



# European Conference of Arab Horse Organizations

## Minutes of the 41<sup>st</sup> Annual General Meeting held on 28 April 2024, Hotel Marsa Malaz Kempinski, Doha – The Pearl, Qatar, at 9:00

### **Executive Committee Members - Present**

Jaroslav Lacina, President  
Mohamed Al-Harbi, Vice-President  
Jerzy Bialobok, Treasurer  
Elisabeth Chat  
Marianne Tengstedt  
Klaus Beste  
Christine Demeersseman  
Ahmed Abdelrazek  
Faleh Al-Nasr  
Robijn den Hartog

### **Ex officio**

Zuzana Slavíková, Executive Secretary

### **ECAHO Lawyer**

Sinan Odok

## Agenda

1. Official conference opening
2. Confirmation of presence and quorum / Apologies for absence
3. Appointment of Vote Counters
4. Minutes of the previous meeting (London, 30 April 2023)
5. Matters arising from these Minutes
  - 5.1. Constitutional changes – change of name and other connected changes
6. Unpaid Membership fees
7. Membership
  - 7.1. Full Membership changes
    - 1.1.1. Change of the Full Membership from Royal Cavalry Oman to Oman Equestrian and Racing Federation (OERF)
  - 7.2. Application for Associate Membership
    - 1.1.2. Australasian Arabian Breeders Coalition (AABC), Australia
    - 1.1.3. Israeli Arabian Horse Breeders (IABA), Israel
    - 1.1.4. Iraq Arabian Horse Organization (IAHO), Iraq
8. President's report
9. Reports of the Commissions
  - 9.1. Show Commission (EAHSC)
  - 9.2. Registration & Identification Commission (EAHRIC)
  - 9.3. Sport Commission (EAHSpC)
10. Treasurer's report
11. Accounts from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023
12. Approval of Accounts and granting discharge to the members of the Executive Committee
13. Budget for the year 2024 (1 January 2024 - 31 December 2024)
14. Approval of the Budget for the year 2024
15. Appointment of Auditors
  - 15.1. Rotmonten Wirtschaftsprüfung AG
16. Report on SDC cases, report on EAC cases
17. Report on Judges, DC and Ringmasters courses & Workshops
18. Election of the Treasurer
  - ~~18.1. Ismer, Mark (GER)~~
  - 18.2. Safady, Amira (NED)
  - 18.3. Stojanowska, Anna (POL)
19. Honorary membership
20. Next Meeting
21. Any other business

### 1. Official conference opening

**Jaroslav Lacina (President of ECAHO)** opened the conference at 9:10 by greeting of all present delegates, guests and EC members. He thanked the hosting country – Qatar became Associate Member of ECAHO in 1995 and shortly after Full Member of ECAHO. Qatar significantly improved the show scene in the area and plays active role also at Arabian horse racing. J. Lacina thanked the organizing team of this conference for their efforts. As expression of thanks and appreciation he gave over crystal trophy to Mr. F. Al-Nasr, representing the organisation team.

## 2. Confirmation of Presence and Quorum / Apologies for absence

### Voting Delegates – Full Members

Country	Member organization	Delegates	Votes
Austria	Verband der Vollblutaraber-Züchter Österreich (VVÖ)	Elisabeth Chat	2
Bahrain	Bahrain Racing & Equestrian Federation (BREEF)	Zahra Taheri Abdulla Almudhahka	2
Belgium	Belgisch Arabisch Paardenstamboek (BAPS)	Kay Hennekens	2
Czech Republic	Asociace chovatelů plnokrevných arabských koní (ACHPAK)	Jaroslav Lacina	2
Denmark	Dansk Selskab For Arabisk Hesteavl (DSAH)	Marianne Tengstedt	2
Egypt	Egyptian Arabian Horse Breeders Association (EAHBA)	Ahmed Adel Abdelrazek	1
France	Association Nationale Française du Cheval Arabe (ACA)	Christianne Chazel	2
Germany	Verband der Züchter des Arabischen Pferdes (VZAP)	Klaus Beste Martin Pauli	2
Great Britain	Arabian Horse Society (AHS)	Joanne Lowe	2
Hungary	Magyarországi Arablótenyésztők Egyesülete (MALE)	Tamás Rombauer	2
I.R. Iran	Equestrian Federation of I.R. Iran (IRIEF)	Shahrzad Amir-Aslani Soheil Yousefnia	2
Israel	Israel Arab Horse Society (IAHS)	Muhannad Darawsha	2
Italy	Associazione Nazionale Italiana Cavallo Arabo (ANICA)	Vincenzo Pellegrini	2
Jordan	Royal Jordanian Equestrian Federation (RJEF)	HRH Alia Al Hussein	2
Kuwait	Bait Al Arab	Nasser Bourissli Saud Alrujaib	2
Morocco	Association Royale Marocaine des Éleveurs de Chevaux Pur Sang Arabe (ARMECPSA)	Abderrahim Zejjari	2
The Netherlands	Arabische Volbloedpaarden Stamboek in Nederland (AVS)	Amira Nasr Safady	2
Norway	Norsk Araberhestforening (NAHF)	Gideon Reisel	2
Oman	Royal Cavalry of Oman	Dhabia Al Busaidi Munther Al Busaidi	2
Palestine	Palestinian Equestrian Federation (PEF)	Ayman Al Haj	2
Poland	Krajowy Ośrodek Wsparcia Rolnictwa (KOWR)	Anna Stojanowska Joanna Krawczyk	2
Qatar	Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club (QREC)	Bader Mohamed Al Darwish Saad Al-Kubaisi	2
Russia	Private Breeders Organisation (NOAL)	Irina Stigler	2

Saudi Arabia	King Abdulaziz Arabian Horse Center (KAAHC)	Turki Almuqbel	2
Spain	Asociacion Espanola de Criadores de Caballos Arabes (AECCA)	Carmelo Zaragoza Gímenez	2
Sweden	Svenska Arabhästföreningen (SAHF)	Niclas Holm	2
Switzerland	Schweizer Zuchtgenossenschaft für Arabische Pferde (SZAP)	Renata Schibler	2
Syria	Syrian Arab Horse Association (SAHA)	Omar Anbargi Mamdouh Mustafa	2
United Arab Emirates	Emirates Arabian Horse Society (EAHS)	Mohamed Al-Harbi Abdelwahab Amira	2

In total 57 votes.

### **Observers and guests**

Malak Benamar (DCIC)  
 Gerald Kurtz (ITHA)  
 Shirin Salartash (IAA Iran)  
 Mohammed Al Wakeel (IOPAHB Iraq)  
 Medhat Gaber (IOPAHB Iraq)  
 Mohammed Machmoum (LAHBS Libya)  
 Danny Ghosn (TLAHO Lebanon)  
 Mohammed El Kohen (Salon du Cheval)  
 Jihane Fekri (SOREC Morocco)  
 Tomasz Tarczynski (PZKHA Poland)  
 Scott Benjamin (AABC Australia)  
 Mohammed Al Nujaifi (IAHO Iraq)  
 Eric Blaak (The Netherlands)  
 Eida Almenhali (United Arab Emirates)  
 Deirdre Hyde (Great Britain)  
 Mohammed Al-Thani (Qatar)

### **Apologies of absence – Members**

Egypt: Egyptian Agricultural Organization (EAO)

### **3. Appointment of Vote Counters**

The following persons were proposed as Vote Counters: Vincenzo Pellegrini, Eric Blaak, Gerald Kurtz.

*The proposed Vote Counters were approved by the AGM.*

### **4. Minutes of the previous Meeting (London, 30 April 2023)**

No comments to these Minutes.

*The Minutes were approved as true and correct, will be signed by the President at kept at ECAHO Office.*

## 5. Matters arising from these Minutes

### 5.1 Constitutional changes – change of name and other connected changes

After the discussion forum organized during the AGM weekend in London and after contacting all ECAHO Full Members, the EC received 3 reactions (2 from Full Members, one from ITHA). The EC realized that the opinions in these reactions were completely opposite. Therefore, the EC decided to hire external company which oversees international organizations. This company would explore and evaluate the structure of ECAHO and propose changes and adjustments.

The EAHRIC during its meeting the day before this AGM agreed on expanding its responsibilities. These should also be incorporated in the Constitution. The EC will focus on this topic during the year 2024.

## 6. Unpaid Membership Fees

All Members have their Membership duties paid and can execute their voting rights at this AGM.

Associate Members who have not paid their membership fees (in EUR):

040-2022-6020	LEB	SPARCA	500,00
042-2022-6020	LBA	AHA-LY	500,00
138-2023-6020	LBA	AHA-LY	500,00
139-2023-6020	LEB	TLAHO	500,00
143-2023-6020	RUS	RAHBA	500,00
144-2023-6020	ESP	ANCALPE	500,00

ECAHO Office is in contact with all debtors.

## 7. Membership

### 7.1 Full Membership changes

#### 7.1.1 Change of the Full Membership from Royal Cavalry of Oman to Oman Equestrian and Racing Federation (OERF)

The EC was informed last autumn about the decision of the highest authorities in Sultanate of Oman to shift all responsibilities connected with horses from Royal Cavalry to Oman Equestrian and Racing Federation (OERF). The Constitution of ECAHO does not cover such shift, and, therefore, this change must be confirmed by the AGM. The EC discussed this change and requested additional documents which had been submitted.

**Munther Al Busaidi (Royal Cavalry/OERF Oman)** thanked for the support. This is his 1<sup>st</sup> AGM of ECAHO. He has been representing Oman in FEI for 11 years. The Sultan of Oman decided that membership in all equestrian federations will be transferred from Royal Cavalry to OERF, including the Membership in ECAHO. OERF and RC have been working together on a smooth shift. He is glad that OERF represents Oman in ECAHO, promises to work in accordance with ECAHO rules and looks forward to the future cooperation.

**Omar Anbargi (SAHA Syria)** proposed to keep all voting in future as secret.

**Jaroslav Lacina (President of ECAHO):** The EC is prepared for both options. However, the Constitution contains the option of open voting. Secret voting would have to be proposed and voted.

*VOTING: Do you approve change of the (Full) Membership from Royal Cavalry of Oman to Oman Equestrian and Racing Federation (OERF)?*

YES	57
NO	0
ABSTENTION	0
ABSENT	0

***The AGM approved the change of the (Full) Membership from Royal Cavalry of Oman to Oman Equestrian and Racing Federation (OERF).***

## **7.2 Application for Associate Membership**

The Executive Committee received several applications for Associate Membership. The following organizations fulfilled all conditions and submitted the requested documentation in time to be included to the agenda of this AGM.

### **7.2.1 Australasian Arabian Breeders Coalition (AABC), Australia**

Australia (AHSA) first applied in 2020 and the AGM confirmed the Associate Membership. Shortly after the AGM members of AHSA refused the membership and it was therefore terminated upon their own request. There has been no contact with AHSA since then. During autumn the EC received application from AABC. There has been recently 1 show (EAHGC) under ECAHO rules (EAHGC rules were accepted by the Show Commission at the meeting in December 2023 and allow the organizer to organize EAHGC shows also in non-ECAHO countries). The EC informed the AABC representative that in the future there may be a problem with the Full Membership because AABC is not a Studbook entity. This has been noted by AABC representative who is present.

**Scott Benjamin (AABC Australia):** Breeders in Australia are separated, the aim of AABC is to bring them together and connect with breeders from around the world. AABC would like to introduce more quality shows and increase the breeding standards.

**Gideon Reisel (NAHF Norway)** asked how the number of members of applying associations had been verified.

**Scott Benjamin (AABC Australia)** replied that the list of members of AABC was published on their website.

**Jaroslav Lacina (President of ECAHO)** added that the number of members/horses on the applications was generally difficult to verify. The EC trusts that the associations are submitting correct information, however, in case of any doubts the applying associations get additional questions.

*VOTING: Do you accept AABC as Associate Member of ECAHO?*

YES	48
NO	2
ABSTENTION	6
ABSENT	1

***The AGM accepts Australasian Arabian Breeders Coalition (AABC) as the Associate Member of ECAHO.***

### **7.2.2 Israeli Arabian Horse Breeders (IABA), Israel**

The application and all requested documentation have been submitted in time before the AGM. The main goal of this association is to organize more shows in Israel. The numbers of members and horses on the application are based on the estimation, according to the representative of the association. The representative is not present.

**Muhannad Darawsha (IAHS Israel):** Israel already has one association which is successfully working in the country. There is no need to have more associations there. The EC should have asked IAHS for their opinion about the association and their representatives. The application for Membership seems not

to be correct, the topic should be delayed and not voted now. There is no problem to have more organizations in Israel but it must be first properly discussed with the Full Member.

**Carmelo Zaragoza (AECCA Spain):** ECAHO should use its influence and encourage Full and Associate Members to work together, not fight.

**Jaroslav Lacina (President of ECAHO):** ECAHO does not start or support any fights but is mostly a victim of the internal issues within the country. ECAHO cannot solve the matters inside the Member countries.

**Ahmed Abdelrazik (EAHBA Egypt)** agrees to postpone the decision. In the case of AABC, the representative came to this AGM personally from Australia to present the association and reply to possible questions. Also representative of IABA should get chance to explain.

**Vincenzo Pellegrini (ANICA Italy):** ECAHO should be concerned with existing Members and keep 1 reference for each country. The aim should not be to strengthen the conflicts.

**Jaroslav Lacina (President of ECAHO):** ECAHO Constitution allows to have several Associate Members within the country, however, their acceptance or refusal is in competence of the AGM.

**Muhannad Darawsha (IAHS Israel):** officially proposed to withdraw point 7.2.2 from the agenda.

**VOTING: Do you agree with withdrawal of point 7.2.2 from the agenda upon request of IAHS Israel?**

YES	51
NO	0
ABSTENTION	2
ABSENT	4

**Item 7.2.2 has been withdrawn from the agenda of this AGM.**

### **7.2.3 Iraq Arabian Horse Organization (IAHO), Iraq**

The organization first applied several years ago but there has been no communication. Recently, before this AGM, the organization renewed contact with ECAHO and sent all requested documents in time. There is already one Associate Member in Iraq (IOPAHB), last 2-3 years there have been several shows organized.

**Mohammed Al Nujaiifi (IAHO Iraq):** IAHO represents Iraq in international organizations and is a WAHO registering authority since 1882-83. In recent time IAHO published the 12th volume of the Studbook, with records up to 2022. The main interests are racehorses (IAHO is member of IFAHR) therefore the membership in ECAHO was not considered. However, the breeders showed interest in halter events, and therefore IAHO would like to spread the activities and become ECAHO Associate Member. IAHO applied for Membership already before COVID, but those days had not submitted all documentation, so they renewed their application before this AGM. IAHO consists of 3 commissions – for racing, for shows and for endurance.

IAHO does not see any problem to cooperate with any other organization within the country. Each country should be represented by 1 organization, but it does not mean that the other organizations cannot do own activities. As IAHO is a WAHO official studbook and represents Iraq in other organizations, the organization would like to ask for Full Membership. Each owner of the Arabian horse in the country must be member of IAHO (because IAHO is issuing the studbook documents). Representatives of other organizations are welcome to discuss the activities.

**Jaroslav Lacina (President of ECAHO)** re-confirmed that the application concerns Associate Membership.

**Medhat Gaber (IOPAHB Iraq):** IOPAHB organized 2 shows (National Championship + Specific original Show). Breeders from all country could attend the shows organized by IOPAHB, and there were Officials invited from different countries. IAHO asks directly for Full Membership without any prior activities.

**Mohammed Al Nujaiifi (IAHO Iraq):** IAHO renewed the application, at the moment there is an interest in halter shows from the side of the breeders.

**Gideon Reisel (NAHF Norway):** There is no Full Member in Iraq, it will probably be difficult to decide which Associate Member shall organize the National Championship. He misses better screening – how

many shows they organized, whether they spoke to other organizations prior to sending the applications, etc. It is not a way to accept another organization and hope it will work. The application should be postponed.

**Irina Stigler (NOAL Russia)** thinks the associations should discuss and solve the situation within themselves. Most of the Full Members are national registries, however, the other association has already organized some events.

**Shahrzad Amir-Aslani (IRIEF Iran)** supports the request to withdraw the item from the agenda and postpone the decision until the situation will be resolved.

**Mohammed Al Nujaiifi (IAHO Iraq)** expressed he would like to have all activities under one umbrella (IAHO), both sections (shows and racing) can be managed individually.

**Ayman Al Haj (PEF Palestine)** supports the proposal to withdraw the item from the agenda and evaluate the activities at the next AGM.

***VOTING: Do you agree with withdrawal of point 7.2.3 from the agenda upon request of NAHF Norway, IRIEF Iran and PEF Palestine?***

YES	33
NO	4
ABSTENTION	18
ABSENT	2

***Item 7.2.3 has been withdrawn from the agenda of this AGM.***

**Jaroslav Lacina (President of ECAHO):** The EC received one more application, from Turkey (Antalya Arabian Horse Society – AAHS), but the organization has not submitted all requested documents, and part of the documentation was in Turkish. The EC asked the representative for English translation which arrived via IAHS only shortly before this AGM. There are lot of activities in Turkey, the Studbook is WAHO member since 2004-05. The EC discussed the provided documents and generally supports the acceptance. Because the complete documentation had not been submitted in time, it was not possible to put in on the agenda of this AGM, but it will be added to the agenda of the AGM 2025. During 2024 season the association may organize shows under ECAHO rules and use ECAHO Officials.

**Muhannad Darawsha (IAHS Israel)** objected that all documents for the Turkish organization and the translation have been sent in time before this meeting. Turkey is a big country with lot of activities. The AGM should vote on acceptance right now.

**Jaroslav Lacina (President of ECAHO)** confirmed that some documents of the Turkish organization arrived, but just on Thursday (25.4.) before this AGM. The EC did not have enough time to check them, and it was too late to add anything on the AGM agenda. The EC acts consistently to all applying associations and keeps equal standards.

**Muhannad Darawsha (IAHS Israel)** claimed he would approve the acceptance if he were in the EC, and would ask for the documentation later. M. Darawsha asks to add a topic on the agenda of the AGM – acceptance of Turkish organization as Associate Member.

**Jaroslav Lacina (President of ECAHO):** All other applying associations fulfilled all conditions and requirements given by the EC. It would not be fair to give exception to one. The AGM is the highest body and may approve adding the topic on the agenda. However, the delegates should carefully consider it. It may open legal gaps and possibility to create the agenda on-site.



***VOTING: Do you agree to add acceptance of Antalya Arabian Horse Society – AAHS on the agenda of this AGM upon request of IAHS Israel?***

YES	4
NO	22
ABSTENTION	22
ABSENT	9

***The AGM does not approve to add acceptance of Antalya Arabian Horse Society Turkey – AAHS on the agenda.***

## **8. President's report**

**Jaroslav Lacina (President of ECAHO):** The EC met 8 times since AGM 2023 (3 meetings in person, 5 meetings online). The EC discussed the proposals of Members for change of the organization structure (as presented earlier). The EC elected the Vice-President Mr. Mohamed Al-Harbi. The EC also discussed and revised the Membership requests which arrived during the year.

An important topic were the legal matters:

- The Aljassimiya case was dismissed by the court. ECAHO appealed because of the height of the legal cost compensation.
- B. Morali (ITA) claimed that ECAHO illegally used the trademark of SEWC. The matter is closed. Morali settled the claim with owner of the trademark, ECAHO was not involved. The costs of the case were 2,5 thousand Euro for hire of Italian lawyer.
- Doping case Katar 2023 – this case revealed a gap in the procedure. B test has been requested but the laboratory destroyed the B samples because the organizer had not requested the prolongation of storage period. It is necessary to adjust the rules, the EC will work on it.

Thanks to the efforts of Deirdre Hyde the new Judges' Manual has been released. It is available online on ECAHO website, in English and Arabic. The appreciation belongs also to Instructors group (JIG) for their inputs. The development have been financially supported Al Bawady Stud and Ismer Stud and translation to Arabic by EAHS. During the last season JIG organized 2 courses and 2 workshops. Recently, the EAHRIC discussed the plan to incorporate the education for Officials into their scope of activities.

The website of ECAHO has been updated and the developer of the mobile app has been working on the coded access for DCs.

The EC has been also discussing the financial matters – results of 2023 and budget of 2024, which will be presented later during the AGM program.

The Show matters took a lot of time and work of the EC – especially because of the newly proposed show categories (GCAT and EAHGC). It was necessary to consult the rules. In case of GCAT also consult the Judges' evaluation and the contract. The EC had also other responsibilities – approval of Officials, BB changes, hereditary disorders discussion, the date and venue of the European Championship 2024. The information will be given during the report of the SC Chairman.

The important information for all Show Officials is that the EC managed to arrange the travel insurance. At the beginning of the year FEI signed the contract with insurance company; therefore, the EC contacted the broker immediately and asked for an offer. The insurance will cover usual travel risks of all Officials who sign the contract. There will be some exceptions such as war countries, but these cases will be revised individually by the insurance company. As soon as the contract with the insurance company is signed and the insurance is active, all Officials will be notified.

*Coffee break 11:05 – 11:25*

## 9. Reports of the Commissions

### *EAHSC (Show Commission)*

**Klaus Beste (Chairman of EAHSC)** presented the activities of the EAHSC since the last AGM in April 2023. The EAHSC approved rules for GCAT and EAHGC in November 2023 but it had been discussed longer because new show categories influence the show pyramid in the Blue Book. GCAT plans a tour of 7 shows in 2024, 3 have already been organized (Katara, Abu Dhabi, Muscat), and now the European part starts (Cannes, Rome, Valkenswaard). The finals will be organized in Riyadh at the end of the year. In 2025 GCAT plans one more show in London. The level is similar to A shows. It is necessary to consider the qualification system in order to maintain the Show pyramid (lower shows to higher shows) and not turn it upside down. EAHGC targets on support of the smaller breeders, also in countries that are not (yet) Members of ECAHO (there was a show in Australia and USA and one is planned in Brazil). Both GCAT and EAHGC need to get approval of the National organization in the country where they are organized. Incorporating of the specific rules for GCAT and EAHGC influenced the whole Blue Book.

One of the major topics were the hereditary disorders and how to handle the control. ECAHO prepared a certificate which is available online and the owners can use and let confirmed by their veterinarian. The certificate must be presented at the show during the vet and identification check. There have been several cases of false certificates. These have been taken by the DCs and the horses have been disqualified from the show. From 1.1.2024 the certificate is compulsory at all shows. Gulf countries manage the vet checks very professionally – there are specialized vet centres approved to provide the check of veterinary disorders. In general, the results are positive. The goal is to make owners realize they horses may have such disorders. Some of them even have not known it and have been surprised. The EC discussed division of classes and maximum number of horses in the class in order not to keep the classes too big which makes it difficult to judge. System of remuneration for Officials has been discussed and implemented to the Blue Book. The Commission for Officials and its legal basis has been discussed.

Arabian Essence with help of Niclas Holm (SAHF Sweden) will develop a tool to evaluate the marks given by Judges. It will be used then by Judges Observers group.

Information from one online meeting has leaked. It is not easy to organize only in-person meetings – online meetings are easy and economic solution. It is necessary to think how to solve it for future.

### *EAHRIC (Registration and Identification Commission)*

**Marianne Tengstedt (Chairman of EAHRIC):** EAHRIC meets once a year during the AGM weekend. One of the problems discussed is the Brexit and its influence on transport of show horses to European shows. M. Tengstedt and J. Lowe (AHS Great Britain) will prepare a letter that will be sent to relevant bodies within EU to support easier transport of show horses. The EAHRIC shortly discussed the division of classes by age – European countries the breeding season corresponds with the calendar year. Middle Eastern countries may use the breeding season starting on 1.10. at their National shows.

Concerning the registration, not much has changes since the last meeting. National registries in the EU countries must follow EU rules, and all are informed directly. WAHO conference will be held in Abu Dhabi/UAE on 5 – 12 April 2025, it is recommended to visit it.

EAHRIC is 40 years old and lot of has changed since its establishment. There is no need for development of registration rules, and an update of the Commission is needed. The goal of digitalization of the WAHO registry has still not been fulfilled due to the high costs. M. Tengstedt proposed to the EC to expand the scope of activities of the EAHRIC and add education under its competence. Many of the delegates are acquainted with the education and may help to organize courses in their countries. Specific description of the responsibilities will be prepared for the next AGM.

### *Sport Commission (EAHSpC)*

**Elisabeth Chat (Chairman of EAHSpC):** The Sport Commission meets once a year during the AGM weekend. One more online meeting has been planned but there were no urgent matters on the agenda. During the season there were 15 affiliated events in 5 countries + 3 open events with additional classes

for Arabians. In 2023 ECAHO continued with ECAHO Annual High Point Horse of the year (AHPHY), with prize money for 1<sup>st</sup> placed horses in all 3 levels, in total 10200 Euro has been distributed. National Championships and the European Championship have been supported by ECAHO Breeders Fund. The Green Book has been resized and this year will be distributed in new format.

The EAHRIC hosted Mr. Abud Salim Khan Tarin, representative of the International Tent Pegging Federation (ITPF) who introduced this sport to delegates.

During 2023 there was no Sport Judges' course but one was organized before this AGM, with 5 students (3 passed, 2 failed). The European Sport Championship will be held on 29 August – 1 September in Wiener Neustadt/AUT, no other invitation from other countries have been received. The same organizer applied also for 2025 but any country is welcome to send the invitation to host the event.

**Shirin Salartash (IAA Iran)** noted she was surprised that the Sport Commission had not been attended by more delegates. Sport is very important, originally the horses were used for riding. S. Salartash invited all delegates to support sport events in their countries and cooperate with other countries in the region.

## 10. Treasurer's report

**Jerzy Bialobok (Treasurer of ECAHO):** The presented financial report covers the last calendar year, a period of 12 months, and all financial data comes from this period. The audit of all accounting records and financial statements for the year 01.01.2023–31.12.2023 has been performed by Rotmonten Wirtschaftsprüfung AG, licensed audit expert Ueli Niederer-Wüst, with the conclusion as follows: "Based on our limited statutory examination, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements and the proposed appropriation of available earnings do not comply with Swiss law and the company's articles of incorporation".

The auditors recommended that the financial statements could be submitted for approval to the Annual General Meeting.

During the reported period the person responsible for accounting was Mr. Dominik Meli, who continues to work for us and has also prepared the balance sheet presented at today's General Meeting.

The balance of assets and liabilities during the reporting period was 1 555 847,35 CHF compared to 1 084 342,18 CHF of last year and is greater by 468 504,17 CHF.

The profit and loss statement shows an amount of 895 765,39 CHF compared to the 729 172,35 CHF from the previous year and is greater by 166 593,04 CHF, which is due to larger commissions from money prizes given at shows than what was forecast in the budget.

Equity capital has been increasing systematically for years and is 1 354 506,21 CHF compared to 930 996,85 CHF from the previous year and is greater by 423 509,36 CHF.

Our total income amounts to 895 765,39 CHF compared to 729 172,35 CHF of last year and is greater by 166 593,04 CHF. This growth was caused by an increase of revenues from imposed fines, judge and DC courses and mainly from commissions from prize money given at shows (698 179,00 CHF) - twice as much compared to last year and the forecast budget. Our budget assumed income to be 628 000 CHF and was exceeded by 268 766,39 CHF.

Our expenses amounted to 472 256,03 CHF and are for the first time lower compared to last year's 557 048,61 CHF by 84 792,58 CHF. Costs are close to those assumed in the budget at a level of 494 250 CHF.

Due to a significant increase of commissions from money prizes our tax has increased to 54 358,50 CHF, which greatly exceeded the assumed budget at a level of 16 000 CHF.

The last year has been very good for ECAHO in terms of finances. We are closing it with a very high profit of 423 509,36 CHF compared to 172 123,74 CHF of last year. The budget assumed a smaller income at a level of 133 750,00 CHF, but the income turned out to be much greater. This is the 8<sup>th</sup> time in a row that we have had a positive financial result.

## 11. Accounts from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023

The results have been sent to delegates in advance by e-mail. **Jaroslav Lacina (President of ECAHO)** explained the individual positions:

### *Income*

- Fines (64 615 CHF): this amount contain also costs for the B test charged to owners; increase in this position shows the efficient work of the SDC, however, the number is alarming.
- Income Breeder's Fund and Income Commission Prizes awarded: the total amount corresponds to income from 3% contribution from prize money; the amount is split to 1/3 for EBF and 2/3 which stays as income in the budget.

### *Costs*

- Travel costs of Executive Secretary and the EC increased – there were more in-person meetings, and the prize of flight tickets went significantly up, however, the accommodation costs of the EC was lower compared to the previous budget.
- Website, App, database: the costs increased due to necessary update of the website and app (which needed to be updated both in App store and Google Play).
- Costs of the courses and workshops were significantly lower than budgeted thanks to generous support from the side of the organizers (EAHS, EAHBA).
- Costs of legal action correspond again to the usual height.
- Breeders' Fund donations: majority of the payments were made in 2024, therefore the amount only reflects the payments in 2023; rest of the 2023 donations (paid in 2024) will be booked in 2024 and is reflected in 2024 budget.
- Accounting: due to change of ownership of Credit Suisse, previously planned automatisation of payments has not been finished yet, therefore the costs were lower than budgeted.
- Exchange differences: ECAHO has two big EUR-positions: EUR bank account and Debtors in EUR. During the year, the books are filled in with a standard-exchange rate. In fact, the EUR-exchange rate was going down in 2023 from 0.98745 to 0.9297. That means, that for example the EUR-bank account has a "loss" of 6 %. But as the account is really in EUR, the loss is only a "book-loss" and not a real loss. If the exchange rate goes up, we have a book-gain. The same situation is regarding the debtors. At the end of the year, the exchange rate as per 31.12.2023 is considered in the books and that will show a book-loss, if the exchange-rate goes down.

## 12. Approval of Accounts and granting discharge to the members of the Executive Committee

**VOTING: Do you approve the Accounts and grant discharge to the members of the Executive Committee?**

YES	49
NO	0
ABSTENTION	0
ABSENT	8

*The AGM approves the Accounts and grants discharge to the members of the Executive Committee.*

## 13. Budget for the year 2024 (1 January 2024 - 31 December 2024)

The Budgets was sent to delegates before the meeting. The final version of the Budget was presented on the screen. **Jaroslav Lacina (President of ECAHO)** explained individual positions:

### *Income*

- Income from 3% percentage is split into 1/3 which is booked as income to EBF, and 2/3 which remains in the budget.

## Costs

- Trophies: W. van Beelen will no longer manufacture the trophies for the European Championship, it will be necessary to find another producer, therefore the amount in the budget is higher.
- Prize money HPH: the High Point Horse award was finished but the prize money for 2023 will still need to be paid in 2024, therefore they are in the budget for 2024; the EC will look for other possibilities of the support for the sport.
- Sponsoring: this amount includes the usual support of the Sport Championship (15 000 EUR) and also the support of the European Championship 2024 in Belgium (as discussed and approved by the SC).
- Executive Secretary remuneration costs: the monthly payment has been increased in connection with the inflation.
- Office Administration help: the monthly payment has been increased in connection with the inflation; the resting 20 000 EUR is prepared to cover the costs of one more person to help with Office work (the person has not been hired yet but there is a space in the budget).
- Website, App, software: the EC agreed on monthly service hours, the costs reflect the planned updates of the app and adding new features.
- Insurance: besides the usual liability insurance the budget counts on the travel insurance which should be available in near weeks.
- AGM: thanks to generous invitation of QREC and Katara team, there were no costs of this AGM weekend.
- EC travel costs: the EC agreed on possibility to book business flights for longer distances (but there are not many in-person meetings planned).

**Carmelo Zaragoza (AECCA Spain)** asked about the legal cases.

**Jaroslav Lacina (President of ECAHO)** noted it had been already presented earlier in the program but could repeat it. The case of AJF has been dismissed by the court and ECAHO is supposed to get a compensation of costs. ECAHO sent appeal against the decision because the compensation should be higher. The other case concerned Morali claiming ownership of the trademark of SEWC and the costs for ECAHO were 2500 Euro.

**Vincenzo Pellegrini (ANICA Italy)** noted he had not been aware of any case with Morali. **Jaroslav Lacina (President of ECAHO)** explained that ECAHO had been claimed for misusing of the SEWC without permission. But there had been no proof the trademark belonged to Mrs. Morali. ECAHO received confirmation from the counterparty. The EC hired a lawyer from Italy to communicate with the relevant persons in this case. It was confirmed later that the case had been settled between Morali and the owner of the trademark and ECAHO was no longer involved.

## 14. Approval of the Budget for the year 2024

**VOTING: Do you approve the budget for 2024 as displayed and presented during this AGM?**

YES	51
NO	0
ABSTENTION	0
ABSENT	6

**The AGM approved the budget for 2024 as displayed and presented during this AGM.**

*Coffee break 13:15 – 14:00, visit of HH Sh. Jassim bin Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani.*

## 15. Appointment of Auditors

### **Rotmonten Wirtschaftsprüfung AG**

Rotmonten Wirtschaftsprüfung AG has been the auditor since 2019. The EC proposes Rotmonten Wirtschaftsprüfung AG for re-appointment.

*VOTING: Do you approve Rotmonten Wirtschaftsprüfung AG as auditors for a further period?*

YES	55
NO	0
ABSTENTION	0
ABSENT	2

*The AGM approves Rotmonten Wirtschaftsprüfung AG for a further period.*

## 16. Report on SDC cases, report on EAC cases

1. CAVALLI – ban for aggressive behaviour
  - Jeddah C National show 2022, KSA
  - stallion attacked his handler and tried to attack other people in the show ring
  - SDC proposed lifetime ban for the horse
  - complainant sent appeal to the EAC, the ban was set to 1 year
2. D THARIA – complaint against disqualification
  - Doha B International show 2023
  - complaint against disqualification due to medical reasons (fungal infection), horse examined by 2 DC vets
  - case dismissed; the horse was disqualified in accordance with ECAHO rules
3. KANZ FD – medication case
  - Doha B International show 2023
  - prohibited substance: PHENYL BUTAZONE, OXYPHEN BUTAZONE
  - B test requested; presence of prohibited substance confirmed
  - penalty € 4'000 € imposed + loss of place, title, trophies and prize money
  - 1-year ban (until 07/2024)
4. LAOLOAT NUDRAH – medication case
  - Doha B International show 2023
  - prohibited substance: PHENYL BUTAZONE, OXYPHEN BUTAZONE
  - B test requested; presence of prohibited substance confirmed
  - penalty € 4'000 € imposed + loss of place, title, trophies and prize money
  - 1-year ban (until 07/2024)
5. NAJMA ALSAIF - medication case
  - Doha B International show 2023
  - prohibited substance: PHENYL BUTAZONE, OXYPHEN BUTAZONE
  - B test requested; presence of prohibited substance confirmed
  - penalty € 4'000 € imposed + loss of place, title, trophies and prize money
  - 1-year ban (until 07/2024)
6. LAYALY AL WAAB + ZAWAHER FILA – medication case
  - Katara Peninsula show
  - prohibited substances: ALTRENOGEST, TRENDIONE, 17-ALPHATRENBOLONE
  - trenbolone is an anabolic steroid
  - cases dismissed: SDC found it plausible that the detected substances are caused by altrenogest
  - no penalties and sanctions given
7. SARAB AJMAL – medication case
  - KIAHF 2023
  - prohibited substance: SYNEPHRINE

- B test requested; presence of prohibited substance confirmed
  - penalty € 4'000 € imposed + loss of place, title, trophies and prize money
  - 1-year ban (until 11/2024)
8. 8) CARLOTTA CJ – medication case
- Qatar C National show for Individual owners 2023
  - prohibited substance: FLUNIXINE
  - B test requested; presence of prohibited substance confirmed
  - penalty € 4'000 € imposed + loss of place, title, trophies and prize money
  - 1-year ban (until 07/2024)
9. FARHA AINAIN – medication case
- Qatar Peninsula show for Individual owners 2023
  - prohibited substance: TESTOSTERONE ABOVE INTERNATIONAL THRESHOLD
  - B test not requested; presence of prohibited substance confirmed
  - case dismissed: the SDC found it plausible that pregnancy of the mare caused positive results

## 17. Report on Judges, DC and Ringmasters courses & Workshops

### *DC courses and workshops*

**Malak Benamar (DCIC):** 2 DC courses were organized in 2023 – in Rabab and in Abu Dhabi. Rabab had 10 participants, 6 passed; none has fulfilled the probations yet. Abu Dhabi hosted 22 participants; they were divided into 2 groups (2 shows), 18 passed, 1 underwent all probations. Workshops were held online at the end of September/beginning of November, number of participants per session was limited (during 1 session max. 14 DCs and RMs participated). One additional workshop was offered for those who have not attended any of the previous ones (22 names), 9 people attended, the rest has been removed from the Blue Book 2024.

### *Judges' courses and workshops*

**Marianne Tengstedt (speaking for JIG):** JIG met 3 times online during 2023. There were 2 courses organized – in Ströhen (GER) and in Rabab (EGY). Ströhen had 16 participants (14 for Level I and 2 for Level II), in total 7 passed. Rabab had 18 participants (14 for Level I and 4 for Level II), in total 8 passed.

There were 2 workshops offered (in Aachen and in El Jadida), and one additional online workshop for those who could not attend any workshop in past 3 years. The online workshop was exceptional, JIG prefers to meet with Judges in person.

One workshop was also organized in Abu Dhabi this February. The JIG plans to offer 1 workshop in Europe and 1 outside Europe per year.

The JIG appointed new Instructor who was also confirmed by SC the day before (Mrs. Helen Hennekens-van Nes).

**Jaroslav Lacina (President of ECAHO)** added that the costs of the courses in Abu Dhabi and in Rabab were kindly covered by the hosting organizer (Egypt by Rabab Stud + Mr. Ahmed Abdelrazek, UAE by EAHS).

**Irina Stigler (NOAL Russia)** asked whether it was possible to announce the dates of the workshops in advance so the Judges can plan the trips.

**Jaroslav Lacina (President of ECAHO):** One workshop will be organized on Friday before the All Nations Cup in Aachen/Germany. Other workshops must be decided by the JIG.

## 18. Election of the Treasurer

- 18.1 — ~~Ismer, Mark (GER)~~
- 18.2. Safady, Amira (NED)
- 18.3 Stojanowska, Anna (POL)

This was the first election of the Treasurer done by the AGM. 2 years ago, the AGM changed the Constitution - the Treasurer had been previously proposed by the EC because it is a person with signatory rights. But the delegates requested the Treasurer to be nominated and elected by the AGM. The EC has full trust that the AGM nominates and selects person with experience and abilities for this position.

Mr. Jerzy Bialobok's second four-year term as a Treasurer ends and he is not standing for re-election. Any Member could suggest nominees for the open position. The deadline for submitting the nomination proposals was 60 days before the date of the AGM. Candidates who have received more than one nomination from different Members may stand for election.

Delegates received the voting sheets, and they were asked to tick the box next to the name of no more than one nominated candidate.

Mr. Mark Ismer decided not to stand for election (this information announced to all Full Members on 22 April 2024).

Other two candidates were asked to introduce themselves.

*Amira Safady Nasr*

A. Safady has been raised in The Netherlands as a daughter of the Egyptian father and the English mother which gives her possibility to embrace both cultures and traditions. She is a national judge, has 15 years of experience as breeder and she cooperates with European Breeders Trust. She has experiences in leadership and financial management. Her strong point is the ability to cooperate and work in team. Her motivation has been driven by the support of the delegates who nominated her and she is enthusiastic and ready to serve to ECAHO.

*Anna Stojanowska*

A. Stojanowska expressed she was not an accountant and economic expert, but she has been working for the Polish government and supervising state studs for 20 years, and she has good overview how the stated organizations and private companies work. Since 2016 she has been running private company concerned with international horse transport. She has devoted her whole life to Arabian horses. She started as rider and continued as a breeders and Judge. She believes that she can still contribute to ECAHO thanks to her experience.

The votes were counted by the vote counters.

*RESULTS OF THE ELECTION (the voting was secret):*

Safady Nasr, Amira (NED)	22 votes
Stojanowska, Anna (POL)	33 votes
invalid votes	2 votes

***Decision of the AGM: The AGM elects Mrs. Anna Stojanowska as the Treasurer for the period of four years.***

A. Stojanowska thanked for the trust and declared her acceptance of the election.

**Jaroslav Lacina (President of ECAHO)** congratulated the newly elected Treasurer and thanks J. Bialobok for his service in that position for 2 election periods. He has been always trying to do the things in a correct way and will be missed by his EC colleagues.



## **19. Honorary membership**

Last year the EC awarded Mr. Holger Ismer (in memoriam). Before this AGM the EC got a proposal from SAHF Sweden to award HRH Princess Alia Al Hussein. The EC gladly approved this proposal.

*HRH Princess Alia Al Hussein (JOR)* is connected with Arabian horses through her whole life. She was the one to bring Arabian countries to ECAHO, she promoted ECAHO and pushed the regulations of ECAHO in these countries. She is also known for her strong animals protection and welfare actions.

*Willem & Nettie van Beelen (NED)*: W. van Beelen is an author of the ECAHO Trophy for the European Championship. For many years he had been producing the trophies by himself and charged ECAHO only half of the costs. Recently, he decided to stop manufacturing the statues and only devote his time to leisure activities but he decided to donate the moulds and the copyrights to ECAHO so the tradition of the trophies can continue.

All delegates are welcome to propose their candidates for Honorary membership. It can be sent any time to ECAHO Office with short explanation why this person should be awarded.

## **20. Next Meeting**

Next AGM will be organized in Europe, probably in May 2025. The delegates will be informed about the date and venue.

## **21. Any other business**

No other business.

Jaroslav Lacina thanked all delegates for their respect and constructiveness during this AGM. He also thanked his EC colleagues for their work.

*The meeting was closed at 15:00.*

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Jaroslav Lacina  
President of ECAHO

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Zuzana Slavíková  
Minutes taker