



**MINUTES OF THE Fall 2009 EXTRAORDINARY WITSA GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HELD ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2009  
WITHIN POINCIANA ROOM I, FAIRMONT SOUTHAMPTON, BERMUDA**

**Present:**

1. Dato' Dan E Khoo (WITSA)	Chairman	Malaysia
2. Mr. Phil Bond (TechAmerica)	President	United States
3. Dr. Jorge A. Cassino (CESSI)	Director & VC for Latin-America	Argentina
4. Mr. Bernard Courtois (ITAC)	Director & VC for North America	Canada
5. Mr. Waudo Siganga (CSK)	Director & VC for Africa	Kenya
6. Mr. Nizar Zakka (PCA)	Director & VC for Middle East & North Africa	Lebanon
7. Drs. Bernd Taselaar (ICT~Office)	Director & VC for Western Europe	Netherlands
8. Mr. Atsushi Nishijo	VC for Asia Pacific	Japan
9. Mr. John Kyle (BTD)	Director	Bermuda
10. Mr. James Liu (CISA)	Director	Chinese Taipei
11. Mr. Hidemi Yamamoto (JISA)	Director	Japan
12. Mr. Looi Kien Leong (PIKOM)	Director	Malaysia
13. Mr. Ki Chul Kim (FKII)	Director	Rep of Korea
14. Mr. Roger Latchman (ITA)	Director	South Africa
15. Mr. Rabindra Jaggernauth (ICTS)	Director	Trinidad & Tobago
16. Mr. John Higgins (Intellect)	Director	United Kingdom
17. Ms. Sylvia Bidart (CESSI)	Member	Argentina
18. Mr. Claude Lemay (ITAC)	Member	Canada
19. Mr. Richard Yin (CISA)	Member	Chinese Taipei
20. Ms. Ivy Chang (CISA)	Member	Chinese Taipei
21. Mr. Alberto Pradilla (FEDESOFTE)	Member	Colombia
22. Mr. Paul Fervoy (CAMTIC)	Member	Costa Rica
23. Mr. Ernesto Kruger (AESOFTE)	Member	Ecuador
24. Mr. Tarek Taha (EITESAL)	Member	Egypt
25. Ms. Junko Kawauchi (JISA)	Member	Japan
26. Mr. Hiromi Sugiyama (JISA)	Member	Japan
27. Mr. Dorihiko Kono (JISA)	Member	Japan
28. Mr. Ong Kian Yew (PIKOM)	Member	Malaysia
29. Mr. Looi Chung Keat (PIKOM)	Member	Malaysia
30. Mr. Carlos Allando (AMITI)	Member	Mexico
31. Dr. Jimson Olufuye (ITAN)	Member	Nigeria
32. Mr. Andrew Okonye (ITAN)	Member	Nigeria
33. Ms. Arinola Akinyemi (ITAN)	Member	Nigeria
34. Mr. William Higham (Intellect)	Member	United Kingdom
35. Mr. Ricardo Holmsquist (CAVEDATOS)	Member	Venezuela



**In attendance:**

Mr. David Olive (WITSA)	United States
Mr. James Lewis (Legal Counsel)	United States
Mr. Jorge Martinez (MexicoIT)	Mexico
Dr. Amado Espinosa (MexicoIT)	Mexico
Dr. James Poisant (Secretary General, WITSA)	United States
Mr. Anders Halvorsen (Director of Public Policy, WITSA)	United States
Ms. Fazilla Doreen Mohd Kamal (WITSA)	Malaysia
Ms. Jeralyn Quinsayas (WITSA)	Malaysia

**Guests:**

Mr. Luis Stein (GECHS)	Chile
Mr. Dainsworth Richards (JCS)	Jamaica
Mr. Eduardo Ruiz Esparza (CANIETI)	Mexico
Mr. Nigel Hickson (UK Government)	United Kingdom

**Apologies:**

1. Dr. Vasile Baltac	Director & VC for Eastern Europe	Romania
2. Mr. Ian Birks (AIIA)	Director	Australia
3. Mr. Yannis Sirros (SEPE)	Director	Greece
4. Mr. Som Mittal (NASSCOM)	Director	India
5. Mr. Goran Mitreski (MaSIT)	Director	Rep of Macedonia
6. Mr. Valentin Makarov (APKIT)	Director	Russia
7. Ms. Ho Semun (SITF)	Director	Singapore
8. Ms. Mar Duque (AETIC)	Director	Spain



## ITEMS

## ACTION BY

### 1. Chairman's Remarks & Introductions

Chairman Khoo welcomed everyone and thanked the GPPS 2009 host for their gracious hospitality, diligence and arrangements. Chairman Khoo also thanked the host for allowing delegates to attend the very enjoyable Annual Music Festival celebration the evening before.

**Info Only**

He recalled that two (2) years ago in Cairo, Egypt, Bermuda bid to host GPPS 2009 and now we are here in Bermuda.

**Info Only**

Chairman Khoo informed the gathering that this meeting would not be a Board of Directors (BOD) meeting; rather it was to be an Extraordinary General Assembly (EGA). However, rather than organizing a separate BOD meeting, the EGA would also examine key matters arising from the previous BOD meeting. He also encouraged everyone to attend the WCIT 2010 in Amsterdam in May next year.

**Info Only**

### 2. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Looi motioned for approval of the Minutes of the BOD meeting held on August 25, 2009 (via conference). The motion was seconded by Mr. Siganga. The minutes were approved by the General Assembly.

**Info Only**

### 3. Matters Arising

Dr. Poisant mentioned that there were 15 *Matters Arising* from the previous Board of Directors meeting. Five (5) matters required further discussion and approval at this meeting. The remaining 10 matters were resolved prior to the November 1, 2009 meeting.

**Info Only**

The five (5) pending matters were:

- AIIA Database
- Membership Survey
- WCIT 2010 Delegate Registration Fee
- Status on WITSA's Event Progress Review (EPR) in the Netherlands
- Hall of Fame Initiative

### 4. Welcome Remarks from GPPS 2009 CEO

Mr. Kyle (Bermuda Host) welcomed everyone to Bermuda. He requested that all members wear the special tie/scarf provided to them at the gala dinner on Monday evening.

**Info Only**



## ITEMS

## ACTION BY

### 5. Treasurer's Report

Dr. Cassino reported that WITSA is no longer in debt and budget forecast for 2009 were currently on target. He also updated the General Assembly on the Membership Dues Report. He said that there was an improvement in dues collected from 2008 to 2009.

**Info Only**

Dr. Cassino congratulated Dr. Poisant on the financial turnaround.

**Info Only**

Chairman Khoo thanked Dr. Cassino and congratulated the team.

**Info Only**

### 6. WITSA Bylaws

Chairman Khoo reiterated that this meeting was not a Board of Directors Meeting; but rather an Extraordinary General Assembly meeting due to the fact that WITSA deemed it important to pass new Bylaws that have been in the works for nearly two years. He mentioned that the new Bylaws were intended to further democratize WITSA, as well as to upgrade and update the existing rules that govern WITSA.

**Info Only**

Chairman Khoo then invited Mr. Lewis to present the highlights of the new Bylaws.

**Info Only**

Mr. Lewis informed the members that the current two (2) page set of Bylaws were inadequate to govern WITSA. Mr. Lewis further mentioned that a two-third (2/3) vote is required from the members present at the General Assembly to change the Bylaws. A quorum was present at this meeting.

**Info Only**

Mr. Lewis reported that a major change in the new Bylaws was the creation of an additional class of members referred to as **Associate Members**. He informed the General Assembly that Associate Members would not have voting rights. Associate membership would be open to corporations within the ICT sector, service providers to the ICT sector, government organizations, economic development organizations and universities. Mr. Lewis said that Associate Membership dues would be set by the Board.

**Info Only**

**Mr. Lewis** elaborated that even though Associate Members do not have the same privileges as Ordinary Members, they would be eligible to participate as WITSA committee members and to share their insights and recommendations with WITSA.

**Info Only**



## ITEMS

## ACTION BY

### 6. WITSA Bylaws (Cont'd)

Dr. Poisant added that additional information regarding the fee structure for Associate Members was incorporated in the BOD slides. It would be reviewed during the meeting.

**Info Only**

Chairman Khoo stressed that there was a need to show an estimated figure to the members. He further stated that the final figure may not be decided and finalized during this meeting.

**Info Only**

Mr. Lewis then proceeded to describe the process on how proxy votes would take place. (Please refer to Bylaws for procedures).

**Info Only**

Mr. Lewis also highlighted that under the new Bylaws, if a member does not pay its dues or did not obtain a waiver or exemption to pay its dues due to hardship, the member will be deemed as not being in **good standing** within WITSA and hence would not be permitted to vote, to host a WITSA event or to serve as a WITSA Board member.

**Info Only**

Mr. Higgins asked Mr. Lewis what additional changes were added to the last version presented to the Board. Mr. Lewis explained that there were two:

**Info Only**

1. Members who are not in good standing will not be allowed to vote;
2. The Deputy Chairman will be elected by the Board of Directors.

Chairman Khoo thanked Mr. Lewis and opened the floor for comments and feedback.

**Info Only**

Mr. Courtois asked if there was sufficient quorum to pass the new Bylaws. Chairman Khoo explained that the EGA meeting was based on present Bylaws, wherein there was sufficient quorum.

**Info Only**

Drs. Taselaar commented that the new bylaws were a good initiative. Chairman Khoo restated that the topic of Associate Membership needed to be discussed extensively.

**Info Only**

Chairman Khoo reminded the group that WITSA is a business association and if there were to be associate members in the future, WITSA would not want any organizations such as the UN as members.

**Info Only**



**ITEMS**

**ACTION BY**

**6. WITSA Bylaws (Cont'd)**

Chairman Khoo stated that once the new Bylaws are approved, WITSA would have a new category of members and detailed specifications need to be drafted. He also mentioned that he is in favor of the companies becoming associate members. **Info Only**

Mr. Zakka raised the question on whether an individual or an organization is elected to the BOD. If an organization, he asked whether it was permissible to change the representative every time there was a meeting. **Info Only**

Mr. Lewis confirmed that the BOD could nominate an individual as a director, not an organization. Mr. Courtois made the point of referring to clause 4.2.3 of the Bylaws, whereby representatives could be changed. **Info Only**

Mr. Lewis and Chairman Khoo affirmed that the BOD would appoint Directors from member associations. **Info Only**

Mr. Zakka further inquired as to whether the BOD had the exclusive right to change or modify the Bylaws. **Info Only**

Mr. Lewis replied that the BOD would have the right, but members as a whole could propose and vote on Bylaw changes. **Info Only**

Chairman Khoo requested that legal counsel make the necessary amendments based on the comments received by members from the floor and reiterated that the new Bylaws would allow WITSA to be more democratic. **Info Only**

Mr. Lewis said it was important to create an additional class of membership. He also said that all officers would continue in office until their successors were elected at the next General Assembly in May 2010. He reminded the gathering that the vacancy for the Deputy Chairman position would be open until May 2010. **Info Only**

Dr. Cassino proposed that the new Bylaws to be approved. The motion was seconded by Mr. Courtois. Chairman Khoo asked for the members to vote. The motion received a majority of 20 votes. Chairman Khoo proceeded to thank everyone for their work on the new Bylaws. Dr. Cassino joined Chairman Khoo in congratulating and thanking the members for their approval of WITSA's new Bylaws. **Info Only**



## ITEMS

## ACTION BY

### 6. WITSA Bylaws (Cont'd)

Mr. Courtois proposed the new membership category to be accepted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Looi and Dr. Olufuye with a majority of 21 votes. Chairman Khoo then thanked the members for their votes.

**Info Only**

Chairman Khoo continued the meeting by thanking Mr. Miller and Mr. Kyle for their work on the Caribbean workshop that was held prior to the BOD meeting and hoped that the next host would consider offering a similar type of workshop.

**Info Only**

### 7. Committee Reports

#### I. Finance/Audit/Compensation Committee

Dr. Cassino presented the Finance Committee report wherein he highlighted that the organization was now in the best financial condition in its thirty (30) plus year history.

**Info Only**

Dr. Cassino also announced that the Employment Agreements for Dr. Poisant and Mr. Halvorsen will be extended to June 2010. Chairman Khoo informed the members that the existing contracts have not ended yet and would remain in effect for the next six (6) months until the next BOD meeting in Amsterdam.

**Info Only**

Chairman Khoo also informed the General Assembly that in recognition for their work, the **Finance/Audit/Compensation Committee** had recommended to pay a one (1) month salary in bonuses to Dr. Poisant and Mr. Halvorsen. These bonuses would be paid two (2) weeks before Christmas. Dr. Poisant and Mr. Halvorsen were then asked to leave the ballroom as the members took votes on the recommended bonus incentives.

**Info Only**

Mr. Courtois mentioned that this meeting was a General Assembly meeting as opposed to a BOD meeting. He understood that General Assembly meetings took place every two years during WCIT events. Chairman Khoo explained that an extraordinary General Assembly meeting was required to approve the amended Bylaws.

**Info Only**

Mr. Zakka and Dr. Cassino commented that since the BOD's approval is also needed for compensation, two (2) separate meetings should be held in the future at General Assembly.

**Info Only**



## ITEMS

## ACTION BY

### 7. Committee Reports (Cont'd)

#### II. Global Trade Committee

Mr. Ong reported on the Global Trade (GT) committee. He mentioned that new interest to host WITSA Business Centres had come from the UK, Armenia and Egypt. The GT Secretariat agreed to follow up with the interested countries accordingly. Mr. Ong then invited Mr. Looi, the Global Trade Committee Chairman and Chairman Khoo to present Business Centre plaques to the following members:

**Info Only**

- Dr. Cassino of CESSI
- Mr. Liu of CISA
- Dr. Olufuye of ITAN
- Mr. Latchman of ITA
- Ms. Quinsayas of WITSA Asia Secretariat
- Dr. Poisant of WITSA
- Mr. Ong of PIKOM
- Ms. Kawauchi of JISA,
- Mr. Kim of FKII
- Mr. Ruiz of AMITI,
- Mr. Zakka of PCA.

Chairman Khoo stated that the plaques signified the many benefits Business Centres offered to WITSA members' members.

**Info Only**

#### III. Membership Committee

Dr. Poisant presented the Membership Committee report on behalf of Mr. Birks. Dr. Poisant reported that there were two (2) main topics that the committee wished to present and discuss:

**Info Only**

1. The results of a recent membership survey;
2. Proposed WITSA Vice Chairman Reporting Standards.

Dr. Poisant stated that since only 13 members responded to the Membership Survey, the committee recommended that more members participate in the survey in order to arrive at results that are more representative. (Matter Arising).

**All members**



**ITEMS**

**ACTION BY**

**7. Committee Reports (Cont'd)**

**III. Membership Committee (Cont'd)**

Dr. Poisant reported that the committee had proposed an outline for the Regional Vice Chairman to report during the BOD or the GA. He informed that the reporting template will be provided to each Regional Vice Chairman before the Board of Directors meeting in May 2010. (Matter Arising).

**Info Only**

**IV. Public Policy Committee**

Mr. Olive updated the General Assembly on Public Policy activities. They consisted of helping out GPPS 2009 project team with the subject matter and speakers. As Chairman of the committee, he reported on updates from the previous day's meeting and announced that presentations and outcomes would be posted on the WITSA Web Site.

**Info Only**

The meeting featured presentations by Mr. Jim Whittaker of the new G-20 ICT Policy Network, Mr. John Wilson of the World Bank on their new trade facilitation program, and Ms. Fiona Alexander of the U.S. Commerce Department on ICANN and the IGF.

**Info Only**

Mr. Olive mentioned that the Public Policy committee is in the midst of appointing a core group within the Public Policy Committee. He mentioned that the Core Committee was still open to new members. Chairman Khoo suggested for Drs. Taselaar join the committee and Drs. Taselaar agreed.

**Info Only**

In addition, the following public policy priorities were proposed for 2010, and would be reviewed by the Core Committee: (1) G-20 ICT Policy Network; (2) ICT for Economic Recovery; (3) Internet Governance (continuation of the IGF mandate and ICANN Developments); (4) International Trade (WTO Doha Round and World Bank Trade Facilitation Project); (5) Cloud Computing and Policy Implications; (6) Broadband Promotion; and (7) Green ICT.

**Info Only**

Chairman Khoo asked the gathering to applaud the Public Policy Committee for all their work in hosting the Public Policy committee meeting on October 31, 2009.

**Info Only**



## ITEMS

## ACTION BY

### 8. Membership Application

Chairman Khoo was pleased to note that more countries had applied to become WITSA members, and once approved; WITSA would have a total of 72 members by the end of this meeting.

**Info Only**

#### I. Jamaica Computer Society

Dr. Cassino, Vice Chairman for the Latin America region introduced Mr. Dainsworth Richards from the Jamaica Computer Society (JCS). Mr. Richards thanked everyone and briefly presented background information on the JCS. He also mentioned that he learned about WITSA about a year ago when Bermuda approached them regarding the pre summit meeting. In February 2009, Mr. Jaggernauth again approached him and proposed that JCS become a member.

**Info Only**

Dr. Cassino endorsed the application and recommended JCS's membership for approval as a new WITSA member. Chairman Khoo then called for a vote on JCS becoming a WITSA member. The vote was unanimously positive.

**Info Only**

#### II. Chilean ICT Association

Dr. Cassino introduced Mr. Stein from the Chilean ICT Association (Gechs). Mr. Stein thanked everyone. He then presented the association's background information.

**Info Only**

Chairman Khoo then called for a vote on Gechs becoming a WITSA member. The vote was unanimously positive.

**Info Only**

#### III. New Zealand Information & Communications Technology Group

Mr. Sugiyama (Japan) introduced the NZICT Group and Dr. Poisant presented the association on behalf of the NZICT Group.

**Info Only**

Chairman Khoo mentioned that ITANZ was initially our member from New Zealand; however it was no longer in existence. He then requested that the Vice Chairman for the Asia Pacific region, Mr. Nishijo, to endorse the application.

**Info Only**

The Vice Chairman for Asia Pacific endorsed the application and recommended NZICT Group's membership. Chairman Khoo then called for a vote. The vote was unanimously positive.

**Info Only**



## ITEMS

## ACTION BY

### 9. Regional Presentations

#### I. Africa

Mr. Siganga informed the GA that he was waiting for Ghana and Ethiopia applications to join WITSA.

**Info Only**

#### II. Middle East and North Africa

Mr. Zakka reported that the Middle East is interested in hosting the fall 2010 WITSA BOD meeting in Syria.

**Info Only**

Mr. Zakka also reported that he was anticipating new memberships from the Middle East region and would be presented in the next BOD meeting in Amsterdam.

**Info Only**

#### III. Eastern Europe

There was no update since Dr. Vasile Baltac was absent.

**Info Only**

#### IV. Western Europe

Drs. Taselaar expressed his interest in participating in WITSA's G20 Initiative. He mentioned that the initiative would be a good opportunity for discussion within European countries.

**Info Only**

#### V. Latin America

Dr. Cassino reported that his regional members continued to express concern over not getting enough value and attention from WITSA.

**Info Only**

#### VI. North America

Mr. Courtois reported that all of North America was focusing on the government stimulus plan to assist their economy. He also reported that the broadband projects within North America required more financial assistance from the governments. He further mentioned that the G20 initiatives in June 2010 should help to influence governments in ICT decisions.

**Info Only**



## ITEMS

## ACTION BY

### 9. Regional Presentations (Cont'd)

#### VII. Asia Pacific

Mr. Sugiyama reported that JISA had a meeting with their Chinese counterpart, CSIA in September 2009, wherein JISA provided an update of economic growth in Japan. He also introduced ASOCIO activities, which had organized various programs to promote their members. In addition, JISA also had visits to Vietnam, China and Thailand. All members were informed to check out ASOCIO's website for more information.

**Info Only**

Chairman Khoo thanked all regional presenters and invited Latin America, Ms. Bidart to make a presentation on a Latin American Regional Office. Chairman Khoo mentioned to the new WITSA members that there were already two WITSA Secretariat Offices in Asia and the US.

**Info Only**

### 10. Regional Office: Latin America

Chairman Khoo informed the gathering that during the last BOD meeting he had requested Dr. Poisant to conduct a *Cost Benefit Analysis* on the WITSA Regional Office in Latin America which was proposed by Ms. Bidart and Dr. Cassino.

**Info Only**

Ms. Bidart presented the rationale for WITSA to fund the Regional office in Latin America. She informed that many members within the region were tight on budgets and that some of their members have little or no money to pay their dues.

**Info Only**

Dr. Poisant presented the *Cost Benefit Analysis*. According to the proposal from Latin America, there would be one person located within the ALETI office in Buenos Aires. ALETI proposed that WITSA share fifty percent of the cost amounted to US\$18,000.00 in 2010 and pay the full cost of US\$36,000.00 in 2011 and beyond. The projected cost to WITSA for five years would be US\$180,000.00.

**Info Only**



## ITEMS

## ACTION BY

### 10. Regional Office: Latin America (Cont'd)

Dr. Poisant mentioned that WITSA had seven (7) regions. For WITSA to consider funding one regional office, WITSA has to fund all seven regional offices. This was not viable given WITSA limited financial resources. Dr. Poisant further mentioned that the Regional office in Latin America could not be sustained from regional membership dues. He then presented five (5) options for the BOD consideration:

**Info Only**

- i. No funding from WITSA
- ii. Full funding from WITSA
- iii. Partial, limited funding from WITSA
- iv. Funding based on percentage of dues
- v. Flat fee funding

A detailed explanation was deliberated on option three (3). Chairman Khoo thanked Dr. Poisant and asked for input and feedback from the members.

**Info Only**

Drs. Taselaar asked Dr. Poisant what where the benefits for WITSA to have regional offices. Dr. Poisant said that WITSA would benefit by having more communication channels among the regional members. WITSA could be more responsive to regional members needs by being within the region. Regional offices can better promote WITSA activities being closer to members, i.e. languages, cultures, etc.

**Info Only**

Mr. Zakka opted for option four (4); the percentage of dues. This was supported by Mr. Siganga who stated that it is a good idea to help the members by keeping their offices running.

**Info Only**

Mr. Bond suggested that an allocation on a percentage of successful events be used to fund the regional offices.

**Info Only**

Dr. Olufuye suggested that a brainstorming session to take place and acknowledged that it would be good to have a WITSA regional office closer to home. However, he also agreed that more programs should be added to obtain funding from regional members.

**Info Only**

Mr. Taha raised the question of what happen if a member failed to pay their dues and the regional office would then not be sustainable without WITSA funding. Hence, the regional office is required to initiate more programs to sustain the office.

**Info Only**



## ITEMS

## ACTION BY

### 10. Regional Office: Latin America (Cont'd)

Mr. Courtois commented that a regional office would be useful but had to bear in mind that there were a total of seven (7) regions and not one (1). Hence, it was advisable for each association to continue operating and not depend on a WITSA regional office. Mr. Courtois also stated that he is in favour of option four (4) but that would not be sufficient to cover the expenses. A business plan needs to be in place to execute the proposed regional office. Someone needs to come up with a plan and propose a good package.

**Info Only**

Mr. Higgins stated that WITSA should use its financial resources on current programs instead of using it for other matters, including the establishment of regional offices.

**Info Only**

Mr. Looi proposed another option for an association to sponsor the regional office, possibly on a contractual basis. Chairman Khoo added that this could be done by associations with sufficient capital to support the initiative.

**Info Only**

Chairman Khoo opened the floor for any associations to establish a regional office. He also stressed that WITSA had limited funds and hence would be using it for its core activities. Associations that were keen to have an office in Latin America, needed to come up with a business plan that could demonstrate their ability to raise sufficient resources in hosting the regional office.

**Regional Offices**

Chairman Khoo thanked Dr. Cassino for making the proposal and informed him that WITSA was not in a position to sponsor a regional office in Latin America. He asked feedback from MexicoIT on the proposal from ALETI. AMITI then volunteered to fund the regional office for Latin America.

**AMITI/CANIETI**

Chairman Khoo applauded the generous offer from Mexico. Chairman Khoo requested for AMITI to determine the office location and to work with Dr. Poisant in setting up the regional office. (Matter Arising)

**Info Only**

He also asked if any other members were keen to volunteer in funding any of the regional offices. Dr. Olufuye of ITAN Nigeria, Mr. Zakka of PCA Lebanon and Mr. Looi of PIKOM, Malaysia said that they would fund their respective regional offices.

**Info Only**

Mr. Looi committed to provide one (1) staff to serve in the Asian regional office in Malaysia for another two (2) years, from 2010 to 2012.

**Info Only**



## ITEMS

## ACTION BY

### 10. Regional Office: Latin America (Cont'd)

Chairman Khoo thanked everyone and announced the three (3) new WITSA regional offices and one (1) continuation:

**Info Only**

1. Asia, Malaysia (continuation)
2. Latin America (Mexico/Argentina to be determined)
3. Middle East, Beirut
4. Africa, Nigeria.

### 11. GPPS 2011 Presentation/Voting

Chairman Khoo welcomed representatives from the Mexican Information Technology Industry Association (AMITI) and the Mexican Chamber for the Electronics Telecommunications and Information Technology Industries (CANIETI) to make a joint presentation on hosting the GPPS 2011.

**Info Only**

The team presented an overview of the venue, resources and their commitment to host the GPPS 2011. The presentation concluded with a video.

**Info Only**

Chairman Khoo opened the floor for questions.

**Info Only**

Chairman Khoo began by requesting the host to ensure that the hotel rates were affordable.

**Info Only**

Mr. Higgins asked the Mexican delegation to address the question of how Mexico can help in the growth of ICT, as well as the Global Public Policy agenda. In addition, Mr. Higgins raised the following:

**Info Only**

- a. How many IT clusters were there in Mexico? Is Guadalajara the appropriate place to host the GPPS 2011?
- b. Suggested not to just invite policy makers, but also academia, financial institutions, as well as future policy makers, i.e. young people, in order to start creating a new generation of policy makers.
- c. Include examples on how government and academia have worked closely to develop good policy frameworks.

Drs. Taselaar requested to include the G20 discussion as one of the GPPS agenda items.

**Info Only**

Mr. Olive suggested using the GPPS as an assessment on ICT, best practices and other case studies from the Latin America on how public policy has worked in that region. He suggested that the Mexican team could link up with the G20 and leverage its relationships with other international organizations.

**Info Only**



## ITEMS

## ACTION BY

### 11. GPPS 2011 Presentation/Voting (Cont'd)

Chairman Khoo highlighted that this was a unique competitive situation since there was only one (1) bidder.

**Info Only**

Dr. Cassino reminded the group that this was Mexico and not Latin America.

**Info Only**

Dr. Poisant thanked the Mexican team for their support and gave his comments on the Mexican proposal. He began by congratulating the group on having an excellent proposal. The proposed program and theme for the summit were well thought out. However, the weak points were in marketing, staffing and delegates fees. In summary, an excellent proposal.

**Info Only**

While the delegation from Mexico remained in the room, Chairman Khoo asked for a motion to approve Mexico as the GPPS 2011 host. The motion was proposed by Mr. Courtois and seconded by Dr. Cassino. Members unanimously agreed to award the GPPS 2010 to Mexico. A representative of the Mexican team thanked WITSA for supporting the bid.

**Info Only**

Chairman Khoo congratulated the Mexican delegation and announced that GPPS 2011 would be held at Guadalajara, Mexico.

**Info Only**

### 12. World Congress on Information Technology (WCIT) 2010 Update

Drs. Taselaar provided a progress report on WCIT 2010. He stated that there were less than eight (8) months before the congress. He reported that WCIT 2010 is a "pull" event rather than a "push" event.

**Info Only**

WCIT 2010 received official commitment from the Spanish EU Presidency and European Commission to present the post i2010 agenda at the WCIT 2010. Following this announcement, the ICT Office planned to host the first G20i meeting in Amsterdam.

**Info Only**

Drs. Taselaar announced that WCIT 2010 would not be a trade show; rather it would focus on IT users and what IT can do for them.

**Info Only**

Drs. Taselaar reported that there were nine (9) tracks. The finance track has been cancelled due to insufficient support and alignment with the EU agenda.

**Info Only**

**ITEMS**

**ACTION BY**

**12. World Congress on Information Technology (WCIT) 2010 Update (Cont'd)**

Drs. Taselaar raised the subject of delegate dues. The main concern expressed at the May 2009 Board meeting was the fee of EUR5, 000.00 per delegate was too high. He explained that WCIT 2010 is a high level event and the partners that they were working with are interested in charging a higher fee.

**Info Only**

He proposed a few special tickets prices as follows:

Ticket price (rack rate): EUR5,000			
	WITSA discount	Possible Grant	Net Ticket Price incl. grant
Very high human development (38 countries/HDI-UN)	25%	NA	EUR3,750
High human development (44 countries/HDI-UN)	30%	EUR1,500	EUR2,000
Medium human development (74 countries/HDI-UN)	40%	EUR2,000	EUR1,000
Low human development (30 countries/HDI-UN)	50%	EUR2,500	NA

Drs. Taselaar also reported that WCIT 2010 is offering a premium country partnership, with a readymade standard booth. He also announced that the first draft program book was ready for those interested.

**Info Only**

Mr. Lemay mentioned that there were discussions with Drs. Taselaar regarding the price of tickets being too high. He stressed that the EUR3, 750 is still too high. Drs. Taselaar announced that he was open for discussion for a special price for those who planned to purchase more than 10 tickets. He was also open to discuss other proposals for fee reductions. He told the GA that there would be a special fee for large delegations.

**Info Only**

Mr. Looi stated that they had a discussion with Mr. Ralph Van Hessen during his recent visit to Malaysia and they had discussed hotel rates. Drs. Taselaar mentioned that the hotels in Amsterdam ranged from 3 to 5 stars with prices from EUR120 to EUR250.

**Info Only**



## ITEMS

## ACTION BY

### 12. World Congress on Information Technology (WCIT) 2010 Update (Cont'd)

Mr. Jaggernaut asked Mr. Taselaar the rationale for not having a trade show. Drs. Taselaar said that in the last event in the Netherlands, it was not successful. He also stressed that a lot of work were required to organize a trade show. Although it was successful in Malaysia, it was not the same in the Netherlands. However Drs. Taselaar stated that this should not be a reason for delegates not to come.

**Info Only**

Mr. Kyle asked whether Drs. Taselaar considered getting grants for the hotels. Drs. Taselaar insisted that the hotel rates were reasonable.

**Info Only**

Mr. Taha stated it was more feasible for associations to go for a country package. Drs. Taselaar confirmed that similar country sponsorship package would be offered in the Netherlands as in WCIT 2008 in Malaysia.

**Info Only**

Chairman Khoo requested the members to understand and consider the value proposition on top of the delegate fees.

**Info Only**

Dr. Cassino reiterated that WITSA was an international organization; hence it would need more member participation. Drs. Taselaar admitted that he was aware the delegate fee was high for many countries but had to honor their agreement with the sponsors in ensuring that the congress would be a world class event.

**Info Only**

Ms. Bidart asked Drs. Taselaar which organizations he was planning to approach for grants. She stated that realistically, it would be difficult for the Latin America members to pay for such a high delegate fee. Drs. Taselaar told her that he was not focusing on the price.

**Info Only**

Chairman Khoo requested that the discussion be taken offline. He also mentioned that based on the Malaysian experience, it was not easy to obtain grants and stressed again that the members' concern over the pricing and hoped that 2010 would reconsider. (Matter Arising)

**ICT~Office**

Chairman Khoo stated that WCIT 2010 should state the price for each country instead of by category.

**Info Only**



## ITEMS

## ACTION BY

### 13. Event Progress Review (EPR) Report

Drs. Taselaar reported that many of the items in the EPR are similar to their own project management tool. Although there were important items highlighted in the EPR, he felt that the EPR would not benefit those who were already working on the WCIT 2010.

**Info Only**

### 14. World Congress on Information Technology (WCIT) 2012 Update

Mr. Lemay presented a brief report on WCIT 2012. He informed the GA that the Western Canadian provinces would participate in the WCIT 2010 in Amsterdam and WCIT 2012. He stated that sponsorship negotiations with the Canadian federal agencies were on going.

**Info Only**

He also mentioned that he visited the Asia Pacific region to promote WCIT 2012.

**Info Only**

He said that the WCIT 2012 website would be available in English, French, Korean, Japanese and Chinese soon.

**Info Only**

Chairman Khoo inquired about the WCIT 2012 delegate price. Mr. Lemay informed the GA that the price would be closer to the ones charged in WCIT 2008. WCIT 2012 was aiming for more sponsors and more delegate participation.

**Info Only**

### 15. UN GAID / WITSA Status Report

While waiting for the UN GAID presenter, Mr. Sarbuland Khan (SK) to call in, Dr. Poisant updated the members on the status of WITSA – UN GAID.

**Info Only**

Dr. Poisant mentioned that a Memorandum of Understanding between WITSA and UN GAID was pending. He mentioned that he was selected to serve on the UN GAID Strategy Council, representing international organizations, which included the EU.

**Info Only**

Dr. Poisant reported that GAID is specifically focused on ICT in developing countries to assist them in emerging from poverty since ICT is a key factor in driving economic growth. He mentioned that based on a speech that he had given to the UN in Monterrey, Mexico in September 2009, there was an effort underway to collect and leverage best ICT practices for governments to avoid making uneducated ICT decisions.

**Info Only**



## ITEMS

## ACTION BY

### 15. UN GAID / WITSA Status Report (Cont'd)

Mr. Khan came online and presented the background of GAID and thanked Dr. Poisant and WITSA for their support given thus far.

**Info Only**

Mr. Khan invited all members to take note of the next GAID event, which would take place on September 22-24, 2010 in New York.

**Info Only**

Chairman Khoo commented that WITSA's interest and image needed to be protected when WITSA was involved with International organizations such as the UN. He also stated that we needed to ensure that WITSA would not be held responsible for the results of individuals and organizations using the GAID Portal.

**Info Only**

Dr. Poisant responded that WITSA would not be held responsible or liable for the results of the Portal tool. WITSA was cooperating with a number of other organizations and individuals as part of its membership on the GAID Strategy Council.

**Info Only**

Dr. Olufuye mentioned that there was a large amount of waste in government. The GAID offering will be a good tool to give guidelines and directions to government decision makers.

**Info Only**

Mr. Bond thanked Dr. Poisant for engaging in GAID and commended him for promoting it to the members.

**Info Only**

### 16. WITSA's G20 ICT Network Report

Mr. Bond reported that the G20 ICT Network is a new WITSA initiative and that many of the members of the initiative were WITSA BOD members. He informed the GA that there would be no cost or resources necessary from WITSA to support the initiative; however WITSA would work closely with the G20 ICT Network to insure that all messages and positions were consistent with WITSA.

**Info Only**

Chairman Khoo shared his thoughts on how the new initiative would benefit the developing countries, i.e. the "non-Gs". He felt that if the same model could be replicated, it would be useful for the developing countries.

**Info Only**



**ITEMS**

**ACTION BY**

**17. Business Plans Goals Update**

Dr. Poisant updated that the GA on WITSA's Business Plan. He requested that the plan be amended to eliminate the Corporate Advisory program and instead use the G20 ICT Network.

**Info Only**

He also pointed out that the ICT spending is not applicable to WITSA in the context of the plan. Chairman Khoo explained that the ICT spending was the responsibility of the WITSA event hosts. They needed to provide the value of deals signed at events.

**Info Only**

Dr. Poisant provided an update on WITSA progress in signing agreements with international organizations.

**Info Only**

Chairman Khoo requested to incorporate the global recognition goal as one of the Secretary General's KPI. Chairman Khoo also expressed his concern with the Public Policy function and its KPI.

**Info Only**

**18. WITSA Hall of Fame & WITSA Member Associations Awards Program (Cont'd)**

Mr. Bond briefed the GA on the existing WITSA's Global ICT Excellence awards program. He mentioned that there was a new initiative to grant WITSA awards at a national level. He stated that this program is optional for national association members. However these awards provided an opportunity to obtain sponsorships and to use WITSA's brand on a national basis. He informed the audience that there would be a standardized award plaque for this initiative. (Matter Arising)

**Info Only**

Mr. Zakka suggested having the national award winners be published on the WITSA website. Dr. Poisant agreed.

**Info Only**

Chairman Khoo asked the members by show of hands to indicate their interest in implementing the proposed initiative. There was no show of hands at the point of the meeting. However, the members agreed it was a good initiative to have the awards at the national level.

**Info Only**



**ITEMS**

**ACTION BY**

**18. WITSA Hall of Fame & WITSA Member Associations Awards Program (Cont'd)**

**Hall of Fame**

Mr. Bond briefed the GA on another new initiative called the WITSA Hall of Fame. He noted that there needed to have concrete criteria to recognize ICT industry giants. (Matter Arising).

**Info Only**

He mentioned that the Task Force members supported the initiative to have the Hall of Fame. However, it was unlikely to recognize individuals in the developing countries. As such, Mr. Bond proposed to add "*Star of Tomorrow*" awards for the developing countries, whereby individuals could be nominated as having outstanding potential to affect the industry with the next 20 years. It was proposed that the Hall of Fame be introduced in May 2010. (Matter Arising)

**Secretariat**

The Secretariat was requested to work with Drs. Taselaar' team to see if this program could help attract delegates to the congress. (Matter Arising)

**Secretariat**

Chairman Khoo requested for the Task Force to finalize the Hall of Fame by the next BOD meeting. (Matter Arising)

**Task Force members**

**19. Board of Directors' Nominations**

Chairman Khoo called for the BOD to propose that Dr. Olufuye become a member of the BOD. Mr. Siganga made the motion and the GA voted unanimously in favor of his appointment.

**Info Only**

Chairman Khoo then reminded the meeting that the new WITSA Bylaws, when they come into effect in mid-November 2009, would mean the position of President is abolished and replaced with the Deputy Chairman position. This would mean Mr. Phil Bond would no longer be a member of the board. He called for a motion for Mr. Bond to be appointed a member of the Board in anticipation of the change. Mr. Latchman made the motion and the GA voted unanimously in favor of his appointment.

**Info Only**



## ITEMS

## ACTION BY

### 20. Meeting Calendar

Dr. Poisant informed the Board that the next Board of Directors meeting (conference call) would be end February or early March 2010. **Info Only**

Dr. Poisant also reminded the BOD that the spring 2010 WITSA General Assembly would be held on May 23-24, 2010 in Amsterdam, the Netherlands in conjunction with WCIT 2010. **Info Only**

Mr. Latchman was then called to present South Africa's proposal to host the 2010 fall WITSA Board meeting. **Info Only**

Mr. Siganga remarked that the African countries should take this opportunity to select the location. **Info Only**

Mr. Latchman also proposed to have a WITSA Trade Mission and Mr. Looi seconded the proposal. **Info Only**

Since South Africa proposed two (2) venue sites, Dr. Poisant inquired which one would be better in Mr. Latchman's opinion. Mr. Latchman said that the city venue of Johannesburg was his recommendation; while stating that the beauty of South Africa is just half an hour away, hence, a trip could also be planned for the board to travel there. Dr. Cassino and Mr. Zakka wanted to know the full itinerary. **Info Only**

Mr. Siganga proposed South Africa as the meeting site. All present were in favour. **Info Only**

### 21. WITSA New Logo

The new logo video was shown to the GA and was well received by all members. There were several requests for the video by GA members. **Info Only**

Mr. Kyle made the final announcement regarding the welcome cocktail and gala dinner, later that evening and the following day. **Info Only**



The meeting adjourned at 4.15pm UTC/GMT -5hrs with a note of thanks from Chairman Khoo.

**SIGNED BY CHAIRMAN AS CORRECT RECORD  
OF WITSA BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Dan E Khoo', written on a light-colored background.

.....  
**Dato' Dan E Khoo, Chairman, 2008/2010**

*Recorded by Ms. Fazilla Doreen Mohd Kamal*