

International Ragweed Society (I.R.S.)

VIANDEN - LUXEMBOURG

REGULAR GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2014 April 4th - MINUTES

Date: Thursday September 13th 2016, from 14:00 to 15:00

Location: Vianden Luxembourg.

Agenda:

1. Welcome address (Maira BONINI, Michel THIBAUDON and Heinz MÜLLER SCHÄRER)
2. Minutes of the last General Assembly (Michel THIBAUDON)
3. Report on the activities of IRS (Maira BONINI)
4. Membership overview and Financial report (Marie-Agnes CHAPGIER)
5. Report of the Auditors (Franziska ZEMMER)
6. Decision on membership fees (the committee proposes to increase the annual fee for ordinary members from 20 € to 25 €, for 2017-2018.
7. Modification of the statutes (see proposal below)
8. Miscellaneous

Chairpersons: Maira BONINI, Heinz MÜLLER SCHÄRER and Michel THIBAUDON

Report of IRS activities by the President:

Scientific events and meetings

- Organization
 - o 3rd IRC – Rho (Milan, Italy): 2014 April 3rd-4th
 - o Joint session IRS-COST SMARTER in the framework of ESA – Lyon 2016: 2016 July 19th (main lecture, 10 oral presentations and 8 short communications of posters)
- Participation:
 - o ATOPICA meeting (oral presentation; round table and presentation of the IRS): 2015 March 5th
 - o SMARTER Co.Re. Group meeting: presentation of a proposal « Life after SMARTER» (members and website)

Web-site

- Update
Renew the graphical layout, Add new pages, Data on ragweed pollen season from different Countries, News and press
- Supporting projects, suggesting quality standards and quality controls, encouraging young researchers
 - o The “Quality Control Program in Aerobiology” dedicated to ragweed pollen, organized by the EAS in the frame of the COST ACTION SMARTER was strengthened

- IRS Grants 2016: 2 grants for best posters presented from young researches at the ESA 2016 in Lyon (winners: Aydan Acar from Turkey and Olga Ritenberga from Latvia)

Facilitate laws

- Signed the joint press release (EAACI, EAS, EFA) in the occasion of IR day 2015, asking the introduction of pollen monitoring in the Quality of Air European Legislation

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Promote the knowledge on ragweed: IR day

- Organized annual IR Day (2014, 2015 and 2016): different initiatives in various Countries (i.e. France, Italy, Germany, Switzerland, Turkey) organized by different bodies: University, LHA, Pollen Networks, COST SMARTER, etc
- Prepared the first official IRS flyer for the IR day in 2015 and updated in 2016
- Recorded a movie on ragweed for the Italian TV (educative transmission « GEO&GEO »)

Financial report (Michl Thibaudon in plce of Marie-Agnes Chapgier)

IRS Budget 2015				
Date	income	expense	nature	balance
31/12/2014				4337,12
31/01/2015		49,88	bank dues	4287,24
20/02/2015	220,00		membership	4507,24
24/09/2015		140,00	rembrst IRC	4367,24
25/09/2015		400,00	Committee Bern	3967,24
31/12/2015	0,37		Bank income	3967,61
31/12/2015		55,00	bank dues	3912,61
total 2015	220,37	644,88		
08/07/2016		900,00	IRS Grants for ESA	3012,61
31/08/2016	594,00		Fees Alphavisa	3606,61

IRS AUDITOR REPORT (Franziska Zemmer):

Information used for this report:

Budget 2015 and 2016 (until 31.08.2016)

List of members from Michel Thibaudon

Checklist with questions

Statutes

Website

REPORT SUMMARY:

The IRS has a Current Swiss bank account. The President, secretary and treasurer can withdraw money.

The main revenue is membership fees although also donations are possible. Fees can be paid by cash, credit card or by bank transfer. Expenses include committee meeting cost, IRS Grant and web maintenance. Honorary members don't pay the membership fee.#

Expenses for 2016: 900 Euro for 2 IRS grant. Income: 594.00 Membership fees. Balance: Euro 3606.61 (31.08.2016)
The IRS Committee meeting in Lyon was audited and regular.

TO WORK ON:

Alphavista Membership fees transparency: Alphavisa fees not included in balance spreadsheet, who are the regular/retired/students/honorary members?
Website: membership fees of students same as not retired
The Statutes foresee two auditors; the IRS has only one, no other candidature during the last General Assembly in Rho.
Bank fees of Swiss account high

Membership fees

The committee proposes to increase the annual fee for ordinary members from 20 € to 25 €, for 2017-2018.

The annual fees will be of 15 € for retired persons and students.

The annual fees for institution stay at 100 €

Alphavisa will collect the fees for the next two years.

This proposal was accepted at the unanimity.

IRS Statutes: proposal of modifications

Article 12: The Committee consists of at least three and at most **nine** members. They are appointed for a period of four years and may be re-appointed, **except the President. At the end of the four year mandate, the President becomes Past President.** The Past President will automatically remain a member of the committee for the subsequent four-year period. This proposal is accepted by the majority (one abstention)

Important links:

<http://internationalragweedsociety.org/>

<http://www.alphavisa.com/esa/fees/membership-irs.php>

Miscellaneous:

Proposal of transfer of the SMARTER Website to the IRS Website. This transfer will start during Spring-Summer 2017.

« To do list » before Spring 2017:

Determine which parts (all?) of Smarter website will be transferred (Heinz Mueller – Maira Bonini)

Adaptation of IRS website to include dynamic part of Smarter website (Gilles Oliver)

Check Copyright for pictures (Christian Rees – Matt Smith)

End of the General Assembly at 18:00

The President
Maira BONINI

The Secretary
Michel THIBAUDON
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