# Meeting Minutes of the 2025 Annual General Assembly meeting of the Internet Society Switzerland Chapter

Thursday, February 27, 2025 19:10 - 21:10 Hybrid Switzerland Innovation Park Biel/Bienne (SIPBB), S328 Aarbergstrasse 46, 2503 Biel / Bienne

Agenda:\_https://www.isoc.ch/events/general-assembly-2025/

Slides: ISOC-CH GA 2025

Activity report: ISOC-CH Activity Report 2025

Budget 2025: ISOC-CH Budget 2025

Welcome, explanation of the voting procedures, election of vote counters

Mathias Jud volunteers to count votes. Voting is recorded by counting the votes in the room. There is one person online so one proxy is counted. There are 10 participants, 9 in person, 1 online.

The Minutes are taken by Berna Alp.

Approval the General Assembly 2024 minutes

#### The meeting minutes are approved:

10 in favor (9 in person, 1 online via proxy)0 against0 abstained

Activity report and financial statement 2024

Panayotis, ISOC CH chair, presents the activity report. Please refer to the activity report to learn more about the details.

Markus Kummer provides a brief overview and update on the **UN Convention on Cybercrime**. He recommends collaborating with like-minded organizations, continuing to push back whilst keeping this issue on our agenda, and closely monitoring the developments.



#### **Activity report is approved:**

10 in favor (9 in person, 1 online via proxy)

0 against

0 abstained

Panayotis then gives the floor to Loïc Modoux, Treasurer, who presents the Balance Sheet, Profits & Loss Statement, which include ISOC CH activities and NGI0 accounting. The NGI0 budget (primarily covering salaries for the NGI0 Project) is included in 2024 financial statements after a delay in the contract signing due to administrative issues beyond ISOC CH's control in the previous year.

A question from the previous General Assembly regarding the opening a second bank account is revisited. Concerns were raised about the risk of overspending, and the potential for delayed detection. Loïc explains that this option was not pursued due to the increased complexity. However, he notes that additional measures, such as tracking and monitoring transactions by cost center/buckets (e.g. ISOC CH and NGI0), have been introduced.

Alexander Suter, a member of the Oversight Committee, suggests implementing a double-signature approval process for each transaction without thresholds. He emphasizes that having two accounts with a single authorized person with full access would not sufficiently protect the chapter from overspending or potential misuse of funds. Instead, he recommends that the Treasurer enter the transaction into the online banking system, which would then require approval from a second authorized person before execution. This follows standard due diligence practices.

Panayotis, reviews the NGI0 budget and explains the breakdown of SERI payments (distributed 50-30-20 across three years). He clarifies that overhead costs are paid at the completion of the project.

Loïc, stresses that the statements were reviewed by both a professional independent auditor and the Oversight Committee. While there is an additional cost burden associated with an independent auditor, no immediate decision is required. This decision will be revisited at the next General Assembly.

Further discussions take place regarding reporting by cost centers/buckets, and governance (i.e. running the organization in a very transparent manner, regular 6 month reporting intervals for the Balance Sheet, performance and deliverables.

#### The financial statements are approved:

10 in favor (9 in person, 1 online via proxy) 0 against



#### 0 abstained

## Board release, Board and Oversight committee elections

#### The Board is released (10/0/0)

10 in favor (9 in person, 1 online via proxy)

0 against

0 abstained

The four current board members run for re-election. A call for candidates was made, but no additional candidates stepped forward.

**Loïc Modoux** resigns from the Board. We express our sincere gratitude to Loïc for his dedication and service as **Treasurer**. His careful stewardship of our chapter's financial matters has been instrumental in ensuring the chapter's initiatives and operations run smoothly. We deeply appreciate his contributions and commitment to our mission.

Chair: Berna Alp

Vice-Chair: <u>Marianthe Stavridou</u> Treasurer: Panayotis Antoniadis

Organizational Member: Stéphane Coillet-Matillon

#### The Board is re-elected (10/0/3)

7 in favor 0 against 3 abstained

(9 in person, 1 online via proxy)

Q: Operational questions and & Conflict of Interest Management are discussed. Who has access to PostFinance account? Who signs the NGI0 team members' salary slips? How is conflict of interest managed?

A: Employment contracts are signed by two board members.

Conflict of interest is managed by

- Requiring two signatures for each payment transaction,
- Board members who are also employed by NGI0 project abstaining from relevant decisions
- Hiring decisions involving the Board members being made at the General Assembly (this requirement does not apply to non-board members).

#### The Oversight Committee is released (10/0/0)

Current oversight committee:



Olivier Crepin- Leblond Alexander Suter Michael Hausding (deputy)

### The Oversight committee is re-apppointed (10/0/2)

8 in favor0 against2 abstained(9 in person, 1 online via proxy)

## 2025 Budget

Loïc explains the new funding categories that the Chapter will be requesting from ISOC Global. Along with Panayotis, he provides a breakdown of the Budget line items.

Panayotis then presents an overview of NGI0 funds, covering administrative details, expenses and the travel reimbursement policy. He emphasizes that the next year's General Assembly will be important in finalizing the NGI0 project completion plan.

Q: Should ISOC CH continue supporting Swiss IGF?

A: Markus Kummer will decide whether to continue funding the Swiss IGF. As previously mentioned in GA 2024, ISOC CH has not been closely involved in organizing the IGF in 2024 due to their limited inclusion of ISOC CH in their planning process. Future support will depend on improved collaboration – if ISOC CH can actively co-develop the agenda and be recognized as a sponsor, continued support will be considered, especially given the administrative burden.

A remark is made regarding additional funding opportunities. In addition to the admin funding (\$3.5K), ISOC CH could request an additional \$5K to support mission-related activities.

Q: Question about board members' "Director's Liability Insurance?" question is raised again. A: This is not necessary in Switzerland, releasing of the Board members from the Board, also release them from all obligations.

#### The budget is approved (10/0/0)

10 in favor (9 in person, 1 online via proxy)0 against

0 abstained

# Special Topics: Beyond the Net Grant

Mathias Jud presents his project "Communication of Diasporic Communities" which will be submitted for funding this year. These diasporic communities often fall out of national chapters.



The project aims to develop self-organized communication strategies for permanently displaced people, including

- Workshops,
- Building connectivity,
- Secure communication methods
- Developing documentation and guidelines

This initiative aligns with ISOC Global activities, and ISOC CH will be responsible for project activities. Currently, no other project applications have been submitted. ISOC CH agrees to support this project, and Mathias will submit a detailed budget and list of deliverables for board review.

# **End of General Assembly**

Panayotis, closes the meeting and invites attendees for drinks and food.

The meeting is adjourned at 21:10.

