

REPORT OF THE TREASURER AND OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE
DUBROVNIK, CROATIA
October 11, 2014

The Finance committee met in Dubrovnik on Saturday, October 11, 2014.

The agenda was circulated between the members of the committee (*annex 1*).

The attendance list was circulated and is attached (*annex 2*)

The minutes of the previous meeting have been sent to the members of the finance committee, and were approved by the finance committee.

Status of member societies

Most of the societies have paid their fees for 2014. Argentina, a new member, paid their fees indirectly thanks to the help of the secretary general. Once the financial crisis in Argentina will be over, and with the progressive initiation of Argentina to the IUVSTA procedures, such extraordinary procedure will hopefully quickly come to an end. The list of the current subscription status is circulated.

Status of financial accounts

Since ECM Trento (March 2014), the treasurer had to pay a few schools and workshops that impacted the general fund. During the Trento meeting, and at the initiative of the President, the treasurer and the treasurer of the Italian vacuum society exchange comments about their respective investment strategy. The treasurer also had a discussion with the president elect about the economic situation in Sweden. Taking into account these discussions and the necessity to reinvest some of the money available on the bank account, it was decided to reinvest in new funds. The goal is to invest in funds covering stock markets and bonds from various countries and zones in the world, in order to get a global balance and to minimize the risk. It is also decided not to invest in risky countries, as advised by the bank. The funds are labelled in euros and in Swiss francs, taking into account that we already have invested in US funds (located at AVS) and in bonds labelled in USD (HP, Delhaize and Telefonica) for a total amount over 290.000 USD. The list of these bonds is presented in the status of the general fund. Some of them provide a dividend, other focus on increasing the capital.

The major new event in the world finance since March 2014 is the strong increase of the value of the USD, which, mechanically, increases the potential value of the IUVSTA assets labelled in this currency. The economy in the US is growing well now, whereas Europe is still at an insignificant growth rate and that some concern exists regarding China. Consequently, the interest rates on bank accounts (and on new bonds) are ridiculously low. Some countries (Germany, Belgium, Netherlands) may launch state bonds nowadays at a 0% interest. This is a major concern for IUVSTA, as it is asked to the treasurer to provide an average of 4% interest.

The financial situation of IUVSTA is stable. The total value of the general fund (decreased from the virtual amount of the IUVSTA prize donations) is above 573.000 €, which is an increase of more than 25.000 € compared to March 2014 (previous ECM). The investments in stocks (DWS, Vanguard and Aberdeen) performed well and the bonds that we invested in are currently overrated. The increase of the value of the USD versus EUR benefits to the IUVSTA accounts (labelled in Euro). However, the growth these last 6 months is only half the growth of the previous 6 months, due partly to the payment of workshops, and partly to the stagnation of EU economy.

The ***investment subcommittee*** will continue to discuss on a regular base to find the appropriate investments.

Budget 2015

The committee discussed about what should be included in the 2015 budget, in order to allow the treasurer to propose a budget at the annual assembly next year.

François Reniers
Treasurer

Annex 1

- Finance Committee Meeting
Saturday October 11, 2014
Dubrovnik
AGENDA
1. Welcome
 2. Attendance
 3. Previous Meeting
 4. Status of Member Society Subscriptions
 5. Status of Financial Accounts
 6. Investment Committee
 7. Budget 2015 : preparation
 8. Other business
 9. Next meeting and adjournment

Annex 2

FINANCE COMMITTEE – DUBROVNIK – OCTOBER 11, 2014
LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Name Status

François Reniers Treasurer
M. Anderle President
Jean-Jacques Pireaux past-President
A. Vincze Scientific Secretary
D. Ruzic Scientific Director
L. Montelius President Elect
S. Milosevic Member (HR)
C. Eisenmenger-Sittner Secretary General (Au)
D. Sykes Member (UK)
M. Seidel alt. Councillor (CH)
M. Buljan delegate (HR)
F. Richter Councillor, (DE)
I. Capan EMP division (HR)
L. Kover member (HU)
A. Moshfegh councilor (IR)
B. Tyler ASSD chair (USA)
T. Gans PST chair (UK)
P. Varga SS chair (AU)
D. Depla TFD secretary (BE)
D. Vernière Alt. coun. (FR)
U. Helmersson Alt. Counc. (SW)
U. Karlsson Counc. (SW)
S. Novak Counc. (CZ)