



Headquarters' address: 47, Avenue des Arts, 1000 Brussels (Belgium)

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

December 16, 2025

2.00 pm – 5.00 pm CET

Held online (Zoom)

The Members of the Association met online on Zoom for the IANPHI General Assembly held on 16 December 2025. Votes were cast using JotForm.

The General Assembly was chaired by Prof. Duncan Selbie, IANPHI President.

The Bureau was represented by Prof. Duncan Selbie, IANPHI President joining online from Saudi Arabia.

The General Assembly was convened in accordance with the Association's Statutes.

Members present or represented

The list of Members present and represented was validated by the IANPHI Secretariat during the meeting. A total of **36 Members with voting rights** were present and eligible to vote.

In accordance with Article 9.5 of the Statutes, the quorum required to hold the General Assembly and to proceed with votes (one third of voting Members) was reached (30).

Unless otherwise specified, items submitted for approval required adoption by a simple majority of the votes expressed.

Consequently, the General Assembly was able to deliberate validly.

Agenda

- Introductory remarks by the President
- IANPHI 2025 highlights
- IANPHI Strategy 2026–2030
- Committees and call for volunteers (Oversight Committee)
- Update from the IANPHI US Office
- Update on international projects
- Presentation of the Framework for the creation and development of NPHIs
- Presentation and approval of the 2024 final accounts
- Presentation of the interim 2025 financial report
- Presentation and approval of the 2026 budget proposal and membership dues
- Election of Executive Board Members
- Approval of new IANPHI Members
- Results of the Recognition of Success 2025
- Announcement of Regional Network Chairs and Vice-Chairs
- Results of the General Assembly votes
- Final remarks and announcement of future Annual Meetings

Item 1 – Opening of the meeting and introductory remarks

Prof. Duncan Selbie opened the General Assembly, welcomed participants joining from different regions and time zones, and reminded Members of the legal nature of the General Assembly and the importance of the decisions to be taken. He confirmed that the Bureau was represented by himself, joining online from Saudi Arabia.

Item 2 – IANPHI 2025 highlights

Neil Squires, IANPHI Secretary General, presented highlights of IANPHI's activities in 2025. He provided an overview of key developments within the Secretariat, progress on strategic priorities, and ongoing engagement with Members and partners. The presentation

highlighted the continued growth and activity of the IANPHI network and the Secretariat's work in supporting Members.

Item 3 – IANPHI Strategy 2026–2030

Prof. Aamer Ikram, IANPHI Vice-President, presented the proposed strategic directions for the period 2026–2030. He outlined the main strategic axes, building on the previous strategy, and emphasized the importance of strengthening national public health institutes, collaboration across regions, and collective action on global public health challenges.

Item 4 – Committees and call for volunteers

Dr. Rebecca Martin, Chair of the Oversight Committee, provided an update on committee work and issued a call for volunteers, particularly for the Oversight Committee. She explained the role of the committee and encouraged Members to engage actively in governance and oversight activities.

Item 5 – IANPHI US Office update

Ellen Whitney, Director of the IANPHI US Office, presented an update on the activities of the US Office, including ongoing projects, partnerships, and support provided to Members.

Item 6 – International projects

Sadaf Lynes, Director of Collaborative Surveillance, Workforce and Health Emergencies, presented an overview of current international projects, highlighting work related to surveillance, workforce development, and preparedness and response to health emergencies.

Item 8 – Framework for the creation and development of NPHIs

Dr. Angela Fehr, Director of Programs and Partnerships, presented the Framework for the creation and development of National Public Health Institutes. The presentation provided an overview of the purpose, structure, and intended use of the Framework. This item was presented for information only and did not require a vote.

Item 9 – Financial matters

Prof. Mika Salminen, IANPHI Treasurer, presented:

- The 2024 final accounts;
- The interim financial report for 2025;
- The 2026 budget proposal,
- The membership dues.

Following the presentation, votes were opened via JotForm.

The General Assembly:

- Approved the 2024 final accounts;
- Approved the 2026 budget proposal;
- Approved the membership dues.

All votes were adopted by the required majority, with quorum confirmed.

Item 10 – Election of Executive Board Members

Prof. Duncan Selbie introduced the election of Executive Board Members. The Executive Board members completing their mandates end of 2025 were:

- Dr. Abdullah Al Gwizani (end of 2nd mandate),
- Dr. Vivian Kourí Cardellá (end of 1st mandate, having completed the remainder of Yanaris López Almaguer's term),

- Dr. Jianwei Wang (end of 1st mandate, having completed the remainder of Hongbing Shen's term).

The Secretariat received 7 applications:

- Dr. Mahamoud Sama Cherif, Director of the National Institute of Public Health in Guinea (Guinea)
- Dr. Bernardo Hernandez Prado, Director of the National Institute of Public Health in Mexico (Mexico)
- Dr. Maureen Kamene Kimenye, Director of the Kenya National Public Health Institute (Kenya)
- Dr. Taj Malook, Director of the Afghanistan National Public Health Institute (Afghanistan)
- Dr. Xochitl Sandoval, Director of the National Institute of Health of El Salvador (El Salvador)
- Prof. Vivian Kourí Cardellá, Director of the Institute of Tropical Medicine Pedro Kouri (IPK) (Cuba)
- Prof. Wang Jianwei, Director of Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) (China)

Voting took place via JotForm, with Members able to approve up to three candidates. The quorum requirement was met. Prof. Vivian Kourí Cardellá and Dr. Bernardo Hernandez Prado were elected.

Addendum – Election of Executive Board Members

During the election of Executive Board Members, Members with voting rights were invited to approve up to three candidates using an “I approve this candidate” voting system. The quorum was reached and a total of 31 votes were expressed.

Two candidates (Prof. Vivian Kourí Cardellá and Dr. Bernardo Hernandez Prado) received 21 and 20 approvals respectively and were therefore declared elected by a simple majority of the votes expressed. A third candidate, Prof. Wang Jianwei, received 14 approvals. Due to time constraints during the meeting, this candidate was announced as elected at the end of the voting session.

Following the General Assembly, a review of the voting results and of Article 9.6 of the Statutes confirmed that decisions of the General Assembly must be adopted by a simple majority of the votes expressed. With 30 votes expressed, the required majority was 16 approvals. As a result, Prof. Wang Jianwei did not meet the required threshold and cannot be considered elected on the basis of the vote held on 16 December 2025.

After consultation with legal counsel, it was confirmed that the appropriate course of action is to organize a new vote for the remaining Executive Board seat at the next General Assembly, to be held in person during the IANPHI Annual Meeting in Dubai in April 2026. The elected Executive Board Member will have a mandate that will be slightly shorter than three years due to the later start date.

The Executive Board Candidates and Members have been informed accordingly, and the present addendum forms an integral part of the official minutes of the General Assembly.

Item 11 – Approval of new IANPHI Members

Prof. Aamer Ikram, IANPHI Vice-President, presented the applications for new membership:

- Health Service Executive, National Office for Public Health (Ireland) – National Member
- National Institute of Public Health of Japan – National Member
- Eswatini Ministry of Health (Eswatini) – Associate Member
- Sidama Public Health Institute (Ethiopia) – Associate Member
- National Public Health Institute of Yemen – Associate Member

The applications were submitted to a vote via JotForm and were all approved by the General Assembly.

Item 12 – Recognition of Success 2025

Neil Squires, IANPHI Secretary General, presented the results of the Recognition of Success 2025, acknowledging the quality and diversity of submissions received from Members. 44 applications were received from 21 countries.

Asia Regional Network: Safeguarding Health, Bridging Sectors, Building Resilience – a Journey of “Centre for One Health” in institutionalizing One Health Approach in the Country, National Center for Disease Control of India

Latin America Regional Network: Public Health Intelligence Unit (UISP): Integrating Data and Analytical Science to Strengthen Evidence-Based Decision Making in Health, National Institute of Public Health, Mexico

Africa Regional Network: Community-Based Surveillance Integrated into the 4S network, Institut Pasteur de Dakar, Senegal

Europe Regional Network: Expanding Access to HPV Vaccination for Adolescent Girls , National Institute of Public Health, Albania

Item 13 – Announcement of Regional Network Chairs and Vice-Chairs

Neil Squires announced the Regional Network Chairs and Vice-Chairs, noting the importance of regional leadership in supporting IANPHI’s activities.

Africa Regional Network: Dr. Mahamoud Sama Cherif (National Institute of Public Health of Guinea) is elected as Chair. Dr. Maria da Luz Lima (National Institute of Public Health of Cabo Verde) is elected as Vice-Chair.

Europe Regional Network: Dr. Olga Gvozdetska (Public Health Center of Ukraine) is elected as Chair. Claudia Habl (Austrian National Public Health Institute GÖG) is elected as Vice-Chair.

Latin America Regional Network: Dr. Xochitl Sandoval López (National Institute of Health of El Salvador) is elected as Chair. No candidate applied to the Vice-Chair position.

Asia Regional Network: No candidate applied to the Chair and Vice-Chair positions. Another call for applications for the Asia Regional Network will be launched in 2026.

Item 14 – Results of the General Assembly votes

Prof. Duncan Selbie, IANPHI President, summarized the results of all votes held during the General Assembly.

Item	Results
2024 final account	Approved 28 votes in favor 32 overall valid votes
2026 budget proposal	Approved 30 votes in favor 32 overall valid votes
Membership Dues	Approved 25 votes in favor 32 overall valid votes
Executive Board Members election	Dr. Vivian Kouri Cardella – 21 votes in favor Dr. Bernardo Hernandez Prado – 20 votes in favor 31 overall valid votes
New IANPHI National Members	Health Service Executive, National Office for Public Health (Ireland) - approved - 28 in favor National Institute of Public Health of Japan – approved - 28 in favor 30 overall valid votes
New IANPHI Associate Members	Eswatini Ministry of Health (Eswatini) - approved - 24 in favor Sidama Public Health Institute (Ethiopia) – approved - 26 in favor National Public Health Institute of Yemen – approved - 23 in favor 30 overall valid votes

Item 15 – Final remarks and future Annual Meetings

Prof. Duncan Selbie closed the General Assembly by thanking all participants, the Secretariat, and Executive Board Members. He announced the hosts for the next IANPHI Annual Meetings: 2026 (Dubai, United Arab Emirates) and 2027 (San Salvador, El Salvador).

He thanked Executive Board Members whose mandates were ending and welcomed the newly elected members.

The meeting was closed at 5.00 pm CET.