



**GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2018**

**Tuesday, June 19, 2018  
8am – 9am**

**Shangri-la Hotel, Kuala Lumpur  
11, Jalan Sultan Ismail, Bukit Bintang, 50250 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
Conference room « Sarawak »**

**MINUTES**

**Agenda**

1. Review of IMnI's Anti-Trust Policy and Procedures
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Outgoing Chairman's Report
4. Election of 8 Supervisory Board Members
5. Election of new Chairman
6. Election of new Vice-chairman
7. Election of Treasurer
8. Executive Director's Report
9. Committee Chairmen's Reports
  - a. HSE Committee Chairman's Report
  - b. Statistics Committee Chairman's Report
  - c. EPD Division Chairman's Report
  - d. China Committee Chairman's Report
10. Treasurer's Report
  - a. Approval of 2017 Financial Report
  - b. Approval of 2018 Budget
11. Any other business
12. Date & Location of Next General Assembly and Annual Conference

1. **Review of Anti-trust Policy and Procedures:** Chairman Pedro Larrea welcomed the Members and reminded them of IMnI's Anti-Trust declaration, asking them to abide by it throughout the meeting and the Annual Conference. He appointed Aloys d'Hambure as the Anti-Trust "whistle blower" for the meeting.

2. **The Agenda** was approved, along with the minutes of the last General Assembly.

3. **Chairman's Report:** Pedro Larrea, Ferroglobe

**Update on IMnI membership:** Pedro Larrea explained that 1 company have left the IMnI so far in 2018, while 8 new companies joined the IMnI, including 2 Indian companies and 1 Chinese. The IMnI membership now stands at 75 Members (from 68 at the end of 2017).

The Chairman reminded that items 4, 5, 6, 7 and 10 on the Agenda had already been voted by a General Assembly, conducted the previous month by round-robin e-mail.

These items concerned:

4. **Election of 8 Supervisory Board Members:** Minmetals, CITIC Dameng, MOIL, OM Holdings, Simpac, UMK and OFZ have been re-elected for 4 years; Tshipi have been elected;

5. **Election of new IMnI Chairman:** Esteban Rivero (Autlan) has been elected IMnI Chairman for 2 years;

6. **Election of new IMnI Vice-Chairman:** Branislav Klocok (OFZ) has been elected IMnI Vice-Chairman;

7. **Election of new IMnI Treasurer:** Arnaud Vigier (Eramet) has been elected IMnI Treasurer;

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After points b, c, d and e above, the IMnI Structure is as follows:

Chairman Esteban Rivero (Autlán)

Vice Chairman Patrick Sacco (Ore & Metal)

Vice Chairman Branislav Klocok (OFZ)

Treasurer Arnaud Vigier (Eramet)

Board Members Autlán, South32, Eramet, Ferroglobe, Glencore, Minmetals, CITIC Dameng, MOIL, OM Holdings, Simpac, UMK, OFZ, Ore & Metal, Tshipi (14 Board Members).

8. **Executive Director's Report:** Aloys d'Hambure, IMnI

a. **Results of IMnI 2017 Survey:**

i. IMnI can improve HSE & Regulatory Affairs;

ii. The technical tours are very interesting to our Members;

b. **Annual Conference 2018 in Kuala Lumpur:**

i. 185 delegates (including 13 non-paying: speakers, IMnI staff), including 15 Chinese and 15 Indians (but no steel mills in spite of free registration);

ii. Technical Tours registration: 90 delegates;

c. **IMnI Technical Workshop in Inner Mongolia:** on August 8 & 9, 2018: 3 technical visits in Inner Mongolia + HSE exchange session + technical discussions; open only to IMnI Members;

d. **IFAPA Conference, New Delhi, India,** August 22-24, 2018: jointly organized by IMnI; IMnI Members get a 20% discount on the registration fee; technical visits of several Indian ferro-alloy plants.

## 9. Committee Chairmen Reports

### a. HSE Committee Chairman's Report: Rocklin Reed (Ore & Metal)

#### i. Carried over projects 2017: Rocklin Reed presented an update on the HSE projects validated in 2017 and carried over 2018:

1. socio-economic analysis (SEA) of Mn slags: on time and on budget. A webinar to help IMnI Members engage their respective policy-makers is being developed (webinar slated to be held in September or October 2018);
2. Neurodevelopmental Study: in utero and early life exposure to Manganese dichloride produced no neurological, behavioral or learning impairments in rats:

#### ii. Update on 2018 HSE Special Projects:

1. IQ project – MIG: after multiple delays, Exponent has sent the initial draft of the Systematic Review manuscript; Manganese Interest Group (MIG) Steering Group is preparing comments; HSE Manager estimates a further 6 months before final publication (journal submission, peer review, revisions, acceptance)

MIG White Paper - Statistical challenge to original Mn child IQ papers. The Board approved 30K EUR to further MIG IQ project in 2018, and MIG white paper is the next phase of this project. MIG prepared a white paper challenging the validity of the initial child IQ papers. Request for proposals were sent out with the white paper seeking validation of the white paper and a challenge of the studies. First response to the call was received 23 May 2018: HSE Committee agreed to provide funding.

2. Manganism - Phase 1a: Systematic Review of Clinical Guidance on Manganism. Project is currently on time and on budget. Phase 1 should end in August. HSE Committee with RSI consultation will decide if publication of the first review may negatively impact end-goal of a new Diagnostic Criteria for Manganism. Publication before the clinical Diagnostic Criteria is published could jeopardize the acceptance of the new clinical diagnosis
3. Peer Review - Impact on human health by environmental manganese exposure. 12 letters of intent have been received. HSE Committee views proposals using imaging techniques such as MRI as high priority. HSE Committee will pick 2 projects and allocate 25K€ to each (IMnI Board approved 50K€ of budget for this special project for 2018). Funding will be awarded early July (proposal deadline is June 30th).

#### iii. Mn industry's challenges:

1. Environmental Exposure / Human Health Risk: Chicago now looking at soil contamination; city ban on new Mn facilities or expansion of current facilities (physical expansion, not based on capacity). Other parts of the US looking at Mn (mainly drinking water). Globally (mainly drinking water). Focus of risk is primarily on children (bad media exposure);
2. Regulations in the USA: EPA IRIS (Environmental Protection Agency Integrated Risk Information System) will look to reassess Mn late 2018 early 2019: this will be for air limits US wide; Cal OSHA (California Occupational Safety and Health Administration) looking to greatly reduced air permissible exposure limit (PEL).

- b. **Statistics Committee Chairman's Report:** Guillermo Recio presented his report covering the following points:
- i. **Improvements to IMnI reports & new reports**
    1. Now more than 690 plants and mines listed + 200 future projects, with production capacity, with province in China / India (155 SiMn producers listed in China); contact details added for most plants; location added for some plants;
    2. Special report on Mn in batteries published in February 2018; based on EMD production figures collected by IMnI, and on information from third parties; Special report on steel & silico-manganese in China published in April 2018;
    3. 2017 figures published on March 9, 2018 (time-lag reduced to 2 months); will be updated at the beginning of 2019 with 2018 figures (collected from IMnI Members);
  - ii. **Price forecasts by Metal Bulletin:** quarterly price forecasts from Metal Bulletin, published for free to all IMnI Members;
  - iii. **IMnI Booklet 2018:** Prepared with the support of Autlan, shows IMnI 2017 key figures. Statistics by country available in IMnI 2018 Market Research report (available on IMnI website since June 5, 2018).
- c. **China Committee Chairman's report:** in the absence of Chairman Li Weijan, Ms. Tan Rong of CITIC Dameng presented his report to the IMnI General Assembly:
- i. **Update on the China Committee:** China Committee created in November 2016. Last meeting in October 2017. 3 sub-committees: Stats, Regulatory Affairs and HSE. Last Stats sub-committee meeting held in Shanghai on May 16, 2018. 22 representatives of Chinese IMnI Members discussed how to efficiently use the IMnI reports, and to improve the knowledge of the Chinese market;
  - ii. **IMnI China Banquet:** was organised in Hong Kong during MB Conference Asia (March 20-22, 2018), 80 market participants attended, including IMnI Members producers of Mn ore, who sponsored the event, and most IMnI Chinese Members;
  - iii. **IMnI Technical Workshop in Inner Mongolia:** on August 8 & 9, 2018: 3 technical visits in Inner Mongolia + HSE exchange session + technical discussions; open only to IMnI Members.
- d. **EPD Committee Chairman's report:** in the absence of Chairman Li Weijan, Ms. Tan Rong of CITIC Dameng presented his report to the IMnI General Assembly:
- i. **IMnI 14<sup>th</sup> EPD Conference** took place in Nanning on March 16 & 17, and attracted over 170 delegates (vs 110 in 2017), making it the premier event for EMD and EMM producers worldwide.
  - ii. **2019 EPD conference** will take place in Chongqing, before Metal Bulletin's Asia Ferroalloy Conference in March 2019: 1 day of conference (with presentations on Mn chemicals others than electrolytic, like Mn sulphate, trimanganese tetraoxide etc.) and one day of technical tour.
10. **Treasurer's Report:** Aloys d'Harambure presented the report on behalf of outgoing Treasurer Branislav Klocok (OFZ), who could not attend the General Assembly.

- a. **Approval of the 2017 Financial Report** (this was revised by the accountant, validated by the IMnI Treasurer Branislav Klocok and has been audited by Deloitte);
  - i. IMnI income in 2017 35K lower than budgeted income, lower Annual Conference result (Miami) and lower MARA contribution (new MARA General Secretary as of July 1, 2017) offset higher membership fees (8 new Members in 2017);
  - ii. IMnI expenses in 2017 were slightly under budgeted expenses, with higher office costs (change of office in June 2017) and social charges (Anne Tremblay's retirement not entirely budgeted) compensated by lower travel & entertainment expenses and salaries (Executive Director continues doing market research);
  - iii. Final Result in 2017 = +11.9K€ Operating Result but with a Financial Loss of 18K€ (non-cash, exchange rate fluctuation), the Final Result for 2017 is: -6K€ (vs -63K€ in 2016);
  
- b. **Approval of the 2018 IMnI Budget.**
  - i. IMnI projected income in 2018 is expected to be higher than budgeted, with higher Annual Conference result (KL), and higher membership fees (7 new Members in H1 2018): 2018 projected income is 4% higher than 2017 income;
  - ii. As of this date, IMnI expenses in 2018 are expected to be on budget (15% lower than 2017 expenses);
  - iii. As of this date, HSE special projects can be funded 100% within 2018 budget (no special contribution needed, and no need to use IMnI cash reserves for now);
  - iv. IMnI cash reserves should increase during 2018 (no taxes to deduce)

11. **Any Other Business:** no other business

12. **Date & location of Next General Assembly:** The Chairman announced that the 2019 Annual Conference will take place in Europe (exact location be confirmed in the coming weeks). Next year's General Assembly will take place during the Annual Conference in June 2019.

All agenda items having been addressed and with no questions from the floor, the Chairman closed the Assembly.