

IOCE

International Organization for Cooperation in Evaluation 2009 Annual General Meeting – Phase 1 – The Webinar December 14, 2009

The IOCE Board of Trustees extends thanks to WHO/PAHO for hosting the one-hour webinar using the Elluminate platform to open the 2009 IOCE Annual General Meeting (AGM).

Note: From December 15th to December 21st AGM-related discussions will continue using the EvaLeaders Forum at IOCE-EvaLeaders@yahoo.com.

A list of the participants in the December 14th webinar is provided in the table at the end of this report.

President Oumoul Ba Tall welcomed participants and introduced the Board of Trustees:

Oumoul Ba Tall (Africa, Mauritania), President
Burt Perrin (Europe, France), Vice President
Frankie Jordan (North America, Canada), Secretary
Jim Rugh (North America, USA), Treasurer
Simon Kisiera (Africa, Uganda)
Pablo Rodriguez Bilella (Central-South America, Argentina)
Sergio Martinic (Central-South America, Chile)
Scott Bayley (Australasia, Australia)
Nino Saakashvili (Europe, Georgia)

She noted that two positions are vacant and have been reserved for representatives from Asia.

2009 Annual Report

President Oumoul presented the 2009 IOCE Activity Report. She reminded us of the IOCE goals and the four priority areas of the 2008-09 Work Plan (posted on the IOCE website) and the progress made in these areas up to December 2009.

Achievements include:

- Efficient, clear financial reporting
- An external review of financial records
- Development of a Strategic Plan and a Work Plan that the Board uses to track progress
- Accurate, timely tracking of evaluation organizations' names and contact information
- Improved internal communication processes within the Board of Trustees.

The Board continues to work on the following:

- External communication including newsletters and EvaLeaders forum
- Updating a PowerPoint presentation on IOCE for use of members attending events
- Improved processes for sharing information with members and external partners.

In 2009 the following issues were discussed by the Board at one face-to-face meeting in Cairo and through conference calls and emails. Some have been resolved as described: others continue to be worked on:

- The extent to which practice reflects current by-laws – It was determined by the Board that volunteer time would be better spent on Work Plan initiatives than by-law review.
- Succession to the position of President (term ends December 2009) – The Board proposes that President Oumoul’s term be extended to December 2010 to allow for active recruitment into the position.
- Promoting communication through discussion forums – The Board tested a new discussion forum on Yahoo groups and proposed it be used for EvalLeaders Forum and the Annual General Meeting.
- Broadening the “human resource capital” available to IOCE – Marco Segone and Jean Quesnel, both former Board members, have agreed to act as special advisors to the Executive Officers and Board.
- IOCE role and value added – This continues to be topical, as shown in this Annual General Meeting. What is the role of IOCE within its organization and with its partners? What does IOCE leadership look like? If it did not exist, what organization, if any, would take over its role?
- Resource limitations – An organization relying on the volunteer time of busy people may not be able to respond quickly or often enough to ensure a viable, respected organization. Options need to be looked at by the Board to get more focused, find additional resources, establish a small paid staff, decide if IOCE is viable and useful.
- Examining IOCE’s role with other networks – e.g., IDEAS, SFE, NONIE.

Financial Report

- There are currently 10 members that have paid dues to IOCE for 2009. Invoices will be sent out shortly to remind current and previous member organizations that their dues are due for 2010.
- 2009 Income to December 10, 2009: \$16,899.51 CN
- 2009 Expenses to December 10, 2009: \$9,438.15 CN
- Cash on hand, December 10, 2009: \$19,890.22 CN

The Board determined that a minimum of \$8,000 CN must remain in a reserve fund as the amount required to support the organization for one year if there is no revenue that year.

Discussion topics

- IOCE response to the NONIE guidance on impact evaluation
- Promoting partnerships among evaluation associations
- Strengthening IOCE
- IOCE Value Added to its membership
- Supporting capacity building in developing countries
- Other suggestions

Among the comments made by participants were the following:

- Simon Kisira reminded us that an important role of IOCE is to promote professionalism among evaluation organizations around the world
- Benita Van Wyk Williams, on behalf of AfrEA, thanked IOCE for its role and the support it has given AfrEA and other groups in Africa. She appreciated that one IOCE voice speaks on behalf of the evaluation community.
- Jean Quesnel, who was a key supporter at the founding of IOCE, expressed his opinion that IOCE has added value at the global level, not only in the form of leadership, but also in terms of normative aspects. It has a key role to play in strengthening professional evaluation organizations. IOCE should consider approaching lead consultation firms for support.
- In recognition of the human resource limitations of IOCE, Pablo Rodriguez Bilella suggested that we should discuss the need to designate specific persons to be in charge of specific issues.
- Aru Rasappan spoke of the value of partnerships and the provision of technical assistance, among evaluation associations/societies, but also with others, mentioning how IOCE can contribute to

this process. A specific example is the World Bank’s Communities of Evaluators (CoE) and Management for Development (MfDR) regional training centers.

- Donna Mertens, one of the founding members of IOCE, said that seeing what has become of IOCE during this webinar is a “dream come true!”

Closing the AGM

President Oumoul thanked all webinar participants and reminded them about the continuing discussion on EvaLeaders at IOCE-Evaleaders@yahoo.com.

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Participants in the December 14, 2009 IOCE AGM through a webinar on Elluminate included:

First Name	Last Name	Affiliation
Tom	Grayson	AEA
Michael	Hendricks	AEA
Donna	Mertens	AEA (former IOCE Board)
Thomaz	Chianca	AEA (International Committee)
Jim	Rugh	AEA (IOCE Board)
Leslie	Cooksy	AEA (President 2010)
Jennifer	Greene	AEA (President 2011)
Tessie Tzavaras	Catsambas	AEA International TIG
Oumou	Ba Tall	AfrEA (IOCE Board)
Benita	Van-Wyk Williams	AfrEA + SAMEA
Simon	Kisira	AfrEA + UEA (Uganda) (IOCE Board)
Frankie	Jordan	CES (IOCE Board)
Burt	Perrin	EES (IOCE Board)
Katherine	Hay	IDRC – South Asia CoE supporter
Arunasalam	Rasappan	MES (former IOCE Board)
Sergio	Martinic	ReLAC (IOCE Board)
Pablo	Rodriguez Bilella	ReLAC (IOCE Board)
Soma	de Silva	SLEvA
Jean Serge	Quesnel	UNICEF (former)
[plus someone else who signed in as “IOCE AGM”]		