

MINUTES ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING DIAKONIA, 8 JUNE 2022

Venue: Diakonia's head office, Ecumenical Center, Alvik, Bromma

Representatives of the Uniting Church in Sweden (Equmeniakyrkan)

Lasse Svensson (not agenda items 23-22 & 24-22), Johan Adolfsson, Ulrika Morazán and Samuel Hummerdal

Representatives of the Swedish Alliance Mission (Svenska Alliansmissionen)

Ulf Häggqvist, Martin Ström, Karolina Sturesson and Emma Andersson

Participants from the Board of Diakonia

Pether Nordin, Anette Drewitz, Göran Gunner, Marie Lackenbauer, Andreas Linderyd and Oskar Permvall

Participants from Diakonia's personnel

Lena Ingelstam, Secretary General; Ann-Sofie Lasell, Head of Business Support and Economics (outgoing); Irén Frändå, Head of Business Support and Economics, Ghada Hamman, Representative Middle East; Jakob Ämterlind, Project Manager Congregations; Jenny Enarsson, Gender adviser; Joakim Wohlfeil, employee representative; Sofia Tuvestad, Gender adviser; Evelina Rosell, meeting secretary and a number of employees from Diakonia

Participating elected representatives

Victoria Gejrot, Chair of the Meeting; Eva-Marie Cider, Anna Kimming and Roland Oscarsson, Nominating Committee; Karin Hallin and Micael Lindholm, internal auditors

Participants proposed by the Nominating Committee

Emma Harrysson and Eva Eriksson

§ 01-21 Introduction

The Chair of the Board of Diakonia, Pether Nordin, welcomed all participants to the annual meeting and in particular the eight representatives. He particularly thanked Lena Ingelstam, Jenny Enarsson, Sofia Tuvestad and Ghada Hamman for the initial seminar on how Diakonia handles the shrinking democratic space, with examples from work in the Middle East region to support and promote the space for feminist and other gender equality organizations.



From the Expert group on aid analysis (EBA) annual report *Aid analysis 2022*, Pether Nordin highlighted the role of foreign aid in relation to the Covid-19 pandemic and the shrinking democratic space. Only a few days after the report was published, there was announcement of deductions in foreign aid. The report is also important in relation to the forthcoming parliamentary elections, and Swedish foreign aid is needed. After this, Peter Nordin declared the annual meeting open.

§02-22 Election of chair of the meeting

Eva-Marie Cider presented the Nomination Committee's proposal for the Annual General Meeting to propose Victoria Gejrot as chair of the meeting.

It was decided

to elect Victoria Gejrot chair of the meeting

Victoria Gejrot thanked the meeting for the honour of leading the annual general meeting.

§03-22 Election of secretary

Eva-Marie Cider presented the Nomination Committee's proposal to suggest Evelina Rosell as meeting secretary.

It was decided

to elect Evelina Rosell secretary of the meeting

§04-22 Selection of two members to verify the minutes

Ulrika Morazán, Uniting Church in Sweden, and Emma Andersson, Swedish Alliance Mission, were proposed to verify the minutes of the annual general meeting.

It was decided

<u>to</u> elect Ulrika Morazán and Emma Andersson to verify the minutes of today's meeting, together with the Chair of the meeting Victoria Gejrot and the Chair of Diakonia, Pether Nordin

§05-22 Election of two vote counters

Ulrika Morazán, the Uniting Church in Sweden, and Karolina Sturesson, the Swedish Alliance Mission, were proposed as vote counters.

It was decided

to elect Ulrika Morazán and Karolina Sturesson to count the votes





§06-22 Statutory notice to attend the Annual General Meeting (Appendix 01)

According to the statutes, the annual general meeting of Diakonia is to be held before the end of June and written notice shall be sent three months before the meeting. Documents must be sent four weeks prior to the annual general meeting.

Lena Ingelstam presented Appendix 1 and informed the meeting that the notice of the annual general meeting was sent to the principals on 8 March 2022 and that documents were sent out on 11 May 2022.

It was decided

that the annual general meeting was convened in accordance with the statutes

§07-22 Adoption of voting list (Appendix 02)

The following representatives had been registered by the principals.

The Uniting Church in Sweden

The Swedish Alliance Mission

Lasse Svensson

Ulf Häggqvist

Johan Adolfsson

Martin Ström

Ulrika Morazán

Karolina Sturesson

Samuel Hummerdal

Emma Andersson

Victoria Gejrot presented the proposed voting list, in

accordance with Appendix 2.

According to Diakonia's statutes, a mediator from each principal should be appointed at an annual general meeting. The Nomination Committee informed the meeting that the principals had decided that Joakim Hagerius from the Uniting Church in Sweden and Kjell Larsson from the Swedish Alliance Mission have responsibility in the event of mediation.

It was decided

to adopt the voting list

<u>to</u> to receive information about the representative of each principal in the event of mediation

§08-22 Adoption of the agenda (Appendix 03)

Victoria Gejrot presented the preliminary agenda in Appendix 3. Victoria proposed that §09-22, §10-22, §11-22, §12-22 and §14-22 should be verified immediately so that the annual report can be published and distributed immediately, and that §15-

22,

§16-22 and §17-22 should be immediately verified as the Board has a meeting in the afternoon.



It was decided

 $\underline{\mathbf{to}}$ approve the agenda, with the above addition, with regard to decisions immediately verified

§09-22 Annual Report and Annual Accounts (Appendix 04)

Pether Nordin began the item about Diakonia's Annual Report 2021. Lena Ingelstam presented Diakonia's Annual Report for 2021, Appendix 4. She particularly highlighted Diakonia's 30-year work in Palestine with the *Disability Rights Program* which helped to better accommodate the rights of people with disabilities, as well as youth groups in Bangladesh working against child marriages and young people's participation in politics in Honduras. She also informed about the continued impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the world and rights holders, which strengthen structural injustices and inequalities. The scope for civil society continues to shrink and the room for manoeuvre for offices and cooperation organisations has been limited.

Ann-Sofie Lasell presented Diakonia's Directors' Report and Sustainability Report for 2021, both in Appendix 4. Irén Frändå then presented Diakonia's income statements and balance sheets with notes for 2021, including those in Appendix 4.

Ulrika Morazán asked a couple of questions which were answered by Lena Ingelstam. Diakonia's collection costs decreased during 2022 after a collection campaign with poor outcome. Few recruited monthly donors in turn meant low costs for the recruitment agency. Diakonia's collection figures in 2019 were exceptional, since Diakonia received a large inheritance of around SEK 30 million, which makes it difficult to make comparisons. With regard to reducing CO2 in addition to reducing the number of air miles, there is more to do for Diakonia. As regards the new organisation introduced at the head office, this entered into force on 1 May 2022. It is not yet fully staffed, but the roles and competencies that need to be recruited have been identified. A risk assessment has been carried out during the process and risk analysis work is still in progress.

Ulf Häggqvist asked a question about rights holders belonging to several minorities including religious minorities. Joakim Wohlfeil replied that Diakonia has many partner organisations working on rights issues, but some work specifically on issues related to converts and religious minorities. This is one of the most sensitive issues Diakonia is working on

It was decided

<u>to</u> adopt the annual report and the annual accounts for the financial year 2021 <u>to</u> adopt the sustainability report that had been compiled

to declare the paragraph immediately verified



§10-22 Adoption of the income statement and balance sheet (Appendix 04)

Ann-Sofie Lasell and Irén Frändå presented the income statement and balance sheet in Appendix 4, pages 38-45. Of this year's earnings, it has been proposed that SEK 5 million be allocated to the Operating and Investment Fund. With this provision, the result for the financial year 2021 would be SEK 157 000.

It was decided

<u>to</u> adopt the result for the financial year 2021, which amounted to SEK 157 000 <u>to</u> declare the paragraph immediately verified

§11-22 Decision based on the financial result for the year (Appendix 04)

During §10-22, Ann-Sofie Lasell and Irén Frändå announced that SEK 5 million is proposed to be allocated to the Operating and Investment Fund.

It was decided

<u>to</u> allocate SEK 5 000 000 of the 2021 results to the Operating and Investment Fund<u>to</u> declare the paragraph immediately verified

§12-22 Audit report (Appendix 04)

Ann-Sofie Lasell presented the audit report submitted by Erik Albenius, Authorised Public Accountant, which is included in the annual report in Appendix 4 on pages 46-47. In the audit report Erik Albenius recommends that the Board be discharged from liability. Ann-Sofie also presented the auditor's statement of opinion on the statutory sustainability report, which confirms that a sustainability report has been prepared, page 62.

It was decided

<u>that</u> the Annual General Meeting received the audit report by Authorised Public Accountant Erik Albenius, as well as the statement of opinion on the sustainability report

to declare the paragraph immediately verified

§13-22 Internal Auditors' Report and response of the Board (Appendix 05 & 06)

Karin Hallin presented the internal auditors' report in Appendix 5, based on the review carried out together with the other two internal auditors Micael Lindholm and Roland Henrysson.

Anette Drewitz thanked the internal auditors for their report and then presented the Board's response in Appendix 6.



It was decided

to put the reports on file

§14-22 Question of discharge from liability for the Board

Under §12-22, Ann-Sofie Lasell presented Authorised Public Accountant Erik Albenius's statement of opinion regarding the Board's management of Diakonia for the year 2021, in which he proposed that the Annual General Meeting grant discharge from liability for the Board members for the financial year 2021.

It was decided

 $\underline{\mathbf{to}}$ grant discharge from liability to the members of the Diakonia Board for the financial year 2021

to declare the paragraph immediately verified

§15-22 Decision on the number of members of the Board (Appendix 07)

Eva-Marie Cider presented the Nomination Committee's proposals in accordance with Appendix 07.

It was decided

 $\underline{\text{that}}$ Diakonia's Board shall consist of 10 members until the Annual General Meeting in 2023

to verify this paragraph immediately

§16-22 Election of Board members (Appendix 07)

Eva-Marie Cider presented the Nomination Committee's proposals in accordance with Appendix 7.

Göran Gunner and Ulrika Erkenborn Rugumayo each have one year left of their term of election. Pether Nordin, Chair, and Anette Drewitz, Vice-Chair, also each have one year left of their term of office. Marie Lackenbauer and Mats Hårsmar have two years remaining of their terms of office. Jakob Ämterlind chose to leave the Board with immediate effect In February 2022.

It is proposed that Linnea Gullholmer, Andreas Linderyd and Eva Eriksson be elected for a period of three years, until the annual general meeting in 2025. Emma Harrysson was proposed in a special election to replace Jakob Ämterlind and will be elected for two years until the annual general meeting in 2024.

It was decided

<u>to</u> re-elect Linnea Gullholmer as a Board Member for three years <u>to</u> re-elect Andreas Linderyd as a Board Member for three years <u>to</u> elect Eva Eriksson as a Board Member for three years





<u>to</u> elect Emma Harrysson as a Member of the Board for two years <u>to</u> declare the paragraph immediately verified

§17-22 Election of Auditor and Deputy Auditor (Appendix 07)

Eva-Marie Cider presented the Nomination Committee's proposal in Appendix 7, to re-elect Erik Albenius as Auditor and Angelica Stööp as Deputy Auditor for 1 year each. Both are authorised public accountants and work at the auditing firm PwC.

It was decided

<u>to</u> re-elect Erik Albenius as Auditor and Angelica Stööp as Deputy Auditor for Diakonia for one year <u>to</u> declare the paragraph immediately verified

§18-22 Election of internal auditors (Appendix 07)

Eva-Marie Cider presented the Nomination Committee's proposal for internal auditors for Diakonia. Roland Henrysson has one year left of his term of office. The Nomination Committee proposes re-election of Karin Hallin and Micael Lindholm for two years each.

It was decided

 $\underline{\mathbf{to}}$ re-elect Karin Hallin and Micael Lindholm as internal auditors for Diakonia for two years each

§19-22 Election of the Nomination Committee (Appendix 7)

Victoria Gejrot informed the meeting that Ulrika Morazán and Roland Oscarsson each have one year left in their terms of office. The Uniting Church in Sweden proposed re-election of Anna Kimming for two years The Swedish Alliance Mission proposed re-election of Eva-Marie Cider for two years

It was decided

<u>to</u> re-elect Anna Kimming and Eva-Marie Cider as members of the Nomination Committee for two years

§20-22 Strategic plan and budget for 2023 (Appendices 08, 09 and 10)

Ann-Sofie Lasell preferred the strategic plan and the strategic budget for Diakonia for 2023, Appendices 8-10. Ann-Sofie emphasised that it is very difficult to prepare a strategic budget so early in the year, and particularly difficult given the uncertain financial situation for Swedish foreign aid. The strategic budget presented is therefore a preliminary analysis carried out early this year.



Samuel Hummerdal asked a question about the strategic plan and how it is that the principals were not mentioned. Pether Nordin replied that the strategic plan shall reflect Diakonia's activities, but that there are other documents, for instance, the statutes, that show the relationship with the principals.

In response to Ulf Häggqvist's question about EU-level foreign aid, Lena Ingelstam replied that there are no indications that the EU is planning to make any deductions. What threatens the aid in Sweden are temporary deductions due to the increase in the number of refugees and the fact that there is no longer a political agreement on 1% aid. Diakonia currently has a relatively low level of EU funding, but is keen to see this increase to attain greater diversification among donors.

It was decided

to adopt the strategic plan and strategic budget for Diakonia in 2023

§21-22 General information on Diakonia's activities

Jakob Ämterlind informed the meeting about *A hundredth for the world* that is Diakonia's campaign work for the Swedish parliamentary elections in autumn 2022. The focus of the campaign is to maintain Swedish foreign aid at 1% of Sweden's GNI.

It was decided

to receive the information

§22-22 Next Annual General Meeting – time and place

Lena Ingelstam presented a proposal for the date of the annual general meeting 2022. It is the turn of the Swedish Alliance Mission to host the meeting.

It was decided

<u>that</u> Diakonia's annual general meeting 2023 will be conducted in person and will be held on Thursday, 8 June 2023

<u>to</u> instruct the Board to return with space for Diakonia's regular annual meeting in 2023

§23-22 Any other business

Joakim Wohlfeil, employee representative, told the meeting that it was fun and rewarding to make congregational visits to the principals' congregations and he thanked them for the care that the staff at Diakonia feel they receive from the principals.

On behalf of the Board, Pether Nordin thanked the meeting for the honour of being part of the Board of Diakonia. Pether welcomed newly elected Board

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members Emma Harrysson and Eva Eriksson to Diakonia's Board and they each described themselves in brief. Pether Nordin thanked Oskar Permvall for his many years on Diakonia's Board and also thanked Jakob Ämterlind and Mine Lon for their time on the Board.

§24-22 Closing

Committee chair Victoria Gejrot thanked the meeting for the honour of leading the annual general meeting. Pether Nordin thanked all those who participated in the annual general meeting, both elected representatives and Diakonia's staff. Pether led the annual meeting in Dom Hélder Câmaras's creed and then declared the annual general meeting closed.

Bromma, date as above,

[signature]

Evelina Rosell Secretary

[signature]

Victoria Gejrot

Chair of the meeting

[signature]

Ulrika Morazán

Verifier

[signature]

Pether Nordin

Chair of Diakonia

[signature]

Emma Andersson

Verifier

Certified a correct translation of the document in Swedish presented to me on 22 August 2022. Elizabeth Nilsson, Paternostervägen 80c, 12149 Johanneshov, tel. +46-(0)70 6603980. Translator no. 744, authorised by the Swedish Legal, Financial and Administrative Services Agency as public translator from Swedish to English.