

Minutes of 2017 SSF Members' Assembly

Date and time:	13 June 2017, 10:00 – 12:00
Place:	Bern, Kursaal
Present:	Approximately 60 member representatives, representing around 40 members and network partners
Chairman:	Jean-Daniel Gerber (JDG)
Minutes:	Kelly Hess

Agenda:

<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Topic</i>
1	Election of 2 vote counters
2	Approval of minutes of last Members' Assembly
3	Presentation, discussion and approval of annual report and financial statement
4	Election of Financial Auditor for 2016 statement
5	Discharge of Board and Management
6	Board election
7	Amendments of Articles of Association
8	Information on workgroups
9	Information on further planned activities
10	Varia

All decisions are highlighted in blue

Members' Assembly commenced at 10:00

- Jean-Daniel Gerber (JDG) welcomes all participants to the meeting.

Agenda item 1: Election of 2 vote counters

- Members unanimously appointed Beatrice Fischer (Credit Suisse) and Daniel Wild (RobecoSAM) as vote counters.
- Members unanimously elected Kelly Hess (SSF) as keeper of the minutes.

Agenda item 2: Approval of minutes of last Members' Assembly (14 June 2016)

- The minutes of the 2015 SSF Members' Assembly of 14 June 2016 were unanimously approved.
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Agenda item 3: Presentation, discussion and approval of annual report and financial statement

Sabine Döbeli (SD), CEO SSF, presented the main accomplishments and activities of SSF during 2016 (slides 3-17), which are also highlighted within the annual report.

To further highlight SSF's international presence, JDG added to the discussion his moderation of a panel in Washington DC at a World Bank meeting, featuring Britta Rendlen, WWF Schweiz, who contributed to the discussion with a report on sustainable finance.

JDG also stated during this session that the SSF Board had discussions regarding whether or not SSF should take stances on Swiss votes and the Board concluded that this is not an SSF priority and would not result in a fair representation of member views as SSF's member base is so diverse. SSF will, however, voice opinions in public consultations when relevant.

SSF members were given the floor to give SSF feedback and pose questions.

- A member representative raised the question, if SSF had any statistics on the participation of mainstream representatives at SSF events.
 - SD explained that SSF does not have these statistics while ensuring that SSF is looking into methods to broaden its network to mainstream contacts. She emphasised the importance that that members share contacts that SSF could place on its distribution list and use their internal contacts to spread information about SSF events.
- A member representative inquired whether SSF has any involvement in the G20 in Hamburg meeting.
 - G20 meetings are limited to governance representatives and representatives of large private sector players. Associations are usually not invited to the meetings.
 - Jean-Daniel explained that Alex Karrer (SIF) had been involved in preparing the Hamburg meeting.
 - By invitation from SIF, SSF jointly with some large private sector players prepared a private sector input to the Green Finance Study Group. The paper was submitted in January 2017 but has not yet resulted in a formal feedback.
- Members asked if SSF had any involvement in B20 or T20, which SD negated.
- Members asked about SSF involvement in the "Compact with Africa", an initiative SSF is not involved in.

SD also presented the 2015 financial statement (slides 18-22) and explained SSF's budget for 2017.

- Members unanimously approved the 2016 SSF Annual Report and the financial statement.
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Agenda item 4: Election of Financial Auditor for 2017 statement

The Board recommends electing Aeberli Treuhand AG as financial auditor for 2017.

- Members unanimously elect Aeberli Treuhand AG as the financial auditor for 2017.
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Agenda item 5: Discharge of Board and Management

- Members unanimously vote to discharge the Board and Management.
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Agenda item 6: Board election

JDG stood for re-election for a second two-year period as President of SSF. Vice-President Hubert Niggli presented JDG's credentials and commended his engaged support for SSF in the course of the past two years. JDG excused himself from the room during the voting procedure. JDG was re-elected president with one abstention.

The Assembly thanked the two leaving board members Caroline Anstey, UBS (resigned from the SSF board as of 31.12.2016), and Beatrice Fischer, Credit Suisse (resigned from the SSF board as of 13.06.2017), for their great support for SSF in the course of the past two years.

As the two Global Banks, under the SSF articles of association, are each granted one seat on the SSF Board, Michael Baldinger (UBS) and Christine Schmid (Credit Suisse) were nominated for election by their respective organisations.

Christine Schmid was unanimously elected to the SSF Board.

Michael Baldinger was elected to the SSF Board with two against and 4 abstentions.

All other board members were elected in 2016 for a two-year term until the 2018 SSF members' assembly: Eric Borremans, Ladina Caduff, Angela de Wolff, Roland Dominicé, Patrick Fankhauser, Pierin Menzli, Rochus Mommartz, Hubert Niggli, Andreas Spiegel, Daniel Wild, Beatrice Zwicky.

- The members re-elected Jean-Daniel Gerber as SSF President
- Christine Schmid and Michael Baldinger were elected as new SSF Board members.
- All 3 candidates accepted their election to the SSF Board.

Agenda item 7: Amendments of Articles of Association

JDG and SD explain the reasoning behind the suggested Articles of Association regarding public sector network partnership fees (slides 31-32).

Members asked if there could be a guarantee that such entities would provide “in-kind” contributions. SD explained that this has naturally happened in the past with public entities providing event sponsoring, but there are no guarantees built into contracts with public sector network partners.

The changes were accepted by members with one abstention.

- The changes to the Articles of Association were accepted by members with one abstention
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Agenda item 8: Information on workgroups

The status and accomplishments of the different active workgroups were presented by workgroup leaders or the respective SSF responsible party (slides 33-64)

- Workgroup SI in Private Wealth Management – presented by Stefano Montobbio (EFG AM)
 - Institutional Asset Owner Workgroup – presented by Kelly Hess (SSF) on behalf of Ulla Enne (Nest Collective Foundation)
 - Workgroup Investments for Development – presented by Frederic Berney (BlueOrchard)
 - Workgroup SF Education Pro – presented by Jean Laville (SSF) on behalf of Kate Cacciatore (Edmond de Rothschild)
 - Workgroup Ticino – presented by Alberto Stival (SSF)
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Agenda item 9: Information on further planned activities

SD outlined the further activities planned (slide 66)

Agenda item 10: Varia

The following questions were raised and replied by SSF as follows.

Does SSF plan to be present at major sustainability events?

- SSF takes all the opportunities to be present at third-party events but focuses its resources on events with to finance (and sustainability).

Is SSF planning any activities related to Fintech?

- SSF is observing the role of fintech for sustainable finance and keeps an eye on potential opportunities in this field.

What is SSFs reaction to increasing competition from financial centres such as London (with activities in Chinese market) in Green bonds etc.?

SSF discussed these developments at Board level and decided work on a concept regarding the role of Finance for the energy transition, covering green bonds as well as other tools.

In addition JDG mentioned that the SSF Board also discussed, if SSF should become a member of Eurosif. Due to the high fee (15% of SSF fees) the Board saw no immediate necessity to become Eurosif member.

The Members' Assembly was adjourned at 12:00 by JDG.

Zürich, 13 July 2017



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Jean-Daniel Gerber, President



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Kelly Hess, keeper of the minutes

Attachments:

Presentation for SSF Members' Assembly