

MINUTES OF THE
Moot Alumni Association
("MAA")
Annual General Meeting

Saturday, 23 March 2024
14:11 to 17:12 (CET)

The Annual General Meeting ("**AGM**") was held in-person at the University of Vienna, Universitätsring 1, 1010 Vienna (Erika-Weinzierl-Saal), and via videoconference (Zoom)

Present during the in-person and online Zoom session:

35 members

- Sherlin Tung
- Oleksandra Hnatiuk (left at 16:52)
- Jessica Rado
- Salih Kartal
- Anne Wang
- Evanthia Kasiora
- Navin G. Ahuja
- İpek İnce
- Christian Johannes Wahnschaffe
- Kleoniki Mastorakou
- Aisha Bamahriz*
- Steffi Wan
- Karina Sibilska
- Haowen Chen
- Yashraj Samant
- Alice Wang (left at 16:27)
- Peter Rižnik
- Carolina Kresch
- Rupesh Gupta
- Yan Yee Atta Chiu (left at 15:58)
- Aaron Tan Kai Ran*
- Kateryna Lazarchuk (left at 15:32)
- Yen Guo Alan Sham
- Tess Bens (left at 16:03)
- Margarita Drobyshevskaya
- Alejandra Carolina Huaman Cabrera
- Mısra Yalçın*
- Begüm Yılmaz
- Arijit Sanjal*
- Shivani Jumani
- Wenru Rui
- Alicja Zielińska-Eisen*
- Shashi Dholandas
- Winfred Nakkazi Kiberu
- Tobias Strecker

* These members left the AGM prior to its conclusion and issued proxies to the members as recorded in item 2 for the remainder of the AGM.

1. Welcome

The meeting started with a delay due to logistical issues at the in-person venue and consequent delays in setting up the videoconference. The attendees were welcomed at 14:11 CET and the meeting was opened. A quorum was established for holding the 2024 Annual General Meeting ("2024 AGM").

2. Recording of Proxies

A total of 26 proxies were issued to those present at the 2024 AGM. The details of the proxies are as follows:

- Sanjana Sachdev to Anne Wang
- Maciej Durbas to Christian Johannes Wahnschaffe
- Aina Hannisa to Christian Johannes Wahnschaffe
- Spyridon Batzios to Evanthia Kasiora
- Gwenllian Kern-Allely to Fernanda Nemr
- Wanyan Pan Jiang to Fernanda Nemr
- Nan Shu to Haowen Chen
- Maja Sutalo to İpek İnce
- Charaine Ng to İpek İnce
- Nina Rasljanin to İpek İnce
- Aisha Bamahriz to İpek İnce
- Angelica Dumaya to İpek İnce
- Aaron Tan to İpek İnce
- Bettina Okinyi to İpek İnce
- Derya Durlu Gurzumar to İpek İnce
- Wendy Gonzalez to İpek İnce
- Oguzhan Samanci to Jessica Rado
- Marco Bottin to Jessica Rado
- Louk Middelhoek to Jessica Rado
- Arijit Sanyal to Oleksandra Hnatiuk
- Robert Warzel to Sherlin Tung
- Ulrich Schroeter to Sherlin Tung
- Jake Lowther to Sherlin Tung
- Alicja Zielinska-Eisen to Christian Johannes Wahnschaffe
- Lucy Li to Yashraj Samant
- Misra Yalcin to İpek İnce

3. Appointment of AGM Chair and AGM Secretary

Pursuant to Article 9(10) of the MAA's Articles of Association ("AoA"), the Co-President of the MAA, İpek İnce, chaired the 2024 AGM.

İpek İnce nominated Christian Johannes Wahnschaffe to act as secretary of the 2024 AGM to take the minutes of the meeting pursuant to Article 9(11) of the AoA.

Resolution: To elect Christian Johannes Wahnschaffe to act as secretary of the 2024 AGM.

Vote: The resolution was passed unanimously, with one absention by Christian Johannes Wahnschaffe.

4. Assessment of final agenda

The 2024 AGM notice and agenda had been circulated beforehand according to the deadlines under the AoA. İpek İnce noted that no comments had been received so far. İpek İnce invited participants to make any final comments on the agenda, if any.

No comments were received.

Resolution: Confirm that the 2024 AGM notice and agenda were validly circulated and that the 2024 AGM was to take place in accordance with the circulated agenda.

Vote: The resolution was passed unanimously.

5. Endorsement of 2023 AGM and 2023 EGM Meeting Minutes

İpek İnce referred to the Minutes of the 2023 AGM and the Minutes of the 2023 EGM, which were published by email with the 2024 AGM Notice and agenda, and invited comments from the members. No comments were received.

Resolution: Endorse the 2023 AGM and the 2023 EGM Meeting Minutes.

Vote: The 2023 AGM Meeting Minutes and the 2023 EGM Meeting Minutes were unanimously endorsed.

6. Report by the 2023/2024 Executive Board

The Executive Board indicated that it would provide a general overview on the MAA activities. More specific reports on the work of each Core Team would follow with the next agenda item. İpek İnce explained that Vera He, Vice President, was unable to attend the AGM for personal reasons and thanked her for her contributions.

On behalf of the Board, İpek İnce started by indicating that the Board was in a time of transition due to a change of management. She thanked Sherlin Tung for staying on the Board for transition purposes and all other Board members for the good communication, dedication and seamless operation among the Board.

İpek İnce noted that the Board had made a conscious decision to not further expand the size of the Core Team. This decision was made with the intention of ensuring efficient management and careful oversight of the MAA's operations. By adopting this team structure, the MAA was best positioned to streamline processes and make informed decisions.

İpek İnce explained that the Board worked on centralising the MAA's archives and on centralising record-keeping, both at the Board level and for individual teams. This was, inter alia, done by setting up shared email inboxes, Google drives and templates for individual teams. As an NGO, the MAA was granted free access to those Google services during the last term. İpek İnce also noted that this was an ongoing process and recalled that it depends on every Core Team member's participation.

İpek İnce gave an overview of the Board's role and workflows. She reiterated that it is the Board's role to strategically guide the MAA's projects decisions and align external and internal communications. The Board operated on the basis of fortnightly to weekly meetings and constant communications via instant messages and their shared inbox. Every Board member was assigned Board reports, with one lead report and one second report dedicated to each sub-team. Mindful of the feedback from earlier terms, the Board aimed to be actively involved in the teams' operations, ensuring timely Board approvals, constant communications and recurring meetings.

İpek İnce turned to external collaborations, highlighting that the Board had, in particular, established relations and partnerships with the ICC, ArbitralWomen and various law firms, providing for reciprocal support in planning and promoting events. The MAA secured Claudia Salomon and Neil Kaplan as keynote speakers for the flagship conferences in Vienna and Hong Kong. The Board intended to intensify such collaborations in the future.

İpek İnce reiterated that for the first time, in collaboration with Allen & Overy, there was a dedicated, well-attended alumni event in Hong Kong. For the future, the Board intended to host alumni events for Hong Kong and Vienna.

Evanthia Kasiora invited questions on the Board report. None were raised.

7. Report by the 2023/2024 Core Team

Media Team

Carolina Kresch, Chair of the Media Team, introduced this term's team members: Aisha Bamahriz, Angelica Dumaya and Vitória Kreutz Werle. Nina Rasljanin acted as Vice Chair. Margarita Drobyshevskaya, in her role as Core Team Coordinator, was particularly thanked for her contributions in designing all promotional materials.

Carolina Kresch recalled that the team is tasked with administering the MAA social media pages, webpage and announcements via email. The team promotes all MAA projects, for which coordination with all other teams is important. Turning to the workflows, Carolina Kresch explained that each team member is responsible for individual platforms and external communication channels.

İpek İnce noted that the Media team also relaunched the MAA webpage, which is a work in progress.

Margarita Drobyshevskaya explained that there are more projects, such as an interview project for the social media pages, which could be developed in future terms. İpek İnce remarked that the MAA would benefit from such substantive content on its social media platforms.

Navin G. Ahuja particularly thanked the Media team for working tirelessly to promote each and every initiative by the MAA, often facing promotional requests on short notice. Carolina Kresh noted that this is an important task to guarantee success of all projects.

Anne Wang particularly appreciated the good cooperation between the Media team and the Conferences & Events team over the past months, which was instrumental to the events' success. Anne further welcomed establishing platforms such as Google slides that simplify editing promotional materials for all team members.

Mentor-Mentee Team

Evanthia Kasiora explained that the team was chaired by Andrea De Biase who is currently on maternity leave but was instrumental to this year's success and launching the programme. Begüm Yılmaz, Kleoniki Mastorakou and Shreya Nair acted as team members.

İpek İnce further noted that past templates and guidance were particularly helpful in onboarding the new team members.

Kleoniki Mastorakou provided an update on the past term. She noted that there had been 114 mentee applications. The team finalised 51 mentor-mentee-pairings in October 2023. There were a few issues that were resolved with repairs. The programme finishes on 30 April. The team hosted meet-and-greets for the mentors and for the mentees, respectively. The team also

organised an in-person get-together in Vienna and Fireside Chats as online events with mentors offering insights from their careers. The three Fireside chats addressed (i) further studies in academia, (ii) finding opportunities in international arbitration and (iii) excelling at the workplace.

İpek İnce thanked the team for their hard work. She noted that it is a particular asset of the MAA Mentor-Mentee Programme that it operates with one-on-one-pairings and puts particular emphasis on the pairing process. She invited everyone to join the programme either as a mentor or as a mentee.

Regional Representatives

Rupesh Gupta, who co-chaired the team together with Robert Warzel and Maciej Durbas, reported on the team's term. He reported that the team was very responsive and ensured timely responses on requests and inquiries. He particularly emphasised Maciej Durbas' contribution, who had chaired the team before. He offered an overview of the presentations conducted by the Regional Representatives, including a presentation by Christian Johannes Wahnschaffe at the Vis Moot School Switzerland with an attendance of about 100 people, by Rokaya Mosaad at an in-person event in Abu Dhabi, by Maciej Durbas on several occasions, by Micha Schwartzstein in Sydney, by Sanjana Sachdev and Rupesh Gupta at Jindal University in India, by Annie Maria Adikin and Bettina Okinyi in Nairobi and another presentation by Eduarda Vieitas. He thanked the team for their performance and Evanthia Kasiora and İpek İnce for their commitment as Board reports.

İpek İnce offered an overview of the global coverage and structure of the Regional Representatives. She reiterated that the Board deliberately decided to proceed with a smaller team, which allowed for better coordination. She recalled that it is one task of the Regional Representatives to attend practice moots but that the team's aims go beyond that, in particular considering the MAA's goals to strengthen its ties with alumni on a global level. For this purpose, she encouraged approaching the Board with plans for in-person events.

Christian Johannes Wahnschaffe noted the importance of following through with initial plans that the Regional Representatives come up with at the beginning of a term. He suggested considering events between May and October, as there are not many activities during this time, but also acknowledged corresponding challenges in light of the MAA term structure.

Conferences and Events Team

İpek İnce introduced the team with an overview of its structure. She noted that, in previous terms, there was some overlap between the different projects. This term, the chairs were allocated differently, with Alicja Zielińska-Eisen as Co-Chair for the Vienna Conference, Yashraj Samant as Co-Chair for the Hong Kong Conference, Fernanda Nemr as Co-Chair for the Vienna events and Charaine Ng as Co-Chair for the Hong Kong events. As time went on, the team members were allocated to individual subsections but always worked together.

Misra Yalçın, as team member, reported for the webinars and the conference in Vienna.

The team organised three webinars, titled "Vis Moot Journey" ("VMJ"). There was no Speaker Series event in this term. The number of webinars went down as compared to the previous term. İpek İnce noted that, contrary to earlier terms, this time one VMJ webinar covered both the Memorandum for Claimant and the Memorandum for Respondent, instead of hosting two separate events. Misra Yalçın observed that this was a good decision as it was beneficial for inviting speakers and increasing the number of attendees. Generally, there had been high numbers of attendees for all events. She also noted that all webinars were free of charge, which was an improvement compared to the prior term.

İpek İnce thanked Withersworldwide for their sponsorship of the videoconference platform for

the webinars and appreciated the challenges with promotional materials.

Misra Yalçın thanked the Media team for their steady support. Next, she reported on the Vienna conference and appreciated the support by Schoenherr as host. She reported a high number of attendees, with all tickets for the conference being sold out. İpek İnce thanked the team for their work in organising the successful Vienna conference. Alicja Zielińska-Eisen noted that selecting the speakers was challenging, as the speakers were very high-profile and the team tried not to re-invite the same people every year. She particularly thanked Misra Yalçın, Salih Kartal and Oleksandra Hnatiuk for their dedication on all levels to make the Vienna conference happen. Navin G. Ahuja thanked the non-conference-team-members for helping out at the conferences. Evanthia Kasiora noted that there is now a good database of law firms and hotels and their capacities as potential hosts for conferences.

Yashraj Samant reported on the Hong Kong conference. He noted that in the end, the conference was well-attended with 70 to 80 people. However, ticket sales were challenging as, in his view, the conference was not advertised very early. It was for this reason that free tickets were offered to law schools in Hong Kong, further to the guest tickets offered to the speakers. He recalled Neil Kaplan delivering a great keynote as well as the high number of prominent speakers. He thanked Withers and DaHui for their support in hosting the conference and providing food and beverages. He thanked Misra Yalçın, Arijit Sanyal, Yen Guo Alan Sham, Yan Yee Atta Chiu, Lucy Li, Charaine Ng, Jessica Rado and Sanjana Sachdev for their support. He also thanked the Board members. There were no recordings of the conference as one speaker objected. He suggested preparing all the documents necessary for recording future conferences. İpek İnce commented that last year only one person opted for a recording. She suggested that offering recordings to all people is thus not advisable. Misra Yalçın seconded this notion.

Anne Wang thanked the Conferences & Events team, in particular those who joined for Hong Kong and appreciated the contributions by other Core Team members, Jessica Rado and Sanjana Sachdev. She also appreciated the difficulties in securing diverse panels for the conference. She particularly thanked Sherlin Tung for her support in identifying potential speakers for the Hong Kong conference, in particular with regard to the CISG panel. She noted the cooperation with DaHui Lawyers in the PRC, thanks to Vera He's connections, and their support in hosting the networking drinks. She expressed the aim to develop this relationship. She noted that one of the conference's speakers, Dr Minli Tang, was also keen to support MAA events in Hong Kong and China. She thanked Yashraj Samant for implementing an oxford style debate, which was an engaging addition to the conference. As the debate took place in the afternoon, she suggested better coordination with the official Vis East team registration, given that a significant number of attendees left the conference after lunchtime. For future conferences, she also suggested aligning the debate topic closer with the Vis Moot problem to attract broader interest among Vis Moot participants.

İpek İnce drew the members' attention to the benefits of finding advice on speakers, locations, law firms etc. in the minutes of past AGMs. She explained that the low ticket sales for the Hong Kong conference might be explained by the late speaker selection and conference advertisement as well as the ticket prices.

Sherlin Tung reiterated that the registration fee is mostly intended to prevent no shows and not to generate profits. She also noted that there have been different price categories in the past.

Yashraj Samant offered the advice that there are different styles of leadership and different styles of workflows. From his observation, there are differences in the degree of instructions people need to function best. He highlighted that there are times at which it is difficult to change a system that has been once selected, now aiming to make further improvements. He raised that is a general question as to what strategy and approaches to leadership work best, and what needs to be reconsidered. He acknowledged that there was some level of disorganization on his part but also emphasised the importance of appreciating different styles in handling things, to achieve best results. He thanked everyone for the opportunity to work

together and in particular Sherlin Tung for bringing him in and her confidence. İpek İnce thanked Yashraj Samant for his dedication and commitment to the MAA. She noted that the Board welcomes all suggestions regarding workflows and future improvement.

Fernanda Nemr reported on the Vienna events. She submitted that employing Eventbrite was a particular success and advisable for future terms as it facilitates admissions and organisation of events (i.e. refunds, waiting lists, requesting information). Whereas Eventbrite is associated with some costs, she considered it a sound investment. She disclosed that the team commenced its term with some difficulties as there were only a few records from past terms that they could use for guidance. She emphasised that this term's team made sure that email correspondence, documents etc. were properly filed. She recalled positive feedback from members and students on the Welcome Party and the Moot bar. The team also succeeded in establishing good connections with event hosts in Vienna, in particular Lukas Grünbichler (Sofiensäle), Yasin Reinberger (Passage) and Christine Ruckendorfer (Aux Gazelles). Fernanda reported that all events except the UN tour and the Farewell Party were sold out. There were 800 guests for the Welcome Party. The smaller events, such as the Walking Tour and the Viennese Dinner, were also sold out. The UN tour was not sold out as registrations had to close earlier. This was, however, not an issue as participants are only charged what the UN itself charges for the tour. She expected the Farewell Party to sell out as well, with 800 registered guests as of that day. She thanked Carolina Kresch for the good collaboration with the Media team, noting that shared chat rooms were helpful in aligning workstreams. She also thanked everyone in the team for their contributions to the Vienna events, in particular Wanyan Pan Jiang, Mısra Yalçın and Salih Kartal.

İpek İnce seconded that Eventbrite was particularly helpful in organising the Welcome Party in Vienna as it facilitated admissions and keeping track of the ticket sales. She also noted regarding the ticket prices that each event is meant to cover its own costs. She appreciated Fernanda Nemr's outstanding dedication to the MAA events.

Yan Yee Atta Chiu, as team member, reported on Hong Kong events, given that Charaine Ng was not able to attend the AGM. She noted that the MAA alumni event was a particular success, as well as the opening party at Tasmanian Bar. She observed that students were rather dissatisfied with the Tram Party as the tickets did not include any food and beverages. She suggested discussing this format for future terms. The visit to the Happy Valley Racecourse was a success with little efforts needed on the part of the MAA team. She also noted that there were issues with the Farewell Party at Trilogy, in particular with (i) the host making guests leave at midnight and (ii) admission.

İpek İnce regretted that the MAA team was faced with difficulties, including rude behaviour, during the Farewell Party.

Yan Yee Atta Chiu went on to emphasise the contributions of the Conferences and Events team, and also thanked Sanjana Sachdev, Margarita Drobyshevskaya and Vitória Kreutz Werle in particular.

Anne Wang thanked Charaine Ng, Yan Yee Atta Chiu, Lucy Li and Yen Guo Alan Sham in particular for their contributions in Hong Kong. She observed that it is always a key challenge to have enough people on the ground in Hong Kong. She hoped that the team would succeed in expanding the network of people established this year. She noted that the Welcome Party at Tasmania Ballroom went well. She observed that it is generally difficult to find available venues for the Welcome and Farewell Party as both dates regularly overlap with other events. Anne Wang also further explained the issues with Trilogy, i.e. that there were different areas with different admissions and that Trilogy reneged on what had been agreed at the last minute. She also reported that for the "Tram Party", a different event name would work better to avoid the impression that food and beverages are offered. For the alumni event, she reported 120 accepted guests and 70 attendees.

Fernanda Nemr put on record that the team tried to find a different venue for the Moot Bar in Vienna. In the end, they identified very few venues that were able to make an offer comparable to Aux Gazelles which is why the team opted against changing the venue. Sherlin Tung noted that there had been attempts to change the Moot Bar to a venue other than Aux Gazelles multiple times in the past.

Navin G. Ahuja thanked Sherlin Tung, Yan Yee Atta Chiu, Lucy Li and Yen Guo Alan Sham for their dedication to the Hong Kong events.

Sherlin Tung noted that passing on event fees – for example by Eventbrite – might be difficult from a compliance perspective, to which Fernanda Nemr reiterated the Eventbrite payment processes and emphasised that there are different types of fees: the MAA is charged with a fee by Eventbrite that the MAA does not pass on to its guests. Distinct from that, Eventbrite charges the guests a separate fee. Sherlin Tung indicated that she will follow up with Singular Concepts, the owner of Trilogy, on the Farewell Party in Hong Kong.

China Project

Alice Wang reported on the China Project and introduced the team structure, with Nan Shu as Chair, Alice Wang as Vice Chair and Haowen Chen and Wenru Rui as team members. She noted that the team had conducted more in-person events. As a highlight, she particularly reported on the closer cooperation with universities from Mainland China. She reported on the various events that the China Project organised. This included, for the first time, an in-person event during the China Arbitration Week in Beijing. The event was a panel discussion on persuasive writing in international arbitration, co-hosted by Pinsent Masons with 30 persons attending. The second event was co-hosted with CIETAC, taking place in Zhejiang province in South China and recorded 400 attendees online and 70 attendees in-person participants. The third event was a joint event with CIETAC Beijing on the occasion of the CIETAC Cup, covering the journey from being a Vis Moot participant to becoming an arbitration practitioner. It was an online event, recording 2000 participants logging in. Finally, the team organised the Moot Shanghai event in Shanghai. It was co-hosted with UNCITRAL, Shanghai University of Political Science and Law and East China University of Political Science of Law and Fudan University Law School. This event addressed AI challenges and opportunities in arbitration, recording 80 in-person participants.

İpek İnce congratulated the China project team on their achievements and recalled the importance of the team in improving the MAA's outreach in China.

Diversity & Inclusion Team

Tess Bens reiterated that the team initially envisioned three events, i.e. on (i) Being Black in Arbitration, (ii) ableism and disability inclusion in arbitration, and (iii) Being Middle Eastern in Arbitration. In light of recent events, she explained that the team decided not to move forward with the latter event topic. She communicated that the team found it inappropriate that the Board wanted to approve the speaker proposals for the panel on ableism and disability inclusion in arbitration, given the nature of the topic. She recalled that the team also encountered logistical difficulties in hosting the event on ableism and disability inclusion, as they were dependent on external support. They approached Pitkowitz and Freshfields but both firms were unavailable to host the event. Finally, Baker McKenzie offered to host the event, taking place in-person in Vienna. This event was also supported by Courtney Lotfi.

Shashi Dholandas thanked Tess Bens and Courtney Lotfi for their dedication to organising the event on ableism and disability inclusion in arbitration.

İpek İnce appreciated the efforts by the D&I team. She expressed that it has a special role among the subteams and highlighted the achievements by Shashi Dholandas and Tess Bens.

Tess Bens suggested that the Board should consider which role the D&I team will take on in the future, in particular whether it should focus on hosting webinars or also address D&I policies within the MAA. She noted that the team has become more actively involved in events and questioned whether that is an appropriate role for the team.

Evanthia Kasiora submitted that upcoming teams could address internal D&I policies for the MAA. İpek İnce agreed.

Vindobona Journal

Jessica Rado reported the status of the Vindobona Journal, with the journal currently being three volumes behind. She noted that volume 26, issue 1 is expected for publication by mid-2024. Volume 26, issue 2 is expected for publication by the end of 2024.

Evanthia Kasiora expressed that the team is doing a good job in catching up, although there is still a lot to do. She noted, as a positive aspect, there were sufficient submissions for volume 26 early on. As a challenge, she noted that the team has to work on restoring records of earlier terms. She also appreciated the logistical efforts of publishing and printing an academic journal in hardcopies.

Sherlin Tung inquired about the status of the Vindobona Journal's Board of Advisors, noting that several people listed on the Board of Advisors were deceased. Evanthia Kasiora and Navin G. Ahuja noted that re-approaching the Board of Advisors members was not done this term but will be added to next term's agenda.

Navin G. Ahuja encouraged people to submit articles to the Vindobona Journal.

International Liaisons

Karina Sibilska reported on the structure of the team, consisting of her as Chair and Ekaterina Petrenko and Keeghan Urmann as team members. She noted that the team prioritised catching up with earlier reports for the UNCITRAL session. She addressed the challenge that the MAA was not invited to all Working Group sessions, namely those that are not directly related to commercial arbitration, i.e., Working Group XI and Working Group III. As a further challenge, she highlighted that working group sessions are less frequently conducted remotely. As it is more difficult to find representatives for in-person sessions, she suggested setting up a database with people that had indicated their interest in participating previously. She recalled that there are still reports to be finalised. For upcoming terms, she emphasised that the team intends to publish the reports more frequently. She thanked Ekaterina Petrenko and Keeghan Urmann for their work.

İpek İnce congratulated Karina Sibilska on her achievements and the smooth operations of the team. As an upcoming challenge, she also identified that UNCITRAL intends to reduce the number of people and organisations that are invited to participate. In the past, this already applied to sessions on shipping and logistics. She encouraged everyone present to establish connections with UNCITRAL.

Compliance Team

Christian Johannes Wahnschaffe, Compliance Officer, recalled that the Compliance team mostly addressed issues on an ad hoc basis. He thanked Maja Šutalo, who was responsible for addressing GDPR questions as Compliance Officer. He explained that, as a second pillar, the Compliance team faces legal issues relating to Austrian law. He reiterated that this is particularly challenging, given that none of the Board members and none of the Core team members is educated in or qualified under Austrian law and, thus, are not able to assess such

questions. He recalled that the amendments to the AoAs that had been passed in the EGM and allowed for virtual hearings had been accepted by Austrian authorities. He thanked Sherlin Tung for putting the MAA in touch with Dr. Gerhard Klingenbrunner as external counsel for the banking matter. He noted that approaching people with an Austrian background, either as legal counsel or as Core Team members, is essential for the future.

İpek İnce reiterated that it is an issue that the MAA is registered under Austrian law but there is no one involved with an Austrian background. For the upcoming term, the MAA intends to have more people with an Austrian background in the team. She noted that moving forward, the MAA should seek pro bono legal counsel or legal counsel. She thanked the Compliance team for their work.

8. Report on the status of the MAA bank account

İpek İnce addressed the financial situation, namely that Bank Austria had closed the MAA's account. There had been issues with the banks in earlier years too. With the ongoing war, banks became stricter in their KYC-procedures. As Bank Austria had sent a letter to an old address, the MAA had not submitted a reply to this letter in time. On this basis, Bank Austria found the MAA non-compliant with its KYC-procedures. This led to the closure of the account. The bank account was closed in November 2022. The Board was only informed about it in January 2023. The funds are with a Bank Austria escrow account and remain there until Bank Austria is instructed to transfer the funds to a new account. The Board understands a transfer to a new MAA bank account as the only sensible option.

İpek İnce summarised all the efforts that the Board undertook to find a bank. She put on record that the Board contacted, other than Bank Austria, numerous other banks, including Erste Bank, Raiffeisenbank, Deniz Bank Österreich, Wise, Revolut, Monzo and N26. She also illustrated that the banks have little incentives to open accounts for an association such as the MAA. The banks have to run recurring KYC-procedures for newly elected Board members. Also, there are small profit margins for non-governmental organisations. For this reason, moving the bank account to Hong Kong is also not an option.

Jessica Rado inquired if the bank account needed to be registered in Austria. İpek İnce confirmed that, as the MAA is an association under Austrian law, inquiries with foreign banks had not resulted in any interest on their part so far.

Evanthia Kasiora and İpek İnce recalled the efforts to unfreeze the money in the frozen bank account, including an amendment of the AoAs to give secretaries executive powers. But the Austrian *Landespolizeidirektion* rejected this amendment. As for context, Bank Austria refused to verify identities of Board members not based in Vienna. For this reason, Sherlin Tung sent a letter as a Board member. But when Bank Austria received the letter, Sherlin Tung was a Board member in the role of a secretary. This is why Bank Austria rejected the letter.

Oleksandra Hnatiuk inquired whether it was possible to get a guarantee or a sponsorship letter by a law firm that might make it easier for the MAA to obtain a bank account. Sherlin Tung summarised that she had consulted Patrizia Netal and Dr. Nikolaus Pitkowitz. Both indicated that it is currently particularly difficult to find a bank willing to open a bank account for associations such as the MAA. There is no obligation for banks to open such an account.

İpek İnce recapped that, without Board members with Austrian tax IDs and who reside in Austria, it does not seem possible to open an account with an Austrian bank. She offered a suggestion that the new Board either (i) go to the Austrian Ombudsman, with support from Dr. Gerhard Klingenbrunner, and/or (ii) reapply to banks with a Board that consists of members with residency in Austria.

The Board invited all the members to submit their proposals for solving the banking matter.

9. Cash audits for FY 2020/2021, FY 2021/2022 and FY 2022/2023

Anne Wang introduced the cash audits that had been finalized for the current AGM.

She explained that the cash auditors originally elected for the financial year from 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 left the organisation. Mariya Davis and Yashraj Samant were then elected in the following year as replacements. Also, the unexpected resignation of two Board members prevented the previous Board from putting together the corresponding audit report.

The closure of the MAA's bank account with Bank Austria then prevented preparing cash audits for the 2023 AGM as Bank Austria initially did not provide the necessary bank statements. Only through the efforts by the following Board, Bank Austria eventually provided the bank statements. For this reason, this AGM covered the audits for the following financial years:

1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021: Mariya Davis and Yashraj Samant as elected Cash Auditors

1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022: Mariya Davis and Yashraj Samant as elected Cash Auditors

1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023: Misra Yalçın and Fernanda Nemr as elected Cash Auditors

Anne Wang explained which bank accounts have been considered for the cash audits, namely: (i) secondary Bank Austria account originally dedicated to the Vindobona Journal, which was no longer actively used, (ii) primary Bank Austria account, used until closure by Bank Austria in November 2022, (iii) account held in the name of Board member Sherlin Tung that served as interim account following the closure of the primary Bank Austria account, (iv) PayPal account which was used but became inactive due to verification issues, (v) active Stripe account used for revenues such as membership fees, transferred on a recurring basis to a bank account designated by the MAA.

Anne Wang also explained that the cash auditors reviewed all five accounts, identifying debits greater than EUR 50.00 and checking them against the receipts, invoices etc. She thanked the cash auditors for their work.

Fernanda Nemr put on record that the Board members did a very good job in putting together the financial records, especially considering the challenges with the years for which the audits had completed. She confirmed that the cash auditors went through all the information and checked them against the audited accounts. There was no need for changes to the draft financial statements and the elected cash auditors did not identify any transactions or statements that raised concerns. No changes to the draft financial statements were necessary. She submitted that the cash auditors were able to confirm all transactions and signed the financial reports.

Yashraj Samant put on record that he and Mariya Davis verified the financial statements for the financial years 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 and 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022. He confirmed that the numbers match and all credits and debits are in order. He put on record that he and Mariya Davis endorse the financial statements for both financial years audited.

10. Exoneration of Cash Auditors for FY 2020/2021, FY 2021/2022 and FY 2022/2023

Resolution: To exonerate Mariya Davis and Yashraj Samant as Cash Auditors for FY 2020/2021 and FY 2021/2022 and Misra Yalçın and Fernanda Nemr Proposal as Cash Auditors for FY 2022/2023.

Vote: The resolution was passed unanimously, with Yashraj Samant, Misra Yalçın and Fernanda Nemr abstaining.

11. Election of FY 2023/2024 Cash auditors

Anne Wang clarified that there was a typographical error on the agenda item, which provided for the election of the 2024/2025 cash auditors. However, as the Executive Board's functional period and the financial years do not align, this AGM has to elect the 2023/2024 cash auditors for the financial year from 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024.

İpek İnce suggested reviewing why the functional period and the financial year do not align, assuming that the reason for this is in Austrian law.

Salih Kartal and Carolina Kresch volunteered to be Cash Auditors.

Resolution: To elect Salih Kartal and Carolina Kresch to act as Cash Auditors for FY 2023/2024.

Vote: The resolution was passed unanimously, with Salih Kartal and Carolina Kresch abstaining.

12. Exoneration of 2020/2021, 2021/2022 and 2022/2023 Executive Boards

İpek İnce referred to the next agenda item, i.e. the votes to exonerate the different Board members for the three financial years that had been audited.

Resolution: To exonerate the Board Members for the FY 2020/2021.

Vote: The resolution was passed unanimously, with Sherlin Tung abstaining.

Resolution: To exonerate the Board Members for the FY 2021/2022.

Vote: The resolution was passed unanimously, with Sherlin Tung, Navin G. Ahuja and İpek İnce abstaining.

Resolution: To exonerate the Board Members for the FY 2022/2023.

Vote: The resolution was passed unanimously, with Sherlin Tung, Navin G. Ahuja and İpek İnce abstaining.

13. Amendments to the Articles of Association

The Executive Board has put forward a proposal to grant Secretaries sole power of representation. A clean and mark-up version of the proposed amendments had been circulated in advance with the agenda.

İpek İnce explained the background of the proposed amendment to the AoA. The role of the Secretary to the Board was introduced to the MAA's AoA in 2019. This allowed more people to serve on the Board, given that the workload for Board members grew as the MAA expanded its activities. The amendment to Article 11(8) of the AoA proposed in this AGM intends to grant the Secretaries a sole power of representation. The proposed amendment is particularly aimed at allowing people who reside in Austria to represent the MAA in banking matters, without having to serve as President or Vice President. The proposed amendment had been approved by external counsel, i.e. Dr. Gerhard Klingbrunner.

Evanthia Kasiora recalled that the proposed amendment reflects that the MAA grows and that

the role of the Secretary is a material role in supporting this growth.

Anne Wang explained that the amendment proposed in the 2023 EGM was intended to provide for more flexibility, granting any other member of the Executive Board sole power of representation without being limited to the title of Secretary. This was meant to allow for more flexibility in leadership structures. But this amendment was eventually rejected by the *Landespolizeidirektion* for lack of sufficient certainty, as per the Board's understanding.

Resolution: To approve the proposed amendments to the AoA.

Vote: The resolution was passed unanimously.

14. Proposal by the existing Executive Board of additional members to the 2024/2025 Executive Board

Going forward, the Executive Board proposes the following composition: two Co-Presidents, four Vice-Presidents, one Secretary.

İpek İnce explained the background of the proposal, i.e. that one Co-President is based in Europe and one Co-President is based in Asia, reflecting the Willem C. Vis Moot in Vienna and the Vis East Moot in Hong Kong. She further explained that the additional Vice Presidents ensure effective exercise of power of representation, allowing, inter alia, for a Vice President residing in Vienna. She also reiterated that the role of a Secretary serves to test if Austrian authorities accept the amendments to the AoA, as unanimously passed by the AGM.

15. Election of the 2024/2025 Executive Board

İpek İnce recalled that she, Navin G. Ahuja, Sherlin Tung, Evanthia Kasiora, Peter Rižnik, Christian Johannes Wahnschaffe and Anne Wang issued expressions of interest to be elected as Board members. She explained that the MAA intends to strengthen its ties with Vienna, and with that, gave the word to Peter Rižnik.

Peter Rižnik introduced himself and his ties to Vienna and the Vis Moot community.

İpek İnce thanked Vera He for her dedication to the MAA and explained that she does not run for re-election as she has to focus on other professional projects.

Anne Wang reiterated that the Board intends to strengthen the MAA's ties with Asia as well.

Sherlin Tung recalled that she offered to join the Board as Vice President but that her role would be limited to handover and to ensuring a resolution of the bank account issues.

Resolution: To elect Navin G. Ahuja and İpek İnce as Co-Presidents, Sherlin Tung, Evanthia Kasiora, Peter Rižnik and Christian Johannes Wahnschaffe as Vice Presidents and Anne Wang as Secretary.

Vote: The resolution was passed unanimously, with all seven members standing for election abstaining.

16. Election of Advisory Board members

İpek İnce recalled that the Advisory Board members are elected for five years, according to the Articles of Association. She proposed to continue listing Professor Eric E. Bergsten "in memoriam" on the webpage. She indicated that the Executive Board proposes to re-elect the current Advisory Board members.

Sherlin Tung inquired whether the MAA should approach potential Advisory Board members and have them confirm their availability before electing them.

Christian Johannes Wahnschaffe and Anne Wang reiterated the role and function of the Advisory Board members.

Evanthia Kasiora recalled the proposed procedure, i.e. that, first, the AGM votes on the election of Advisory Board members, and, second, the Executive Board approaches the elected Advisory Board members, asking them if they accept their election. This would allow to move forward with the vote on Advisory Board members during this AGM.

Resolution: To re-elect Louise Barrington, Arno L. Eisen, Björn Gehle, Christopher Kee, Stefan Kröll, Ulrich Schroeter and Jeff Waincymer as members of the MAA Advisory Board.

Vote: The resolution was passed unanimously.

İpek İnce introduced the proposal for new members of the Advisory Board, i.e. Patriza Netal, Patricia Shaugnessy and Tobias A. Strecker.

Resolution: To elect Patriza Netal, Patricia Shaugnessy and Tobias A. Strecker as members of the MAA Advisory Board.

Vote: The resolution was passed unanimously.

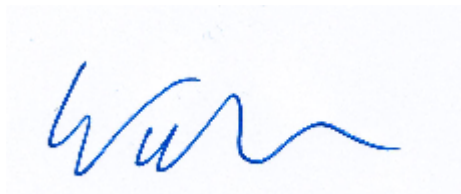
17. Any other business

As there was no further business, İpek İnce thanked all the participants for their time and taking part in the 2024 AGM.

The Chair closed the 2024 AGM at 17:12 CET.



İpek İnce, AGM Chair



Christian Johannes Wahnschaffe, AGM Secretary