March 2, 2024

Minutes of the 45th Annual General Meeting of the Swiss Society of the Kansai

held at the Swissnex in Japan offices in Osaka on Saturday, March 2, 2024, 17:00

Herbert Bucher, President of the Swiss Society of the Kansai (SSOK) opened the meeting at 17:15. He thanked everyone for coming.

Quorum was determined as followed: the Society has 86 members—61 family members from 31 families, and 25 individual members. Present at the meeting were 21 members. Thus quorum (20% of members) was reached.

The president informed the members that the Annual General Meeting was called by invitation, together with the agenda, 4 weeks before the date set for the assembly, as stipulated in the Statutes of the SSOK. He then proceeded with the ordinary business of the 45th AGM.

He thanked FM and Swissnex for the venue, and Carlos for catering.

He transmitted greetings from Werner Schrepfer our oldest member.

1. Approval of the Minutes of the 44th Annual General Meeting (AGM)

As there were no comments to the minutes of the 44th AGM, President Bucher proposed to approve them.

 \rightarrow The Minutes of the 44th (2023) AGM were approved by acclamation.

2. Approval of the 2023 Annual Report

The President read the annual report for 2023. The report had been made available to all members on the Swiss Society website. Below is a short summary:

Five (5) planned events were during 2023. The attendance was as follows:

- AGM (March 4) 30 members and guests
- Spring BBQ (May 13) 101
- Swiss National Day (July 29) 126
- Autumn BBQ (Oct 14) 93
- Raclette/Santa Party (Dec 3) 115

The report also thanked everyone for their support in 2023.

Member movements in 2023 were as stated below. We started the year with 76 members — 27 families and 22 individual members. Incoming this year were 4 families and 3 individual members, outgoing were none, resulting in a new total of 86 members — 31 families and 25 individual members.

New Members

- Families Horie, Kurata, Hartmann, and Glanzmann
- Individuals Donzé, Uemura, and Minami

Outgoing Members

- none
- \rightarrow The Annual Report for 2023 was approved by acclamation.

3. Approval of the 2023 Treasurer and Auditor's report

SSOK treasurer Nelson Izquierdo informed the membership that 2023 was a successful year in terms of the events. After two difficult years due to the pandemic, we were again able to hold all events as scheduled. There was however some imbalance in terms of the finances.

The year 2023 ended with a profit of \$94,167 raised the assets of the Society to \$1,044,014. Nevertheless, we are still quite solid.

Mr. Andy Mueller (Auditor, excused) confirmed in writing that he had checked all the financial records and that he found everything to be in perfect order. He thanked Mr. Izquierdo for taking such good care of the finances of the SSOK

The president gave a special thanks to Nelson for his hard work.

 \rightarrow The Financials report and the audior report for 2023 were approved by acclamation.

4. Election of an Election Chairman

President Bucher proposed Consul Dr. Felix Moesner as Election Chairman.

 \rightarrow Dr. Felix Moesner was elected as Election Chairman.

Dr. Moesner took the opportunity to give some short remarks. He thanked the Society for their work in the community. He said he was pleased to finally hold the event here in the Swissnex facilities in Osaka.

Looking back on past events, he expressed his concern for the recent earthquake in Nodo, and the strong community support.

He pointed to some successes in the past year: JACSA (moon landing), also new rocket, competing with Space X, achievement for Japan.

He thanked and congratulated SSOK for the events held in the past year—the BBQs, the National Day, and the Santa event—as well as the growing membership, as signs of a healthy society.

He provided updates on Consulate and Embassy events for the upcoming year, which is the anniversary of 160 years of diplomatic relations. Upcoming events include the Swissnex Open House, the groundbreaking of the Expo Swiss Pavillion, Vitality days in September and the World Exhibition coming in the next year. Everyone is welcome to these events.

Finally he mentioned that he looks forward to collaboration with SSOK, and gives his good wishes to the committee.

5. Discharge of the outgoing Executive Committee

Dr Moesner thanked the outgoing Executive Committee and the Auditor for their dedication and time spent for the Society throughout the last year. He proposed to discharge the Committee.

 \rightarrow The Executive Committee and the Auditor were discharged by acclamation.

6. Election of the new Committee

The following members were proposed as Committee Members and Auditor for 2024:

•	President	Herbert Bucher
•	Vice President	Oscar Egli
•	Treasurer	Nelson Izquierdo
•	Secretary	Philip Spaelti
•	Committee Member	Urs Pfenninger
•	Committee Member	Eduard Herbst
•	Committee Member	Carlos-Felipe Correa
•	Committee Member	Jacqueline Teissier-Okuma
•	Auditor	Andy Mueller

 \rightarrow All proposed Committee members and the Auditor were elected, one-by-one, by

acclamation.

The re-elected president thanked Dr. Moesner for his service as election chairman. He also thanked Dr. Moesner and Swissnex for their support to the Society.

(Dr Moesner informed that he will continue to join the committee meetings if his schedule allows and would act as Honorary Committee Member.)

7. Budget and Annual Membership Dues for 2024

At this point Treasurer Izquierdo explained that the 2024 budget. The proposed budget foresees equal income and expenses.

It was proposed that membership dues remain unchanged as follows:

- ¥5,000 for family membership
- ¥3,000 for individual membership

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• ¥1,000 for student membership.

 \rightarrow The membership fees and the budget for 2024 were approved by acclamation.

8. Approval of the General Directives for 2024 for the activities of the Swiss Society

The president presented the line-up of events for 2024. The proposed events calendar is as follows:

- March 2 (Saturday)
 AGM, KR&AC, Kobe
- May 18 (Saturday) Spring BBQ, Okuike
- August 3 (Saturday)
 Swiss National Day Party, Kobe Club
- October 19 (Saturday) Autumn BBQ, Okuike (location & date tentative)
- December 8 (Sunday)
 Raclette & Santa Claus Party, KR&AC Kobe

 \rightarrow The events calendar for 2024 was approved unanimously.

Consul Jürg Bono brought greetings from Tokyo. He thanked the committee. He stated that he enjoys the events. He understands the hard work. He thanked Dr. Moesner and Swissnex for making the space available for the day's event.

President Bucher thanked all participants for their attendance and closed the meeting.

Philip Spaelti, Secretary of the SSOK Kobe, March 3, 2024.