

IATJ
MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
April 29, 2022 at 8:30 a.m.
By Teleconference

Participants:

Chief Justice Eugene Rossiter, Judge Philippe Martin, Judge Michael Beusch, Judge Wim Wijnen and Justice Henry Visser

1. The agenda was approved as circulated.
2. The minutes of the Executive Committee meeting of February 16, 2022 approval of which were deferred to the next meeting.

3. Financial Status:

The financial statements were to be presented at a later time and considered for approval at the next meeting.

4. Webinar – April 8, 2022:

The general discussion concluded that the webinar was very successful. The panelists were very satisfactory, on time and made a tremendous contribution. The program was very organized and presented professionally. There was an evaluation done by the Permanent Program Committee of the IATJ which concluded that the webinar was lively, interesting, well organized, easy to follow and the panelists were responsive and everything was kept within the time limit of 90 minutes for the panel. The effort by the Chairperson of the panel was outstanding. The webinar was well organized with structure. The purpose and outline of the webinar was confirmed early so that all participants knew what was expected of them early in the process.

With respect to further developments on future webinars, it was determined that the IATJ would attempt to do one webinar a year likely in March or April with the topics to be determined by the Permanent Program Committee.

5. 12th Assembly:

Program:

Judge Wim Wijnen confirmed the program has been finalized and the final program will be distributed on May 31, 2022. Attached is the pro forma final program to date.

Logistics:

The President advised that the logistics were well firmed up and he was to finalize a few items left to be discussed with the Hungarian Curia. The timing with respect for the papers to be available for printing is to be determined as well as the final timeline for registration. It was thought that registration would best be delayed until July 15, 2022 so that a determination could be made with respect to the finalization of all aspects of the 12th Assembly.

There was a detailed discussion in relation to the prospects of problems in holding the 12th Assembly in Budapest given some considerations including: the EU recent financial action against Hungary; the possible attack on the independence of the judiciary; the Russian/Ukrainian war; the expansion or contraction of the COVID-19 virus and possible entry restrictions into Hungary as a result of COVID restrictions. There was a discussion as to a deadline date in which to register and make a determination with respect to the advancement of the 12th Assembly in Budapest, Hungary. It was determined that the Executive Committee would have to make a decision by June 30, 2022 on a go forward basis considering all of the factors which might come into play in ensuring that the 12th Assembly is a success. At the same time, the registration date would be fixed for July 15, 2022.

There was a discussion with respect to a possible Plan B for alternative sites should the 12th Assembly not be able to proceed as planned. Alternative sites to be considered are The Hague, Paris or Berlin. It was noted the program was complete so it is just a question of having facilities suitable for holding approximately a maximum of 80 attendees as well as the catering for health breaks and lunches, as well as planning dinners and availability of hotels.

The alternative sites will be discussed, if necessary, as time progresses.

6. Potential Locations for Future Assemblies:

A discussion took place with respect to potential locations for the 13th Assembly 2023, 14th Assembly 2024 and 15th Assembly 2025. It was noted that IFA was scheduled to be in Cancun 2023, Cape Town 2024 and Lisbon 2025. A discussion took place with respect to consideration to possible United States, Sweden, Belgium, Berlin, Paris or The Hague all of which will be discussed at a later date.

7. IFA Tillinghast Webinar:

The President advised that he had made a presentation to the IFA Tillinghast webinar and felt that it was somewhat a successful although the topic was very difficult. There appeared to be approximately 500 to 610 attendees. There were time zone issues as this particular webinar was focused on the Asian group but all felt that it was good for the IATJ to participate.

8. IATJ Nobel Prize:

There was discussion with respect to the suggestion from Sam Sim of Singapore on the advancement of the IATJ Nobel prize. It was felt this would be very good exposure for the IATJ on a worldwide basis but there would be a tremendous amount of effort required. It was decided that we needed to establish an internal committee to investigate this matter – it would involve members of the IATJ outside of the Executive Committee. It was decided that some draft committee guidelines might be prepared for some formats which might be considered – oral presentations, paper presentations, moot presentations with a jury who would award a prize and the consideration as to who it would be open to.

There was a discussion with respect to an agreement of some sort of concept proposal around Nobel prize concepts but it was decided that it would proceed alone with the IATJ and possibly look for partners like academics, universities or the IBFD or IFA. This is some ideas

that are going to be discussed at the next IATJ Executive Committee meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was duly adjourned.