

16th Annual General Meeting

Brussels, 28th of September 2016 at 10.00 am.

AGM 2016

MINUTES

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS:

Denis Bredin	Association Les Iles du Ponant	France
Christian Pleijel	Företagsam Skärgård	Aaland
Camille Dressler	Scottish Island Federation	Scotland
Kirsty MacColl	Scottish Island Federation	Scotland
Veiko Viil	Estonian Small Island Association	Estonia
Bengt Almkvist	National Association of the Swedish Archipelago	Sweden
Jan-Eric Ericsson	National Association of the Swedish Archipelago	Sweden
Anetté Larm Johansson	National Association of the Swedish Archipelago	Sweden
Eleftherios Kechagioglou	Hellenic Small Islands Network	Greece
Maria Kamma	Hellenic Small Islands Network	Greece
Georgios Vassilopoulos	Hellenic Small Islands Network	Greece
Christofis Koroneos	Hellenic Small Islands Network	Greece
Dorthe Winther	Association of Danish Small Islands	Denmark
Eva Terkelsen	Association of Danish Small Islands	Denmark
Lise Soerensen	Association of Danish Small Islands	Denmark
Jan M. Koivurinta	National Association of Finnish Islands	Finland
John Walsh	Irish Islands Federation	Ireland
Máirtín Ó Méalóid	Irish Islands Federation	Ireland
Diarmaid Mulcahy	Irish Islands Federation	Ireland
Michael McCabe	Irish Islands Federation	Ireland
Aisling Moran	Irish Islands Federation	Ireland

1. Welcome and opening of the 16th Annual General Meeting

Bengt Almkvist opened the 16th annual meeting and welcomed the delegates.

ESIN wishes to thank the region of Brittany for hosting the ESIN AGM.

2. Election of member to check the minutes

Denis Bredin, France was elected to check the minutes.

3. Approval of agenda

Agenda was approved with the comment that guests were to come during the AGM: See notes below these minutes.

Denis Bredin was elected moderator for the AGM 2016.

4. Adoption of the minutes from the 15th Annual General Meeting 2015

Minutes were approved and adopted by the AGM.

5. Chairman's report

ESIN has been an active organisation. We have held 7 skype meetings discussing several issues.

- One important issue was the EU parliament resolution of Feb 4th 2016 on 'the special situation of Islands'. It has been adopted on the basis of debate in parliament. However, the paper discussing the resolution has many errors concerning the small islands, which are not visible in any case as they are not included in the current NUTs Classification.
- ESIN has had many invitations and project opportunities.
- The SMILEGOV project was terminated in 2015 and the accounting has been finalized in 2016 with a positive financial result for ESIN of 3,531.54 €.
- ESIN has a website and blog activity at a high level.
ESIN was invited to make a presentation at the seminar of the Committee of the Regions in Lerwick, Shetland in Sept. 2016 on Remote Island Regions, where the need for better Indicators for Territorial Development than GDP was strongly expressed
- ESIN has a new leaflet on the organisation.
- A draft Atlas of Small Islands has been produced.

The Chairman's report was adopted by the annual general meeting.

6. Treasurer's report *(2 documents attached)*

ESIN financial officer Anetté Larm Johansson presented the treasurer report for the year 2015, including the payments relating to the SMILEGOV project.

All members have paid their membership fee for 2015.

Resulting balance for the year 2015 is 10.882,03 €

The treasurer's report was adopted by the annual general meeting.

7. Auditors report *(1 document attached)*

The Swedish auditor Kurt Olsson has sadly passed away during the summer of 2016.

Jan-Eric Ericsson, Sweden was elected the auditor for 2015 by the AGM.

Auditors report was read out aloud and adopted by the annual general meeting.

The annual general meeting grants the ESIN board full discharge for the year 2015.

8. Liability for the past year management

Regarding point 5, 6 and 7: *The annual general meeting grants the ESIN board full discharge for the year 2015.*

9. Annual membership fee 2017

It was decided by the annual general meeting to keep the membership fee of **250 Euros** pr. organization in 2017.

10. Budget for 2017

For 2017 ESIN will have an income (membership fees) of 2,750 €, plus the SMILEGOV income, all together app. 5,000 €. Decision on budget is given to the board.

11. Annual general work plan

11.a) Status for the entrepreneurship project

A number of partners were interested, but no application was made in 2016. Situation now: AIP (France) is not able to be the lead partner in the coming year. HSIN (Greece) will take over as a lead partner. Next call is in November. At the moment 6 countries are interested. It was decided that all 11 countries should ideally be partners in the project.

Greece will send a note on the requirements for partners. Clarity is needed.

11.b) Other work plan suggestions:

- ESIN Atlas is to be continued.
ESIN would like to thank Christian for the work done with the Atlas so far.
- Islands indicators will be subject of a paper that Neil Lodwick is working on.
- Youth exchange.
 - Mr. Coulon mentioned the possibility of adapting the Erasmus + project specifically for island youth.
 - Estonia has sent out an invitation for youth exchange training.
 - Salto is part of Erasmus and arranges trips all over Europe.
- Sustainable islands
Possibility to work with energy transitional programme for islands.
Christofis Koroneos drew the attention to the EU instrument, 'COST action', which resources research. (www.COST.eu) This enables funding for meetings twice a year and project work. A report must be made in the end. This could be a possibility to promote ESIN objectives. Next Application round is in February 2017. Suggested a work group of 3 people to apply for this action.
- Water saving. Christian Pleijel is currently looking into the possibilities.
- 'Zero waste islands'. It was decided to make a sort of booklet of 'good practice' from the islands – as a subpage on the web-page.
- AIP Island festival (France) wants to invite delegates from ESIN next year.
- Food labelling: In connection with the conference the following countries have expressed interest in the issue of food labelling: Scotland, Ireland, Sweden, France, Greece and Denmark. Please connect with Laurids Siig Christensen from the Danish Small Island Food Network.

12. ESIN secretariat agreement

The Aaland association Företagsam Skärgård proposed to take over the secretariat function on the following terms:

Företagsam Skärgård takes on the responsibility of the ESIN secretariat from 1/10/2016 and all of 2017, supporting the Chair and the Board in general, and more specific:

- *handling all ESIN official correspondence, address ESIN, AX-227 30 Kökar, The Åland Islands.*
- *managing the website www.europeansmallislands.com, technically and regarding content.*
- *supporting board meetings with agenda, calls, technical setup and minutes.*
- *managing pre-project work (meetings, partnerships, applications, funding) as decided by the board.*

The secretariat is manned by a General Secretary whose main tasks are communication, day-to-day administration, supporting the chairman and the board, and developing ideas into projects.

The Secretariat office including internet, printers and computers, the website and the work of the General Secretary is financed by Företagsam Skärgård and by projects-to-be, with the exception of direct administrative costs such as stamps, website fees, printing services and travel costs, to be agreed by the chairman and/or the board.

There must be a reasonable amount of projects-to-be (i.e. not too many!)

Organising AGM's is not yet included in the agreement.

The annual general meeting accepted the proposal from Aaland, and Företagsam Skärgård will take over the secretariat of ESIN from Oct.1st 2016.

ESIN expressed appreciation of the work done by the Danish Association until now.

13. Election of ESIN board members and substitutes

Each member is entitled to one board member and one nominated substitute. The following persons were elected ESIN board members for 2016/2017.

Member	Board member	Substitute
Croatia	Denis Barić,	Goran Grguričin
Denmark	Dorthe Winther	Eva Terkelsen
Estonia	Elle Puurmann	Veikko Viil
Finland	Pia Prost	Micaela Jansson
France	Bruno Noury	Denis Bredin
Greece	Eleftherios Kechagioglou	Maria Kamma
Ireland	John Walsh	Rhoda Twombly
Italy (to be confirmed):	Mario Corongiu	Gian Piera Usai
Scotland	Camille Dressler	Sandy Brunton
Sweden	Bengt Almkvist	Anetté Larm Johansson
Aaland	Christian Pleijel	Kent Eriksson

14. Election of president and vice presidents

Camille Dressler was elected president by the annual general meeting.

Bengt Almkvist was appointed honorary president of ESIN. The annual general meeting expressed the ESIN members' large gratitude and gave many thanks to Bengt Almkvist for the pioneering work of establishing ESIN and his work as president during the past 16 years.

The following ESIN vice-presidents will serve for the coming year:
North: Christian Pleijel, Aaland (one more year)
South: Eleftherios Kechagioglou, Greece (2 more years)
West: John Walsh, Ireland (2 more years)

15. Appointment of auditor and economic authorization

Kristina Mattesson, Sweden, was appointed auditor for the year 2016.
Anetté Larm Johansson (Sweden) was re-elected treasurer.

The AGM decided that the treasurer, Anetté Larm Johansson CPR: [REDACTED] is authorized to deal with financial matters for ESIN.

16. Press release from the 16th annual general meeting

(1 document attached)

Camille Dressler will make a proposal for a press release to be sent to all ESIN members to be sent further out to the national governments and to the EU institutions.

17. Annual General Meeting 2017 and 2018

The AGM 2017 was proposed to be held in the Orkney Islands, Scotland, back to back with a S.I.F. AGM. Due to location and interest from DG ENER (see below), islands and renewable energy could be a suitable theme.

The AGM 2018 was proposed to be held in Brussels (every 2nd/3rd year?) perhaps back to back with a thematic conference.

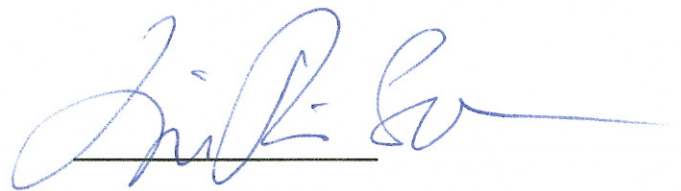
The decision on AGM 2017 and 2018 was given to the board.

18. Close of Annual General Meeting

The annual general meeting of ESIN 2016 was declared closed by president Camille Dressler.

Camille Dressler, Chair

Denis Bredin, board member
Elected to check the minutes



Lise Thillemann Soerensen, Secretary

Notes:

During the AGM the following people visited the meeting:

Brendan Devlin, DG ENER

Mr. Brendan Devlin visited the AGM and discussed matters on island energy policy. DG ENER can give policy support on energy issues if these can demonstrate progress in achieving 2020 carbon reduction goals.

Contact:

Brendan Devlin
Cabinet of Commissioner Miguel Arias Cañete
Directorate General Energy
European Commission
Rue de Mot 24, Office 6/65
Brussels
0032 2 29 68433 Office
0032 498 98 29 04 GSM
Brendan.DEVLIN@ec.europa.eu

Alexis Chatzimpiros, CPMR.

Mr. Alexis Chatzimpiros visited the AGM and discussed matters of islands and the CPMR. The CPMR covers 24 island regions (among other peripheral and maritime regions) and puts forward island issues to EU commission on subjects such as maritime, energy, climate, agriculture, fisheries, coastal protection issues. CPMR works on a bottom up approach and would like to exchange ideas, results and questions. Mr. Chatzimpiros informed on the 'Smart Islands' initiative.

Contact:

Alexis Chatzimpiros
CPMR, advisor on Energy / Islands
Rond Point Schuman, 14
1040 Brussels
Tel.: +32 (0)2 612 17 04
GSM: +32 (0)4 70 576 429
Alexis.chatzimpiros@crpm.org
www.cpmr.org

Ioannis Latoudis, DG REGIO

Mr. Ioannis Latoudis visited the AGM and discussed matters of EU and islands. Exchange of best practices is something that would be seen very favourably and may be supported by DG REGIO.

Contact:

Ioannis Latoudis
Cabinet of Commissioner Corina Cretu,
Directorate General Regional policy,
European Commission

Olof Gill, DG AGRI

Mr. Olof Gill visited the AGM and offered any help that was needed regarding matters of food labelling and suggested it might be good to see a small island intergroup being set up in the EU parliament.

Contact:

Olof Gill, speechwriter
Cabinet of Commissioner Phil Hogan,
Directorate General Agriculture and Rural Development,
European Commission
Rue de la Loi/Wetstraat 200
1040 Brussels
Tel.: +32 (0)2 296 59 66
Olof.gill@ec.europa.eu