

**Minutes from the International Board meeting
Madrid, Spain
22nd - 24th February 2013**

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR
PEACE & FREEDOM



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1. Formalities

1.1 Voting

All National Sections had the right to vote at this International Board meeting.

Voting List: Albania, Australia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, DRC, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, India, Japan, Lebanon, Mexico, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Palestine, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, UK, US, Philippines

1.2 Election of facilitator, time keeper and note keeper

Holly Ahom and Anne Scott from UK WILPF and Mir Grebäck von Melen from WILPF Sweden were approved as minute takers. Mir Grebäck von Melen was also approved to be the official timekeeper when not taking minutes.

1.3 Agenda review and approval

IB agreed to keep the agenda as it was. The following items were referred to Sunday: The Nordic proposal, the discussion on amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws and the next IB meeting.

1.4 Presentation of incoming resolutions and proposals

1.4.1 Presentation of incoming resolutions

1.4.1.1 Proposal for resolution: Against the use of Drones (Proposed by Pakistan and co-sponsored by USA and UK)

1.4.1.2 Proposal for resolution: Situation in Nepal (Proposal from WILPF Nepal)

1.4.1.3 Proposal for resolution: Support of Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails. (Proposed by WILPF Palestine and supported by WILPF Lebanon – *Written at the meeting, adhoc for now*)

1.4.1.3 Proposal for resolution: Sexual Violence in the DRC (Proposed by WILPF DRC) - *Written at the meeting, adhoc for now*

1.4.2 Presentation of incoming proposals

1.4.2.1 Proposal: The Nordic Proposal on Ad Hoc Committee on Organizational development (proposal from ExCom and the Nordic sections)

1.4.2.2 Proposal: New procedure for Section Fees (Proposals from the Standing Finance Committee)

1.4.2.3 Proposal: Online IB meeting in 2014

1.5. Appointment of Resolutions Committee

The Resolutions Committee was chosen to consist of:

- ✓ Adilia Caravaca (International President and convener of the Resolution Committee)
- ✓ Martha Jean Baker (Vice President)
- ✓ Hanan Awwad (WILPF Palestine)
- ✓ Sameena Nazir (WILPF Pakistan)
- ✓ Anne Scott (UK WILPF)

2. Reappointment of Conveners for Working Groups

The discussion on Working Groups began with a need to confirm which ones were active, who were in them and who the conveners were. This was needed for Sunday.

2.1 Economic Justice Working Group

Not active. No convener reappointed.

2.2 Middle East Working Group

The convener, Nouha Ghosn (WILPF Lebanon) resigned from the Middle East Working Group as she could not communicate with the Working Group. It seemed like her email was blocked. Not active. No convener reappointed.

2.3 Environment Working Group

Active. The conveners Lorraine Mirham and Edel Havin Beukes were reappointed.

2.4 Security Council Resolution 1325 Working Group

Active. Sophie Schellens (WILPF Netherlands) was appointed as convenor by the working group during a separate meeting.

2.5 Fundraising Committee

Active. This is a sub-committee to the Standing Finance Committee. Convener is Kirsti Holthoff, WILPF Sweden.

DECISION: The International Board decided that the Fundraising Committee (Sub-Committee of the Standing Finance Committee) should work out guidelines for donations to new and weak Sections and set up criteria and mechanisms for financial assistance to Sections including applications and reporting. Copying IB into Sections funding requests they may be able to give help with lobbying for funding.

2.6 Conflict Resolution Working Group

Active. Adilia Caravaca, International President, is the founder and convener.

2.7 Disarmament Group Working Group

Not active. No convener reappointed.

3. Reports from the Standing Committees and reappointment of Conveners

3.1 Standing Finance Committee

The Standing Finance Committee had sent out a report before the meeting. A presentation was scheduled to take place on Saturday. See point 4: "Finance". No new convener was appointed.

3.2 Standing Constitution Committee

There was not a report from the Standing Constitution Committee and no presentation of the work done since the congress. The convener is Annelise Ebbe (WILPF Denmark)

DECISION 1: The IB meeting authorised the Standing Constitution Committee to accept changes and modify the constitution. Amendments have to be submitted to the Triennial International Congress in 2015. The Standing Constitution Committee not only "accept changes and modify constitution", but it was authorized to also "submit changes and modifications itself".

DECISION 2: Annelise Ebbe, convener of the Standing Constitution Committee, has to circulate the names of the members in the Committee to the rest of the International Board. The Standing Constitution Committee needs to be a reasonable size to be able to function (max 7 persons).

DECISION 3: Within 6 months from the IB meeting, the Standing Constitution Committee has to submit to ExCom their working plan for the rest of 2013. Nancy Ramsden proposed to mandate this action – accepted with one against. The work of the Standing Constitution Committee has to be finished by the end of 2014, so the sections have time to give feedback and comments to Standing Constitutional Committee who will then report to the Triennial International Congress in 2015.

DECISION 4: An Ad Hoc Committee on the WILPF organisation will look at organisation to feed into Standing Constitution Committee.

3.3 Standing Communication Committee

The Standing Communication Committee had sent out a report before the meeting. There was no presentation of the work done since the congress. The convener, Joan Bazar (WILPF US), was looking for new members.

3.4 Standing Personal Committee

There was a report from the Standing Personnel Committee, but no presentation of the work done since the congress. The convener (Mary Alys) was absent because of sickness.

4. Finance

4.1 Budgets and Audits

This was a presentation by the International Treasurer and the Standing Finance Committee.

DECISION: The audits for UNO and GVA for 2011 and the budget reports for UNO and GVA for 2012 were accepted.

DECISION: The proposed budget for 2013 to 2015 for both offices was approved.

Two proposals were presented by the Standing Finance Committee and recommended by the Executive Committee:

4.2 Section Fees

A new procedure for Sections' Fee is proposed. The procedure is based on UNDP's Human development index (http://hdr.undp.org/en/media/HDR_2011_Statistical_Tables.xls), which will be used for dividing the sections into four groups. Section fees will be calculated by using the following chart:

Human development index	Base fee (CHF)	Per member (CHF)
1. Low human development	-	5
2. Medium human development	150	5
3. High human development	1500	10
4. Very high human development	2000	15

A section that cannot pay their assessed dues may contact the International Treasurer or International Office Manager in Geneva to negotiate what they can afford. Treasurer and/or International Office Manager will look into section's history and make a recommendation to the ExCom based on sections' history and present situation. According to WILPF Constitution point D.1.b.i: "A National Section shall be entitled to representation to the International Congress when its

dues are paid to the end of the previous calendar year;” See Annex 4:
<http://www.wilpfinternational.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/Proposal-on-new-procedure-on-Section-Fee.pdf>

DECISION: APPROVED

4.3 Financial Information for the International Board

The Standing Finance Committee and ExCom will inform the representatives of the International Board on the latest financial information three times per year;

- in early Spring together with the invoices for the Section Fee
- in end-May by the Annual Report which will include the audits for the prior year
- and in October/November together with the third quarter budget report.

The representatives of the International Board will receive the latest completed audits three to four weeks before an International Board meeting or Triennial International Congress.

DECISION: APPROVED

5. Resolutions

The drafts for resolutions were very controversial and not very well prepared. Despite efforts of the Resolutions Committee, the discussion continued at the voting moment.

DECISION: The International Board decided to discuss the topics and then give the ExCom the authority to finalize the resolutions.

5.1 The resolution proposed by Nepal section (1.4.1.2)

The International Board approves the resolution with certain modifications. It is decided that Nepal rewrites the resolution and then send it to the ExCom to finalize it.

5.2 Resolution against Drones (1.4.1.1)

The International Board approves the resolution with certain modifications. It has to be stronger. The International Board gives the authority to ExCom to finalize the resolution.

5.3 Regarding Palestinian Prisoners on Hunger Strike (1.4.1.3)

The International Board approves the resolution with certain modifications. The International Board gives the authority to ExCom to finalize the resolution.

5.4 Resolution – Concerning the possible Release of Marwan Barghouti

Ad Hoc proposal for resolution. No text provided. The International Board disapproves the resolution and suggests that the International Secretariat writes a call to the Russell Tribunal regarding the subject of the possible release of Marwan Barghouti.

5.5 Resolution regarding the situation in DRC (1.4.1.4)

No resolution on the situation in DRC has been written to the International Board meeting. The International Board agrees on the need for a resolution.

6. Proposals

6.1 DECISION on proposal 1.4.2.1

DECISION 1: It was decided that an Ad Hoc Committee on the reform of the organisation needs to feed into the Standing Constitution Committee and has a deadline of six months to complete their work.

DECISION 2: The Ad Hoc Committee on the Organisation of WILPF has to report to the Committee on the Constitution at the end of 6 months.

6.2 DECISION on proposal 1.4.2.2

Approved. See item 4.2

6.3 DECISION on proposal 1.4.2.3

The International Board disapproved the idea of an online IB meeting in 2014. The International Board decided that the next IB-meeting will be in 2014. Inge Stemmler (WILPF Netherlands) with the support of Marianne Laxen (WILPF Finland) volunteered to organize and fundraise the meeting.

The next IB-meeting will be held in one place where every section would have to be represented by at least one participant.

7. Nominations for Committees

7.1 Nominations Committee

Ila Harsløf – Convener – WILPF Denmark

Pat O'Brien – WILPF US

Adanna Anyasodo – WILPF Nigeria

Kozue Akibayashi – WILPF Japan

Lama El Char – WILPF Lebanon

Nirmala Sitoula – WILPF Nepal

Laura Alonso – WILPF Spain

Amparo Guerrero – WILPF Colombia

Neelima Sinha – ExCom Liaison

7.2 Ad Hoc Committee on the Organisation of WILPF

Margrethe Tingstad – Convener – WILPF Norway

Heidi Meinzolt – WILPF Germany

Lynette Lane – WILPF Australia

Sameena Nazir – WILPF Pakistan

Manuela Mesa – WILPF Spain

Annie Matundu-Mbambi – DRC

Laura Roskos – WILPF US

Kerstin Grebäck – ExCom liaison

7.3 Constitutional Committee

Annelise Ebbe – Convener – WILPF Denmark

Rosario Cherie Padilla – WILPF Philippines

Edith Ballantyne

Neelima Sinha – WILPF India

Mari Holmbue Ruge – WILPF Norway

Krishna Ahoojapatel

Martha Jean Baker – ExCom Liaison

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