

**European Buddhist Union INPA  
Annual General Meeting - 13 April 2024  
Venue: Fo Guang Sha He Hua Temple  
Amsterdam (council) and on Zoom (others)**

**Minutes AGM**

**Members present**

AHB  
 Arya Maitreya Mandala  
 BDD  
 Benchen  
 BUN  
 Centro Zen Firenze  
 Centro Zen L'Arco  
 Fo Guang Shan  
 Fondazione Maitreya  
 German Buddhist Union  
 Kunpen Lama Gangchen  
 Lankaramaya  
 Mandala Centro Milano  
 Mandala Samten Ling  
 OBC  
 ÖBR  
 Polish Buddhist Union  
 Rigpa  
 Sakyadhita France  
 Sangha Activa  
 SBU Finland  
 SBU/USB  
 Triratna  
 UBB  
 UBF  
 UBI  
 WCF  
 Yun Hwa Sangha

**Attending**

Ricardo Guerrero  
 Gabor Hargitai  
 Widukind Baier; Thomas Stempel  
 Lama Rinczen  
 Michael Ritman  
 Ven. Shinnyo Marradi  
 Ven. Dario Doshin Girolami  
 Roxanna Pang  
 Maria Angela Falà  
 Gabriela Frey  
 Carlotta Segre  
 Stefano Bettera  
 Elisabetta Mirra  
 Elisabetta Mirra  
 Ute Heim  
 Martin Schaurhofer  
 Lama Rinczen  
 David Rycroft  
 Thea Mohr  
 Lama Dondrub  
 Irma Rinne  
 Luc Feldmann  
 Munisha  
 Carlo Luyckx  
 Antony Boussemart  
 Ven. Dario Roshi Girolami  
 Jake Lyne  
 Juan Antonio Moral

**Members absent with apologies received:**

NBO                      Jamie Cresswell  
 Reiyukai                Isabelle Huet

**Also present:**

Ron Eichhorn; Moritz Richartz; Caridad Martin

**Council:** Stefano Bettera, Munisha, Carlo Luyckx, Roxana Pang, Carlotta Segre, Jake Lyne, Michael Ritman

**Protocol committee:** Jake Lyne, Michael Ritman, Stefano Bettera

# Minutes AGM

- 1. Welcoming of delegates**  
Stefano Bettera welcomed all delegates.
- 2. Apologies for absence**  
Two apologies for absence were received. It was established that according to the new 2023 constitution of EBU INPA, voting can be done by proxy.
- 3. Quorum and clarification about which delegates can vote**  
With 28 members represented by delegates at the beginning of the meeting, and 28 members present at the end of the meeting, it was established that the quorum (1/3 of the membership) was reached. It was clarified which delegates could vote.
- 4. Protocol committee**  
Jake Lyne, Michael Ritman and Stefano Bettera agreed to form the Protocol Committee for approval of the Minutes of the AGM.
- 5. Approval of Agenda**  
The 2024 Agenda of the AGM was approved by consensus.
- 6. The 2023 Annual Activity Report**  
The Annual Activity report from the council and the project groups, was approved by consensus. The EBU action plan for 2024 was approved by consensus.
- 7. The 2023 Annual Accounts**  
The 2023 annual accounts were shared for information purposes only, pending confirmation by the external auditor later this year.
- 8. Auditor's Report on the 2023 Annual Accounts**  
The approval from the auditor is pending. This has to do with the start of a new accountant located in Belgium only recently. The auditor's report will be provided later this year. Other than this the financial report is complete. The members will be given the opportunity to approve the 2023 annual accounts, including the auditor's report, somewhere in the second half of the present year.
- 9. Appointment of EBU auditor**  
The renewed appointment of Jeroen van Rongen as the EBU auditor was approved by consensus.
- 10. Voting for new AGM cycle**  
At the AGM in September of last year a proposal by the previous council was made to change the format and the timing of the AGM. Consensus was reached to organise a one-day (or half a day) meeting on Zoom once in two years and a

big event with live attendance every other year. The new council was asked to prepare a proposal before the next AGM.

For practical reasons it was also proposed to change the council election cycle from three to four years, so the election cycle will always coincide with an AGM with live attendance.

To change the election cycle, we need to amend the Constitution of 16 March 2022, when EBU INPA was established. We only need to change a single sentence.

In Article 9 - Board, Council and Officers of the Constitution we now read:

"All officers are elected at an AGM. Each officer shall be elected for a term of 3 years."

Our proposal is to change the second sentence to:

"Each officer shall be elected for a term of 4 years."

This approval was approved by consensus.

This decision will have to be reconfirmed at the following AGM.

This means that we plan to have council elections again in the year 2027.

**11. Proposal for a new, more concise Code of Ethics for EBU**

The Ethics committee came up with a new proposal based on the version previously agreed at the AGM in 2020. This document is more concise than the original document, while maintaining the emphasis on shared Buddhist values instead of focusing on negative behaviour. Also, the updated complaint procedure was included in this new document.

This proposal was accepted by consensus.

**12. Proposal for the membership application procedure**

The council proposed to change the membership application procedure in such a way that:

1. A candidate member organisation will submit their information and their presentation to the council.
2. Based on this information, the presentation, and additional research (if necessary) the council will send a 'nomination for membership' to the AGM, with their recommendation.
3. At the AGM, members will be able to ask any questions to the council.
4. At the AGM a decision will be reached.
5. After the AGM, the council will inform the candidate member organisation about the decision of the AGM.
6. If the decision of the AGM is to approve the membership application, the council will be charged with taking the necessary steps to formalise the membership.

This proposal was accepted by consensus.

**13. Membership**

- a. The following Buddhist group applied for **full membership**:

**Pul Tho**, based in Ukraine

Based on the council nomination this application was approved by consensus.

- b. The following Buddhist organisation applied for **associate membership**:  
**Centre for Contemplative Research in Europe**, based in Italy  
Based on the council nomination this application was approved by consensus.

**14. Date and place of the AGM 2025**

The date of the next AGM will be in April or May 2025. Location to be decided, suggestions are welcome.

**15. Closing of the AGM**

Attachments to the minutes:

1. EBU 2023 Financial Report, including 2024 budget
2. New Code of Ethics