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17 November 2021, Antwerp (BEL)

FEI SOLIDARITY ACTIVITY REPORT 2020-2021

The following is the reporting from the FEI Solidarity Department on its activities from September 2020 until September 2021.

The online General Assembly 2020 approved the appointment of the Members of the FEI Solidarity Committee for a one-year term.

Per memory: FEI Solidarity Committee Members – Terms of References

- The appointment of the Members of the FEI Solidarity Committee is for a Term of one (1) year.
- Members of the FEI Solidarity Committee may serve a maximum of four (4) Terms.
- As the FEI President shall be the Chair of the FEI Solidarity Committee, the Terms of his/her mandate shall be in line with the presidential terms.

Term started at GA

Group I	Ingmar De Vos (BEL), FEI President and Chair	2018
Group II	Ulf Helgstrand, President DEN NF	2018
Group III	Marina Sechina, President RUS NF	2017
Group IV	Eve van den Bol, President CAY NF	2017
Group V	Hannia de Wolf, President CRC NF	2020
Group VI	Pablo Thomas Mayorga (ARG), FEI Honorary Vice-President	2017
Group VII	HH Prince Moulai Abdellah El Alaoui, President MAR NF	2018
Group VIII	Mona Tep, President CAM NF	2017
Group IX	Glenda Warburton, President SWZ NF	2018

FEI SOLIDARITY DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS

Due to the exceptional situation caused by the COVID-19, the FEI Solidarity Department had to take some initiatives regarding the delivery of projects in National Federations, i.e.:

- Beginning of January 2021, FEI Solidarity informed its NFs and all Technical Experts that the FEI risk management policy, which was to put on hold all FEI Solidarity activities taking place in the field in 2020, no longer applied. Taking into consideration the sanitary situation and National Health Laws/Procedures in each country, we kindly asked all NFs concerned, when possible, to start planning the delivery of their projects.
- Beginning of May, FEI Solidarity informed its NFs that taking into consideration the fact that most of the projects allocated in 2020 and 2021 were still on standby, and consequently for the most part will be transferred to 2022. As a result, exceptional amendments were brought to the FEI Solidarity Programme's application process and all NFs when applying for 2022 assistance were requested to take into account the following changes:
 - Only National Federations that do NOT have any projects pending would be able to apply for 2022 assistance.

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- Only ONE application per eligible National Federation would be accepted in order to avoid increasing the backlog of pending projects.
- FEI Solidarity department conducted over 60 webex video meetings since November 2020 with all NFs with pending FEI Solidarity projects, to follow-up on the status of the project and the situation in the country to best advise NFs on the way forward.

The majority of the NFs projects due to take place this year have been postponed to 2022.

NFs PROJECTS – OVERVIEW

461 is the total number of NFs projects supported by FEI Solidarity from 2012-2021:

NFs Projects supported by FEI Solidarity 2012 - 2020				
2016	NFs projects	54	Remaining	1
2017	NFs projects	67	Remaining	6
2018	NFs projects	63	Remaining	24
2019	NFs projects	71	Remaining	36
2020	NFs projects	64	Remaining	56
	Total	319	Total remaining	123

NFs Projects supported by FEI Solidarity 2021				
2021	NFs projects	42	Started 1.1.2021	8

FEI SOLIDARITY DEPARTMENT PROJECTS & PROGRAMMES

NFs Round Up

This year, FEI Solidarity funding has been transferred to 12 NFs projects. Some of these projects have started early this year and even been achieved (courses) but some others (Training camps, etc.) had to be postponed.

Among these projects, which already took place, it is worth mentioning:

- **ACES YOG 2022:** In the framework of the ACES-YOG 2022 programme, several webex video meetings took place with the project managers and the Chair of Group IX. All

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ACES countries (except Kenya and Ethiopia) have applied to organise the FEI Jumping World Challenge series in 2021, including all Qualification Competitions in view of the FEI Youth Equestrian Games 2022 (YOG Replacement Competition). Taking into account the many uncertainties regarding Qualification competitions dates due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, in order to be fair and most efficient regarding the impact of the Training Camps, it has been decided to host the 2 Regional Camps (one per region) after the Qualification Process is over, between January and May 2022. The final training camp for the five Athletes will take place prior to the YEG in Germany.

- **EURASIA:** The first FEI Group III project has been successfully delivered. It was the first milestone to develop Dressage Sport in Eurasia Region and to prepare National Teams for the Eurasian Dressage Championship 2021. Talent Identification have been organized in May and June 2021 in Belarus, Iran, Moldova, Kirgizstan, Uzbekistan, delivered by Mrs Alexandra Korelova (RUS), she could inspire and motivate more riders from Eurasian countries to participate at this Championship. Two training camps of 4 days have been organized in the framework of the Group III project, at Maxima stables to prepare the Athletes from BLR, IRI, KGZ and UZB for the Championship. Mrs Irina Ludina (RUS) was in charge of the Children, Juniors and Young Riders from 10-13 July and Mrs Olga Soboleva (RUS) was in charge of the Seniors from 17-20 July. In the end, Moldova could not send any Athletes to the Championships, however Belarus entered 6 Youths, Iran entered 3 Youths and 1 Senior, Kirgizstan entered 4 Youths and 3 Seniors, Uzbekistan entered 3 Youths and 3 Seniors. According to the UZB NF, it was the first time that 2 Dressage Teams represented UZB at an International Championship.
- **KGZ:** Scholarship for Veterinarian. Mrs Sabina Dadabaeva from Kirgizstan spent 1 month in July at the Veterinarian Clinic at Maxima Stables in Moscow.
- **TUR:** FEI Expert Mrs Patricia Nadoux visited Ankara, Izmir and Istanbul equestrian centres from 1st to 5 March 2021 in the framework of the development of the Para-Dressage discipline. She met Para Equestrian Athletes and Coaches. She helped the NF to establish a long-term development plan for the discipline of Para-Dressage, which is currently unknown in Turkey.
- **IRI:** FEI Expert Mrs Patricia Nadoux visited Iran from 9 to 20 August 2021 in the framework of the development of the Para-Dressage discipline. The 3rd visit consisted in
- **MAD:** Madagascar NF has implemented a plan of education addressed to local Coaches. The project has been delivered by Mr Arnaud Mollaret (FRA) from January to July 2021. The aim of the project was to refresh the Coaches' knowledge in terms of coaching skills. All 11 participants have been evaluated at the end of the course.
- **CYP:** Development of a national coach education structure. Webex video meetings have been conducted with the NF of Cyprus to initiate the project in collaboration with the Greek NF, which has also implemented a National Coach Education structure under the supervision of the FEI Solidarity Development Officer.
- **CRC:** Athletes training. The FEI Solidarity has supported 3 projects over 2019-2020 in Costa Rica. The aim of this project was to improve the technical level of Athletes in the disciplines of Jumping, Dressage and Eventing in Costa Rica. Local Coaches, Mr Juan de Dios Alvarez in Jumping, Mrs Gloriana Herrera in Dressage and Mrs Leonor Munoz in

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Eventing have delivered training sessions. Despite the Covid-19 Pandemic, a lot of efforts have been put in place by the National Federation to help the Coaches to organise training sessions with the identified Athletes.

- **EST:** The FEI Solidarity has financed an Athletes training programme for Youth in Jumping in Estonia over 3 years. The technical level of Young Athletes in the discipline of Jumping in Estonia has been improved over 3 years. Pony riders, Children, Juniors and Young riders have been involved in this project. Several actions have been put in place, among others training sessions in Jumping and Dressage, Athletes mental Coaching sessions, Anti-Doping education sessions and sessions on communication skills to better prepare the Athletes giving interviews, promote themselves and manage social media. 2020 has been disrupted by the Covid-19 pandemic but despite this, training sessions have been organised and a Junior Team has been prepared for the FEI Jumping European Championship for Juniors. The project has been very successful and year after year, the sports objectives have been achieved.
- **ESEEs:** 2 (Equestrian Sports Educative Events) were organised in Dressage, 1 in Iran and 1 in Paraguay in August 2021. The next ESEEs to be delivered in 2021 have been postponed to 2022 or will be organized by the end of the year.

FEI Regional Development Officer (Asia):

Following the recruitment Mr Camille Martin as Regional Development Officer, for Asia, Mr Martin has started working with China. Due to the past and on-going travel restrictions and the state of quarantine both Europe and China have put in place, the quasi entirety of the development programme as it was planned has been put on standby. Despite the unusual circumstances, contacts with the stakeholders have remained regular and the few actions that could have been led, have been put in place.

- Meeting with the Chinese Equestrian Association for the presentation of the contract of objectives
- Meeting with the CEA for the adaptation of the contract of objectives to the FEI Development Programme
- Discussion with the CEA related to the CEA Trainers programme
- Exchanges and presentation of the development plan to the Hong Kong Jockey Club in order to coordinate respective actions regarding the cooperation with the Chinese Equestrian Association
- Refinement of the CEA Development plans based on their adjusted needs during and after the quarantine episodes: main focus brought to the Course Designer programme and the Stable manager programme
- Adaptation and preparation of the online sessions for the Course Designer Programme
- Follow-up of the activity on a weekly to monthly basis

Consultancy Services – FEI Development Officer

Following the retirement of Mrs. Jacqueline Braissant as FEI Solidarity Director, on 31 March 2021, Mr. Jean-Philippe Camboulives former FEI Development Officer has been appointed as the new FEI Solidarity Director. Mr. Camboulives will be maintaining his consultancy services activities as part of his new role.

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Unfortunately, Mr. Camboulives had to postpone his travels due to the ongoing pandemic, but is planning to visit Russia in November 2021 to further assist the RUS NF on the implementation of its National Coach Education Programme started in 2020.

As an alternative to travel, many visio webex meetings have taken place with National Federations in order to initiate contact and start the consultancy service process remotely.

New FEI Solidarity tools:

1. Workshop for NFs on their Role, Mission and Responsibility:

Further to the initiative launched in 2020 to assist our National Federation in helping them have a better understanding of their role, missions and responsibilities, a total of four workshops have been organised thus far and more will be planned in the future.

Per reminder, these workshops, which have been offered via Webex, are open to NF Presidents and Secretary Generals.

The FEI Solidarity programme has contributed to the development of the sport not only at participation level, but also at high performance level. This is where NFs are lacking the knowledge to face the new responsibilities linked to high performance sport (strategic plan, management of national teams, national head coach, certification of Officials, coaches, etc.) and this is the focus of the workshops.

The first workshop open to NF Presidents and Secretary Generals from BUL, GRE, ROU, TUR, took place via visio conference last year in June.

Following the first workshop attended by NF Representatives of the Balkan region, the second workshop, which took place in August 2020, during three two hours sessions was open to NFs of Group VI. On this occasion NFs of BRA, BOL, PER, URU, ARG, CHI and ECU were represented.

The last two workshops, which took place in December 2020 and February 2021 were organised for members NFs of Group VII. Due to the important number of NFs (18), it was agreed to split participants into two groups (Middle East and African Continent), in order to offer the best conditions for the workshops to be successful.

- December 2020: BRN, JOR, KSA, OMA, PLE, QAT, YEM.
- February 2021: ALG, EGY, KUW, LBA, LBN, SUD, TUN, UAE.

The next workshop should take place before the end of the year with SGs and Presidents from Group IX.

2. Workshop for National Head Coaches:

Following the initiative to create a new Education Programme for National Head Coach, in the continuity of the FEI Coach Education Programme in order to support National Federations in putting into place the proper sport structures necessary to access High-level sport, the FEI Solidarity Director Mr. Camboulives has approached a number of technical experts. These experts will be part of the working group to provide their support and expertise for the creation of the course material.

This program has been on "Stand-by" this year due to the sanitary restriction and the lack of availabilities of the Experts all engaged in their "National Head Coach" functions for the Olympic Games' preparation. The next phase of the project will be

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to organise an in-person meeting to finalise the course content with the working group, at the FEI HQ hopefully in the near future. Once the content finalised, the objective is to organise a Pilot Course by spring of 2022.

3. Grooms Training:

As previously reported, the course content for the Grooms Training via the FEI Solidarity Programme has been finalised with the help of Susanne Macken (IRL), Anthony Lowry (IRL) and Valeria Ariza (URU).

As part of the content, a number Horsemanship Modules available on FEI Campus will be translated in to Spanish. This process has already started.

Further to the education offered via the FEI Solidarity Programme to Grooms in our developing NFs, the FEI is working on a project around International Grooms' Education and Recognition, as discussed during the 2021 Sports Forum. A working group has been created to work on the development of this project.

FEI Course for NFs SGs and Administrators 2021

The 2021 edition of the course for NFs Secretary Generals and Administrators will be taking place in-person at the FEI Headquarters from 25-29 October 2021. Representatives of 10 National Federations are meant to be present on this occasion.

IT NF Platform

Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, the new interested National Federations have been introduced to the platform by the IT Department via visio conference.

FEI Coach Education Programme

Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, most of the 2020 courses for coaches had to be cancelled. Few NFs managed to maintain the courses as originally scheduled and two Introduction to Coaching courses were organised in RUS and MAS. The NF of Turkey organised two Level 1 course for Endurance coaches back to back in September of 2020.

As previously reported, a total of six visio teleconferences have been organised with the FEI Tutors between November 2020 and February 2021. A number of topics have been discussed during these teleconferences, among which the courses' content, the formats and the evaluation process. As a result, various projects are in the pipeline for the future, including:

- the review of the Level 2 Olympic Disciplines course content and format (discipline specific),
- the creation of video content for Vaulting courses for coaches (Level 1 and 2),
- the creation of the Level 2 Endurance course content
- the implementation of a Coaching section on FEI Campus.

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Although the ongoing pandemic has greatly limited the possibility of our Tutors to travel to countries to deliver in-person courses for coaches, a total of 11 Introduction to Coaching courses have already been carried out in 2021. Four Level 1 courses for Coaches in the Olympic Disciplines have already taken place and at least one to two more will take place before the end of the year. Six Level 1 courses for Coaches in Endurance are on the calendar for this year (four of which have already taken place in UZB, JOR, LTU and KSA).

IPC 2021 COVID-19 GRANT SUPPORT INITIATIVE (Para Dressage)

The International Paralympic Committee (IPC) created the IPC 2021 COVID-19 Grant Support Initiative as part of the IPC's commitment to support IPC members to develop Para sport.

The FEI Solidarity Department is collaborating with the FEI Education Department on the implementation of this project.

FEI WORLD CHALLENGES SERIES

In JUMPING, the 2020 season was greatly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and nearly one third of the countries planning to host the series were forced to cancel their competitions.

Out of 131 shows (348 competitions) meant to take place in 36 NFs, only 42 could be carried out (116 competitions) in 13 NFs.

Although the pandemic is still affecting our community around the world, the activity has resumed in a number of countries in 2021 and NFs have been able to host the FEI Jumping World Challenge.

This year is particularly important for our smaller NFs, as per reminder, the 2021 FEI Jumping World Challenge Category A – Competition 3 - will count for many National Federations as the qualification pathway for the FEI Youth Equestrian Games 2022, which will take place in Aachen (GER) on 28 June – 3 July 2022.

In a constant wish to support our National Federations in being able to host their qualification competition in these very uncertain times, a derogation has been put together allowing NFs to exceptionally appoint a local Level 3 FEI Jumping Judge instead of the required Foreign Judge.

Among the 74 National Federations that had applied to seek qualification in hopes to obtain a spot to take part in the FEI YEG 2022, 55 of them were hoping to do so through the FEI Jumping World Challenge Category A – Competition 3. Ten NFs have withdrawn their application due to lack of athletes eligible, which brings to total of NFs down to 45.

Here is a breakdown per continental group (IOC):

AFRICA:	11 Countries
ASIA:	16 Countries
NORTH AMERICA:	7 Countries
SOUTH AMERICA:	7 Countries
EUROPE:	2 Countries
AUSTRALASIA:	2 Countries

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Regarding the general situation of the series in 2021, here is the current calendar summary:

Total # of Shows	# Shows ORGANISED since Jan 2021	# Shows SCHEDULED between Sep & Dec 2021	# Shows ANNOUNCED or POSTPONED without set dates (TBC)	# Shows definitely CANCELLED
169	62	31	56	20

FEI Jumping World Challenge FINAL

The 2021 FEI Jumping World Challenge Final originally scheduled to take place in Jakarta (INA) on 17-22 August 2021 had to be postponed until 22-28 November 2021. Due to the exceptional circumstances linked to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the 2021 qualification system had to be reviewed since only half the zones were able to organise competitions in 2020. Consequently, the qualification period was spread over 2019 and 2020 and an Overall 2019-2020 Combined World Rankings was used to establish the list of qualified Athletes. In early September, the decision to cancel the 2021 FEI Jumping World Challenge Final in Jakarta (INA) had to be taken due to the 8 days mandatory quarantine in place in the county for all foreign travellers, which made it unfeasible to maintain the event.

In DRESSAGE, the impact of the pandemic on the number of competitions organised in 2020 was also dramatic with only 4 NFs able to follow through with their plans to organise the series instead of the 40 originally in the calendar and this despite the derogation for a Foreign Judge. As for Jumping, this was a consequence mainly of the restrictions imposed worldwide concerning equestrian activities, but it is also a consequence for many countries of the lack of FEI Dressage Judges and therefore unable to organise the competition as they could not reach the minimum standard required.

In 2021, many NFs that usually organise the FEI Dressage World Challenge did not wish to apply until they had a clearer idea of the situation in their country, therefore the number of applications received in accordance to the process were low (December 1 app. Deadline) compared to usual. Among the NFs who applied to organise the Challenge, two of them have returned after a long period of absence from the series. These NFs are IRI and BLR. The latter organised the Challenge as part of the IQP process of the Eurasia Dressage Championship projects, which involved several NFs of the region. We are hoping for even more NFs taking part in 2022 thanks to this project.

Here is the summary of the current 2021 calendar of competitions:

Total # of Shows	# Shows ORGANISED since Jan 2021	# Shows SCHEDULED between Sep & Dec 2021	# Shows ANNOUNCED without set dates (TBC)	# Shows definitely CANCELLED
33	13	20	0	0

In VAULTING: with the new creation of a Challenge Series in Vaulting, 2020 saw its first ever FEI Vaulting World Challenge event take place in South Africa, all other competitions

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scheduled to take place had to be cancelled (10). As for Dressage, NFs seem to have been “on hold” regarding the 2021 season, waiting to see the evolution of the pandemic before committing to organising the competitions and therefore very few applications were sent in.

Although no competition has taken place yet, 4 NFs have applied to host the competition this year, however none have provided dates and consequently there is a chance they will not take place.

THE EVENTING WORLD CHALLENGE:

The FEI Solidarity Department has been working with the FEI Eventing Department on a project to develop a new Challenge Series in Eventing. The project is well underway and we are hoping to be able to launch this new series in 2022.

FEI Youth Equestrian Games 2022

In an effort to offer the young generation of athletes that were hoping to compete at the YOG 2022 an opportunity to represent their country despite the postponement of the YOG, the FEI Board decided to open a bidding process in hopes to find an organiser for this replacement competition, which was allocated to Aachen (GER). The competition will take place on 28 June to 3 July 2022 in what is known to be the mecca of equestrian sport and therefore there is no doubt that this will be an experience of a lifetime for the 30 athletes qualified to compete in this very special event.

As a wish to maintain the spirit of the YOG during this event, the FEI Solidarity will be working with the organising team in Aachen to create an educational programme which will run alongside the competition and which will focus on the IOC's key topics:

- Athlete Mental Health
- Safeguarding
- Anti-Doping
- Athlete Role Model

The educational programme will be composed of various interactive workshops on these different topics among others and will include Athletes and Coaches.

COVID-19 RELIEF FUND

By decision of the FEI Board on 10 September 2020, a specific Fund was allocated to help NFs the most in need due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on their activities. The “FEI Covid-19 Relief Fund” was available to the NFs eligible from 1st October 2020 through to 1st March 2021.

In total, 67 NFs applied for the COVID-19 Relief Fund within the deadline.

GENDER EQUALITY IN EQUESTRIAN SPORT

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Call for bids

In a bid to promote and encourage gender equality in equestrian sport around the world, in 2021 FEI Solidarity will grant CHF 20'000.-, for the second year, to one specific NF project or programme whose main aim and focus is the promotion of gender equality on and/or off the field. This includes, but is not limited to, programmes in relation to governance and administration, Athletes participation, Coaches, Officials, Grooms, Farriers, etc.

The first grant has been allocated in 2020 to Costa Rica NF. The project has been successfully delivered. The NF is on the path to achieve the objectives set out in their original plan while enforcing the CRC NF values: justice, excellence, respect, balance, peace and equal opportunities. Virtual and in-person seminars have been conducted: Farriers courses, Stewards courses (Jumping, Dressage, Endurance) and courses for Coaches. The participation has been outstanding with 99 people involved in the project (66 female and 33 males). The quota in gender representation has been met (women in farrier courses, men in stewards' courses).

The 2021 grant was allocated by the FEI Solidarity Committee to the CHI NF, who was the sole contender.

FEI SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE MEETING 2021

The FEI Solidarity Committee met on 8 September 2021 for their annual meeting at the FEI HQ in Lausanne (SUI) during which they evaluated the requests for assistance for 2021 and onwards.

Following the exceptional amendments brought to the application process due to the backlog of pending project, a total of 8 applications have been submitted to the FEI Solidarity Department for evaluation. 4 applications were submitted as Regional Group projects, and 4 applications were submitted by individual NFs. The applications are divided into:

- | | |
|--|----------------|
| - Athletes Training (Identification, Qualification, Preparation) | 5 applications |
| - Development of NFs Sports Structures & Systems | 3 applications |

After evaluation of all NFs projects by the FEI Solidarity Committee, the 8 applications were approved.

In addition, the FEI Solidarity Committee approved the following new initiatives:

a) *Stable Manager Education Programme*

Following our very successful education programme for Grooms in developing NFs, we identified the necessity to propose a course content for an "ongoing Education Programme" for Stable Managers, which is a very important function within our activity.

This need has been clearly identified following a number of visits to our developing NFs, which often have sizeable equestrian infrastructures, with many quality sport horses but without proper professionals with the required knowledge to correctly

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maintain the facilities in order to provide best conditions for the horses (footing, stabling, feeding, etc.).

A good Stable Manager makes a difference and the correct upkeep of horses and their welfare.

National Federations such as China or India as well as smaller NFs have asked for such a Programme to help, reinforce and “professionalize” the Equestrian Staff in the different infrastructures/facilities.

This function is also a fundamental “human resource” to insure during International Events the respect of Horse Welfare and Biosecurity conditions as well as the respect of the rules regarding stabling conditions and requirements.

We propose to produce a course content with a team of Professional Experts during the autumn 2022 and organise a Pilot Course in spring of 2022 in order to validate the format and be able to add this course to our Catalogue for next year.

b) *Bio Security Education Programme*

The past year has proven to be extremely challenging for the world due to the COVID-19 pandemic but even more so for our equestrian community with the outbreak of the EHV-1 in Europe, and of the African Horse Sickness in Asia. Both these events have reinforced the “red flag” regularly observed in many countries, concerning biosecurity and the lack of knowledge especially from our developing NFs. Such incidents have a dramatic impact on not only the sport but also on the Horse Industry in general. Consequently, the importance for our community and particularly event organisers to be informed and educated on biosecurity is essential and we consider it necessary to help our community and particularly developing NFs to educate their members and stakeholders to elevate their level of knowledge, competencies and process in Biosecurity.

The FEI Solidarity Department will be adding to its catalogue a new Education Programme on Biosecurity.

This programme will include educational Workshops conducted by Professionals in the field of Biosecurity

FINANCES

This matter will be addressed separately. It will be covered under the point 7 “Annual Financial Report” of the GA Agenda.