

Minutes
AIST General Meeting
November 29th 2013 14.30

19 member countries and 1 observer country were represented at the General Meeting:

- **Benin**, by Mr. Clément AZIAGNIKOUDA
- **Burkina Faso**, by Mrs. Hortense BONI
- **Cameroon**, by Mr. Mohamadou BACHIROU
- **Comoros**, by Mr. Allaoui ABASSE CHEIKH
- **Congo**, by Mrs. MBOULOU
- **France**, by Mrs. Josiane LANTERI
- **Gabon**, by Mrs. Francisca MAPANGOU KOUMBA
- **Haiti**, by Mr. Jean Donat ANDRE
- **Ivory Coast**, by Mr. Adama KONE
- **Kuwait**, by Mr. Jamal ALSAHLI
- **Madagascar**, by Mr. Orlando ROBIMANANA
- **Mali**, by Mr. Siaka CAMARA
- **Mauritania**, by Mr. Yahya H'MEITY
- **Morocco**, by Mr. Mohammed MERZOUKI
- **Niger**, by Mrs. Gambo SOULEYMANE
- **Senegal**, by Mr. Abdoulaye DIENG
- **Tunisia**, by Mr. Rachid TOUZI
- **Togo**, by Mr. Soèkey SALAH
- **Ukraine**, represented by Morocco
- **Vietnam**, by Mr. Bui Minh KHANG
- **Algeria**, by Mr. Mohamed Larbi GHANEM (**Observer**)

The General Meeting was held on November 29th 2013 in the conference room of the Ivory Hotel in Abidjan, Ivory Coast.

The president of AIST, Mr. Adama KONE representing Ivory Coast, opens the General Meeting at 14.30 and thanks all participants. After greeting the general directors appointed in 2013 (Mrs. Mayaki Mariama BARRY in Guinea; Mr. Boubacar BEN BOUILLE in Mali; Mrs. Nepide Dossoum Pope in Chad; Mr. NGUYEN Hong Ha in Vietnam), Mr. KONE checks whether quorum is reached and does the inventory of power of attorneys submitted to the Secretary- General: Ukraine had appointed Morocco to represent it.

The Secretary General recalls briefly the functioning rule of the General Meeting as well as the main decisions of the previous General Meeting held in Hammamet and those of the Executive Board meetings.

Mr. KONE reads out the agenda of the current general meeting that comprises the following points:

- Activity Report for the year 2013

- Financial report for the year 2012, provisional financial report for the year 2013 and the statutory auditor's report
- Issues discussed at the last meeting of the Executive Board
 - Status of membership fees
 - Sale of FONSIKAV
- Prospects for the activity in 2014
 - Date of the 2014 General Meeting and hosts of the next annual conferences
 - Organization of the thematic seminars
 - Call for expression of interest for future events
 - New memberships
- Statute related issues
 - Appointment of a new Secretary General
 - Election of the new Executive Board
- Miscellaneous

All the points on the agenda were approached in a paper preliminary to the General Meeting, drafted by the General Secretariat and sent to members on November 14th 2013.

I- Activity Report

AIST Secretary General presents the activity report for the year 2013, appended in annex no. 1 to these minutes. He particularly underlines the success of the conference held in Hammamet and of the seminar in Marrakech. He also talks about AIST's presence at the 50th anniversary of the Malagasy Public Treasury and about the mission the Secretary General underwent in Serbia in order to meet the head of the Serbian Treasury. The Secretary General adds that other missions could be scheduled in AIST member countries in order to have a closer follow up of each member and to determine in a more practical manner what could be the working prospects.

He then talks about the overhaul of the Association's website that is now completed. The website is fully operational and available in the two working languages of AIST. It comprises a members' area and the Secretary General invites member countries to access it regularly and to upload information therein.

The General Secretariat has also drafted and printed a new official brochure of the Association, available for downloading from the website and in paper version made up of separate memos which facilitate editing and updates.

Following a decision of the General Meeting in 2012, the General Secretariat entrusted a student University Paris I – Panthéon Sorbonne with conducting a comparative study on the services provided to local governments by different AIST member institutions, in the framework of an end-of-studies internship within a two-year master's program on "public finance-local governments". For this purpose, the intern together with the General Secretariat drafted a questionnaire, but the late replies to the questionnaire made it impossible to conclude the study within the expected deadline. The General Secretariat is exploring the possibility of completing itself the study.

II- Financial report for 2012, provisional financial statements for 2013 and statutory auditor's report

The Secretary General presents the financial report that was sent to all the members of the General Meeting (annex n°2). The report reveals a healthy financial status and very positive prospects.

The statutory auditor, Mr. Jacques ORTET, after having cross-checked the supporting documents and accounting entries, indicates in his report that accounts upon December 31st 2012 have been properly kept and that they are sincere and exact.

Mr. DIENG (Senegal) would like to find out more on the roles of the Secretary General. He is the treasurer of the association, but is he also the authorizing officer? He also wonders why the preliminary paper did not comprise a projected budget and proposes that from now such a document be included in the financial report.

The Secretary General explains that spending is carried out by the General Secretariat on the basis of the mandate issued by the General Meeting and by the President of the Association for this purpose. He then indicates that, contrary to previous financial years, this year the General Secretariat drafted a projected budget that was submitted to the Executive Board. He agrees with Mr. Dieng's proposal and states that from now on the projected budget will be presented to the General Meeting.

Resolution n°1 with respect to the approval of the financial statements is unanimously passed.

Resolution n° 1:

The General Meeting approves the financial statements for the year 2012 as of December 31st 2012, as shown in the financial report.

III- Issues tackled at the meeting of the Executive Board

a) Status of membership fees

The President asks the Secretary General to explain the actions carried out in order to recover outstanding membership fees.

The Secretary General indicates that outstanding fees amount to € 32 625 broken down amongst 6 countries:

- 4 countries are 2 years behind with fee payments and this amounts to € 17 250
- 1 country is 3 years behind fee payment and this amounts to € 5 250
- 1 country is 6 years behind with fees payment and this amounts to € 10 125

Upon its meeting in June 25th 2013, the Executive Board reminded how important fee payment was for the association to be able to work properly. Nevertheless, it insisted also on the necessity of a differentiated and adapted action depending on the situation and constraints of each country, the objective being to reduce the amount of overdue fees.

The Secretary General adds that there are 6 countries that have not paid their membership fee for the year 2013 and that this amounts to € 18 000. The total amount of fees paid in 2013 is € 60 000.

Mr. ANDRE (Haiti) asks the Secretary Generals why these arrears are not indicated in AITS's balance sheet.

The Secretary General explains that since the association has a cash-based accounting, arrears are not shown in the balance sheet.

Mr. BACHIROU (Cameroon) wants to know what measures were taken with respect to the country that is 6 years behind with the payment of its fees.

The Secretary General explains that the country in question has a particular situation characterized by a high turnover on the position of director general for treasury and public sector accounting. This country, that is little present at AIST meetings, had accepted a 3 year payment plan for its overdue fees. The Secretary General will present this plan to the new director general in order to solve this issue.

AIST's President also mentions that the Executive Board tries to take into account specific constraints that each country may have and be as comprehensive as possible. He recalls that Ivory Coast also used to have arrears that it managed to pay once its internal situation was stable.

Mr. CAMARA (Mali) wonders whether some preemptive measures would not be useful. A targeted reminder sent at the beginning of the year might prove effective.

The Secretary General indicates that pursuant to the statute of AIST, subscriptions are to be paid before March 31st. Calls for payment are sent in the autumn of the previous year and, if ineffective, are followed by periodic targeted reminders.

b) Membership fee policy

The Secretary General recalls that at its last meeting, in Paris, the Executive Board asked him to sell all SICAV stocks owned by AIST. The Association owned for several years SICAV stocks whose performance, net of administrative charges and before tax, reached 0.05 % in September 2012. Warned by Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations about the poor expected performance of these securities, the Secretary General informed the Board and suggested a deposit of the equivalent funds in a bank savings account called Livret A – association with a deposit limit of € 76 000 and interest rate of 1.25%.

Mr. HAMZAOUI (Tunisia) wonders about the deposit limit for Livret A and about what could be done with the possible surplus of money.

The President indicates that this limit is set by regulations.

The Secretary General says that if the limit were to be exceeded, then the Board and the General Meeting should reflect upon appropriate investments and reach a compromise between availability of funds and the return on investment.

Resolution n°2 regarding the opening of a Livret A savings account is unanimously passed.

Resolution n° 2:

The General Meeting authorizes the General Secretariat to open a savings account A (livret A) with a bank established France.

IV- Prospects for 2013

a) Locations of the next General Meetings and annual conferences

The Secretary General recalls that at the General Meeting in Hammamet, Madagascar applied for hosting the annual conference in 2015, and said that, failing a candidate for 2014, it could then host the conference in 2014.

By means of an official letter sent to the General Secretariat, Ukraine expressed its wish to host the conference in 2014 or 2015.

Finally, during the current conference, Kuwait officially submitted to the General Secretariat its application to host the annual conference and General Meeting in 2016.

Upon its meeting on November 28th in Abidjan, the Executive Board proposed the following schedule:

- 2014: Madagascar
- 2015: Ukraine
- 2016: Kuwait

The proposal is unanimously adopted.

Mr. ROBIMANANA (Madagascar) thanks all the members of the association for having entrusted the organization of the next annual conference to Madagascar.

Mr. AL SAHLY (Kuwait) also thanks all AIST members and says that Kuwait will be happy to welcome the event and the participants in 2016.

b) Organization of future thematic seminars

The Secretary-General suggests the organization of a second event under the form of a thematic seminar, following the example of the one from Marrakech this year. The association members shall be asked to put forward topics and then these shall be sorted out by the Executive Board.

The Secretary General reminds that the idea of this more technical seminar is to bring together staff with expertise in order to renew the administrations' pools of experts. He also expresses France's intention to organize such a seminar in 2014.

Resolution no. 3 on the organization of a thematic seminar in France in 2014 is unanimously adopted.

Resolution n° 3:

The General Secretariat shall organize a thematic seminar in France during the 1st semester of 2014. Members shall be asked to put forward topics. After analyzing the suggestions, the Secretariat shall submit at least two options to the Executive Board. And the members of the Board, consulted via email, shall decide upon the seminar topic.

c) Call for expression of interest for future events

The Secretary General launches a call for expression of interest for future events and reiterates that the bids can also be sent to the General Secretariat after the General Meeting. He underlines the importance of planning for the good management of AIST activities.

Mr. DIENG (Senegal) applies, on behalf of Senegal, for the organization of the thematic seminar in 2015. The application has to be confirmed by official mail.

d) New memberships

The Secretary-General says that 2 membership applications, from Algeria and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, were sent to the General Secretariat. During the 28th of November meeting in Abidjan, the Executive Board examined these applications, declared them admissible and issued a favorable opinion.

The President asks Algeria, participating in the General Meeting as an observer, to quit the room during the voting session.

Mr. DIENG (Senegal) expresses his enthusiasm for receiving new members.

All the members attending the AIST General Meeting unanimously vote in favor of these new memberships.

After asking the Algerian representative to enter the room again, the President communicates the vote results and congratulates the two new members.

Mr. GHANEM (Algeria) talks about the joy associated with this membership and thanks all association members for having granted access to Algeria. He also talks about the richness of the association and underlines its importance for the challenges with which the member countries are confronted.

V – Statute related issues

a) Appointment of a new Secretary-General

The President informs the General Meeting that during the Executive Board meeting the Secretary-General expressed his wish to quit his AIST position in order to be reinserted in the administration he originally belonged to. France endorsed a candidate, i.e. Mr. Didier CORNILLET.

According to the statutory provisions, during the 28th of November 2013 meeting, the Executive Board analyzed the application and accepted it. The President appointed thus Mr. CORNILLET as the new Secretary-General.

The President wants the General Meeting to be informed and to give their opinions on this appointment.

Upon Mr. DIENG's request (Senegal), Mr. CORNILLET (France) speaks about his professional experience at the French DGFIP, where he acquired a rich expertise.

Since no opposition is noted from the members attending the General Meeting, Mr. CORNILLET gets confirmed on the new job position.

The President of the Association gives the floor to the French representative. Mrs. LANTERI (France) states that Mr. CORNILLET was chosen for the richness of his experience within DGFIP and abroad. She also thanks the General Meeting and the Executive Board for the credit given.

The President states that the new Secretary-General shall start his mandate as of the 13th of December in order to insure an uninterrupted financial and administrative flow for the association.

Mr. BERTEAU, the current AIST Secretary-General, congratulates Mr. CORNILLET and vouches his support in order to facilitate the transition. He expresses – addressing the General Meeting – his satisfaction for having worked during these 3 years as Secretary-General. However, this position requires lots of involvement and availability. He also claims that it was a difficult choice to make because of the numerous achievements which accompanied his mandate and he thanks the association and the successive presidents for the credit they had given to them.

The AIST President also thanks Mr. BERTEAU for his involvement in the development of the association.

b) Election of the new Executive Board

AIST President explains that, according to the statute adopted within the previous General Meeting, held in Hammamet, a partial renewal of the Executive Board is supposed to take place within this meeting.

Since the President and 2 Vice-President positions are taken de jure, two administrator positions are vacant.

The Secretary-General explains that Ukraine sent an official application for an administrator position. Slovenia is not seeking representation because of strong domestic constraints. Gabon considers that the statute invites to a permanent rotation of board members and shall not apply unless the lack of other applications shall leave a vacant position.

The Secretary-General also reminds the audience that the statute stipulates the following: *“The configuration of the Executive Board will reflect as much as possible the geographical diversity of its membership.”*

The President then asks the audience whether there are candidates for administrator positions.

Mr. DIENG (Senegal) says that Senegal is submitting its application.

The Secretary-General reminds the configuration of the board after the approval of Madagascar’s application:

- President: Madagascar
- Vice President: Ivory Coast
- Vice President: Tunisia
- Permanent administrators: France and Morocco.

Two applications have been submitted: Ukraine and Senegal.

Mr. HAMZAOU (Tunisia) addresses a question to the Secretary-General: whether new members in the association can submit their application.

The Secretary-General informs the General Meeting that there is nothing to go against these applications, as long as membership is accompanied by all rights and obligations stipulated by the statute. And, the respective country shall of course make a formal application.

Mr. GHANEM (Algeria) says that Algeria has not submitted yet an application and would rather wait in order to get familiarized with the way in which the AIST works and only afterwards, get more involved.

The applications were thus unanimously approved.

The configuration of the association’s new Executive Board is thus the following:

President: Madagascar

Vice President: Ivory Coast

Vice President: Tunisia

Administrators: France, Morocco, Senegal, Ukraine

VI- Miscellaneous

AIST President reads out a letter sent by Mr. KHARCHENKO, president of the Ukrainian Public Treasury Service (see annex no. 3)

Mr. DIENG (Senegal) explains that since he has only recently been appointed Director-General of the Treasury and of the Public Sector Accounting in Senegal, he has not known Mr. BERTEAU for a long time. However, for the quality of his work and for the credit he has received from all AIST members, Mr. DIENG suggests that the General Meeting vote a motion of recognition for the work carried out by Mr. BERTEAU as Secretary-General of the association.

The initiative is unanimously adopted.

The President also thanks all association members for the support given to the Ivory Coast in organizing this conference and reasserts his wish concerning the development of AIST.

Since the General Meeting is drawing to an end, the outgoing President invites Mr. ROBIMANANA (Madagascar) to take over the presidency of the Meeting. The handover is carried out under participants’ rounds of applause. Mr. ROBIMANANA solemnly claims how honored he is to take over

the presidency and reminds the audience that the organization of the annual conference in Madagascar shall be a return to the association's cradle (see Annex N°XXX).

Mr. CORNILLET, the new Secretary-General, says he wants to follow the work of association development initiated by his forerunner. He also underlines the fact that the quality of the debates and the high level of speakers' expertise he could notice during this conference are a good indicator for the association's potential. He then pays tribute to the work carried out by Mr. BERTEAU and the entire team of the General Secretariat.

Since all the points on the agenda have been tackled with and no additional questions have been raised by participants, the new president thanks the attendees and winds up the meeting at 16:30.

Commenté [NC1]:

ANNEX N°3

**ДЕРЖАВНА КАЗНАЧЕЙСЬКА СЛУЖБА УКРАЇНИ
UKRAINE'S SERVICE OF PUBLIC TREASURY**

**To Mr. Adama KONE
President of the International Association of Treasury Services
Abidjan, Ivory Coast**

Kiev, 27th of November 2013

Ref: Letter of appreciation

Dear Mr. President, dear friends

It was impossible for me, because of serious constraints, to come in Abidjan and attend AIST's annual conference.

However, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to Mr. Gilles Berteau, AIST Secretary-General who is quitting this position, key to our Association.

I would like to underline the important role he played in the organization of three General Meetings and of numerous meetings of the Executive Board, and also in changing the Statute of the Association, which has, I believe, enabled the participation of the majority of members in the management of the Association.

Mr. Gilles Berteau knew how to generate favorable contexts so that our debates were profitable, and important provisions aiming at improving the activities of our Association were adopted. Some of these provisions contributed as well to our sharing of experiences and to better bilateral and multilateral partnerships.

Among other merits, it is thanks to Mr. BERTEAU that the website of the Association has been completely renewed. It is now more interactive, more operational and more user friendly.

I wish Mr. Gilles BERTEAU plenty of happiness, health and professional success and I thank the DGFIP for having given him the opportunity to work for AIST.

There is no doubt that the new AIST Secretary-General shall successfully continue the actions started by Mr. Gilles BERTEAU.

Yours sincerely,



**Sergii KHARCHENKO
President of the Ukrainian Service of Public Treasury**