

**MINUTES OF THE 14TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF  
THE SWISS ASSOCIATION OF SINGAPORE, MARCH 31st, 2021  
ONLINE MEETING on ZOOM APPLICATION**

**Present Committee:**

PRESIDENT	Lionel Berthod
VICE PRESIDENT	Daniela Erni
TREASURER	Joséphine Boller
SECRETARY	Martina Lind
EVENT COORDINATOR	Julie Choi
EVENT COORDINATOR	Silvia Frank
EVENT COORDINATOR	Carole Chatelain

**Members attending:**

A total of 24 voting members

**Guests:**

Alexandra De Mello / OSA

See annex 1 for details

**Welcome and Introduction**

Mr. Lionel Berthod, President, welcomed the members to the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Swiss Association of Singapore (SAS) which is again held online due to the Covid-19 regulations in Singapore. He informed the assembly that the online meeting will be recorded. He addressed a special welcome to the Swiss Ambassador, his Excellency Mr. Fabrice Fillez.

**Fabrice Fillez, Ambassador of Switzerland to Singapore**

Mr. Fabrice Fillez addressed a warm welcome to SAS' Committee and members. He provided the assembly updates from the Embassy of Switzerland in Singapore, especially regarding the current Covid-19 situation locally and in the rest of the world. He praised the flexibility of SAS to adjust and offer new activities despite existing restrictions and gave a positive spirit to the assembly about the future outlook.

**Approval of the Minutes of the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting**

The minutes of the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Swiss Association held on June 18th, 2020 were unanimously approved by all members present.

### **President's report, Lionel Berthod, SAS President**

See annex 2 for the President's Report.

Mr. Lionel Berthod referred to the President's report, including financial and Treasurer's report, that has been sent by email to all members in advance of the AGM, in line with the Articles of the Association.

He gave an overview of the current memberships 2021:

- 169 registered members
- 126 adult members
- 39 children members
- 4 honorary members

He outlined a few facts for 2020 which was a challenging year:

- 2020 was a year like never before, however lots of positive like trying new things
- Successful restart of events and social activities after the lockdown
- Many new faces in the committee
- Downside: new memberships and renewals at a lower level as many members left Singapore or waiting for future development in the community
- Nevertheless, a profitable and successful year

Silvia Frank, SAS Event Coordinator, gave additional information about events organised in 2020:

- An increase from 69 in 2018 to 77 in 2019 to 83 in 2020 with some cancellations
- Overall more events in 2020 with lower frequency and less attendees
- New ideas, new formats and new experiments in order to do the best within limitations

### **Sponsoring update, Daniela Erni, SAS Vice President**

Mrs. Daniela Erni outlined that SAS is proud to have many generous sponsors like the Embassy of Switzerland, Huber's Butchery, Swissotel Merchant Court and Wine Universe that have continued supporting over the last years and enabled the Swiss association to run special events. Furthermore, SAS is also thankful to the supporters of our Exceptional Year End Soiree

### **Financial Reports FY 2019, Lionel Berthod, SAS President**

Mr. Lionel Berthod outlined the provided audit approval for the 2020 financials by the Singaporean authorized auditors, Mr. Marco Huwiler and Mr. Michael Bögli, and thanked both as well as the former treasurer Mrs. Emmanuelle Barasche for their volunteering work.

SAS reported a year-end financial profit of SGD 2,256 in 2020. As a non-profit organisation, SAS decided to transfer unused revenues from membership into 2021, to compensate for the expected decrease of membership revenues. Looking backwards, the net profit over the last 5 years was SGD 2,856. Looking forward, the goal is to close the year with a profit, unless it becomes possible to celebrate SAS' 15th anniversary.

Membership fees in 2021 will stay unchanged.

See annex 3 for details

## **Approvals**

The President's report of the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Swiss Association was unanimously approved by the members present minus 1 abstention.

The Financial Report / Treasurer's Report 2020 was approved by all the members present.

The re-election of Mr. Marco Huwiler and Mr. Michael Bögli as SAS Auditors next year was approved by all the members present.

## **Election of the SAS Committee 2021**

Mrs Daniela Erni presented the Committee team and introduced the new Committee members: herself as Vice President, Joséphine Boller as Treasurer, Martina Lind as Secretary and Carole Chatelain as Event Coordinator. She also thanked the leaving committee members Florence Thonney and Esther Vannay as Event Coordinators, Kristof Trautwein as Fundraising & Sponsoring, Virginie Esparon as Secretary and Emmanuelle Barasche as Treasurer.

The new Committee was unanimously approved by all the members present, as follows for the next term:

President	Lionel Berthod
Vice President	Daniela Erni
Secretary	Martina Lind
Treasurer	Joséphine Boller
Event Coordinator	Carole Chatelain
Event Coordinator	Julie Choi
Event Coordinator	Silvia Frank

## **Representative to the OSA**

Mrs. Alexandra De Mello, candidate successor of Sabine Silberstein, introduced herself and OSA, the Organisation of Swiss Abroad ([www.swisscommunity.org](http://www.swisscommunity.org)). Her election as representative for OSA in Singapore was unanimously approved by all the members present.

Mr. Fabrice Filliez and Mr. Lionel Berthod congratulated Mrs. Alexandra De Mello and also thanked Mrs. Sabine Silberstein for representing the Swiss community and SAS in the past.

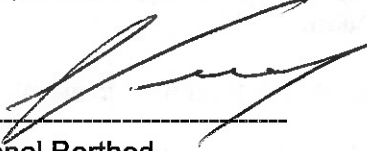
## **Final word, Mr. Reto Läderach, Consul of the Swiss Embassy**

Mr. Reto Läderach, the new Consul of the Swiss Embassy since 2020, thanked the SAS committee for their work and is looking forward to joining events of SAS in the future.

Mr. Lionel Berthod closed the AGM by giving a big thank you to all members, Committee members, sponsors and supporters and is looking forward to seeing each other again soon.

The Annual General Meeting was closed at 8.15 pm.

Singapore, March 31st, 2021



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Lionel Berthod  
President

**Annexes:**

Annex 1: Attendance list AGM 2021

Annex 2: President's Report 2020

Annex 3: Financial Reports FY 2020