

WOMENA 1st ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
28 October 2014, 18.00-21.00 (CPH time)
Minutes

Present: Louise Bergmann Sørensen, Ida Marie Boas, Camilla Faldt Thomsen, Katrine Holmegaard Sørensen, Blanche Merten, Kristine Dandanell Garn, Maria Hyttel, Marianne Tellier, Petra Jarvinen, Brian Kanaahe Mwebaze Bilal
Absent with apologies: Brook Neale, Siv Steffen Nygaard
Secretary: Ida Marie Boas

Agenda	Notes	Decisions & Action Points
A. Welcome and agenda	The agenda was presented including additional agenda points as per the new statutes. There were no additional agenda points proposed.	New agenda points accepted.
B. Election of Chairman for Annual Meeting		Ida was elected Chairman.
C. President's report	<p>Main activities, achievements, organizational and staff development were presented by Founder Marianne Tellier on behalf of the Strategy Group (summary below).</p> <p><i>2014 was very productive for WoMena. We moved quite a bit on the Gulu school study analysis, made a proposal to UNHCR for a refugee study, implemented the DCA NGO support package, established and had first meeting of the MHM forum, revised our section on menstrual health in 3rd edition of the Enreca policy background paper, prepared for our new great colleague Tom to Gulu to photodocument the recipients of cups through the Gulu study, and prepared the case for menstrual cups in the Danish TV show "Tabersager". We decided to choose the NGO path instead of consultancy and developed (almost finalised) statutes to guide the work of our great organisation, started working on our identity and new website. We also successfully recruited a number of new wonderful volunteers, and</i></p>	

	<i>mentored two new interns. All in all it was a very productive year.</i>	
D. Adoption of WoMena aims & objectives	WoMena's proposed aims and objectives were discussed and agreed.	<p><i>The Association's aim is to contribute to improving the reproductive health and rights of vulnerable men and women in low-income settings within the technical areas of menstrual hygiene management, family planning, reproductive health care, gender, and mobile phones for health (mHealth).</i></p> <p><i>The Association's objectives are:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. To identify neglected but important issues as well as research, communication and policy translation gaps in the field of reproductive health; and</i> <i>2. To develop knowledge and tools to address these issues.</i>
E. WoMena statutes (vedtægter)	The statutes were presented by Blanche and discussed point by point for almost two hours. A number of points were raised and suggestions made regarding activities, payment of membership fees, definitions of members and volunteers.	It was agreed that the final statutes would be revised as per the discussion, shared with the organisation's lawyer for review shared with the members and formally adopted at an extraordinary general meeting as soon as possible.
F. Presentation of accounts 2012-2014	Marianne presented the accounts on behalf of Brook, who is a Chartered Accountant (who was moving countries, and therefore could not join). The accounts take into account expenditures incurred under the Ktigum study, the Gulu study, and the DCA NGO support package.	The accounts for 2012-2014 were approved.
G. Presentation & approval of budget and workplan	The budget for Q4 of 2014 and Q1-Q4 of 2015 was presented by Marianne.	The budget was approved.
H. Communication	The new website and communication	The strategy was approved.

strategy & website	strategy incl. logo and visual presentation on website were presented by WoMena’s Communication Officer, Petra.	
I. Elections: 4 Board members, 2 alternates and Accountant	Candidates had expressed their interest to run for the positions in advance of the meeting.	The following 4 candidates were voted into the Board: Marianne Tellier, Maria Hyttel, Kristine Dandanell Garn, and Ida Marie Boas. Louise Bergmann and Bianca Luff were elected as alternates. Brook Neale was voted to be the Accountant.
J. Open discussion and suggestions/proposals	<p>Marianne presented the strategy for 2015 (summary below).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Launch new website and clearly communicate our identity (including to ourselves)</i> 2. <i>Finalizing and publishing Gulu articles</i> 3. <i>Establishing partnerships with Ugandan and Danish universities</i> 4. <i>UNHCR refugee study, co-funded by UNFPA</i> 5. <i>Establish office in Kampala (Marianne travelling to Uganda for 12 month leave in April)</i> 6. <i>Balance our ambitions with realistic target setting, effectively promoting a culture of work-life balance, and supportive colleague environment</i> <p><i>Formally establishing NGO and getting funding</i></p>	
K. Final word	Participants were thanked for their active participation.	