



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

Extraordinary General Assembly

April 8, 2026

2.00 pm – 4.00 pm CET

Held online (Zoom)

The Members of the Association met online on Zoom for the IANPHI Extraordinary General Assembly held on 8 April 2026.

The Extraordinary 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 Extraordinary General Assembly was convened in accordance with the Association's Statutes. Initially planned as an hybrid (in person and online) session at the Annual Meeting in Dubai, it was convened online following the postponement of the event due to the geopolitical situation in the Middle East.

Votes were cast using JotForm.

During the Extraordinary General Assembly, a member raised questions regarding the availability and approval of the minutes of the December 2025 General Assembly, as well as the presentation of audited financial statements. The member also expressed concerns related to governance and institutional arrangements.

It should be noted that this Extraordinary General Assembly had been convened to address time-sensitive items, scheduled for the in-person and virtual General Assembly at the Annual Meeting, which was postponed due to the regional situation. This meeting **does not**

replace the Annual General Assembly, held each year in November/December, which will be held in November 2026. It is at that meeting that minutes of the 2025 AGM will be presented for approval and where the Treasurer's report, including available audited accounts will be presented.

On other matters raised on governance and institutional arrangements, these are being addressed through ongoing processes outside the scope of the extraordinary General Assembly and will be addressed following discussion at the Executive Board – the issues were not recognized as appropriate for discussion at this extraordinary General Assembly.

Members present or represented

The list of Members present and represented was validated by the IANPHI Secretariat during the meeting. A total of 47 members participated. 33 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 (24).

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.

Agenda

- Introductory remarks – Prof. Duncan Selbie, IANPHI President
- Presentation and approval of the Framework for the creation and development of NPHIs – Dr. Angela Fehr, Director of Programs and Partnerships, IANPHI
- Presentation and approval of IANPHI Strategic Vision 2026–2030 – Prof. Aamer Ikram, IANPHI Vice-President
- Election of the Executive Board Member - Prof. Duncan Selbie, IANPHI President
- Presentation of the Annual Progress Report 2025 – Dr. Neil Squires, IANPHI Secretary General
- Various Announcements – Dr. Neil Squires, IANPHI Secretary General
- Results of the Extraordinary General Assembly votes - Prof. Duncan Selbie, IANPHI President
- Final remarks and announcement of future Annual Meetings - Prof. Duncan Selbie, IANPHI President

Opening of the meeting and introductory remarks

Prof. Duncan Selbie opened the General Assembly, welcomed participants joining from different regions and time zones, and conveyed thoughts to those affected by the current geopolitical situation.

The Secretariat provided operational guidance for the meeting.

Item 1 – Presentation and approval of the Framework for the creation and development of NPHIs

Dr. Angela Fehr presented the revised Framework.

Key elements presented:

- The original framework dated from 2007 and required revision in light of updated Essential Public Health Functions.
- The revision process began in 2022, paused, and resumed in 2024 following publication of the updated WHO framework.
- The process included:
 - A drafting group and subcommittee
 - 10 drafting meetings
 - Membership consultation (May–June 2025)
 - Integration of survey results from ~60 members
 - Executive Board review (September 2025)
- The framework introduces three levels of functions:
 - Core (NPHIs lead)
 - Desirable (active collaboration)
 - Optional (contribution)
- The framework is not prescriptive and reflects varying national mandates.
- The framework consists of:
 - Part A (framework – subject to approval)
 - Part B (process guide – under development)

- Part C (dynamic tools and annexes – under development)

Discussion:

- Special Advisor Quentin Sandifer suggested replacing the term “ranking” to avoid implying hierarchy of importance.
- Dr. Angela Fehr agreed to revise the wording accordingly.

Decision:

The Framework (Part A), with the proposed wording adjustment, was submitted to vote. Voting was conducted via JotForm (Voting Form 1).

Technical issues were addressed during the voting process, and additional time was granted to ensure participation.

Item 2 – Presentation and approval of IANPHI Strategic Vision 2026–2030

Prof. Aamer Ikram presented the Strategic Vision 2026–2030.

Key elements presented:

- The strategy builds on the previous pandemic-era strategy.
- It responds to emerging global challenges:
 - Climate change
 - Antimicrobial resistance
 - Geopolitical instability
 - Financial constraints
- Development process:
 - Initiated October 2025 (World Health Summit, Berlin)
 - Iterative consultations with members, advisors, and partners
 - Feedback from 17 members and 3 partner organizations
- Key updates:
 - Strategic objectives reduced from 5 to 4

- Inclusion of achievements from previous strategy
 - Strengthened focus on measurable outcomes and KPIs
- Strategic pillars:
 - Strengthening institutional capacity
 - Leveraging collective expertise
 - Expanding partnerships
 - Strengthening advocacy and communication
- Emphasis on:
 - Essential public health functions
 - Equity and sustainability
 - Independent NPHIs
 - Contribution to SDGs 2030

Discussion:

- No substantive comments were raised during the discussion.
- Questions raised in the chat will be responded to directly.

Decision:

The Strategic Vision 2026–2030 was submitted to vote via JotForm (Voting Form 2).

Item 3 – Election of the Executive Board Member

The President introduced the agenda item concerning the election to fill a vacancy on the Executive Board.

Background explanation:

The Secretariat explained the outcome of the Executive Board elections held during the December 2025 General Assembly:

- Three seats were initially subject to election.
- It was later identified that only two candidates had obtained the required simple majority.

- A third candidate had been mistakenly announced as elected due to vote-counting complexity and time pressure.
- Upon review, this result was invalidated as it did not meet the statutory requirement of a simple majority.

The Secretariat:

- Apologized for the error
- Confirmed that corrective measures had been implemented
- Confirmed that all actions were taken in line with the Statutes and legal advice
- Notified members through written communication immediately after the December General Assembly

Procedure for the current election:

- A new vote was organized to fill the remaining Executive Board seat.
- The same pool of candidates from December 2025 was retained (no new applications).
- Five candidates remained eligible:
 - Dr. Mahamoud Sama Cherif, Director of the National Institute of Public Health in Guinea (Guinea)
 - 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. Wang Jianwei, Director of Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) (China)
- Members were asked to vote for one candidate only (or abstain).
- If no candidate reached the required majority, the seat would remain vacant until a future General Assembly.

Additional information on the Executive Board:

The Secretariat also provided clarification on governance:

- The Executive Board comprises 11–14 members (currently 13).

- Members serve 3-year terms, renewable once.
- Geographic and gender balance are considered in composition.
- Current composition: 9 men, 4 women; representation across Europe (6 EB Members), Latin America (2 EB Members), Asia (2 EB Members), and Africa (3 EB Members).

Decision:

Voting was conducted via JotForm (Voting Form 3).

- Members were instructed to access the voting link via email
- Technical checks were carried out to ensure participation
- The vote remained open for additional time to ensure all members could participate.

Presentation of the Annual Progress Report 2025

Dr. Neil Squires, IANPHI Secretary General, presented the Annual Progress Report 2025.

Key elements highlighted:

- Continued development of tools supporting peer-to-peer exchange between NPHIs
- Strengthening of collaboration and technical dialogue among members
- Successful securing of funding:
 - Support from the IANPHI US Office
 - Funding from the Gates Foundation for workshops and exercises
- Ongoing work on:
 - Global health emergency preparedness
 - Leadership and coordination among NPHIs
- The 2025 work was described as laying a strong foundation for implementation of the new strategy

The Annual Progress Report was presented for information.

Various Announcements

Dr. Neil Squires presented several announcements.

Key announcements:

- **Heat Health Statement:**
 - Developed by the Climate Change and Public Health Committee
 - Address extreme heat as a growing public health priority
 - Emphasize collaboration and data-driven action
 - To be published on the IANPHI website
- **Website development:**
 - A new website is planned for 2026
- **Thematic Committees:**
 - Leadership rotates every two years
 - New leadership announced:
 - Social and Public Health Inequalities Committee:
 - New Chair: Rishma Maini
 - Former Chair Felix Rosenberg now Vice-Chair
 - Climate Change and Public Health Committee:
 - New Chair: Giri Shankar
 - Vice-Chair: Tatiana Marrufo
- Recognition of:
 - Strong engagement and outputs from thematic committees
 - Their importance to IANPHI's work and impact

Members were encouraged to actively participate in thematic committees and regional networks.

Item 14 – Results of the Extraordinary General Assembly votes

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

Vote 1 – Framework for the Creation and Development of NPHIs

Voting Outcome	Number of votes
In favour	28
Against	0
Total Valid Votes	28
Simple Majority Required	14
Result	APPROVED

Vote 2 – IANPHI Strategic Vision 2026–2030

Voting Outcome	Number of votes
In favour	30
Against	0
Wish to abstain	1
Total Valid Votes	31
Simple Majority Required	16
Result	APPROVED

Vote 3 – Election of Executive Board Member

Voting Outcome	Number of votes
Total valid votes cast	31
Highest number of votes received for one candidate	11
Simple Majority Required	16
Result	NO CANDIDATE ELECTED

As no candidate reached the required simple majority, no candidate was elected. The Executive Board seat remains vacant and will be subject to a future election at a subsequent General Assembly.

Final remarks and closure

The President announced the new date for the Annual Meeting in Dubai: 17th to 20th of November 2026. A new registration link will be shared this summer. Prof. Duncan Selbie also shared his thoughts and sympathies to our colleagues in the Middle East.

The 2027 Annual Meeting will be organized in El Salvador.

The President then delivered closing remarks:

- Expressed appreciation to:
 - The Secretariat
 - Executive leadership
 - Contributors to the strategy and meeting preparation
 - All EB Members
 - And all IANPHI Members
- Specifically acknowledged:
 - The Vice-President for leadership and support
 - The Secretary General for initial year achievements and future implementation of the strategy

The President thanked all participants and closed the meeting, wishing attendees well across different time zones.

The meeting was closed at 4.00 pm CET.