

# Minutes: Board Meeting

Place: Rome, Italy

Date: 14<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> December 2019

Chair: Rob O'Donnell

Minute-taker: Edvardas Vabuolas

Present: Rob O'Donnell, Sara Finnbogadottir, Edvardas Vabuolas, Giuseppe Lipari (Board Members) and Giuseppina Tucci (Interim Secretary General)

## AGENDA

1. Seeds for Integration's Migrants Empowerment Toolkit
2. Stronger School Student Unions' New Employee
3. Portfolio Updates
4. Membership Updates
5. Staff Updates by the Secretary General
6. November 17<sup>th</sup> Campaign
7. European Youth Forum's General Assembly
8. Online meeting with "Students Voice" USA
9. Working Groups' Updates
10. Seeds for Integration Updates
11. External Representations
12. COMEM and Ex-GA preparations

----- The Chair opened the meeting -----

Point of the Agenda 1: Seeds for Integration's Migrants Empowerment Toolkit

The toolkit is under final revision. It will include some examples of good projects for potential seeds applicants to get some inspiration.

Decision: The Secretary General and Sara will go through the final toolkit and approve it by the end of December 2018.

Point of the Agenda 2: Stronger School Student Unions' New Employee

As the new programme funded by OSF is about to start, the OBESSU Board went through the ideal profile of the candidate and set a timeline for the hiring process.

Decision: A new Staff Member will join the Secretariat ideally from February 2019. Interviews will be conducted by the Secretary General in cooperation with the Board.

Comments: The Call should be out before Mid-December

### Point of the Agenda 3: Portfolio Updates

Each of the Board Members tasked with a specific portfolio shared updates on what's on their plate. Highlights include the work on VET and the European Apprentices Network, the work of the Mental Health Working Group that will fall into the Convention on MH, and updates on the Digitalisation Working Group of the Lifelong Learning Platform.

The Board worked on a more comprehensive report on each portfolio for the Board Report at the Council of Members. The work on portfolio is also visible on the OBESSU Website.

### Point of the Agenda 4: Membership Updates

The Board discussed the state of the art within the Membership of OBESSU. The platform is growing in visibility and the Board is in contact with different potential affiliates, members and Partners. The work with National Youth Councils is also fundamental for the Membership Development of the organisation.

The Board also gave an update on the new TCIO structure and upcoming plans. New International Officers should be able to follow the new individualised TCIO plan.

The Board is also happy and excited for the vote on the Full Membership of NSoA during the COMEM and the welcoming of the new Affiliate from Turkey – TOS.

Decision: The Board will foster cooperation with National Youth Council of countries where there is a possibility for Membership Development. Rob is coordinating this work with Samira.

### Point of the Agenda 5: Staff and finances Updates by the Secretary

The Interim Secretary General updated the Board together with the tasked Board Member, Sara. Together, they conducted staff reviews with almost all the staff members (2 still missing). Ela will come back from her maternity leave in January 2019.

The Staff will be growing to a total number of 8 people in the office.

The ISG also gave a financial update, based on the one that will be presented for approval at the Council of Members.

Decision: We will start the process to hire a new Intern as "Events assistant". The person who will be selected will work on communications and will support in the logistics of event organising.

### Point of the Agenda 6: November 17<sup>th</sup> Campaign

The “Mind our education” campaign is being very successful. The Board wishes to thank the Secretariat for the great support in visibility. The call has, at present date, 52 signatures from Europe and beyond.

The Board will open the COMEM with a statement of commemoration.

Decision: As next year marks the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 17<sup>th</sup> November, the Board should look into potential bigger actions and campaigns.

#### Point of the Agenda 7: YFJ’s General Assembly

The Board prepared for the discussion to be held during the YFJ GA 2018. In these elections, OBESSU is co-nominating Kristen Aigro as candidate to the YFJ presidency.

#### Point of the Agenda 8: Online meeting with “Students Voice” USA

The Board met on Skype with the American Organisation called “Students Voice”. Their work is really focused on civic education, media literacy and media skills. They run several interesting projects, including the Student’s Bill of Rights where they gathered recommendations from students from 52 cities in 19 states, but next year they’ll be travelling to 32 States.

Decision: OBESSU will try to establish usual contacts with the organisation looking into possible joint actions, like the one on the 17 November.

#### Point of the Agenda 9: Working Groups’ Updates

The Board shared updates from the Working Groups, who will present their work during the Council of Members:

- VET: The working group is still finalising their research on VET and representation.
- Mental Health: has been struggling with getting everyone on board, but they did an amazing work in finalising the research.
- Global Citizenship Education: They have been very proactive and are presenting at the COMEM to gather inputs from members to draft the Policy Paper.

#### Point of the Agenda 10: Seeds for Integration Updates

The Board discussed ongoing projects and the future perspectives of the programme.

Decision: A new call for Pillar 2 projects will be out in December. A new call for Pillar 3 projects (together with ESU) will be out in December. A new call for evaluators will also be ready in December.

Comments: Seeds should be more visible within the Membership.

Point of the Agenda 11: External Representations

The Board divided the upcoming engagements where to represent OBESSU. These can be found in the Monthly OBESSU Overview in the section “On the Board’s Schedule”

Point of the Agenda 12: COMEM and Ex-GA preparations

The Board discussed the final details of the Council of Members, divided tasks, finalised the Discussion Corners and discussed their position on all amendments proposed by the Board themselves and the Membership.

The Board finalised the Board Report in a working session.

The Board is joined by the proposed COMEM Chair – Nora Kleibel – and the proposed Minute Takers from the Secretariat to run through the Agenda, set the timings and review the internal regulations to come prepared to the COMEM.

----- The Chair closed the meeting -----