with the aid of a power point reminded the 2 themes of the Conference: the Job's World for the young people for Peace, the Bio-energies. Much success of the lectio magistralis Professor Marina Fuschi. At Pescara the number of registered people has surpassed 600 , significant the presences of Turkish and Egyptian Lions, not rich the French ones. There was a new entry in the Observatory (the Albanian Lions), next the undistricted LC Monaco, much applauded the various speeches of International President Joe Preston included the musical one, a significant document "il Manifesto di Pescara" from PID Ermanno Bocchini and 2 gala evenings in very lovely places. Furthermore: the twinning between Clubs from 108 A and Albania, and between Albanian and Genoese services on "Eyes Bank" , common logo inspired by AILD and District 414 Tunisia for the fight against Diabetes with screening campaigns coordinated at Mediterranean level, proposal of talking book for foreigners, role of the Lions in the epochal problem of migrants, exhibition of Peace posters by young people of various districts

authorized by Oak Brook, presentation of Lodi's Conference on subject of Poster with Israeli and Palestinian and many other services of general interest: Sosan, Aidweb, MK, AILD, Reseau du Sourire, Rototank, wells in Africa, beginning for a register of twinning in the Mediterranean sea. For communication: new web site "www.msolions.org" and new bulletin "MSOnews".

5. Issues of general interest: PID Domenico Messina briefly illustrates the initiatives regarding the celebration of the Centennial of LCI, while PDG Mario Castellaneta provides first details about the organization of the Convention 2019, which will be held in Milan.

6. Interventions on Lions activities within the Observatory:

PDG Franco Marchesani – Alzheimer's disease Service Activity
Lion Salvatore Trigona – Activity of SO.SAN
PDG Aron Bengio - Fight against diabetes
PDG Enrico Baitone - Eyeglass Recycling Service Activity
PDG Elena Appiani - development of Micro-credit Service Activity

A new initiative is presented on a special application of LIONSQUEST program.
A precise and comprehensive illustration of it is made by PDG Maria Cristina Palma, its promoter. Such initiative has been gaining recognition and consensus all over Europe, mostly for its positive correlation with Lions projects related to the permanent and extraordinary phenomenon of migratory flows and its consequences.
This proposal will be examined during Europa Forum Sofia 2016 and will therefore be concretely realized in the context of the activities of the Mediterranean Solidarity Observatory.

7. Coordinator PDG Sami Berbari recalls what happened in Pescara, when the appointment of four members of the Coordination Committee 2015-2017 had to be postponed. It is therefore necessary to proceed to the election by secret ballot after the presentation of the candidates. The Coordinator communicates that, after some friendly conversations, two out of six candidates have declared the withdrawal of their nomination, so it is possible to proceed with the voting of the following members of the Coordination Committee, which will be by show of hands and acclamation:
- IPDG Claude Cappez (France) and PDG Selva Ulgen (Turkey) for Europe
- VDG Mahamoud El Maghraby (Egypt) and PDG Jelil Bourraoui(Tunisia) for Africa and Middle East
The Board of Directors, validly constituted by 28 members, approves unanimously by show of hands and acclamation the appointment of the four candidates, who become, with immediate effect, members of the Coordination Committee 2015-2017.

8. Presentation of next Lions Mediterranean Conference, which will be held in Alexandria (Egypt). VDG Mahamoud El Magraby illustrates the organization of the Conference, which will take place from 30th March to 1st April 2017; the general theme will be "Sea of life", addressing environmental issues in one session and the prospects of Mediterranean Sea as a linking bridge between North and South in the Socio-Cultural session. The Egyptian Lions, hosting the Conference for the first time, ensure a warm reception.
The choice of the location for Conference 2018 is the next topic of discussion.PDG Sami Berbari informs that three candidacies have been submitted properly: Beirut (Lebanon), Antalya (Turkey) and Heraklion (Greece-Crete). During the presentation, D351 Lebanon declares the withdrawal of Beirut, hence it is possible to proceed to the vote by secret ballot between the two remaining candidacies. 28 members of the Board of Directors are taking part in the vote, and after a scrupulous and repeated verification, the result of the vote is a draw. It is therefore necessary to proceed to a new vote, postponed to the following day at 09.00 a.m., in order to find an agreement between the two candidacies. On 19th March morning, the 28 members of the Board of Directors express their vote on a specifically prepared form. The verification is made publicly by Coordinator PDG Sami Berbari, assisted by Secretary-Archivist PID Massimo Fabio, and the result is the following: 19 votes for Antalya – 9 votes for Heraklion.

Therefore, the Coordinator declares that, following regular voting procedures, the Lions Mediterranean Conference will take place in Antalya (Turkey) in 2018.

9. Given the absence of requests of intervention, the meeting proceeds to the next item on the agenda

10. Conclusion of the work, interventions by FVIP Bob Corlew and IPIP Joe Preston, also on behalf of the Foundation. Final passionate intervention by IP Jitsuhiro Yamada, who acknowledges the work of the Observatory.

Coordinator PDG Sami Berbari closes the meeting of the Board of Directors, thanking the attendants and in particular the International Officers who decided to follow the work of the Council. The Coordinator hopes to see everyone again at next Europa Forum Sofia and most of all in Alexandria, the "pearl of the Mediterranean", for the 20th Lions Mediterranean Conference.

PDG SAMI BERBARI
MSO Coordinator

PID MASSIMO FABIO
MSO Secretary-Archivist