

## **Danube Civil Society Forum**

### **5<sup>th</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY, Bucharest 2019**

#### **Resolution Minutes**

Tuesday, 25 June 2019

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Stefan August Lütgenau greets the participating- DCSF members.

The DCSF General Assembly is open at 13:30 pm and decided to wait for the missing participants. The quorum was met 14:00 pm.

The DCSF agrees unanimously on the agenda.

The President states that the invitation was send in time and according to the time limit in the statutes.

#### **Registrations/ Payment of Membership Fee**

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##### **Opening Session**

Welcome by Stefan August Lütgenau.

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##### **Reports 2018 - 2019**

###### Igor Studennikov, Treasurer

Financial report presented by Igor Studennikov.

Foster Europe sponsors the activities of the DCSF. The financial report is issued every second year. The financial report includes the financial period 2018- October 2019.

In 2018 DCSF's Executive Committee sent an invoice and asked all DCSF members to cover the membership fee € 50, - in due date, before the 5<sup>th</sup> General Assembly or to cover € 50, - cash at the 5<sup>th</sup> General Assembly. Based on the agreement of DCSF's Executive Committee, member organizations, which do not cover their membership fees are no longer active members of DCSF and are unable to participate in decision making process.

###### Carmen Stadelhofer, Executive Committee Member

Carmen Stadelhofer reports on 3 sucessfull projects in the Danube Region. She took active part in this projects since the beginning of the EUSDR. The way she tried to solve financial lacks of the DCSF) was to gather members of the DCSF around these projects supported by EU.

###### Daniela Stojkovic Jovannovic, Vice-President

Daniela Stojkovic Jovanovic reported on the 1st Romanian National Participation Day in 2019 in Tulcea, as well as on the activities of the ICPDR. She also notified all the participants about the successes of Danube Daily social media channel.

###### Stefan August Lütgenau, President

A report followed from the President about the NPDs so far. Each of them had a different approach. They varied from country to country.

In consequence the DCSF members agreed on preparing guidelines and a detailed manual for the upcoming NPDs to have them more common and to make sure that they involve all the needed parties and parts. These documents should give a clear framework but also allow some flexibility.

Stefan Lütgenau also clarified the funding behind the NPDs and DPDs and described the background, the composition and the theme of this year's DPD.

The 6<sup>th</sup> Danube Participation Day in Bucharest went again through a difficult preparation phase. Thanks to the support from a number of state actors and NGOs the resistance could be overcome. More than 170 people registered some are on a waiting list.

The president thanked Daniela Stojkovic-Jovannovic vice-president for her duties so far, she resigns from her position this year.

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#### **Working group session: DCSF's input to the EUSDR AF**

Irene Lucius presented the composition and function of the Danube Local Actors Platform (D-LAP) and its recommendations to the EUSDR Action Plan. She introduced the 6 points formulated so far and asked the participants to comment on them.

- CSO involvement in the EUSDR and in the Action Plan review
- Annual interaction of the national coordinators and CSO-s (using the model of the DPDs)
- EUSDR communication strategy
- CSO organisations included in decision making
- Capitalisation Strategy of DTP – small grant programmes for small CSOs
- Full inclusion of non-EU countries

The members added one more point: • Mobilise young people to get involved. They agreed on spreading the word about these recommendations.

#### **Break**

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#### **Presentation of the applying members**

##### **Voting on membership applications**

All new applicants informed the DCSF Office about their interest to join the DCSF by a letter of interest.

Laura Szitar invited the present organization applying for observer status to introduce themselves to the DCSF plenary afterwards she introduced the not present members.

New members of the DCSF with

**Observer Status:**

Present: Liliانا Ivanova, Centre for Sustainable Development and Environmental Studies of the Danube Region

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**Membership Status:**

Not present: Radica Gligoric, Forum Intangible Cultural Heritage for Sustainable Development in Serbia

Not present: Valentin Cibotarum NGO BIOS

Not present: Sasa Stefanovic: Network of Organisations for Children of Serbia (MODS)

**Presentation of Candidates for President, Vice President, Treasurer, Vice-Treasurer, Members of the Executive Committee**

President, Vice President, Vice Treasure, Treasurer, Executive Committee are directly elected by the DCSF members. It was decided that all Executive Committee posts will be elected at once, unanimously. One vote for each post.

All members who were voting paid the membership fee or will transfer the membership via bank transfer.

Post	Name	YES	NO	Abstention
President (16 votes)	Stefan August Lütgenau	16	0	0
Vice President (16 votes)	Iva Taralezhkova	16	0	0
Treasurer (16 votes)	Igor Studennikov	16	0	0
Vice Treasurer (16 votes)	Daniela Stojkovic	16	0	0
Executive Committee (16 votes)				
	Irene Lucius	16	0	0
	Simon Vrecar	16	0	0
	Carmen Stadelhofer	16	0	0

**Planning Session and Work Program 2020 -2021**

Iva Taralezhkova chairs the session.

The members first collected the prides and sorrows of DCSF and then they tried to formulate some key findings and goals as well as future tasks.

**SORROWS:**

- Lack of financing and common projects
- We did not managed to strengthen and broaden our network especially with youth organisation
- No regular communication between members - to get to know each other better - communication

PRIDES :

- Empowerment of CSOs and DCSF as a catalysator of that
- DPDs and NPDs and participation in the whole EUSDR
- Good group of experts aiming for common goals

FUTURE TASKS and GOALS:

- Including, involving DCSF and CSOs more in other PAs as well not only PA10
- Fundraising for DCSF
- Communicate more, maybe signing duties to regular DCSF members as well
- Danube Strategy to be more known by all the countries
- Cooperate with other Macroregional strategies
- Common projects within the DCSF
- Civil Society to get well known - we need a better PR
- DCSF to be a bridge to the "people". People coming to us, decision makers coming to us
- Strengthening the advocacy capacity of DCSF and its members
- Better founding from EU to Civil Society

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**Any Other Business:**

There were no such.

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**18:00 Closing Remarks and Farewell Address by DCSF President, Stefan August Lütgenau**

The Executive Committee will priorities and systemize the ideas gathered above and will come up with a draft time table for our future 2 year plans.

Stefan Lütgenau thanked for everyone and closed the general assembly.