



# IAP

International Association of Prosecutors

IAP General Meeting,  
Tbilisi, Georgia, 27th September 2022

# DRAFT MINUTES

**The meeting was chaired by the IAP President, Cheol-Kyu Hwang. The Secretary-General, Han Moraal, and the Executive Director, Janne Holst Hübner were also on the panel.**

## 1. Opening by the President

The President opened the meeting and welcomed all those present. He noted that 311 participants from 63 countries and regions attended the conference.

The President addressed a heartfelt thanks and gratitude to the conference host, Irakli Shotadze, the Prosecutor General of Georgia, and his staff for the exceptional and very professional organisation of the 27th Annual Conference and for their professionalism and flair.

He informed the Meeting that the meeting material had all been published through the IAP newsletter and the IAP website in accordance with the applicable rules.

## 2. Adoption of the Rules of Procedure

The Secretary-General informed the General Meeting that it could adopt its own rules of procedure in accordance with Article 14.8 of the IAP Constitution. He reminded the meeting that the proposed Rules of Procedure for the General Meeting ('the Rules') were published through the IAP newsletter (edition 86) and on the IAP website. Members were asked to carefully consider the draft rules and provide objections no later than 24 September 2022.

The President clarified that, as no objection had been received, the Rules of Procedure were adopted, and the meeting would proceed in accordance with the Rules.

The President also clarified that the General Meeting is the body of supreme authority of the

Association, which consists of the Organisational Members, the Individual Members, the Honorary Members, and the members of the Senate. He echoed the President by reminding those present that only members of the Association could attend the General Meeting.

### 3. Commitment to the IAP Standards and Signing Ceremony

The President invited the Secretary-General to remind members of the IAP Standards of Professional Responsibility and Statement of the Essential Duties and Rights of Prosecutors.

The Secretary-General reminded the Meeting about the importance of members being committed to the IAP Standards and promoting the Standards among their colleagues.

The Secretary-General informed the Meeting that a clear example of the importance of the IAP Standards in action is seen currently in the situation in Afghanistan, especially given the need for an independent and impartial prosecution service. It also shows the importance of the role of the IAP in promoting the need to uphold the safety of the prosecutors of the world, and that without safety for prosecutors and their families, it is impossible for prosecutors to do their work.

The Secretary-General informed the Meeting that the Executive Committee have agreed to introduce a signing ceremony, during which new organisational members sign a declaration of commitment, through which they commit their organisation/association to work in accordance with the IAP Standards of Professional Responsibility and Statement of the Essential Duties and Rights of Prosecutors and to promote and enhance those standards and principles. He hereafter invited representatives of the new organisational members to the stage to sign the declaration on the commitment to the IAP Standards. Those being:

**Padmarao Lakkaraju**, Vice-President of **All India Prosecutors Association**, **Chile Okoroma**, Director of Legal and Prosecution Department on behalf of the **Economic and Financial Crime Commission**, Nigeria, and **Anthony Rogers**, Deputy Chief Inspector on behalf of **HM Crown Prosecution Service Inspectorate**, who all took the floor and signed the document one by one.

### 4. Adoption of the minutes from the previous meeting (St. Petersburg 2021)

The President clarified that the minutes from the 26th General Meeting had been published through the IAP newsletter (edition 86) and on the IAP website in accordance with the applicable rules.

The President invited the members to come forward with any proposed corrections to the draft minutes of the previous General Meeting [St. Petersburg, Russia]. **ISSUES RAISED**: None. **CONCLUSION**: The minutes were adopted as an accurate record.

### 5. Annual Report 2021

The President informed the Meeting that the 2021 Annual Report has been published through the IAP website and is available online.

The Executive Director informed the Meeting about the background to the change of the format and the reasons for the delayed publication process. She also clarified that the presented Annual Report is a template which is undergoing an development process, so future versions will include more in-depth details about the synergies between financial performances and the mission and the professional working programme of the Association.

## 6. Activities of the Association and Professional Working Programme

The President invited the IAP Officials to give a status update on projects and focus areas of the Association.

### **CLOSING OF REGIONAL OFFICE IN ST. PETERSBURG, RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

The Secretary-General reminded the meeting about the suspension of the operation of the regional office in St. Petersburg, the official statement condemning the invasion and the complaint filed by some concerned senators to suspend or expel the Office of the Prosecutor General of the Russian Federation (OPG) from the IAP on the grounds of dishonorable conduct, which led to the OPGs resignation from the IAP and the termination of the agreement regarding the IAP Regional Office in St. Petersburg.

### **MEMBERSHIP SITUATION AND NETWORK EXPANSION**

The Executive Director expressed optimism in relation to the network expansion, which followed a period of stagnation caused by the Covid 19 restrictions which prevented members from meeting in person. She informed the Meeting that the following 6 organisations have been admitted membership since September 2021:

- **England and Wales**, HM Crown Prosecution Service Inspectorate
- **India**, All India Prosecution
- **Ghana**, Prosecution Division of the Office of the Attorney General and Ministry of Justice
- **Nigeria**, Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (Legal and Prosecution Department)
- **Nigeria**, Association of Trained Prosecutors, and Investigators (ATPIN)
- **Serbia**, Republic Public Prosecution Office of the Republic of Serbia.

The Executive Director briefly informed the Meeting about new initiatives launched with a view to retain existing members and recruit new members.

She informed the Meeting that the Executive Committee, during its latest meeting, agreed to introduce special discount rates for members from developing countries. These rates should comply with the DAC grant equivalent system, i.e., four discount levels in addition to the standard rate as follows:

- **10 EUR:** Least Developed Countries
- **20 EUR:** Low-Income Countries
- **30 EUR:** Lower Middle-Income Countries
- **40 EUR:** Upper Middle-Income Countries
- **50 EUR:** Standard rate

The introduction of a special discount rate will be submitted for confirmation by the membership at the 28<sup>th</sup> General Meeting in London, England on 26 September 2023.

### **Prosecutors' International Cooperation Platform (PICP)**

The Secretary-General briefly gave a short introduction to the Prosecutors' International Cooperation Platform, which aims to provide an engagement platform allowing prosecutors to connect and cooperate with global colleagues outside of the central authority channels.

The Executive Director clarified that PICP is also aimed at fostering networking among members based on the rationale that it is easier to cooperate with colleagues when a personal connection has already been established. She stressed that members could communicate in real time using their computers or mobile phones through a password-secured environment. This platform will operate as a 24/7 network.

The Executive Director closed this topic by stressing the importance of the Specialist Networks, which are considered as one of the pillars on which the Prosecutors' International Cooperation Platform is founded and as the main source of entry for training opportunities to support the Global Training Academy. She asked the organisational contact persons to check if the details of registered specialists are updated and accurate and urged the organisations who had not register specialists to do so as soon as possible.

### **Global Training Academy**

The Secretary-General stressed a reduction in the number of webinars that had taken place due to the illness and associated leave of our General Counsel.

The Secretary-General mentioned 3 webinars that were provided during the fully digital 6th North American and Caribbean Regional Conference, organised by the NAAG, USDOJ, and the Canadian PS.

The Secretary-General updated the Meeting about a guidebook on the investigation and prosecution of crimes committed with chemical and biological weapons published by IAP and UNICRI and a guidebook for the investigation and prosecution of violence against journalists, which would be followed by a training course in person in cooperation with the SII, and which would be published by IAP and UNESCO alongside an online training that would take place at the end of this year.

He also emphasised that the IAP had entered into stronger partnerships with NAAG, SII, and the Institute of Justice of the Republic of Korea through Memorandums of Understanding.

## 7. Financial statements 2021

The President passed the floor to the Secretary-General for a brief report on the financial statements for 2021 and to give a general update on the financial situation.

The Secretary-General followed up on some of the comments/findings of the Financial Review Committee, while acknowledging the FRCs following conclusions:

- That the financial procedures are strictly followed by IAP staff and Secretary General.
- The finances of the IAP are in good shape.
- The international book-keeping is managed in a thorough and rigorous manner.
- Random checks did not demonstrate any variations from the financial procedures.,

The President invited the membership to comment on the financial statements for 2021 or to ask the Secretary-General and/or the Executive Director to clarify. No comments nor questions raised. raised.

## 8. Composition of IAP Committees

The President gave the floor to the Secretary-General to present the candidates for election for vacancies arising on the Executive Committee in 2022.

The Secretary-General informed the Meeting that during the Northern Spring Meeting in Siracusa, Italy, the Executive Committee agreed to nominate the following candidates for election for President and Ordinary Members of the Executive Committee during the 27<sup>th</sup> General Meeting.

The Secretary-General further informed the Meeting that all nominations are in accordance with articles 8.6 and 11.3 of the IAP Constitution and that they were published through the IAP website and IAP newsletter within the time set by the IAP Constitution in Article 8.6.

### **Candidate for IAP President (Article 10.4)**

The Executive Committee had nominated Juan Bautista Mahiques, Attorney General of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires, Argentina. **He was duly elected by the General Meeting, there being no other candidates.**

The incoming President took the floor and expressed his deepest gratitude to all the IAP members for welcoming him as the new President of the International Association of Prosecutors' President. He also expressed his gratitude to his predecessor, Mr. Cheol-Kyu Hwang, for successfully leading the IAP for the past 3 years. He further stressed that he would work hard and commit to deserve this honor and make a meaningful contribution to reinforcing international cooperation in the IAP.

The Secretary-General clarified that in accordance with IAP tradition, the outgoing President, Cheol-Kyu Hwang, will remain in his seat until the closing of the Conference.

### Candidates for IAP Vice-Presidents

Candidates for Vice-Presidents:

1. **Lloyd Babb, Director of Public Prosecutions, Northern Territory, Australia** (Asia & Pacific) for his 2nd term.
2. **Giorgi Gogadze, Liaison Magistrate for Georgia at Eurojust** (Eastern Europe and Central Asia) for his 1st term
3. **Kathleen Roussel, Director of Public Prosecutions and Deputy Attorney General, Canada** (North America and Caribbean) for her 1st term
4. **Jianming Tong, First Deputy Prosecutor General of People's Republic of China** (Asia and Pacific) for his 1st term.

### Election for Ordinary Membership

Candidates for Ordinary Membership

#### African and Indian Ocean

1. **Djama Souleyman Ali**, Prosecutor General, Djibouti for 1<sup>st</sup> term
2. **Noordin M. Haji**, Director of Public Prosecutions, Kenya for 1<sup>st</sup> term

#### Asia and Pacific

3. **Sally Dowling**, Director of Public Prosecutions, NSW, Australia for 1<sup>st</sup> term
4. **Son Sang Ip**, Prosecutor General of Macao, SAR of PRC for 1<sup>st</sup> term
5. **Woo Jung Shim**, Chief Prosecutor of Incheon, South Korea for 1<sup>st</sup> term

## Europe

6. **Paris Adamis**, National Member for Greece at Eurojust for 2<sup>nd</sup> term
7. **Michael Leitner**, Deputy Prosecutor General, Austria for 1<sup>st</sup> term
8. **Catherine Pierse**, Director of Public Prosecutions, Ireland for 1<sup>st</sup> term

## Latin America

9. **Manuel Pinheiro Freitas**, Prosecutor General, Ceará, Brazil for 1<sup>st</sup> term

## Middle East and Northern Africa

10. **Abdulaziz Farhad Alqorony**, Head of Int. Div. Public Prosecutions, Saudi Arabia for 1<sup>st</sup> term

## North America and the Caribbean

11. **Jeanette Manning**, Director NAGTRI, National Association of Attorneys General, USA for 1<sup>st</sup> term

The Secretary-General clarified that Iryna Venediktova, former Prosecutor General of Ukraine, and David Harvie, former Crown Agent of Scotland, had withdrawn their candidature because they had left their positions as head of a prosecution service.

The Secretary-General informed the Meeting that no nominations were received by the membership in accordance with Articles 8.6.A, 10.4, and 11.3, which means that all candidates are deemed to be elected.

## Election of Supernumerary Membership

The Secretary-General informed the Meeting that, during its Northern Spring Meeting, the Executive Committee had agreed to nominate Frédéric Fèvre, President of AIPPF, for election as a supernumerary member of the Executive Committee in accordance with Article 8.13 and Annex 5 of the IAP Constitution.

The Secretary-General passed the floor to the President, who invited the participants to join him in congratulating the successful candidates and to express gratitude to the leaving Executive Committee Members for their active contribution to the projects and programmes of the IAP. Additionally, all leaving members will be awarded a Certificate of Merit and invited to join the IAP Senate. The members who left the Executive Committee are:

**Satyajit Boolell**, Director of Public Prosecutions, Mauritius

**Serge Brammertz**, Prosecutor, UN International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals, Belgium

**Christopher Toth**, former Executive Director of the National Association of Attorneys General, USA

**Jorge Abbott**, Prosecutor General, Chile

**Claire Loftus**, former Director of Public Prosecutions, Ireland

**Jean Fils Ntamack**, Prosecutor General of Court of Appeal, Cameroon

The President clarified that the IAP Senate is established by Article 9 of the Constitution. In summary, the Senate is comprised of all past members of the Executive Committee who elect to join. Its mandate is to provide recommendations to and assume responsibilities assigned by the IAP (through the Executive Committee). Members serve for life or until resignation.

### **Election of candidate for a vacancy on the Financial Review Committee**

The President informed the Meeting that during its Northern Spring Meeting, the Executive Committee agreed to nominate **Runar Torgersen**, IAP Senator, Norway, as a candidate for the vacancy on the Financial Review Committee.

The President clarified that the Financial Review Committee, including its Chair, shall consist of at least 4 members of the Executive Committee, Senate, or members of the Association who shall be nominated by the Executive Committee and appointed by the General Meeting for a term of three years.

Runar Torgersen was elected by the General Meeting.

## **9. Awards Ceremony**

In addition to the awards presented during the 1st IAP Award Ceremony, the following awards were presented during the General Meeting:

### **CERTIFICATE OF MERIT**

The IAP Certificate of Merit is awarded as an expression of the Association's gratitude to members of the IAP (individual or organisational) for their pursuit of the objects of the Association. Certificates of Merit can also be awarded to non-IAP Members as an expression of the Association's gratitude for supporting the Association.

The Certificates of Merit were presented to:

**The Office of the Prosecutor General of the Russian Federation**, a former member, for hosting the 52nd meeting of the Executive Meeting and the 26th General Meeting in a hybrid format in October 2021.



**Public Prosecution Service of Canada**, for hosting the 6th North American and Caribbean Regional Conference digitally during the corona era (October 2021). The award was received by Kathleen Roussel.

**United States Department of Justice**, for hosting the 6th North American and Caribbean Regional Conference digitally during the corona era (October 2021). The award was received by Bruce Swartz.

**National Association of Attorneys General**, for hosting the 6th North American and Caribbean Regional Conference digitally during the corona era (October 2021). The award was received by Jeanette Manning.

**The Siracusa International Institute for Criminal Justice and Human Rights** for co-hosting the 53rd Executive Committee Meeting, in Siracusa, Italy, 7-8 April 2022. The award was received by Jean-Francois Thony.

**The Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions of Kenya** for hosting the 4th IAP African and Indian Ocean Regional Conference together with the East African Association of Prosecutors Conference in Mombasa, Kenya, 17-19 May 2022. The award was received by Noordin Haji.

Certificates of Merit were also presented to leaving Executive Committee Members in 2022:

**Gerhard Jarosch**, Immediate past president

**Satyajit Boolell**, Vice-president, African and Indian Ocean region

**Serge Brammertz**, Vice-president, European region

**Christopher Toth**, Vice-president, North America & Caribbean

**Jorge Abbott**, Ordinary Member

**Claire Loftus**, Ordinary Member

**Jean Fils Ntamack**, Ordinary Member

## 10. Future conferences and meetings

The Executive Director reminded the members of the venues and dates of future IAP related events, which are also referred to in the Annual Report:

28th Annual Conference and General Meeting, London, England, 24-27 September 2023.

29th Annual Conference and General Meeting, Baku, Azerbaijan, 15 – 18 September 2024.

She informed the Meeting that the 28th Annual Conference would take place at the QEII Centre in central London – just opposite Parliament and Westminster Abbey. The online registration system is expected to open in early 2023. The 29th Annual Conference and General Meeting will take place at the Baku Convention Centre, Azerbaijan.

She informed the Meeting that the 1<sup>st</sup> Pan European Conference will be hosted in Istanbul,

Turkiye, from 2-5 May 2023 on the topic of "Targeting effective investigation in the age of digitalization" and that the 7<sup>th</sup> Latin American Regional Conference will be hosted in Fortaleza, Brazil, from 28 – 30 June 2023 – more information will be available early 2023.

## 11. Closing remarks

The President closed the Meeting by expressing thanks to all participants and the host for their contribution, and to the Secretariat for their preparation of this meeting.

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