Minutes of General Assembly IFMGA
November 22nd 2024, 8.00 h – 10.30 h
Prague, Czech Republic

1. Welcome, Apologies

The IFMGA President, Urs Wellauer, opened the General Assembly by extending a warm welcome to all Delegates. He expressed gratitude to the CMGA for their exceptional organization of the event, with special appreciation for Josef Šimunek and Stania Háková.

A minute's silence was observed for the deceased mountain guide colleagues.

24 Member Associations were physically present, 1 voted via a proxy. Proxy:

- NZMGA (New Zealand) was represented by ACMG (Canada)

No excuse from UVGAM (Val d'Aosta), VSBS (South Tyrol) had announced they wouldn't attend but didn't name a proxy.

25 members were therefore represented.

The President welcomed the following Honorary Members:

Christian Trommsdorff, Reiner Tagliner, Hanno Dönz, Cesare Cesa Bianchi and Peter Cliff

Apologies were received from Hans Bergmann, Hermann Biner, Juliana Garcia, and Sepp Glockner.

Guest: Mark Charlton (SNGM), Internal Auditor of the IFMGA

2. Appointment of Scrutineers

Halvor Danevig (NORTIND), Jon Morgan (BAMG) and Christoph Schaub (Secretary IFMGA) were elected unanimously as Scrutineers.

77 member votes were present and 25 member associations.

Simple majority: 13 or more member associations votes AND 39 or more votes corresponding voting cards.

2/3 majority: 17 or more member associations votes AND 52 or more votes corresponding voting cards.

3. Minutes of General Assembly, Bishkek 24th November 2023

The delegates accepted unanimously the Minutes of the General Assembly 2023 as an accurate record.

4. Annual Report 2023/2024

The Annual Report was discussed at the workshop in preparation for the General Assembly the previous day; there were no questions from the Delegates. The annual report had been sent out beforehand.

The President referred to point 22 in the annual report of the Technical Commission: Not only smaller member associations are checked by the Technical Commission, but also those in the Alpine countries, e.g., Italy with seven different training institutions.

TC President Kurt Walde added that in Switzerland, the number of days did not correspond to the IFMGA platform in the past, but thanks to good co-operation, this was quickly resolved.

The Delegates accepted this first part of the Annual Report 2023/2024 unanimously.

5. Accounts 2023/2024

The Accounts were discussed at the workshop in preparation for the General Assembly the previous day; there were no questions from the Delegates. A detailed annual financial statement was sent out beforehand with the Annual Report.

The Delegates accepted the Accounts 2023/2024 unanimously, thereby approving the entire Annual Report 2023/2024.

6. Discharge of the Board's financial responsibilities 2023/2024

The reports of both the External and the Internal Auditors had been sent out in advance, with both recommending that the GA discharge the Board of its financial responsibilities. Internal Auditor Mark Charlton (SNGM) was present.

The delegates voted unanimously to discharge the Board for its financial responsibilities 2023/2024.

7. Summary of the Workshops 20th + 21st November 2024

Walter Zörer, Member of the Management Committee gave an overview of the workshops of the previous days. Please see document GA_2024_Summary Workshops.

8. Budgets, Projects, and Membership Fee 2024/2025

The Budget 2024/2025, Projects and the Membership Fee 2023/2024 were explained during the previous day's workshop.

The Delegates approved the Membership Fee 2024/2025 of CHF 50.- and unanimously supported the presented budget.

Question from Silas Rossi (AMGA): Why doesn't the Membership Fee increase with inflation? The Managing Committee discussed this during its last meeting and is considering a raise. This would be proposed at the next General Assembly.

9. Motions

Managing Committee: Rework of Bylaws

The rework on the Bylaws was discussed at the workshop in preparation for the General Assembly the previous day. The proposition was sent to the members in due time before the General Assembly.

A small change in 2.3 was discussed and adapted: instead of "foreign countries" the wording is "based in other countries".

With this change the Delegates agreed unanimously to the rework of the Bylaws.

Managing Committee: ANGM (Chile) to be elected a Full IFMGA Member

The Technical Committee having submitted a positive Final Report and the Board being satisfied that the pre-conditions have been met according to the Bylaws Article 3 and the Platform 5.12, the Board proposes that the ANGM (Chile) is accepted as a Member Association of the IFMGA.

The motion was adopted unanimously. There was much applause and Nicolás Palma Meyer, President of the ANGM and representing his association, was warmly welcomed.

EEMGA: Certifying procedure for trans-national training program by EEMGA

After clarifications before the General Assembly the EEMGA withdrew the motion. It is a task of the IFMGA Managing Committee to facilitate and support the certifying process10.

10. Elections

IFMGA Managing Committee:

Nomination Jean-Marc Vengeon (SNGM) to finish Hervé Qualizza's term.

Jean-Marc Vengeon (SNGM, France) presented himself. The Election Board (Martin Doyle, Leif Inge Magnusson, and Christoph Schaub) checked the application and sent a signed confirmation to all Member Associations before the General Assembly.
The Delegates elected Jean-Marc Vengeon to finish Hervé's term. By adopting the rework of the Bylaws, the term ends in November 2026 after the General Assembly.

With the adoption of the revised Bylaws, the terms of office of Angela Hawse and Hampi Schoop were extended by one year, to November 2025.

IFMGA Secretary:

With the adoption of the revised Bylaws, the terms of office of Christoph Schaub were extended by one year, to November 2025.

Election Committee:

Jon Morgan (BAMG) and Halvor Danevig (NORTIND) were elected unanimously for a period of 4 years.

Complaints Committee:

Raúl Lora (Chair, AEGM), Tim Blakemore (BAMG) and Craig Ross (AAGM) were elected unanimously for a period of four years.

11. Appointment of Professional Auditors and Internal Auditors

Our long-standing internal auditor, Urs Tinner, must resign from his post for health reasons. Toni Dinkel (SBV) has agreed to take on the role. With his extensive experience in the financial sector, as previous treasurer, and current auditor of SBV, he has the desired qualifications.

The appointment of internal Auditors Toni Dinkel (SBV) and Mark Charlton (SNGM) was unanimously accepted.

The appointment of professional Auditors T&R Oberland, Gstaad, Switzerland was unanimously accepted.

12. Information about Spring Meeting Technical Commission

The meeting is scheduled from 19th to 23rd of May 2025 in the region of the Garda Lake, Italy.

13. Information about Competitions

Ski-Event 2025 Kaunertal, Austria: 24th April to 27th April

Climbing-Event 2025 Vienna, Austria: 7th November to 8th November

Ski-Event 2026 Kitzsteinhorn, Austria: 22nd April to 25th April

14. Future General Assemblies: 2025 Vienna, 2026 Tbilisi

Vienna 2025:

Presentation by Walter Zörer (President VÖBS) about General Assembly in Vienna.

4th to 8th November 2025:

Tuesday 4th November: Arrival day and/or excursion Hohe Wand

Wednesday 5th November: Workshops

Thursday 6th November: Workshops and panel talk.

Friday 7th November: IFGMA General Assembly, start of Climbing Championship, Gala evening and party.

Saturday 8th November: Departure day, Climbing Championship

General Assembly 2026:

Nick (President GMGA) confirmed that the invitation for the GA in Georgia is still valid. Urs Wellauer explained that the managing Committee thinks that it is justifiable and necessary as an international association to travel every third year outside of Europe. An opinion that was shared by Carl Lundberg (Chair of ESAC). Carl just asked to make a digital attendance possible.

Halvor Danevig (NORTIND) mentioned that his association celebrates its 50th anniversary and that they could host the 2026 IFMGA General Assembly.

The Managing Committee will take the final decision as soon as possible.

15. AOB

- Christian Trommsdorff (SNGM) asked about the process for changes on the IFMGA Platform. Michael Lentrodt answered that this is clarified by the Bylaws: changes have to be approved by the General Assembly.

- Walter Zörer (IFMGA Managing Committee) reminded that all member associations should provide the data of their members for the IFMGA Database.
- Hanno Dönz (Mobility Commission) informed that most associations had completed the Mobility Survey. He will send a reminder to all missing ones.
- Carl Lundberg (ESAC) urged the associations who havened named a representant for sustainability to do so.
- Tadej Debevec (SMGA): Asked for an update on the negotiations with FFCAM and CMB. The secretary had to inform him that due to the intervention of the SIM, both companies canceled the agreement.

16. <u>Closing Words</u>

The President thanked the Managing Committee, the Secretary, and all Delegates for coming to Prague for the General Assembly and for the Climbing Championship.

Special thanks to Josef Šimunek and Stania Háková for the outstanding work they did.

He hoped to see as many people as possible at the Ski Championship in Kaunertal, at the Meeting of the Technical Commission in May and at the next General Assembly in Vienna.

He wished all a safe winter and safe travels.

The meeting ended at 10.30 am.

For the Minutes: Christoph Schaub, 22.11.2024