



SUPERVISORY BOARD MEETING

**Tuesday, November 13, 2018
10:15am – 1pm**

Hotel Açores (6 min. walk from the Corinthia Hotel, Metal Bulletin’s conference venue) Av. Columbano Bordalo Pinheiro, n.º 3, Lisboa (+351 217 222 927), **meeting room « Furnas IV »**

MINUTES

Attending	
Name	Company
Esteban Rivero (Chairman)	Autlan
Branislav Klocok (Vice-Chairman)	OFZ
Arnaud Vigier (Treasurer)	Eramet
Guillaume Verschaeve	Eramet
Anna Wood	South32
Rocklin Reed	Ore & Metal
John Joseph Scholtz	UMK
James Jin Shik Choi	Simpac
Ruan van Schalkwyk	Glencore
Pedro Larrea	Ferroglobe
Juan Bosco Alvarez	Autlan
Guillermo Recio	Autlan
Aloys d'Hambure	IMnI

Excused	
Ngee Tong Low	OM Holdings
Li Weijan	CITIC Dameng
Mr Chaudhari	MOIL
Lei Fei	Minmetals
Mukund P. Chaudhari	MOIL
Ezekiel Lothare	Tshipi
Andrea Cornwell	South32

By telephone	
Patrick Sacco (Vice-Chairman)	Ore & Metal

1. **Review of Anti-trust Policy and Procedures:** Chairman Esteban Rivero 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'Harambure as the Anti-Trust "whistle blower" for the meeting. (Members signed a presence sheet containing the policy.)
2. **Apologies for absence** were **accepted** as per list above.
3. **The Agenda** was **approved**

#	Agenda item	Reason	Timing (in minutes)
1	Review of anti-trust policy and procedures	Legal Requirement	2
2	Apologies for absence	Information	1
3	Approval of agenda	Decision	1
4	Review of minutes of last meeting	Information	5
5	Chairman's report	Information & Discussion	20
6	Executive Director's report	Information & Discussion	20
	1 - Annual Conference 2018		
	2 - Annual Conference 2019		
	3 - Change of IMnI China Representative		
7	HSE Committee Chairman's report	Information & Discussion	10
8	Treasurer's report	Information & Discussion	20
	1 - New accountant		
	2 - 2018 Projected P&L		
	3 - 2019 Budget		
9	Statistics Committee Chairman's report	Information & Discussion	10
10	EPD Chairman's report	Information & Discussion	10
11	China Committee Chairman's report	Information & Discussion	10
12	Any other business	Information & Approval	5
13	Date & location of next meeting	Decision	1

4. **Review of last meeting minutes:** approved

The IMnI Chairman welcomed Ezekiel Lothare, CEO of Tshipi, to the Board, after it has been elected by the General Assembly of IMnI Members in June 2018.

The IMnI Chairman also welcomed Arnaud Vigier (Eramet) to the Board, after he has been elected as IMnI Treasurer by the General Assembly of IMnI Members in June 2018.

5. Chairman's Report: Esteban Rivero, Autlan

a. Update on IMnI membership:

- i. 2 companies have left the IMnI so far in 2018, including IPM in Italy that was replaced by Minmet, and Shanghai Jinneng in China which stopped producing Mn alloys. Georgian American Alloys will also withdraw from the IMnI at the end of the year. Quintal and Hoperay have not paid their 2018 membership fees, and Aloys d'H. will follow up with them before the end of the year.
- ii. Meanwhile, 12 new companies joined the IMnI so far this year, including 2 Indian companies and 2 Chinese. The IMnI membership now stands at 75 Members (from 68 at the end of 2017), a record high since 2012.

b. **Annual Conference 2019:** the original choice of Tbilisi (Georgia) has been reconsidered, given the little interest of IMnI Members for this location. Vienna has been chosen by the IMnI Executive Board as the location of the 2019 Annual Conference.

c. **New IMnI website:** a new website and intranet will be launched in Q2 2019: more user-friendly, optimised for Google ranking.

d. **The compensation of IMnI staff** is now reviewed by the Executive Board (instead of the IMnI Chairman in the past) on an annual basis.

6. Executive Director's Report: Aloys d'Harambure, IMnI

a. Annual Conference 2018 in Kuala Lumpur:

- i. 180 delegates (including 13 non-paying: speakers, IMnI staff), including 15 Chinese and 15 Indians (but no steel mills in spite of free registration);
- ii. 208K€ profit (vs 28K€ in 2017)

b. Annual Conference 2019:

- i. in Vienna on June 10-12, 2019. Registration started on November 11, 2018. The draft agenda was presented to the Board. Suggestions and comments from the Supervisory Board Members can be sent before the end of the year.
- ii. Several conference events remain available for sponsorship, and Members of the Board can contact the IMnI staff to book an event.

Lunch day 2 - 100 persons

Buffet lunch and beverages

9 000 €

Sponsor is entitled to have his company logo on the menu, make a brief welcome speech, display his publicity material on a dedicated table at the entrance of the lunch venue and of the conference hall and invite 4 guests to the lunch free of charge (can invite a few more at cost).

Special Conference Sponsorship

4 900 €

Sponsor is entitled to display his publicity material on a dedicated table at the entrance of the conference hall and on the IMnI website. The conference moderator will announce the name of the sponsor during the conference

Tea Break day 2 - 100 persons

Assorted pastries and beverages

950 €

Sponsor is entitled to display his publicity material on a dedicated table at the entrance of the conference hall and on the IMnI website. The conference moderator will announce the name of the sponsor before the tea break

Tea Break day 3 - 100 persons

Assorted pastries and beverages

950 €

Sponsor is entitled to display his publicity material on a dedicated table at the entrance of the conference hall and on the IMnI website. The conference moderator will announce the name of the sponsor before the tea break

c. Annual Conference 2020:

- i. Several options of locations are considered, including South Africa, Brazil, Australia and Mexico. Safety has been taken into consideration in the factors.

Variables	Weight	BRAZIL		MEXICO		CAPETOWN		AUSTRALIA	
		PROS	CONS	PROS	CONS	PROS	CONS	PROS	CONS
Access for Chinese & Asian delegates	100		100		100	100		100	
Access for European delegates	50	50		50		50			50
Access for North American delegates	20	20		20			20		20
Access for South American delegates	5	5		5		5			5
Conference Cost	100	100		100		100			100
Weather in June	80	80		80			80	80	
Mn spot (Mn mines & plants nearby)	80	80		80		80		80	
Inspection Visit	10		10		10		10		10
Location interest	70	70		70		70		70	
Safety	20		20	20			20	20	
Easiness of finding an hotel	60	60		60		60		60	
Easiness of finding sponsors	10	10		10		10		10	
Easiness of finding new local Members	40	40			40		40		40
Total	645	515	130	495	150	475	170	420	225
BALANCE PROS & CONS		385		345		305		195	
Last AC in the country/region		2003 Rio		2012 Cancun		2014 Capetown		2000 Surfers Paradise	

- ii. Additional suggestions from the Supervisory Board can be sent by the end of the year, and the Executive Board will suggest a shortlist during the Vienna Conference in June 2019.

- d. **New China Representative:** Eva Yang started working for IMnI in August 2018, in replacement of Jian Zhou who became the Chairman of a Chinese Mn alloy producer.
- e. **Housekeeping:** the vote of IMnI Members is done by email or during meetings for the Supervisory Board, and by online form in advance for the General Assembly. Aloys d'H. will make a PDF of the total votes by company, and have it signed by the IMnI Chairman, Vice-Chairman or Treasurer. The Supervisory Board approved this way of collecting Members' votes.

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

- a. **Carried over projects 2017:** Rocklin Reed presented an update on the HSE projects validated in 2017 and carried over 2018:

Carried over projects 2017

- 1 Slag project **done**
- 2 Neurodevelopmental Study **ongoing**
- 3 MIG IQ project **done**

Neurodevelopmental Study: In utero and early life exposure to Manganese dichloride produced no neurological, behavioral or learning impairments in rats: submitted to Journal of Toxicology and Environmental Health on June 11, 2018: 1st round of peer-review was positive overall. Reviewers concerns were addressed, and the manuscript was returned for follow up review.

- b. **Update on 2018 HSE Special Projects:**

2018 HSE special projects

- 1 MIG IQ project
- 2 IMnl studies (peer-review)
- 3 Manganism

ongoing
ongoing
done

- i. **MIG IQ project:**
 - **MIG - Systematic Review by Exponent:** manuscript has been submitted for publication, expected publish date is Feb 2019;
 - **MIG White Paper - Statistical challenge to original Mn child IQ papers:** a contract was signed with Gradient; proposed end of work is March 2019;
 - **MIG 2019:** Gradient will challenge the Haynes studies (will submit proposal shortly): a possibility of Research Misconduct by Haynes;
 - ii. **Peer Review:** Impact on human health by environmental manganese exposure
 - Can Toenail Mn levels predict Brain Mn levels?, Ulrike Dydak, Purdue University, tentative finish: Jan. 2020;
 - Hair Manganese accumulation as a novel biomarker for external Mn exposure, Michael Aschner, Albert Einstein College of Medicine Aaron Bowman, Purdue University, tentative finish: Aug. 2020.
 - iii. **Manganism:** Phase 1a: Systematic Review of Clinical Guidance on Manganism (phase 1a was delivered on time and on budget).
- c. **Mn industry's challenges:**
- i. **Regulations**
 - US EPA Region 5 (Illinois (Chicago), Indiana, Ohio (Marietta, East Liverpool), Minnesota, Michigan and Wisconsin)
 - US EPA pushing for Mn superfund site in Chicago
 - ii. **US EPA Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS) Mn reassessment**
 - IMnl Chairman Esteban R. and Anna W. asked if the MIG was the best platform to engage with policymakers in the USA, or if it would be more efficient for IMnl to engage directly with them.
 - Guillaume V. stated that it would be difficult for IMnl to replace the MIG as the main correspondent of the EPA in the USA, considering the MIG has a long experience of interacting with the EPA. In addition, several Members of the MIG are not Members of the IMnl (including the American Iron and Steel Institute, the Steel Manufacturers Association, the Specialty Steel Industry of North America, the National Slag Association, Nucor Steel, and Cliffs Natural Resources), and they contribute to the MIG.
 - Rocklin R. proposed to analyse in details how the IMnl engages with the US EPA, and if a different recommendation is needed, such as working in parallel to the MIG, it will be proposed in a subsequent meeting.
 - iii. **Japan considering Mn as reprotox**
- d. **HSE special projects 2019:** 2019 Proposed project funding

median	average	project	proposed amount
1	1.17	1 MIG IQ	50K
2	2.17	2 IMnI Studies	50K
3	2.50	3 Manganism	90K
			190K EUR total

8. **Treasurer's Report:** Arnaud Vigier (Eramet)
 - a. **New IMnI accountant:** Pluriel Consultants, will start on January 1, 2019.
 - b. **Projected 2018 P&L:**
 - i. IMnI projected profit in 2018 should be around 242K€ (vs -97K€ budgeted), because of higher Annual Conference result (Kuala Lumpur), higher membership fees and lower operating expenses.
 - ii. IMnI cash reserves should increase during 2018 (no taxes to deduce).
 - c. **2019 Budget:** the Supervisory Board approved the budget for 2019.

9. **Statistics Committee Chairman's Report:** Guillermo Recio (Autlan)
 - a. **New Committee Members:** 2 new Members, Maringa Ferro Ligas and Oldendorff Carriers; the Statistics Committee now has 14 active Members;
 - b. **Improvements to IMnI reports**
 - i. Maps of all Mn mines and plants in all countries published in 2018;
 - ii. Better monthly report with information on steel exports from China, stainless steel production in China, capacity utilisation ratio for SiMn, HC FeMn and Ref FeMn, and Mn ore.

10. **China Committee Chairman's report:** in the absence of Chairman Li Weijan, Aloys d'H. (IMnI) presented his report to the IMnI Board:
 - a. **Update on the China Committee:** last China Committee meeting in October 2018 in Hangzhou. The China Stats sub-committee now organizes a monthly teleconference to discuss the latest IMnI data. A China Technical sub-committee meeting was organised in August 2018 in Inner Mongolia.
 - b. **IMnI Technical Workshop:**
 - i. First edition on August 8 & 9, 2018 in Inner Mongolia, hosted by Mengfa: 2 technical visits of Mn alloy plants in Inner Mongolia + HSE exchange session + technical discussions; open only to IMnI Members. 50 international delegates from 10 countries attended.
 - ii. Another workshop will be organised in September 2019 in Ningxia province, and will be hosted by IMnI Member Ningxia Shengyen. The Supervisory Board suggested to invite some Chinese potential members, charge them a registration fee, and cancel this fee if they join IMnI before the end of the year.
 - c. **IMnI China Banquet:** next edition in Hong Kong on Sunday, March 10.

11. **EPD Committee Chairman's report:** in the absence of Chairman Li Weijan, Aloys d'H. (IMnI) presented his report to the IMnI Board:
 - a. **IMnI EPD Conference 2018:** 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.
 - b. **2019 EPD conference** will take place in Zhangjiajie, Hunan province (China), before Metal Bulletin's Asia Ferroalloy Conference in March 2019: conference on Thursday, March 7 (with presentations on Mn chemicals others than electrolytic, like Mn

International Manganese Institute

Association

sulphate, trimanganese tetraoxide etc.) and technical tour at Hunan Orient Mining Company & Wuling Manganese on March 8, 2019.

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

13. **Date & location of Next Supervisory Board Meeting:** in Vienna during the IMnI Annual Conference on June 10 in the afternoon.

The Chairman then closed the meeting.