

International Society of Doctors for the Environment

Directing Board Meeting, Pavia, Italy/Zoom

21 October 2022

1. Opening remarks by president Peter van den Hazel

present: Peter van den Hazel, Hanns Moshhammer, Lilian Corra, Oral Ataniyazova, Stefania Burgos, Roberto Romizi, Fabrizio Bianchi, Eduardo Missoni

2. Minutes GA-DB 11 December 2021 accepted

Cathey Falvo elected notetaker

3. Recent activities:

Reports from USA, Argentina, Austria, Netherlands, Italy-working on education of youth, climate change, mercury, lead in batteries. Need to add work on plastics, interface between war/climate change/toxic environments.

Report from the ISDE International Secretary: participation representing ISDE in the different UN chemical processes: "Beyond 2020" negotiation process of SAICM; UNEP Hg Partnership (among other activities under this partnership, coordinated the recent publication on Hg from Oil and Gas); and more recently actively participates of the preparatory meeting for the Plastics Negotiation process (which first INC will take place in Uruguay at the end of November).

Also, the ISDE International Secretary reports annually to WHO and biannually renews the status of official relation with this organization.

Agreed: increase linkages with other groups working on these issues as apparently all international work now relies on being acknowledged only if done in coalition.

Need more frequent notes from members on international activities to be published on our website and other appropriate communication networks (Facebook page, Instagram, etc.)

4. Finances: see attached. Agreed to support member travel to international meetings (e.g. UNFCCC COP 27 in Egypt) up to EU 1000 if needed/requested. Continue to support International Secretary activities representing ISDE before UN negotiations on chemicals (SAICM, Mercury Partnership/Minamata, Plastics)

5. New members:

Hope Life International (HLI) is a Charitable Organization that was established in 2004, in The Gambia, West Africa, to fight poverty, diseases, training and advocate for Health and community development. Accepted via email votes May 2021—we seem not to have heard from them since.

Several requests to join from individuals all of whom were advised of membership rules (individual vs. organization) and added to the ISDE INFO list serve

6. Planned meetings- none discussed

a. Postponed 30 th anniversary meeting (2023?) to celebrate 35th anniversary – no decision made.

b. Next GA 2023- Tashkent followed by visit and educational activities in Nukus. October or early November would be the best months. Oral will investigate possibilities-both in person and virtual.

c. Climate meeting COP27 -6 (2 Canada, 1 USA, 2 Netherlands, 1 Italy) representatives have passes plus 1- or 2-day passes (1 USA, 1 UK) will be issued when UNFCCC is ready to process them. No side events are known to have been accepted (applications were too late for the spaces available and did not include partner presenters). The group has been meeting via Zoom and has connected with the Global Climate and Health Alliance which is organizing coordinated health messaging and action for the meeting.

Agreed – each member of our delegation will be asked to send a report on their activities. Peter van den Hazel will relay this request at the next Zoom call with the group

7. ECOSOC, UNICEF links

WHO -official status renewed this year and work continues with the environment sections (this status is being renewed each two years under the responsibility of the International Secretary as well as annual reports are presented under request of WHO)

Dr. Missoni (now working in Mexico) presented a discussion of the current status of the functioning of WHO and the debate about changing the way it works to make decisions (WHA in consultation with all stakeholders vs. more input by their financial backers, especially in rapid response situations like the Covid pandemic-increase treaty work rather than regulations already in place). Dr. Nicoletti was not able to attend the meeting on time to present her views as someone working more directly with the process.

The international Secretary informs that a presentation is being done to strengthen the visibility of the environmental burden of disease in the agenda for the next WHA and promote more active engagement and presence of WHO in the different environmental processes guided by UNEP Chemicals and Health branch and in particular in the Science Policy Panel recently promoted during the last meeting of UNEA. Inform that (when this SPP will be organized and active) ISDE will have a role to play as the discussion will be oriented to. Bring Science to the decision making process to tackle the problem of the increasing impact on health of chemical and air pollution.

ECOSOC – consultative status renewed this year. Currently have 2 representatives active at UNHQ in New York City.

UNEP – has once again not accepted ISDE for official consultative status (do not understand the problem with our application information) but accepts our partnership because we have ECOSOC status and they continue to include ISDE in official programs and announcements and asking for our participation

UNICEF -no official or working relationship exists at the moment.

Submitted by Cathey Falvo 21 October 2022 draft

8. Discussion and action on priorities

9. Any other business

10. Closing meeting