



WFSA
WORLD FEDERATION OF SOCIETIES OF
ANAESTHESIOLOGISTS

Minutes of 2025 WFSA General Assembly
Sunday 29 June 2025 13.00-14.00 (GMT+1)
United House, 39-41 North Road, London (hybrid meeting)

Member Societies represented by Delegates in attendance (including those pre-voting)

All-Russian Public Organization 'Federation of Anaesthesiologists and Reanimatologists'	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Anaesthesiologie und Intensivmedizin
Anaesthesiology Society of Cyprus	Federación Argentina de Asociaciones de Anestesia, Analgesia y Reanimación
Asociación de Médicos Anestesiólogos de El Salvador	Federación Mexicana de Colegios de Anestesiología A.C.
Asociación Guatemalteca de Anestesiología, Reanimación y Tratamiento del Dolor	Indian Society of Anaesthesiologists
Association of Anaesthesiologists and Intensivists of Malta	Indonesian Society of Anesthesiologists and Intensive Therapy
Association of Anaesthetists of Great Britain and Ireland*	Japanese Society of Anesthesiologists
Association of Anesthesiologist, Reanimatologist and Intensivist of Republic of Srpska	Korean Society of Anesthesiologists
Association of Anesthesiologists of Uganda	Lebanese Society of Anesthesiologists
Australian Society of Anaesthetists	Libyan Society of Anaesthesia, Intensive Care and Resuscitation
Brazilian Society of Anaesthesiology	Malaysian Society of Anaesthesiologists
Canadian Anesthesiologists' Society	Montenegrin Society of Anesthesiology and Intensive Care*
Chinese Society of Anesthesiology	Moroccan Society of Anesthesia, Analgesia and Critical Care
College of Anaesthesiologists and Intensivists of Sri Lanka	Myanmar Society of Anaesthesiologists
Czech Society of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine*	New Zealand Society of Anaesthetists*

Nigerian Society of Anaesthetists	Sociedade Portuguesa de Anestesiologia
Norsk Anestesiologisk Forening	Société Haitienne d'Anesthésiologie
Österreichische Gesellschaft für Anesthesiologie, Reanimation und Intensivmedizin	Société Sénégalaise d'Anesthésie-Réanimation et de Médecine d'Urgence (SOSEAR)
Pacific Society of Anaesthetists	Société Tunisienne d'Anesthésie et de Réanimation
Pakistan Society of Anaesthesiologists	Society of Anaesthesia and Reanimatology of the Republic of Moldova
Philippine Society of Anaesthesiologists	Society of Anaesthesiologists of Nepal
Romanian Society of Anaesthesia and Intensive Care*	Society of Anaesthesiologists, Brunei Darussalam
Rwanda Society of Anesthesiologists*	Society of Anaesthetists of Zambia
Sierra Leone Society of Anaesthetists	South African Society of Anaesthesiologists
Sociedad Colombiana de Anestesiología y Reanimación	The American Society of Anesthesiologists
Sociedad de Anestesiología de Chile	The Royal College of Anesthesiologists of Thailand
Sociedad de Anestesiología del Uruguay	The Society of Anaesthetists of Hong Kong
Sociedad Dominicana de Anestesiología*	Yemeni Anaesthesiologist's Society
Sociedad Hondureña De Anestesiología, Reanimacion Y Dolor	Zimbabwe Anaesthetic Association
Sociedad Venezolana de Anestesiología	

* Participated during the pre-voting period only.

1. Welcome to delegates by the President (Professor Filipescu)

Professor Filipescu welcomed all delegates to this General Assembly. She thanked the delegates for their efforts to attend the General Assembly and represent their respective

Member Societies. She also thanked Dr Kathleen Ferguson, the Chair of the Credentials Committee, for overseeing the voting process. The Credentials Committee, which has representation from all six geographical regions, verified all individuals nominated as Delegates or alternate delegates in attendance or by proxy

2. Report of Credentials Committee (Dr Ferguson)

Dr Ferguson informed the Assembly that 40 Societies were required for a quorum. With 57 full Member Societies participating, including Delegates who represented their Member Societies during the pre-voting period, a quorum was achieved. Corresponding member *Association Burundaise des Praticiens Cliniciens Avancés Anesthésistes Réanimateurs* was also represented without a vote.

3. Adoption of the Agenda (Dr Balavenkatasumbramanian)

During this section of the agenda, Dr Balavenkatasumbramanian also shared general voting instructions for the attention of all voting delegates and presented a test resolution for approval to ensure voting delegates were able to use the voting platform correctly.

Motion: That the General Assembly adopts the agenda: *Approved with 99.12% of votes in favour.*

4. Adoption of the Rules of Procedure (Dr Balavenkatasumbramanian)

Dr Balavenkatasumbramanian noted that the Rules of Procedure had been sent out with the General Assembly papers and remained unchanged.

Motion: That the General Assembly adopt the Rules of Procedure: *Approved unanimously.*

5. Approval of the Minutes from the 30 June 2024 Extraordinary General Assembly (Dr Balvavenkatasubramanian)

Dr Balavenkatasumbramanian noted that the minutes had been sent out with the General Assembly papers.

Motion: That the General Assembly approve the minutes from 30 June 2024: *Approved unanimously.*

6. President's Report (Professor Filipescu)

A minute's silence was held in commemoration of the WFSA leaders who had passed away during the last year:

- Philippe Mavoungou - Past Council member
- Otto Mayrhofer - WFSA Past President
- Jannicke Mellin-Olsen - WFSA Past President
- William Owens - Past Chair of the Constitution Committee
- Cong Quyet Thang - President of the Vietnamese Society of Anaesthesiologists

Professor Filipescu noted that a written [President's Report](#) was included in the General Assembly papers, and she would therefore only highlight selected issues (please see slides):

- *Governance & Committees* – monthly Board meetings continue to be held but due to budgetary restrictions, only one face to face meeting has been convened since Singapore. A new 'Committee Update Tool' has been implemented, providing up-to-date information for the Board, Council and Committee Chairs. She noted that Committees have been very active during the last year.
- *Membership* – this now stands at 142, with Mauritania being the latest Member Society to join.
- *Educational programmes* such as Fellowships, CME courses and restricted grant-funded projects continue to be delivered worldwide. The online resources of UIA and ATOTW continue to be highly popular with ATOTW having a global readership of 1.4 million, while regular webinars on a range of topics have engaged colleagues from across the world.
- *Advocacy* continues to be critical, with WFSA actively engaging with all WHO Regional Committees as well as Executive Board and World Health Assembly, and various WHO networks such as [the Acute Care Action Network](#) (ACAN) and [the Alliance for Transformative Action on Climate and Health](#) (ATACH). The new 2025-27 WFSA workplan with WHO was approved in January. During the past year several WFSA statements have been published; on [labour pain](#), [DEI](#) and [safety for anaesthesia workforce in regions of conflict](#).
- *Collaboration* continues globally with a range of networks and external organisations, such as [G4 Alliance](#), [ICRC](#) and [IFMSA](#). We will shortly launch the second year of the Global Anaesthesia Mentoring Programme.

With the conclusion of her report, Professor Filipescu handed over to the Treasurer.

7. Treasurer's Report (Professor Habre)

Professor Habre went through the 2024 financial statements, noting that membership dues income was down from 2023 and the Federation had made unrealized losses on its investments during the preceding financial year.

In response to a question from the Canadian Society as to why losses were incurred when stock markets generally saw an upwards trend, Professor Habre noted that he is working closely with the Federation's investment managers at Beacon Trust to diversify our portfolio to improve performance for future years.

In response to a further question from the Canadian Society, Professor Habre noted that WFSA had received approximately USD 500,000 in congress surplus from WCA2024. [Post-meeting note: USD 578,853.45 was received.]

In response to a question from the American Society, Professor Habre noted that each congress destination offers different benefits to organisers, this does not always include grants from destination bureaux or local tourist boards. Furthermore, because any grants usually rely on the number of international delegates secured, these would only be received post-event.

Motion: That the General Assembly approve the 2024 financial statements: *Approved with 98.31 % of votes in favour*

Professor Habre then introduced a Resolution to note the 2024 annual report, circulated to Member Societies this January.

Motion: That the General Assembly note the 2024 annual report: *Approved with 99.17% of votes in favour.*

As required by the constitutional documents, Professor Habre presented a Resolution to discharge from liabilities the Board for their management during the past fiscal year.

In response to a question from the Canadian Society, Professor Filipescu noted that this

Resolution is a requirement in our constitutional documents. She thanked the Canadian Society for their engagement and agreed that the wording for next year's resolution on discharge from liabilities would include the wording 'except in cases of fraud, gross negligence, or criminal conduct'.

Motion: That the General Assembly approve the discharge from liability the management of the Board for the 2024 fiscal year: *Approved with 93.86% of votes in favour.*

Following this, Professor Habre presented the 2025 budget as approved by the Board in December 2024. He noted that a mid-year budget revision would take place and that the deficit presented in the current budget is likely to decrease with additional confirmed income, including receipt of WFSAs portion of the grant for WCA2024 from Singapore Tourist Board. Professor Habre also shared the Federation reserves policy for information.

In response to a question from the Norwegian and Canadian Societies, Professor Habre noted that the revised budget would be circulated to Member Societies, but no further vote would be held on this.

In response to a further question from the Canadian Society, Professor Filipescu reminded the delegates that the previous Board consulted with Member Societies during 2021-22 and decided to trial the new two-year congress cycle until 2032. An evaluation of the success or otherwise of this will be carried out in 2032.

In response to a question from the American Society, it was made clear that WFSAs receives no US government funding.

The Argentinian Society noted that including residents in the WFSAs membership roll may provide an additional source of revenue.

Motion: That the General Assembly approve the 2025 budget: *Approved with 86.89% of votes in favour.*

Professor Habre introduced the Resolution to re-appoint the Federation's current auditors (Hartley Fowler in collaboration with Bentley Bratcher & Associates) for the 2025 fiscal year.

Motion: That the General Assembly appoint auditors for 2025: *Approved with 98.36% of votes in favour.*

Finally, Professor Habre provided an update on the Swiss association set up to facilitate WCA contracting, noting that this was intended to insulate the Federation from any liability arising from congress organisation.

With this, Professor Habre handed back to Professor Filipescu.

8. Any Other Business

Professor Filipescu noted that Board and Council nominations would open on 1 September and invited Dr Balavenkatasubramanian to share information about *WFSA Committee nominations for the 2026-28 term*. Dr Balavenkatasubramanian encouraged all Member Societies to consider engaging with the 10 Permanent (Standing) Committees and highlighted that nominations for these would open on 1 July.

Professor Filipescu then provided a brief update on *planning for the 19th World Congress of Anaesthesiologists*, taking place in Marrakech, Morocco on 15-19 April 2026. She noted that a report from the Congress Organising Committee – co-chaired by herself and Moroccan Society President, Dr Jamal Eddine Kohen – had been circulated with the Assembly papers.

Two comments were made regarding WCA2026 by the African Regional Section and the American Society around WFSA providing opportunities for members in high-income countries to sponsor attendees from low-resource settings. Professor Filipescu noted that Congress Scholarships will hopefully provide 40 places for LMIC residents. Noted WFSA is also directly sourcing funds for a Jannicke Mellin-Olsen Scholarship with donations able to be made online at <https://wfsahqus.enthuse.com/JMO> (allowing for tax efficient giving by US tax-payers). [If there is interest in supporting other attendees, please reach out to WFSA Head of Fundraising, Matt Rothero, on matt.rothero@wfsahq.org.]

With no further comments made, the General Assembly closed at 14.12 BST (GMT+1).

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Accurately recorded as approved by:

Dr Balavenkatasubramanian Jagannathan, WFSA Secretary
Kristine Stave, Chief Executive Officer