



General Assembly of Members WAN-IFRA

**01 June 2026
10:00 - 10:30 CET
Marseille, France**

Agenda

1. Approval of Minutes
2. Report of the Treasurer
3. Election of Officers
4. Next Meetings

1. Approval of Minutes

President Ladina Heimgartner opened the General Assembly of Members and invited approval of the minutes of the Extraordinary General Assembly of Members held online on 4 December 2025, which had been made available to Members ahead of the meeting. There were no objections and no abstentions. The minutes were approved.

2. Report of the Treasurer

Treasurer Paul Verwilt presented the financial report for 2025 and the outlook for 2026, covering the profit and loss account, balance sheet and the financials of WAN-IFRA's two legal entities, WAN-IFRA (Zug, Switzerland) and WAN-IFRA FR (Paris, France).

Total revenue for 2025, excluding the separately held Media Development funds, was approximately €11.0 million. Membership revenue showed a moderate increase; events revenue came in lower than expected, reflecting lower-than-budgeted congress revenues and a cancelled study tour; advisory and project revenue was also below expectation due to project delays, though associated costs were correspondingly lower. Personnel costs were slightly below budget due to lower variable salary provisions, and other costs were significantly lower owing to delayed or cancelled projects. Debit losses were positive, reflecting strong collection performance.

The non-operating result included exchange-rate losses, a clawback related to social security payments, a provision against a possible reclaim of Covid-era German government support, and approximately €120,000 of one-off legal costs linked to recent mergers. The balance sheet showed equity of €2.5 million and an equity ratio of 21.7% at 31 December 2025. Cash levels, excluding Media Development funds held separately in Paris, remain healthy, though they typically decline over the course of the year as most membership fees are collected early on.

For 2026, Mr Verwilt presented a budget showing an EBITDA of +€446K and a gross margin approaching €6 million, including the contribution of FIPP following its merger into WAN-IFRA (€540K to gross margin, €157K to EBITDA). Growth is expected to come principally from membership, including the FIPP integration, and from major funded projects such as the AI Newsroom Accelerator and the Next Generation Leaders programme.

The President invited Members to vote on the ratification of the 2025 annual accounts for WAN-IFRA and its underlying entities. There were no objections and no abstentions. The 2025 annual accounts were unanimously approved.

3. Election of Officers

Re-election of President and Treasurer

CEO Stig Ørskov presented the nomination of Ladina Heimgartner, WAN-IFRA President since 2024, representing Verband Schweizer Medien and Head Media, Ringier AG & CEO Ringier Media Switzerland, for re-election as President for a further two-year mandate. He also presented the nomination of Paul Verwilt, WAN-IFRA Treasurer since 2018 and COO of Mediahuis, Belgium, for re-election as Treasurer. There were no objections and no abstentions. Ladina Heimgartner and Paul Verwilt were re-elected as President and Treasurer respectively.

Election of new Supervisory Board members

Stig Ørskov noted that new Supervisory Board members are, in the great majority of cases, nominated directly by their national or regional associations. He presented twelve new Supervisory Board members for election:

- Yulia Petrossian Boyle (Armenia) - representing Consumer Lifestyle and Special Interest Media; Founder and Director, YPB Global; former Chair of FIPP
- Coralie Vranken (Belgium) - representing association lapresse.be; CEO, Le Soir Division
- Zoran Turković (Croatia) - representing HUDI, Croatian Association of Digital Publishers; CEO, 24sata Hrvatska
- Petra Fonda (Czech Republic) - representing Unie Vydavatelů; CEO, BurdaMedia Extra
- Stine Carsten Kendal (Denmark) – representing Danske Medier; CEO, Dagbladet Information
- Marc Feuillée (France) - representing Alliance de la Presse d'Information Générale; Directeur Général, Groupe Le Figaro
- Shailesh Gupta (India) – representing the Indian Newspaper Society (INS); Director, Jagran Prakashan Ltd
- Deirdre Veldon (Ireland) - representing News Media Europe; Group Managing Director, The Irish Times
- Lene Eltvik Vindfeld (Norway) - representing the Norwegian Association MBL; Organisation & Communications Director, TV 2, and Vice President, MBL
- Catarina Carvalho (Portugal) - representing Associação Portuguesa de Imprensa (APImprensa); Founder and Editor, Mensagem de Lisboa
- Minette Ferreira (South Africa) - representing Consumer Lifestyle and Special Interest Media; CEO of the Media24 Media division within Media24
- Irene Lanzaco (Spain) - Chair of the Committee of Directors of WAN-IFRA Member Associations; Director General, Asociación de Medios de Información (AMI)

The President invited Members to vote on the election of the candidates. There were no objections and no abstentions. All twelve candidates were duly elected to the Supervisory Board.

Re-elections to the Supervisory Board

Stig Ørskov further presented 31 Supervisory Board members standing for re-election, many representing their respective national and regional associations, including Daniel Dessein (Argentina, ADEPA), Denis Pierrard (Belgium, lapresse.be), Paul Verwilt (Belgium, Treasurer, COO Mediahuis), Mujo Selimovic (Bosnia and Herzegovina, President of the Board, Oslobodenje), Marcelo Rech (Brazil, ANJ), Stoyana Georgieva (Bulgaria, Union of Publishers in Bulgaria), David Matoses Peraire (Colombia, AMI, El Tiempo), Lina Attalah (Egypt, Mada Masr Media), Noora Alanne (Finland, Global Alliance for Media Innovation, Medialiitto), Vesa-Pekka Kangaskorpi (Finland, Sanomalehtien Liitto), Bérénice Lajouanie (France, Les Echos), Thomas Lindner (Germany, BDZV, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung), Tibor Kovacs (Hungary, MLE, Ringier Hungary), Shanth Kumar (India, South Asia Committee, The Printers Mysore), Andy Budiman (Indonesia, KG Media), Alessandro Bompieri (Italy, RCS), Alia Ibrahim (Lebanon, Daraj Media), Paul Peckels (Luxembourg, ALMI, Mediahuis Luxembourg), Marijana Bojanic (Montenegro, Daily Press LLP), Caroline Southey (South Africa, The Conversation Africa), Fernando de Yarza López-Madrado (Spain, AMI, Henneo Media), Sinha Ratnatunga (Sri Lanka, Independent Newspapers Ltd, Wijeya Newspapers), Pia Rehnquist (Sweden, TU, Bonnier News Local), Ladina Heimgartner (Switzerland, WAN-IFRA President, Verband Schweizer Medien, Ringier AG), George Shuang (Taiwan, United Daily News), Barbara Kaija (Uganda, New Vision), Oleksandr Chovhan (Ukraine, AIRPPU), Guy Black (United Kingdom, NMA, Telegraph Media Group), Lisa MacLeod (United Kingdom, FT Strategies), Jennifer Bertetto (USA, News/Media Alliance, Trib Total Media) and Patty Michalski (USA, Hearst Newspapers).

The President invited Members to vote on the re-election of the candidates. There were no objections and no abstentions. All 31 candidates were duly re-elected to the Supervisory Board.

4. Next Meetings

The President noted that an update on the new organisation and strategy would be provided to the Supervisory Board and Association Directors in Q4 2026, with 2027 set to be the first year in which the renewed strategy and organisation are fully operational and visible to Members.

The President thanked the Members for their participation and closed the General Assembly of Members at 10:30, inviting the Supervisory Board to reconvene to elect new Executive Board members.

WAN-IFRA President
President Ladina Heimgartner



General Assembly of Members Secretary
Elena Perotti

