



WITSA Board of Directors and General Assembly Meetings

09:00 – 17:40

Thursday, October 4, 2018

Venue: Armenia Marriott Hotel Yerevan

Room: Ararat Ballroom 2nd floor

Yvonne Chiu, Chairman



Minutes WITSA Board of Directors Meeting

09:00-12:00

Thursday, October 4, 2018
 Armenia Marriott Hotel Yerevan
 Room: Ararat Ballroom 2nd floor

FINAL BOD MEETING FOR 2016-2018 TERM

Chairman, Yvonne Chiu

Present:

	Country	Name	Organization
1.	Armenia	Mr. Aleksandr Yesayan	UATE
2.	Belarus	Dr. Boris Komrakov	InfoPark
3.	Egypt	Eng. Tarek A Monem Taha	EITESAL NO
4.	Greece	Mr. Yannis Sirros	SEPE
5.	Mexico	Mr. Santiago Gutierrez	CANIETI
6.	Romania	Dr. Vasile Baltac	ATIC
7.	Spain	Mr. Antonio Cimorra	AMETIC
8.	Taiwan	Mr. Yvonne Chiu	CISA

In Attendance:

	Country	Name	Organization
1.	Malaysia	Mr. Ganesh Kumar Bangah	PIKOM
2.	Malaysia	Mr. Low Ngai Yuen	PIKOM
3.	Malaysia	Mr. Chin Chee Seong	PIKOM
4.	Malaysia	Mr. Seah Kok Wah (Sean)	PIKOM
5.	Malaysia	Mr. Razaleigh Zainal	MDEC
6.	Taiwan	Mr. Suzzan Tsai	CISA
7.	Taiwan	Dr. Colley Hwang	DigiTimes

8.	Ukraine	Mr. Constantine Vasuk	Association "IT Ukraine"
9.	Ukraine	Ms. Iryna Grygoryeva	Association "IT Ukraine"
10.	United States	Dr. Jim Poisant	WITSA
11.	United States	Mr. Anders Halvorsen	WITSA
12.	United States	Ms. Cathryn Rose	WITSA

Apologies:

1.	Afghanistan	Omar Ansari	NICTAA
2.	Argentina	Anibal Carmona	CESSI
3.	Australia	Kee Wong	AIIA
4.	Bangladesh	Md. Sabur Khan	BCS
5.	Bermuda	John Kyle	Bermuda Chamber of Commerce
6.	Brazil	Raul Colcher	ASSESPRO
7.	Hong Kong	Ms. Irene Leung	HKITF
8.	India	Ms. Debjani Ghosh	NASSCOM
9.	Japan	Kazunori Hamano	JISA
10.	Kenya	Waudu Siganga	CSK
11.	Malaysia	David Wong	PIKOM
12.	Nepal	ER. Binod Dhakal	CAN Federation
13.	New Zealand	Mr. Graeme Muller	NZTech
24.	Nigeria	Mr. Olutayo Adeniyi	ITAN
15.	Republic of Korea	Mr. Woo-Keon Park	FKII
16.	UK	Julian David	techUK

INTRODUCTION	
1.	Chairman's Remarks/Introductions Ms. Yvonne Chiu called the meeting to order. She welcomed and thanked everyone for the support of the current BOD for the past two years.
2.	Roll Call Anders Halvorsen conducted the roll call.
3.	Call to Order / Approval of Minutes The minutes from the February 18, 2018 meeting in Hyderabad, India were approved unanimously.
4.	Treasurers Report

	<p>Dr. Jim Poisant noted that 2018 marked WITSA’s high-water financial in its 40-year history. It was expected that WITSA would end the 2018 year with 1.1 million with no financial liabilities. He mentioned that there was no cost for the WITSA office for rent since 2006.</p> <p>Mr. Taha informed that WITSA was projected to end the year within budget. Mr. Taha presented WITSA’s summary of financial positions, including its assets, liabilities and equities.</p> <p>Dr. Poisant informed the meeting that WCIT 2019 (Armenia) had signed a contract with WITSA and was on schedule to pay the full \$750,000 licensing fee. WCIT 2020 (Malaysia) had also signed a contract and was on schedule to pay the \$750,000 licensing fee as well. WCIT 2021 (Bangladesh) also had signed a contract with WITSA and was on schedule to pay the full \$750,000 licensing fee in accordance with the agreement.</p>
5.	<p>Update: Mr. Nizar Zakka</p> <p>Dr. Poisant provided an update of the status of Mr. Nizar Zakka, who had been held in prison in Tehran since 2015. A positive development was that Mr. Zakka had been allowed to meet with Lebanese Prime Minister Hariri in Tehran. Also noteworthy was that a senior Iranian government official acknowledged for the first time that Nizar’s imprisonment was unjust. On September 20th, WITSA renewed effort by releasing press release and letter to US Secretary of State, Mike Pompeo.</p> <p>WITSA members were urged to discuss Mr. Zakka’s imprisonment with their respective governments, encouraging them to put maximum pressure on Iranian authorities to ensure Nizar’s release (<u>ACTION</u>).</p>
6.	<p>Association Corner (deferred to afternoon meeting)</p>

7.	<p>New Revenue Generating Source: WITSA’s Business Certification Program (WBCP)</p> <p>Dr. Poisant informed the Board that a presentation of the program would be made in the afternoon new Board of Directors meeting. If successful, the WBCP would be an important revenue generator for WITSA.</p>
8.	<p>Standing Committee Update /Executive Committee Updates</p> <p>1) Education Committee</p> <p>Dr. Boris Komrakov presented the Web Development program, as organized under his supervision by Institute of Applied Mathematics and Information (IamIT) in Aarschot, Belgium. The program, which consists of 7 courses, 7 tests, 6 exams (a total of 120 hours) and two levels of study projects (240 hours), is completed in under 9 months and is available to pre-college aged students. By completing the Web Development program, youth would be well positioned to obtain employment without the need for a college degree. Students that successfully complete the program and pass a “diploma” project, are guaranteed job offers.</p> <p>The program includes the following specializations: web developer (HTML, CSS, PHP, SQL, JavaScript, JQuery, and React JS), information security analyst, and data scientist.</p> <p>Dr. Komrakov made two proposals to the Board:</p> <p>2) To establish a WITSA European Regional Office for Education, Training and Human Resources in Belarus with resources provided by Infopark.</p> <p>3) WITSA’s support and endorsement of an “International Informatics Tournament of the Towns”, to be held in Summer 2019 in Minsk.</p> <p>The WITSA Board of Directors unanimously approved both proposals. Ms. Chiu congratulated Dr. Komrakov on the opening of the second WITSA regional office.</p> <p>4) Finance Committee</p> <p>This was covered in the Treasurer’s Report.</p>

	<p>5) Global Policy Action Committee</p> <p>Mr. Anders Halvorsen provided an overview of WITSA’s public policy activities in 2018, which included the release of three major papers: Information Security and Privacy (Feb.), Globalization (Sept. 30th) and Inclusion (Oct. 2nd).</p> <p>In April, WITSA also contributed an article for ITU News on SME’s (“Fostering Digital Transformation to support Small and Medium sized Enterprises”).</p> <p>As had been discussed at the previous meeting in Hyderabad, the role of members in communicating and using the WITSA papers was critical to the success and impact of WITSA on policy matters. To that effect, an annual survey of WITSA’s policy outreach and impact would be circulated to members soon. Members were encouraged to utilize WITSA’s policy work and to inform the Secretariat of opportunities for involvement.</p> <p>Mr. Halvorsen also mentioned that three significant MoU’s had been signed this year and would be described in detail in the afternoon.</p> <p>WITSA’s involvement in ICANN had been improved, including Halvorsen’s participation in the Spring 2018 ICANN meeting in Puerto Rico. Membership in ICANN’s Business Community was anticipated.</p> <p>Membership in Digital Trade Network (DTN) Advisory Group, whose aim is to encourage the World Trade Organization to make an agreement on digital trade, making permanent the 1998 moratorium on electronic transmissions.</p> <p>Additional policy work 2018 would likely include papers on the UN sustainable goals, connecting the next billion, and net neutrality (<i>ACTION</i>).</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p>Status of Taiwan Regional WITSA Office</p> <p>Ms. Suzzan Tsai informed the Board of the services that the new WITSA regional office in Taiwan was providing. The Office, which is located in Neihu Science Park in Taipei, was tasked with global trade promotion in South East Asia. It was well equipped to do so due to its partnerships with the following influential groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TAITRA/Taiwan External Trade Development Council • SMEA/Small and Medium Enterprise Administration, Ministry of Economic Affairs. • III/Institution for Information Industry

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ITRI/Industrial Technology Research Institute <p>The Taiwan Office would also help expand WITSA membership in WITSA, such as the recent addition of Bhutan.</p> <p>Moreover, the Taiwan Office would seek to establish a strategic alliance with DIGITIMES Research, one of the largest technology and industry research institution in the Greater China region, and to provide market insights and intelligence for business development & marketing plans.</p>
<p>10.</p>	<p>WITSA’s Global Outreach</p> <p>Dr. Poisant explained that fulfilling the promise of the digital age must include all people including the disabilities community. A series of memorandums of understanding (MoUs) had been agreed with the following organizations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Source America (Employment of people with Disabilities, USA) • US, International Council on Disabilities (International) UN Agency • Inclusite Corp- WITSA Award winner/WITSA’s Web site now accessible for people w Disabilities • UN International Telecommunications Union (ITU) <p>As regards the ITU, WITSA had encouraged members to engage in ITU’s SME-related programs and activities (SMEs could participate at no cost in a pilot project for study group participation plus ITU TELECOM, which had some specific activities for SMEs), and contributed an article for ITU News entitled “<i>How to foster digital transformation to support small and medium sized enterprises</i>” (April 12, 2018; https://news.itu.int/fostering-digital-transformation-to-support-small-and-medium-sized-enterprises/).</p> <p>Through the MoU, WITSA and the ITU cooperated on each other’s events i.e. speakers/awards: ITU TELECOM World/ WSIS Forum/WITSA’s World Congress on IT. Dr. Poisant participated in a Ministerial panel session in Durban South Africa (September 12, 2018). It was the first time WITSA participated at this high level.</p>
<p>11.</p>	<p>WCIT Update</p> <p><i>WCIT 2019 (Armenia)</i></p> <p>Mr. Yesayan provided an overview of the planning for the 2019 World Congress, which will be held in Yerevan on October 6-9, 2019 at the K. Demirchyan Sports and Concert Complex. Mr. Yesayan stated that the event, in keeping with WCIT</p>

tradition, will be a unique, high level event offering networking opportunities as well as being a one-stop event for receiving comprehensive insights into the evolving Digital Age. It will also be a great opportunity to explore Armenia's culture and foster partnerships.

WCIT 2019 will offer unique and tailored opportunities to highlight global startups and one-of-a-kind experiences for partners and sponsors. WCIT 2019 will also aim to achieve the highest representation of women in the history of the WCIT.

WCIT 2020 (Malaysia)

Mr. Sean Seah provided an overview of the organization of "WCIT 2020 Malaysia: Gateway to Southeast Asia", which will take place on September 13-16, 2020 in KLCC. Mr. Seah stated that as the advent of the digital economy had unleashed a limitless flow of borderless and continuous possibilities, the words "IN ACTION" would be used continuously throughout the conference, denoting tracks of content that connects cross vertical technology platforms to the three main program focuses: Rising consumer expectations, shifting organizational structures, and global collaboration models. Vertical sectors covered would include: Fintech, ecommerce and payments; social innovation; energy tech; life sciences; deep tech; blockchain; government tech; big data and artificial intelligence.

Mr. Seah stated that WITSA's support would be very important for the success of the event, especially in the following areas:

1. By creating a WCIT platform that rethinks conference participation and offers a database for continued use every year from one WCIT host to another
2. International sponsorship for third world countries to boost participation and access
3. Collaboration with organizers of similar vision e.g. CES, Taitra (Taiwan Intl Trade Show) and China High-tech Fair
4. Providing a link to incentivize members for exhibition and expert tracks

WCIT 2021 (Bangladesh)

The Bangladeshi delegation was unable to attend due to last-minute visa problems.

WCIT 2022

Dr. Poisant informed the Board that the Information Technology Association of South Africa (ITA) had recently expressed an interest in hosting WCIT 2022. ITA President Sunil Geness was in the process of exploring government funding support and hoped to be in a position to make a hosting bid by the Spring 2019

	WITSA Board meeting in Minsk (<i>ACTION</i>).
12.	Yvonne Chiu -2016-2018 Appreciation Remarks Ms. Chiu concluded the meeting by thanking members for their support over the past two years. Chairing WITSA had been a great privilege and full of wonderful memories and experiences. During her tenure, Ms. Chiu had been fortunate to be able to travel extensively to members around the world, enabling her to form strong bonds with like-minded colleagues.
MEETING CONCLUSION, CALENDAR & ADJOURNMENT	
13.	Overview of WITSA BOD Meeting schedule The Board settled on Friday, March 29 and Saturday, March 30, 2019 as the next meeting, which will take place in Minsk, Belarus.



Minutes WITSA General Assembly Meeting

13:30 – 14:25

Thursday, October 4, 2018
 Armenia Marriott Hotel Yerevan
 Room: Ararat Ballroom 2nd floor

Yvonne Chiu, Chairman

Present:

	Country	Name	Organization
1.	Armenia	Mr. Aleksandr Yesayan	UATE
2.	Belarus	Dr. Boris Komrakov	InfoPark
4.	Egypt	Eng. Tarek A Monem Taha	EITESAL NO
5.	Greece	Mr. Yannis Sirros	SEPE
6.	Malaysia	Mr. Ganesh Kumar Bangah	PIKOM
7.	Malaysia	Ms. Low Ngai Yuen	PIKOM
8.	Malaysia	Mr. Razaleigh Zainal	MDEC
9.	Malaysia	Mr. Chin Chee Seong	PIKOM
10.	Malaysia	Mr. Seah Kok Wah (Sean)	PIKOM
11.	Mexico	Mr. Santiago Gutierrez	CANIETI
12.	Romania	Dr. Vasile Baltac	ATIC
13.	Spain	Mr. Antonio Cimorra	AMETIC
14.	Ukraine	Mr. Constantine Vasuk	Association "IT Ukraine"
15.	Ukraine	Ms. Iryna Grygoryeva	Association "IT Ukraine"
16.	Taiwan	Ms. Yvonne Chiu	CISA
17.	Taiwan	Ms. Suzzan Tsai	CISA
18.	Taiwan	Dr. Colley Hwang	DigiTimes
19.	United States	Dr. Jim Poisant	WITSA

20.	United States	Mr. Anders Halvorsen	WITSA
21.	United States	Mr. Cathryn Rose	WITSA
Proxy	Brazil	Dr. Raul Colcher	ASSESPRO
Proxy	Hong Kong	Ms. Irene Leung	HKITF
Proxy	Romania	Dr. Vasile Baltac	ATIC

I.	<p>Roll Call; Presentation of Proxies, Bylaws 8.1.3; Record Remote Participants Mr. Anders Halvorsen conducted the roll call including those participating remotely. Dr. Jim Poisant reviewed the proxies in accordance with WITSA Bylaws 8.1.3.</p>																																																															
II.	<p>Election of WITSA Chairperson and Directors Dr. Poisant provided an overview of the General Assembly voting rules, which included either being physically present, present by remote participation (conference call), or by being represented through proxy.</p> <p>a) WITSA Board of Directors Announcement by Nominating Committee On behalf of the Nominating Committee, in Mr. Gutierrez absence, Mr. Taha presented the slate for Director nominees.</p> <p>Members unanimously approved the slate of nominees as presented by a show of hands:</p> <table> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Mr. Sean Seah</td> <td>PIKOM, Malaysia</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>Mr. Yannis Sirros</td> <td>SEPE, Greece</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>Mr. Francis Fong</td> <td>HKITF, Hong Kong</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>Ms. Yvonne Chiu</td> <td>CISA, Taiwan</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>Mr. John Kyle</td> <td>BTD, Bermuda</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6</td> <td>Dr. Boris Komrakov</td> <td>InfoPark, Belarus</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td>Dr. Raul Colcher</td> <td>ASSESPRO, Brazil</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8.</td> <td>Mr. Antonio Ciorra</td> <td>AMETIC, Spain</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9.</td> <td>Ms. Martha Dorris</td> <td>PSC, USA</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10</td> <td>Mr. Kazunori Hamano</td> <td>JISA, Japan</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11</td> <td>Mr. Woo Keon Park</td> <td>FKII, Korea</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12</td> <td>Mr. Anibal H. Carmona</td> <td>CESSI, Argentina</td> </tr> <tr> <td>13</td> <td>Mr. Olutayo Adeniyi</td> <td>ITAN, Nigeria</td> </tr> <tr> <td>14</td> <td>Eng. Tarek Abd-elmonem Taha</td> <td>EITESAL, Egypt</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15.</td> <td>Mr. Abdullah Kafi</td> <td>BCS, Bangladesh</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16.</td> <td>Mr. Santiago Gutierrez</td> <td>CANIETI, Mexico</td> </tr> <tr> <td>17.</td> <td>Mr. Shivendra Singh</td> <td>NASSCOM, India</td> </tr> <tr> <td>18.</td> <td>Mr. Hemant Kumar Chaurasia</td> <td>CAN, Nepal</td> </tr> <tr> <td>19.</td> <td>Mr. Julian David</td> <td>techUK, UK</td> </tr> <tr> <td>20.</td> <td>Dr. Vasile Baltac</td> <td>ATIC, Romania</td> </tr> <tr> <td>21.</td> <td>Mr. Aleksandr Yesayan</td> <td>UATE, Armenia</td> </tr> </table>	1	Mr. Sean Seah	PIKOM, Malaysia	2	Mr. Yannis Sirros	SEPE, Greece	3	Mr. Francis Fong	HKITF, Hong Kong	4	Ms. Yvonne Chiu	CISA, Taiwan	5	Mr. John Kyle	BTD, Bermuda	6	Dr. Boris Komrakov	InfoPark, Belarus	7	Dr. Raul Colcher	ASSESPRO, Brazil	8.	Mr. Antonio Ciorra	AMETIC, Spain	9.	Ms. Martha Dorris	PSC, USA	10	Mr. Kazunori Hamano	JISA, Japan	11	Mr. Woo Keon Park	FKII, Korea	12	Mr. Anibal H. Carmona	CESSI, Argentina	13	Mr. Olutayo Adeniyi	ITAN, Nigeria	14	Eng. Tarek Abd-elmonem Taha	EITESAL, Egypt	15.	Mr. Abdullah Kafi	BCS, Bangladesh	16.	Mr. Santiago Gutierrez	CANIETI, Mexico	17.	Mr. Shivendra Singh	NASSCOM, India	18.	Mr. Hemant Kumar Chaurasia	CAN, Nepal	19.	Mr. Julian David	techUK, UK	20.	Dr. Vasile Baltac	ATIC, Romania	21.	Mr. Aleksandr Yesayan	UATE, Armenia
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b) WITSA Chairperson

Next, Mr. Taha informed the Board that only one nominee had been received for WITSA Chairman: Ms. Yvonne Chiu.

Ms. Chiu was unanimously re-elected as WITSA Chairman for the 2018-2020 term.



Minutes WITSA Board of Directors Meeting

14:45 – 17:40

Saturday, October 4, 2018
 Armenia Marriott Hotel Yerevan
 Room: Ararat Ballroom 2nd floor

Yvonne Chiu, Chairman

Present:

	Country	Name	Organization
1.	Armenia	Mr. Aleksandr Yesayan	UATE
2.	Belarus	Dr. Boris Komrakov	InfoPark
3.	Taiwan	Yvonne Chiu	CISA
4.	Egypt	Eng. Tarek A Monem Taha	EITESAL NO
5.	Greece	Yannis Sirros	SEPE
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Apologies:

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11.	UK	Mr. Julian David	techUK
12.	USA	Ms. Martha Dorris	PSC

DECISION BLOCK

I.	<p>Welcome remarks by new Chairperson</p> <p>Ms. Yvonne Chiu was welcomed as the new 2018-2020 WITSA Chairman. Ms. Chui welcomed the opportunity and thanked everyone for their support.</p>
II.	<p>Roll Call</p> <p>Mr. Anders Halvorsen conducted the roll call for the new BOD meeting.</p>

<p>III.</p>	<p>Election of WITSA Deputy Chairperson & Treasurer</p> <p>1. Deputy Chairperson</p> <p>Dr. Raul Colcher (ASSESPRO) and Mr. Yannis Sirros (SEPE) were nominated for WITSA Chairperson. Mr. Sirros gave a 5-minute presentation vying for the position of WITSA’s Deputy Chairperson. In his presentation, Mr. Sirros announced his intention to (1) strengthen the Digital Economy and the wide adoption of ICT by further enhancing skills and capabilities in all aspects of ICT; (2) foster partnerships between companies that embrace ICT to learn, collaborate, jointly undertake challenges, and do pioneering work that can be widely adopted as best practices; and (3) strengthen partnerships of WITSA with leading Organisations that share the same targets for policy making in the ICT sector.</p> <p>Dr. Colcher was absent. Mr. Sirros was asked to leave the room while the vote was taken and counted. Mr. Sirros was elected by the BOD as the new WITSA Deputy Chairperson for the 2018-2020 term by majority vote.</p> <p>2. Treasurer</p> <p>Mr. Tarek Monem Taha was unanimously re-elected for the 2018-2020 term treasurer by the BOD.</p>
<p>IV.</p>	<p>Election of Regional Vice Chairmen, Presentations Bylaw 6.11</p> <p>1) Africa</p> <p>Mr. Olutayo Adeniyi (ITAN) was unanimously elected as Vice Chairman for Africa for the 2018-2020 term.</p> <p>2) Middle East and North Africa</p> <p>Mr. Tarek Taha of Egypt was unanimously re-elected in for the MENA region.</p> <p>3) Europe (2 posts) – (EU & non-EU)</p> <p>Dr. Boris Komrakov of Belarus was unanimously re-elected for the Non-EU region of Europe.</p> <p>EU/EEA region of Europe: No nomination was made. Mr. Sirros, in his capacity as Deputy Chairman and former EU/EEA Vice Chairman agreed to explore candidates for the subsequent approval by the Board.</p> <p>4) Latin America</p> <p>Mr. Anibal Carmona of Argentina was unanimously re-elected for the Latin America region.</p> <p>5) North America</p> <p>Chairman Emeritus, Mr. Santiago Gutierrez of Mexico was unanimously voted in for the North American region and uncontested.</p> <p>6) Asia Pacific</p> <p>Mr. Kazunori Hamano of Japan was unanimously re-elected as Vice Chairman for the Asia Pacific.</p>

	<p>7) Caribbean Mr. John Kyle of Bermuda was unanimously re-elected for the Caribbean region.</p>
<p>V.</p>	<p>Announcement of the Executive Committee Executive Committees and Bylaw 6.9.3 Dr. Jim Poisant explained the responsibilities of the Executive Committees. Consisting of Chairman, Deputy Chairman, and each Regional Vice Chairman</p> <p>Election of Committee Chairpersons Ms. Yvonne Chiu called for nominations for Standing Committees.</p> <p>Nomination and appointments for Standing Committee Chairpersons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Finance/Audit Mr. Sean Seah was unanimously elected as Chairman of the Finance/Compensation Standing Committee. ii. Nominating Mr. Tarek Taha Monem was unanimously elected as Chairman of the Nominating Standing Committee. iii. Education & Training Dr. Boris Komrakov was unanimously re-elected as Chairman of the Education and Training Standing Committee Chairperson. <p>Chair nominees for other Standing Committees would be sought following the meeting and presented to the Board electronically for approval (<i>ACTION</i>) .</p>
<p>VI.</p>	<p>WITSA Directors Travel Program for BOD meetings/WCIT Events The Board unanimously approved a proposal by the Secretariat to provide all Directors in good standing hotel compensation for up to USD 1,000 each for 2019 BOD meetings (travel expenses only, no incidentals). Under this arrangement, WITSA will pay up to a total of \$1,000.00 USD annually for each Director. A trial period was set for 2019. Compensations beyond 2019 will require further Board approval.</p>
<p>DISCUSSION & PRESENTATIONS</p>	

VII.	<p>WITSA's Secretariat KPI</p> <p>Dr. Poisant displayed the WITSA Secretariat Gantt Chart and provided a brief overview of the 2018 activities of WITSA staff. It was agreed that a brief summary of these activities would be presented to the Board by mid-December for review and determination of potential Secretariat staff bonuses (<u>ACTION</u>).</p> <p>The detailed Gantt chart is available at https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1ktbe6RGDBf62d0HN7boM-hv0qZIGgyiNPpdDnNJxWCA/edit?usp=sharing.</p>
VIII.	<p>2019 Budget</p> <p>This item was deferred. Dr. Poisant will present a draft budget for review and approval in January 2019 (<u>ACTION</u>).</p>
IX.	<p>a) 2019 WITSA ICT Global Excellence Awards,</p> <p>Mr. Halvorsen mentioned that nominations for the 2019 Global ICT Excellence Awards would be requesting starting March 2019. A reclassification of the award categories would be announced by February 2019 in order to improve their relevancy and to better align them with WITSA's vision of Fulfilling the Promise of the Digital Age for everyone (<u>ACTION</u>). The Award Ceremony would take place with WCIT 2019 in Yerevan.</p> <p>b) Eminent Persons Award</p> <p>Dr. Poisant invited UATE to nominate a candidate for the WITSA Eminent Persons Award to be approved by the Board (<u>ACTION</u>). The Eminent Persons Award would also be given an WCIT 2019 in Yerevan.</p>
X.	<p>Status of WITSA's Association Corner</p> <p>Ms. Cathryn Rose informed that 16 members had signed on to the program to date, although only 12 members had completed the profile in full. Members who had not yet completed the survey were urged to do so as soon as possible as the future success of the program depends on their participation. A reminder email would be sent to members shortly (<u>ACTION</u>).</p>
XI.	<p>Global Partner Presentation: DIGITIMES</p> <p>With the newly established WITSA regional office in Taipei, WITSA had established a strategic alliance with DIGITIMES Research, one of the largest technology and industry research institution in the Greater China region. This partnership will provide members with unique market insights and intelligence for business development & marketing plans.</p> <p>In his presentation, DIGITIMES President Dr. Colley Hwang gave a detailed overview of the Asian supply chain evolution, from the edge to the top of the ICT world. Future announcements and collaborations with DIGITIMES would be coordinated through WITSA's Taipei office</p>

	<u>(ACTION)</u> .
XII.	<p>WITSA’s Business Certification Program (WBCP)</p> <p>Dr. Poisant presented the proposed Business Certification Program, which could potentially become a major new revenue source for WITSA. Poisant stressed that WITSA is uniquely positioned within the ICT industry to also be recognized as a leader in advancing marketplace trust, standards, business excellence and best practices in the offering and use of ICT products and services by its WITSA member companies. The new Business Certification Program (WBCP) is designed for its member associations and their affiliate member companies to be recognized. It would recognize best business practices, professionalism and integrity.</p> <p>All corporate members in good standing within WITSA associations would be eligible to apply for certification. WITSA association also must be a member in good standing within WITSA.</p> <p>The annual fee for each company would vary depending on the number of employees in each company:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1-9 Employees - USD 99.00 (per company) • 10-19 Employees- USD 199.00 (per company) • 20-49-Employees- USD 250.00 (per company) • 50 + Employees - USD 500.00 (per company) <p>Revenue would be shared equally between WITSA and the respective participating WITSA member.</p> <p>Directors approved a trial run of the program with a change in the name from WITSA’s Business Certification Program to WITSA’s Business Excellence Certification Program.</p> <p>Armenia, Egypt, Malaysia and Greece agreed to participate in first trials of new program. The Secretariat would contact each association in order to facilitate a launch of the program as soon as possible <u>(ACTION)</u>.</p>
XIII.	Adjournment