

MINUTES

59th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Saturday 11th May 2024

Swiss Church London & Online

WELCOME

FOSSUK President, Loredana Guetg-Wyatt welcomed participants on behalf of the FOSSUK Committee.

FOSSUK Committee:

Loredana Guetg-Wyatt President, OSA UK Delegate

Joelle Nebbe-Mornod Vice President, Hon. Secretary

Lakshmi Sundaram Hon. treasurer, OSA UK Delegate

Ané-Mari Peter Website Manager

Franz Muheim OSA UK Delegate

Andreas Feller-Ryf OSA UK Delegate

Gioia Palmieri Swiss Review Liaison

Voting Members present at the AGM:

Unione Ticinese (2 votes) – Emilie Martinoni Hoogenboom

New Helvetic Society (2 votes) - Leonore Lavore, Paolo Gheorgi, Andy Ross

Swiss Club Edinburgh (1 vote) - Franz Muheim

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Thomas Wagner, Consul General Swiss Embassy London: welcome & thanks

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Minutes: Joelle Nebbe-Mornod

To approve the Minutes of the Extraordinary AGM held on 7th of October 2023.

Approval proposed by Emilie Martinoni Hoogenboom and seconded by Franz Muheim.

ANNUAL PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Loredana Guetg-Wyatt presented the President's report.

Approval proposed by Leonore Lavore and seconded by Emilie Martinoni Hoogenboom.

DELEGATES' REPORT

Report approved by Franz Muheim and seconded by Emilie Martinoni Hoogenboom

FINANCE

Lakshmi Sundaram, FOSSUK Treasurer, presented FOSSUK's financial position:

- 1) The Income and Expenditure Accounts for 2023 and auditor's report.
Approval proposed by Franz Muheim and seconded by Andy Ross.
- 2) Budget for 2024
Approval proposed by Leonore Lavore and seconded by Franz Muheim.
- 3) Membership subscription for 2024
Approval proposed by Franz Muheim and seconded by Emilie Martinoni Hoogenboom.

Motions by New Helvetic Society, Unione Ticinese and Edinburgh Swiss Club

History and challenges of FOSSUK in modern times

Motion 1 is the clubs reneging on their nomination prerogative to have delegates 100% publicly elected.

Approved by all

Motion 2 is adopting a reform programme of FOSSUK's structure to define the function and format of a 21st century umbrella organization.

Approved by all

Question – Margrit Lyster: Is the closing of FOSSUK a possibility to clear the baggage and start anew? Answer, yes, but we don't want to preempt any thing – the working group will report findings at the next AGM.

AGM 2025 / ELECTIONS

Explanation of the process – see slides for the 2021 calendar. Voting will be on a new Swiss-developed online platform. Elections of new Delegates will be concluded by summer 2025. Deputy Delegates will be drawn from voting results.

AOB

Emilie Martinoni Hoogenboom presented the programme of the Unione Ticinese 150th Jubilee and scholarship.

Unione Ticinese started as a benevolent society.

Bursary of £5000 – Ticinese origin studying in the London. The awarded scholar must join Committee and be an active community participant.

Please share information to any student you might know.

Formal AGM concluded.

SPEECHES FROM SPECIAL GUESTS FROM SWITZERLAND

Priska Magri Magro dos Reis – Consular Directorate

Consular Directorate under Ignazio Cassis. Foreign Affairs FDFA. Newest and smallest

Numbers about the Swiss Abroad.

Main challenges: more people, many dual nationals, travellers & crises (increased load), budget pressure.

Franz Muheim, OSA (Organisation of the Swiss Abroad)

40k swiss in the uk

What does OSA do? Council, parliament, congress, website, etc.

Topics – health, insurance, political participation

Goals – election and community rejuvenation, representation, lobbying at cantonal level

Congress 2024 11-13 July Lucerne– www.swisscommunity.org/congress

Ambassador Leitner

Thanks to the community.

Embassy projects:

- Renovation (inside) of the embassy. Services will move out at some point.
- FTA Swiss/UK – bigger than India or Australia. Ongoing negotiations.
- Pioneer financial services agreement, awaiting parliamentary approval.
- Sciences.
- Mobility.
- Service providers.
- State visits.

The Three Million

Daphne Giachero & Heidi Holenweg

Parliamentary representation.

High court cases.

Physical proof of residential/right to work status.

Issues with digital-only access.