Draft Minutes of the DAISY Annual General Meeting May 30, 2024

**Location:** The meeting was held in Paris, France and as a webinar on the Zoom platform.

# 01 Welcome and Meeting Arrangements

Maarten Verboom (MB), Chair of the Board of the DAISY Consortium opened the meeting and welcomed the Members, Friends, individual supporters, and external observers who were present in the room and online.

# 02 Attendance and Apologies

## 02.01 Voting Members Present

Maarten Verboom (Chair), Dedicon, Netherlands

Alison Long (Treasurer), Royal National Institute of Blind People, United Kingdom

Alice O’Reilly, National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled, United States

Arne Kyrkjebø, Norwegian DAISY Consortium, Norway

Basile Mignonneau, DAISY France Group, France  
Daniel Dam Freiling, Nota, Denmark

David Andrews, National Federation of the Blind, United States

Flavia Kippele, Swiss DAISY Group, Switzerland

Francisco Martínez, ONCE, Spain

Jongpil Won, National Library for the Disabled, Korea

Hiroshi Kawamura, Japan DAISY Consortium, Japan

Joakim Uppsäll-Sjögren, Swedish DAISY Consortium, Sweden (online)

Michael Johnson, Benetech, United States (online)

Minna von Zansen, Finnish DAISY Consortium, Finland

Thomas Kahlisch, MEDIBUS, Germany (online)

## 02.02 Additional DAISY Board members Present

Daniel Frelén, MTM, Sweden

## 02.03 DAISY Consortium Staff Members Present

Participating in the meeting were:

Avneesh Singh, Chief Operating Officer, India

George Kerscher, Chief Innovations Officer, United States

Richard Orme, Chief Executive Officer, United Kingdom

There were other DAISY staff members observing.

## 02.04 Welcome to Associate Members, Friends, and Guests Present

Maarten warmly welcomed the other people attending, including Associate Members, Friends, and individual supporters.

# 03 Acceptance of the Agenda

The draft agenda was sent out in April. No other business was notified.

**Decision**: By a vote of the eligible members present the revised agenda was approved.

# 04 Confirmation of the Scribe

Maarten Verboom proposed Richard Orme as the scribe.

**Decision:** Richard Orme will take the minutes of the meeting.

# 05 Review and Approval of the Minutes of the General Meeting held online on 9 May, 2023

There were no questions or comments on the draft minutes.

**Decision**: By a vote of the eligible members present the minutes of the 2023 General Meeting were unanimously approved without any changes.

# 06 Annual Report 2023

## 06.01 Annual Report: Overview

Richard Orme introduced the annual report for 2023, which provides an opportunity to describe and celebrate the DAISY Consortium, the progress of our projects and the achievements of our members.

The annual report begins with a welcome message from the President, and a reminder of our Vision, Mission, and key activities. The Year in Review section references the board meeting held in Washington DC together with the General Meeting and the joint meeting with the Braille Authority of North America, and the board meeting held in London together with the DAISY Technical Meeting and Accessible Publishing Conference. The report contains brief progress reports on DAISY’s technical developments, training activities, our work on inclusive publishing, and information about our special projects. Links are provided to learn more about any of these topics. The report highlights members’ innovations that are happening around the world.

If approved by the AGM, the report will be finalized with a front cover and will be published on the DAISY website.

## 06.02 Annual Report: Financials

The Financial Report is part of the Annual Report, and this was presented by Alison Long, Treasurer for the DAISY Consortium. The 2023 year concluded with an operating surplus of USD 89K. The total reserve now stands at USD 568K.

The independent auditor has recommended that the 2023 accounts be approved.

Maarten informed the General Meeting that the Board meeting yesterday discussed the Financial Statements and recommended to the General meeting that they be accepted.

There were no questions.

## 06.03 Approval of the Annual Report 2023

**Decision**: By a vote of the eligible members present the General Meeting approved the draft annual report for 2023, including the financial statements for 2023.

# 07 Discharge of the Board for 2023

**Decision**: By a vote of the eligible members present the board’s actions in 2023 were approved, and the board was discharged.

# 08 Decision on the Membership Fees for 2025

Alison explained that following a survey of board members’ views and taking into account the current financial position of the DAISY Consortium, her proposal to the General Meeting was that the membership fees for 2025 remain unchanged from the 2024 rates.

**Decision**: By a vote of the eligible members present the General Meeting decided on no change to the membership and joining fees from January 2025.

# 09 New and Changing Memberships

There were no formal approvals required at this time.

# 10 Election of the President of the DAISY Consortium

Martin explained that as Alison is leaving the DAISY Board she will also be stepping down from the Treasurer role. Alice O’Reilly is proposed by the board for the role of Treasurer for the remainder of the term.

**Decision**: By a vote of the eligible members present the General Meeting elected Alice O’Reilly as Treasurer of the DAISY Consortium.

# 11 Location of the General Meeting 2025

Maarten informed that next year the meeting will be in June. It will follow the Tactile Reading Conference in Amsterdam, the Netherlands and will be hosted by Dedicon.

# 12 Presentation of topical DAISY activities

Richard Orme gave an address highlighting the ongoing efforts to improve accessibility for individuals with print disabilities through various initiatives by the DAISY Consortium.

# 13 Close of meeting

There was no other business, and Maarten Verboom closed the meeting.