



**Minutes of the
21st General Meeting
of the**

**European Industrial Hemp Association e.V. (EIHA)
Cologne/Germany**

6th of June 2017, 19:00 to 20:40, Maternushaus, Kardinal-Frings-Straße 1-3, 50668 Cologne, Germany.

The 21st General Meeting of the European Industrial Hemp Association (EIHA) took place on the 6th of June 2017, at Maternushaus, 50668 Cologne, Germany. The meeting started at 19:00 with EIHA's managing director Michael Carus (hereinafter "Chairman of the meeting") and EIHA's President Mark Reinders (hereinafter "President" and second chairman of the meeting) welcoming all the participants. The General Meeting convened and a quorum was statutory. Luis Sarmento was unanimously determined the keeper of the minutes. This was followed by an introduction of the member's voting rights.

After the chairman gave a brief introduction of the voting system, **the total amount of votes present was determined to be 222**, from 21 regular members (4 of which have one extra vote due to cultivation area above 999ha, but less than 1,999) and 8 associate members.

Once the total votes were counted and the list of participants was signed, the meeting broke for dinner. At 19:30, the meeting was restarted with the Chairman of the meeting introducing the hemp situation around Europe. To date, **there are 33.000 ha all over the continent** with an increasing number of countries represented. The Natural Fibre price index was also presented, with a soft increase in flax and hemp fibre prices, although hemp remains cheaper.

Continuing activities:

- **Legal Opinion on CBD and THC was presented.** Now available on the website. Already translated in a few languages and free to use by members.
- Paper on CBD by Dr Franjo Grotenhermen proves **CBD does not cause THC-like effects** in humans. Available at EIHA's website.
- **'Safety and side effects of Cannabidiol** – A review of clinical data and relevant animal studies' is now available for download at the association's website.
- **Reasonable regulation on CBD was proposed and published by EIHA.** Call for members to sign the petition.
- **CBD and novel food regulation was evaluated and presented.** Paper also available at EIHA.org
- THC publications include a critic on **EFSA's rational behind UFs for plant ingredients in food**, along with the paper on **THCA decarboxylation**. Both available at our website.
- **Position paper on THC guidance values is still ongoing**, with a possible publication date by end of June 2017.
- **New advisory committee at EIHA**, containing four experts: Catherine Wilson (UK), Dr Bernhardt Beitzke (DE), Rachel Invernizzi (IT) and Tony Reeves (UK).

- **Number of regular members showed a sharp increase.** This is due to the new working groups, email discussion groups, expert workshops, supplier database, and EIHA reports for free.
- **CBD expert group** was discussed, with Boris Bañas presenting the main topics and conclusions of the group. The group was successful in understanding the regulatory frameworks and how to contextualise CBD in it.
- **THC expert group** was presented by Daniel Kruse. THC has a strong influence in the food market and continues to be a working topic. Aiming for a final paper at the end of June. Once finished, it aims to reach politicians and convince hemp has a healthy room to run.
- **Hemp Fibres and shivs expert group** was led by Bernd Frank. New techniques and uses for these products were discussed.
- Trade fair and exhibition activities presented.
- Next conference information presented to the members: **315 participants from 43 countries.**
- **Budget:** All expenses were presented and a financial overview for the next year was shown. Treasurer Bernd Frank evaluated the financial report and signed it. **Call was made for more members to pay their fees regularly.**

Exoneration of the board of directors:

- Board and their work was presented and **exonerated with a majority of 217 votes and 5 abstentions.**

New activities:

- The Cologne hemp declaration was presented and shared among members for it to be signed, during the conference, for a press release to be made.
- **Inform and lobby on CBD regulations and THC guidance values** for hemp food.
- **“THC regulations on industrial hemp varieties“** (on the field) and the 0,2% limit.
- **EIHA will be member of ASTM (American Standard)** to develop standards and norms for hemp raw materials, products and processes.
- In cooperation with Canadian and US hemp associations, **letter to WADA** - use of hemp foods in professional sports nutrition vs anti-doping rules
- EIHA Booth at the **Biocomposites Conference Cologne (BCC)**, Dec. 2017
- **Cooperation** with other **associations on CBD & THC**
- **Collection survey and summary of legal status in European countries**
- Members
 - **Membership invoices** now per calendar year => to be changed to 12 months
 - **Online registration** of new associate (& regular) membership applications
 - **Change membership fee structure**

Word given back to the President, who thanked the Chairman for his time, and opened the floor to the association’s members may any further activities be missing.

Activities proposed by members:

- **IIHA:** Rohit proposes the creation of a world-wide hemp association. Topic is passed to board, to be discussed at a later stage.
- **Hempoint:** Hanka presents her statement on cannabis to the UN groups. Asks for support. Position is available online.
- Denmark will be publishing a law on medical cannabis due to a conference attended by EIHA, in Copenhagen.
- **Point was made that it is important to know what is going on in other countries and continue support each other.**

A call was made for all members who have the capacity, to join EIHA as a regular member so that the association gains strength.

Final remarks by the President, who thanked all the present at the meeting for their participation. With no more issues to debate, the session was closed at 20:40.

Michael Carus
Chairman of the meeting

Luis Sarmiento
Keeper of the minutes