

## **International Association for Religious Freedom**

**Minutes of a General Meeting** held at the Mutsumi-kai Shrine, Kyoto on Wednesday 30 March 2011, commencing at 09.10 hours.

### **1) President's Welcome:**

The IARF President, the Rt. Rev. Mitsuo Miyake thanked all delegates for attending this meeting.

### **2) Roll Call of Official Delegates:**

Rt. Rev Mitsuo Miyake	Konko Church in Izu, Japan
Rev. Eric Cherry	UUA, USA
Rev. Wytske Dijkstra	Remonstrant Church, Netherlands
Morse Flores	Philippine Chapter
Rev, Dr Doris Hunter	USA Chapter
Wolfgang Jantz	Deutsche Unitaria, Germany
Kathy Matsui	IARLW, Japan
Kazuhiro Motoyama	Tamamitsu Jinja, Japan
Rev. Takashi Nishida	Ittoen, Japan
Adv, V Rengapashyam	India Chapter
Adv. Mohammed Shabeer	Forum for Harmony & Peace, India
Yehuda Stolov	IEA, Israel
Rev. Toshifumi Takisawa	Mutsumi-kai, Japan
Annelies Trenning	Dutch Chapter, Netherlands
Jeffrey Teagle	GAUFCC, UK
Bro. Albert Xaviour	CIRSM, India

As 16 of the 59 member organisations were present, it was noted that a quorum had been achieved and the meeting was able to proceed.

### **3) Proxy Votes:**

The following member organisations had nominated their proxy to attending delegates:

BFGD	Wolfgang Jantz
DMI (German Chapter)	Wolfgang Jantz
Nederlandse Protestante Bond	Annelies Trenning
NSPCI	Rev Wytske Dijkstra
RFYN	Bro. Albert Xaviour
Unitarian Church of Transylvania	Wolfgang Jantz
VVP	Annelies Trenning
Zorastrians	Adv. Mohammed Shabeer

### **4) Motion to Propose the Resolutions to Alter the Constitution:**

The Treasurer/Company explained that the elective resolutions passed unanimously at the General Meeting held at Clearwater, Florida in July 2007, had failed to take effect

because the then existing Companies Act required a 100% ratification by the membership within one month of that meeting. This had not been possible due to the lack of staff and doubt about the current list of members. The Council of 04 September 2010 had requested the Company Secretary/Treasurer to take legal advice from Mr Joss Saunders of Blake Lathorne, solicitors of Oxford, UK, who had previously advised at the Clearwater meeting. This he had done, together with Robert Papini. Joss Saunders had advised that the Companies Act 2006 had come into effect since the Clearwater meeting and that it was now possible to pass the elective resolutions with a 75% majority at a General Meeting. A General Meeting could be convened by the consent of 75% of Council and 21 days advance notice must be given. This had taken place and this meeting had achieved a quorum.

Next, the Treasurer/Company Secretary read through the sections of the IARF Constitution that would be affected by the proposed changes. The Constitution was projected and the altered sections were displayed in green. This information had been previously sent to all members. There were no questions.

It was then resolved by unanimous vote :

**THAT** in Article 1 the words "The Companies Act 1985" be replaced by the words "The Companies Act 2006", and in Articles 33(f) and Article 35 the words "section 303" be replaced by the words "section 168".

**THAT** Articles 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 31 and 48 be replaced by the new Articles with the same numbers in the attached amended draft Articles of Association initialled by the Company Secretary.

The revised IARF Constitution is appended to these minutes with the changed Articles highlighted in green and the changed words highlighted in purple.

The General Meeting closed at 10.00 hours.