Minutes of the DAISY General Meeting  
16th May 2016

Note: these minutes were approved at the DAISY Annual General Meeting on June 27, 2017

**Location**Room C4

Clarion Hotel Sign

Östra Järnvägsgatan 35

10126 Stockholm

Sweden

# 01 Welcome and Meeting Arrangements

Jesper Klein (JK), Chair of the Board of the DAISY Consortium opened the meeting at 2pm, and welcomed the attendees.

# 02 Attendance and Apologies

## 02.01 Voting Members Present

1. Benetech (US): Brad Turner (BT)
2. CNIB (CAN): Margaret McGrory (MMG)
3. DAISY France (FRA): Stéphane Hagues (SH)
4. Dedicon (NED): Maarten Verboom (MV)
5. Finnish DAISY Consortium (FIN): Markku Leino (ML)
6. Japanese DAISY Consortium (JPN): Hiroshi Kawamura (HK)
7. Learning Ally (US): James Pritchett (JP)
8. Library of Congress / NLS (US): Michael Katzman (MK)
9. MEDIBUS (GER): Elke Dittmer (ED)
10. National Federation of the Blind (US): James Gashel (JG)
11. National Library for Individuals with Disabilities (KOR): In-hahk Lee (IL)
12. Norwegian DAISY Consortium (NOR): Arne Kyrkjebø (AK)
13. Nota (DEN): Michael Wright (MW)
14. ONCE (ESP): Francisco Martínez Calvo (FMC)
15. Royal National Institute of Blind People (UK): Steve Tyler (ST)
16. Swedish DAISY Consortium (SE): Elin Nord (EN)
17. Swiss DAISY Consortium (SUI): Flavia Kippele (FK)
18. Vision Australia (AU): Andrew Furlong (AF)

## 02.02 DAISY Consortium Staff Members Present

1. Avneesh Singh, Chief Operating Officer
2. Bernhard Heinser, Chief Financial Officer
3. George Kerscher, Chief Innovations Officer
4. Richard Orme, Chief Executive Officer
5. Dipendra Manocha, Developing Countries Co-ordinator
6. Varju Luceno, Communications Director

## 02.03 Apologies Received

Apologies were noted from Neil Jarvis, Blind Foundation New Zealand.

## 02.04 Observers / Guests Present

Joakim Uppsäll-Sjögren, Victoria Lagerkvist, Elin Nord, Nicolas Mazars, Misako Nomura, Dipendra Manocha, Monica Halil Lövblad, Varju Luceno, Pedro Milliet, Tatsuo Nishizawa, Takuro Shiroki, Hélène Kudzia, Luc Maumet, Laurette Uzan, Jean-Pierre Carpanini, Jens Halvarsson, Fredrik Schill, Daniel Ainasoja, Alex Bernier, Fernando Pinto da Silva, Lynn Leith

# 03 Acceptance of the Agenda

**The agenda was unanimously approved.**

# 04 Confirmation of the Scribes

**Jesper Klein proposed that the scribe for the meeting should be Richard Orme. This was unanimously approved.**

# 05 Review and Approval of the Minutes of the General Meeting 2015 held in Paris on 10th June 2015

**The Minutes of the General Meeting held in Paris in 2015 were unanimously approved without any changes.**

# 06 Annual Report 2015

Richard Orme (Chief Executive Officer) introduced the draft Annual Report. It is written to be of interest to prospective members of the consortium, and to be useful to possible funders. It is more brief than previous versions, but still meets the requirements of Swiss regulations. It is structured along the themes of the DAISY Consortium:

* Supporting the DAISY Community
* Leading accessibility in mainstream publishing
* Extending the benefits of accessible reading around the world

Arne Kyrkjebø (Treasurer) spoke about the financial information in the annual report. This is based on the detailed financial report which has been approved by the board. For the 2015 financial year there was a deficit of USD 11K, which is USD 33K better than budget. This leaves the organization with a capital reserve of USD 239K.

**The annual report was unanimously approved without any changes.**

Arne Kyrkjebø then then gave his thanks to Bernhard Heinser, who is retiring from the DAISY Consortium. For many years Bernhard was Treasurer. In Arne’s time as Treasurer Bernhard has been the Chief Financial Officer and he has been like a godfather to him in this role. Arne presented Bernhard with a gift on behalf of the board and entire membership of the DAISY Consortium.

Jesper Klein added his thanks, and said that Bernhard was important to the stability of the Consortium in the early days, this having been mentioned at the previous evenings celebrations of the 20-year anniversary.

Bernhard accepted the gift, saying that the first time he heard of a preliminary form of DAISY was in 1994. He immediately recognized the potential of a digital format, and so as Director of SBS he was one of the founders of the DAISY Consortium. He commented that as well as sharing knowledge and culture, passion is important. This is the passion to make better lives for people with disabilities when it comes to knowledge, education and fulfilment in their lives.

# 07 Discharge of the Board for 2015

A legal requirement; by discharging the Board of Directors, the General Meeting formally approves the Board’s action in the business year 2015.

**The Board of the DAISY Consortium was unanimously discharged by the General Meeting.**

# 09 Decision on the Membership Fees for 2017 and Entrance Fee for Full Members

# The Board recommended that the fees coming into effect on 1st January 2017 remain unchanged from 2016, namely:

# Full Members: USD 34,206; Associate Members: USD 3,425 Friends: Developers: USD 3,425 Friends: Educators, Advocates, Publishers: USD 1,000 Friends: Individual Supporters: 150 Entrance Fee for Full Members: USD 30,000

**The proposed schedule of fees was unanimously approved by the General Meeting.**

# 11 Location of the General Meeting 2017

The General Meeting 2017 will take place on 27 June in The Hague, in The Netherlands. The meeting will be held together with the Vision 2017 conference.

# 12 Any Other Business

12.1 Accessible Books Consortium meeting

The meeting was informed that the Accessible Books Consortium will hold a meeting in the same room later.

12.2 Conference registration

Jesper Klein explained the registration process for the Take Part conference.

12.3 Special awards

The Culture of Sharing award was presented to Lynn Leith. This is the highest honor conferred by the DAISY Consortium to an individual whoexemplifies the true meaning of sharing, leadership, direction, and example.

# 13 Closing the General Meeting

The meeting was closed at 1440.