



## MINUTES OF THE 15<sup>th</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY

July 22, 2015 – Brussels, Belgium

**Present:** See list in Appendix.

### 1.0 WELCOME AND OPENING OF THE MEETING

The President, Roberto Hidalgo welcomes all the members and declares opened the 15<sup>th</sup> MILSET General Assembly.

Antoine van Ruymbeke, as the ESI 2015 Director, welcomes everyone at the ESI underlying the importance of this international collaboration for Jeunesses Scientifiques de Belgique and all the participants in developing new opportunities of collaboration.

### 2.0 APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The agenda is unanimously approved with the following corrections:

2.0 – Confirmation of the quorum – is removed, as there is no determination of quorum in the present Statutes.

10.0 – ESI 2015 Preliminary Report – is removed, as Antoine is too busy with the ESI organization.

The ceremony of giving 3 MILSET Awards is added to the Agenda.

### 3.0 APPROVAL OF THE MILSET GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2013 MINUTES

The minutes of the MILSET General Assembly, held on September 17, 2013 in Abu-Dhabi, UAE, are unanimously approved.

### 4.0 PRESIDENT MORAL REPORT 2013-2015

The President reports about his work within the period of 2013 – 2015 and on the overall development of the organisation during that period. He announces that the full electronic version of the report is available on the USB key given to all the members before the meeting, and soon will appear on the MILSET website. The President Moral Report is unanimously approved as presented.



## **5.0 STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION 2013-2014 FINANCIAL RESULTS 2013-2014**

The Treasurer, Priscilla Moodley, thanks Carole Charlebois, MILSET Vice-President, who took in charge the tasks related to the MILSET bookkeeping and the financial reports. She presents the 2013 & 2014 Statements of Financial Position, approved by the Executive Committee, together with the 2013-2014 Financial Results.

The Net Assets as per December 31, 2014, including the AMAVET account receivable, shows a total of 112 326,17 €. The surplus of Revenues on Expenses, as per December 31, 2014, is 22 443,15 €. AMAVET still owes MILSET 21 870 € as only 3 000 € of the entire debt has been paid so far.

## **6.0 STATUTES – MODIFICATIONS**

Carole Charlebois and Antoine van Ruymbeke present, for ratification, a proposal of a new version of the MILSET Statutes, completely reviewed during the last 2 years, and explain how the Organization would be functioning with those modifications.

As a reminder, it is noted that:

The Statutes were adopted in 1987, and modifications were adopted by the General Assembly in 2003. No follow-up was done to the modifications proposed during the Marly Congress in 2007, except that some were included in the Internal Rules in 2008. Complete rewriting of Statutes was made in 2013-2014 and the last version was approved in 2014 and 2015 by the Executive Committee, together with new Internal Rules

### **Wording**

Two important modifications have been done to better reflect the governance process:

- The term “Board” has been changed to “Executive Committee”.
- The term “Executive Committee” has been changed to “Board of Directors”.

### **The new definition of MILSET membership**

MILSET is committed to the goal of paid membership by all in 2018. To achieve this, the organisation will realign the membership structure and benefits:

Member:

- In order of membership fee;
- May participate in the governance of MILSET;
- Member’s rate for MILSET activities, if applicable.

Associate Member

- Not in order of membership fee;
- Cannot participate in the governance of MILSET;
- May have limited rights to participate in MILSET activities.

### **Regional Offices responsibilities**

According to the new Statutes, the rights and responsibilities of the Regional Offices are significantly extended. Every Region will manage the members of its geographical area including: recruitment, approval, suspension, expulsion, right to levy a regional annual membership fee and obligation to collect the MILSET membership fee.

### **Composition of the new Board of Directors**

The composition of the new Board of Directors (Executive Committee before) is improved in order to make its work more effective:

- No more individuals are elected to the Board of Directors this year. The new Board will include 9 regional representatives and 4 individual, the ones whose mandates are valid till 2017.
- In 2017 - 9 representatives selected by the regions according to the quotas (Europe 2, Asia 2, Amlat 2, Africa 1, Vostok 1, Noram 1), and 4 individuals appointed by the Board of Directors (for a maximum of 13 members).

After discussion, the new version of the MILSET Statutes is approved by the majority.

## **7.0 STRATEGIC PLAN 2014-2019 REPORT**

Reni Barlow – Chairman of the MILSET Strategic Planning Committee – presents an overview of work on the Strategic Plan since August 2014

He starts the presentation by defining:

### **MILSET Clients**

Primary: Member Organisations

- MILSET exists to serve and represent the interests of its member organizations.

Secondary: Youth

- MILSET does not directly serve youth;
- Member organizations directly serve youth.



## Updated Mission

MILSET supports its member organizations to engage youth in science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and the arts (STEAM) through motivation, cooperation, collaboration, networking, and sociocultural interchange.

We do this by:

- Helping member organizations create a local or national environment to motivate youth to be involved in STEAM;
- Connecting, supporting, and representing member organizations around the world;
- Stimulating and supporting international youth networking and cooperation through STEAM; and
- Providing member organizations with global opportunities to engage youth in STEAM.

## Practical Vision Statement Review

He presents the 7 goals to be achieved by MILSET by 2019, according to the adopted Strategic Plan, and the 3 priority goals for the next 2 years, listed as 1, 2 and 3:

1. Programs and events are characterized by interactivity and engagement, and directly reflect the mission through a focus on motivation, cooperation, collaboration, networking and sociocultural interchange for youth and adults participants.
2. ESI is the most prestigious non-competitive science event for youth in the world.
3. MILSET uses its online presence and social media to enable youth from around the world to connect, collaborate, and share their passion for science and technology.
4. Is known around the world as the leading international NGO for engaging youth in science and technology.
5. Has stable, long-term sources of funding.
6. Is at the top of Google search results for 'international youth science'.
7. Is a global hub for youth science – the place to look for international and national youth science programs and events around the world.

## Strategic Planning Report

He presents a report on the work done in 2014-2015 on five Strategic Imperatives, and particularly points out the following actions:

- ESI and regional ESIs are now required to include a Leader Congress and a Young Citizens Conference;
- ESI and regional ESIs are non-competitive events;
- Program and event standards for ESI, Leader Congresses and YCC are being developed and will be adopted;
- A new Branding Policy has been adopted, which includes the following changes:
  - o The MILSET logo is reserved for use by MILSET and the three MILSET global programs – ESI, Leader Congresses and YCC.



- Regional offices and Members will now use the appropriate MILSET region logo
- A new Identity Manual and digital logo files will be available shortly after ESI 2015

On behalf of MILSET, Roberto Hidalgo expresses his gratitude to Reni Barlow for the great work he did during the last 2 years for the strategic development of the Organization.

A copy of the Strategic Plan 2014-2019 Report was distributed to all the participants and will be sent by email to all the members.

## 8.0 MILSET ANNUAL REPORT OF ACTIVITIES

Ksenia Salnikova, the General Secretary, makes an overview of the MILSET Report of activities 2013-2014. One of the important news is that a new MILSET office - MILSET Vostok, was created.

*‘Collaboration and networking are more important than competition in the world of science and technology today, as no scientific work is possible without teamwork, knowledge exchange and experience sharing, in this regard MILSET is a unique global platform, which supports its members and provides them with numerous opportunities to engage youth in science.’* said Ksenia Salnikova.

It is reminded that the interactive electronic version of the Annual Report is available on the USB key, given to members and soon will appear on the MILSET website.

## 9.0 ESI 2017 – PRESENTATION

Representatives of the ESI 2017 Organizing Committee - Mateus Alex Barbosa Dedê, Renata Melo and Jackueline França - make a presentation of the next ESI, covering in details all the organizational parts of the expo and its program.

### Dates

ESI 2017 will be on August 7-12, 2017.

### Venues and facilities

The ESI will be held in the Ceara Event Center. The Fair will have 600 stands for projects and 20 stands for the sponsors and other partners. Wi-Fi will be available in the exhibition centre.

Accommodation will be provided in 4-stars hotels located on the seashore. Continental breakfasts will be served in the hotels. Lunchs and Dinners will be served in the restaurant at the event, with vegetarian, Halal and regular food, accompanied by water or soft drinks.



## Participants and Visitors

The estimated numbers are: 2000 participants, 600 projects (180 Brazilian projects, 400 international projects and 20 Pandilla's), 25000 visitors. The school visits will be important as the school year will already have started and that a promotional campaign has already been put in place.

## Participation fee

The ESI 2017 Organizing Committee has to raise the participation fee from 300 to 350€, as the ESI will be held in a very high tourist season in Brazil.

450€ will be the fee per participant and supervisor in the allowed ratio for an organization or an institution affiliated to MILSET not in order of membership fee payment, or non-affiliated to MILSET.

900€ will be the fee per media participant.

## 30<sup>th</sup> MILSET Anniversary

A special program will be prepared for the 30<sup>th</sup> MILSET Anniversary. That part of the program will be done in closed collaboration with MILSET.

## 10.0 BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION

According to the newly adopted MILSET Statutes and Internal Rules, no individuals are elected on the Board of Directors this year.

The following individual members of the Board of Directors have two (2) remaining years to their mandate 2013-2017:

- Hélio Brochier, Brazil
- Carole Charlebois, Canada
- Roberto Hidalgo, Mexico
- Alexander Leontovich, Russia.

The representatives selected by the Regions, according to the new quotas, are:

### AFRICA

Badreddine Lasmar – Tunisia

### AMLAT

- Eugenio Urrutia Albisua – Mexico
- María Angélica Riquelme – Chile

### ASIA

- Dawood Al-Ahmad – Kuwait
- Adnan Al-Meer – Kuwait



## EUROPE

- Antoine van Ruymbeke – Belgium
- Alberto Pieri – Italy

## NORAM

- Reni Barlow – Canada

## VOSTOK

- Ksenia Salnikova – Russia

Jerry Orhue, member of the MILSET Africa Executive Committee, notes that the information about the representative of the MILSET Africa region is not correct and does not correspond to the results of the voting process. Carole Charlebois proposes to organize, immediately after the General Assembly, a special meeting with the MILSET Africa Executive Committee, in order to clarify that issue.

### 11.0 MILSET Awards

The MILSET Volunteer Award is given to Tatiana Vompe from Russia.

Mr. Reni Barlow from Canada is awarded with the MILSET Derek Gray Medal. MILSET.

The MILSET Best website Award is presented to INICE from Spain.

### 12.0 QUESTIONS PERIOD

#### ESI Candidatures

It is noted that we already received one candidature for ESI 2019 and that there is also one intention of interest. The candidature period will end on December 31, 2015.

We also received a candidature proposal from one organization for ESI 2021. The candidature process will open this fall.

#### MILSET Europe Representation on MILSET Board of Directors

It is proposed that the number of representatives from MILSET Europe on the MILSET Board of Directors should be reviewed to better correspond with the number of members. It is noted that, before the review of the Statutes and Internal Rules, all the regions had the possibility to have 3 representatives each. Actually, the representation is: Africa (1); Amlat (2); Asia (2); Europe (2); Noram (1); Vostok (1).



### **Young Citizens Conference**

It is noted that in respect with the orientation taken in the Strategic Plan, each MILSET Regional ESI will have the obligation to organize a Young Citizens Conference starting in 2016, and that the YCC will have to be part of the ESI 2017 program.

## **13.0 CLOSING OF THE MEETING**

The President thanks everybody for their contribution and officially closes the meeting.

**Ksenia Salnikova**  
**General Secretary**

