

March 1, 2025

Minutes of the 46th Annual General Meeting of the Swiss Society of the Kansai

held at the Swissnex in Japan offices in Osaka on Saturday, March 1, 2025, 17:00

Herbert Bucher, President of the Swiss Society of the Kansai (SSOK) opened the meeting at 17:10. He thanked everyone for coming.

Quorum was determined as followed: the Society has 99 members—68 family members from 34 families, and 31 individual members. Present at the meeting were 20 members. Thus quorum (20% of members) was reached.

Before the meeting we collected a number of proxy statements from members who could not attend. However it was found that our statutes do not permit proxy voting, so these were laid aside. Perhaps enabling proxy voting should be considered in the future.

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 46th AGM.

He thanked Felix Moesner and Swissnex for the venue, and Elliot for preparation.

The president introduced the Agenda.

1. Approval of the Minutes of the 45th Annual General Meeting (AGM)

There was one comment involving a correction; the location of the 2024 AGM was listed as KR&AC in the proposed events calendar, when in fact it was being held at Swissnex in Japan, Osaka at that time, as correctly stated in the title of the minutes.

→ The Minutes of the 45th (2024) AGM were approved by acclamation.

2. Approval of the 2024 Annual Report

The President read the annual report for 2024. The report had been made available to all members on the Swiss Society website. Below is a short summary:

Five (5) planned events were held during 2024. The attendance was as follows:

- AGM (Mar 2) 29 members and guests
- Spring BBQ (May 18) 76
- Swiss National Day (Aug 3) 112
- Autumn BBQ (Oct 19) 105
- Raclette/Santa Party (Dec 8) 142

Reviewing the events and the work that went into organizing them, the president thanked the committee. He also gave a special thanks to the spouses who further support us.

He also gave a shout out to Consul Adrian Sieber who, despite having just arrived in Japan in summer 2024, was able to make it in time to the Kansai for our National Day event. His participation at our events and support for our Society is much appreciated.

The large participation at our Autumn BBQ, despite terrible weather, showed the great enthusiasm our members have for our events. Also particularly successful in 2025 was the Raclette party held at the Kobe Club this year, which had record setting attendance.

Finally the president thanked everyone for their support in 2024.

Member movements in 2024 were as stated below. We started the year with 86 members — 31 families and 25 individual members. Incoming this year were 6 families and 7 individual members, outgoing were 3 families and 1 individual, resulting in a new total of 99 members — 34 families and 31 individual members.

New Members

- Families: Heck, Boinot, Ikeda, Mettler, Ricci, Rochat
- Individuals: Gantenbein, Hattori, Hingant, Kinoshita, Stanton, Streib, Wang

Outgoing Members

- Families: Berner, Capelani, Glanzmann
- Individuals: Walker

→ The Annual Report for 2024 was approved by acclamation.

3. Approval of the 2024 Treasurer and Auditor's report

SSOK treasurer Nelson Izquierdo informed the membership that 2024 was a successful year in terms of the events.

The net increase in members (13) was more than budgeted. The membership fees are important to cover the fees for our expenses including equipment.

The year 2024 ended with a profit of ¥7,619 raising the assets of the Society to ¥1,051,633. A well balanced result.

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.

→ The treasurer report and the auditor report for 2024 were approved by acclamation.

4. Election of an Election Chairman

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

→ Dr. Felix Moesner was elected as Election Chairman.

Dr. Moesner commended the Society for the events. He says the events keep getting better. Direct quote: “It was a blast!”

As for the activities of the Consulate/Swissnex in Japan; Team Switzerland had a good start with a major press event giving a taste of the program of the Swiss Pavilion. Throughout this Expo 2025 year, there will be a lot of activities. Get ready to Rock and Roll! There will be visits from many Swiss officials including the Vice President of Switzerland Guy Parmelin during the Swiss Nation Day on April 22.

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.

→ 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 2025:

- President Herbert Bucher
- Vice President Jacqueline Teissier-Okuma
- Treasurer Nelson Izquierdo
- Secretary Philip Spaelti
- Committee Member Urs Pfenninger
- Committee Member Oscar Egli
- Committee Member Elliot Hugh Stanton
- Auditor Andy Mueller

→ 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.

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 2025

At this point Treasurer Nelson Izquierdo explained the 2025 budget. The proposed budget foresees a slight increase in membership fees, but is also conservative in assuming an increase in expenses, thus still resulting in a balanced result.

→ The budget for 2025 were approved by acclamation.

It was proposed that membership dues remain unchanged as follows:

- ¥5,000 for family membership
- ¥3,000 for individual membership
- ¥1,000 for student membership.

→ The membership fees for 2025 were approved by acclamation.

8. Approval of the General Directives for 2025 for the activities of the Swiss Society

The president presented the line-up of events for 2025. The proposed events calendar is as follows:

- March 1 (Saturday) AGM, Swissnex in Japan, Osaka
- May 17 (Saturday) Spring BBQ, Okuike
- August 1 (Friday) Swiss National Day Party, Kitano Club Sola
- October 18 (Saturday) Autumn BBQ, Okuike (location & date tentative)
- December 7 (Sunday) Raclette & Santa Claus Party, TBD

→ The events calendar for 2025 was approved unanimously.

Consul Adrian Sieber commended our Society in its activity. He gave our Society a clean bill of health!

President Bucher thanked all participants for their attendance and closed the meeting.
17:53

Philip Spaelti, Secretary of the SSOK

Kobe, March 3, 2025.