

Dear Member

We would like to remind you that as we did not reach the quorum of 60 members for the Annual General Meeting held on 8 November 2022, the Board has decided to organize a **follow-up AGM on Tuesday 17 January 2023 at 4pm CET** - respecting the constitutional six-week notice - for which a Zoom link is already available below. Even in case you cannot attend the entire meeting, please tune in on time and leave your connection open so we can easier reach the quorum. The Board apologizes for the late notice of change of time for last AGM, as well for the technical difficulties with the hybrid format, which will be resolved for the next meeting.

Considering the extensive discussion, we already enjoyed at the 8 November AGM, the draft agenda for the AGM on 17 January will be limited to the following critical issues:

1. Approval of Agenda and Minutes AGM 2021
2. Approval of the ISOCARP Account 2021-2022
3. Approval of the ISOCARP Budget 2022-2023
4. Discussion and approval of a Board resolution on a roadmap for 'future ISOCARP Governance'
5. Open discussion

ZOOM LINK:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83172258381?pwd=L0p5TG96UFZYVUJpaW1rMG94VHBhQT09>

Passcode: 773733

The documents subject to approval are all available in our member area on our website. Please contact isocarp@isocarp.oirg in case you experience any difficulty in accessing the materials.

Acknowledging the extensive time and effort that members already invested in the AGM on 8 November, resulting in a civilised open discussion on many critical governance issues concerning our Society, the Board presents below a very brief summary of the 8 November AGM – also available on the member area, include a link to the recording of then meeting as well a transcript of the conversation in the mailbox during the 8 November AGM.

Summary of AGM 8 November 2022

The members of the International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISOCARP) held their Annual General Meeting (AGM) at the occasion of the World Town Planning Day on 8 November 2022, chaired by ISOCARP President Pietro Elisei.

As the AGM did not reach the quorum of 60 members to be valid, the meeting allowed for a more informal presentation of the state of play as well as an open discussion on the most critical financial and governance issues affecting the Society.

The President opened the meeting by welcoming all new ISOCARP members and thanking all ISOCARP members that participated in and actively contributed to the successful 58th World Planning Congress in Brussels, 3-6 October, including the Congress Director and the Secretariat team, as well the General Rapporteur and her Congress Team.

All present Board members were invited to present their contributions to the achievements of the Board as a whole – see the Board annual report on the member page. Secretary General Frank D’hondt also referred to his Progress Report on the implementation of the Board's Strategic Plan 2021-2023, also published on the member page. The President thanked all active Board members for their contributions and in particular the Board members ending their mandate (Ana Peric, Juanee Cilliers and Dushko Bogunovic). After Election Officer Ana Peric presented the results of the 2022 Elections, the President welcomed Dara Golubovic, Sabina Dimitriu as directly elected new Board members, while also congratulating Ali Alraouf as re-elected Board member and Frank D’hondt as re-elected Secretary General. As Frank was also elected as ordinary Board member, the President suggested inviting Rolf Schuett as first runner up, in the same way Jua Cilliers was appointed as Board member without holding by-elections. The President also acknowledges that the new Board will need to formally confirm Dara as the Treasurer of the Board.

In her role as Treasurer, Ana Peric also presented the account of the last fiscal year as well the budget of the current fiscal year, complemented by a presentation on the account/budget of the Institute by Daniele Vettorato in his dual capacity as member of the Board of Society and Institute. A follow up AGM will be needed to formally approve the account/budget of the Society. Comments by members were recorded and are available upon request.

On behalf of Board member Shi Nan, the President presented a proposal to advance the ‘regionalisation policy’ as enshrined within our Strategic Plan. Comments by members were recorded and are available upon request.

Invited by the Chair, the Secretary General explained the 20 September Board decision to ask the Institute ceasing using ISOCARP name until the SGM/AGM 2021 resolutions to gain oversight and financial transparency are fulfilled. Enquired by members, the SG made clear that at this moment there is no court filing against the Institute but that the legal enquiry by ISOCARP lawyer still awaits a reply from the Institute if and how it will comply with the member requirements. The President confirms this message and announces a renewed commitment by ISOCARP leadership to work out a new governance proposal for the AGM to discuss and endorse, prepared within the new Board with external advice by a small advisory ‘wisdom’ group, for which the Board will suggest names in its meeting tomorrow. Comments by members were recorded and are available upon request.

The governance issue also dominated the prepared and presented queries and motions as received on the dedicated mail account agm2022@isocrp.org (until 4 November), including following ‘live’ contributions:

- Olga Chepelenskaia on a) UPAT Chapala process, b) member-to-board communications and c) member-to-member communications;
- Andreas Schneider with a proposal to dismiss the board if it fails to reconcile the Society and the Institute, including appointing a mediator outside the Board;
- Peter Jonquire with a proposal to establish an Advisory Group outside the Board to advise the Board on improved ISOCARP governance and performance;
- Alex Camprubi with a proposal to stop legal action and establish a Honorary Council to advise the Board and AGM on governance issues.

The Chair welcomed all member queries and proposals and expressed confidence that the new P/SG proposal will properly address all the concerns and suggestions expressed by members.

Pietro Elisei, President
Frank D’hondt, Secretary General

