

ITG International Takhi Group Freunde des Wildpferdes

To the members of the

Sihlwald and Gattikon, May 12th, 2019

ITG International Takhi Group

Minutes of the General Assembly of the ITG for the year 2018

Tuesday, May 7th 2019, 6 – 7 pm at Sorell Hotel Aarauerhof, Aarau

Present: Reinhard Schnidrig, Rebekka Blumer, Sven Hoffmann, Honorary President Thomas Pfisterer, Ruth Baumgartner.

Excused: Christian Stauffer, Anita Fahrni, Karin Hindenlang, Jaroslav Simek, Miroslav Bobek, O. Ganbaatar, Lundeg Purevsuren.

President Reinhard Schnidrig welcomes the members of the International Takhi Group and thanks everybody for their help which led to a very successful and busy 2018. The thanks go especially to Rebekka Blumer for her extraordinary engagement for ITG. Not only the financial work but also her work in organization and preparation are highly estimated.

The President refers right at the beginning to the great success, namely the expansion of the Great Gobi B, which will be the subject of the next Takhi Post with the headline "Thanks to the Great State Khural". The enlargement of the park has been an important topic over the last few years and required the approval of everyone from the community to the national government. Many thanks to all involved and a big prosit to the great success! The extension is the so called "middle extension option" in which the fields with explotation and exploration are excluded. The new protected area now includes habitat for important fauna (e.g. Takhi and Kulans) and flora (e.g. saxaul). However, it also brings new work such as boundary-marking, training of new rangers and new projects. But this work is a great pleasure!

The agenda of the General Assembly meeting is accepted.

1. Approval of the minutes

The minutes of the General Assembly of May 8th, 2018 are accepted.

2. Annual report 2018 of the president

The president goes through the annual report and clarifies at the beginning the role of the Mongols in the board. None of the Mongols is a member in the board. Ganbaa and Batsukh are



ITG International Takhi Group Freunde des Wildpferdes

considered permanent guests and therefore the minutes are sent to them.

The president has slightly restructured the annual report, which is now weighted in the foreword and 5 chapters as follows:

- Foreword with important topics from the last year
- The horse and its habitat
- Cooperation with politics and research
- Informing the public
- Presentation of the association ITG
- Finances.

With its representation, additions to all chapters are possible at any time.

The Takhi stock has increased very nicely. The graph looks a bit different than usual, because the dates show no longer the horse year, but the calendar year. The large collapses represent in turn losses due to the first Dzud, mortality caused by a bacterial infection disease, and the the second Dzud, mortality caused by heavy snow storms.

The ITG board accepts the annual report of the president.

3. Annual financial report 2018

Invoice 2018:

The slide (details see in the appendix) shows the comparison between 2018 and 2017. 2018 was financially a good year. In particular, there were larger donations from foundations like Vontobel Foundation and Friends of the takhi.

Expenditure is slightly higher, mainly due to the additional new employment of Batsukh. There was no purchase of hay. Various things are strikingly high and include the working trip of Rebekka Blumer to Mongolia in the summer of 2018.

The report of the auditor Peter Haller is available.

Budget 2019:

Details are presented in the slides of the Annual General Assembly in the appendix.

- Promised donations are to be expected from the Friends of the Takhi and several Foundations (e.g. Sonja and Jean-Pierre Siegfried Foundation, Temperatio Foundation, Lovioz Foundation)
- Potential donations: about SFR 40'000

Expenditure is significantly higher and include infrastructure, the water project (renovation af the national park house, the sanitary project). The money is available, but the project could not be realized in 2018 because of delays in the planning process. The planning has now evolved considerably (with conversion of a room in the national park house, insulation and installation of



ITG International Takhi Group Freunde des Wildpferdes

double doors to keep enough heat inside the house, etc.). The necessary preparations have been made or are in progress in order to realize the project in 2019. The deadline for the Grant from the Rotary Club was extended beyond April 2018. Construction work has began.

The current ITG budget and the Gobi B budget do not fit together, because the Prague Zoo directly invests in the Gobi B, which therefore has a larger budget.

All in all finances look good, never the less new investments will become necessary (e.g. improvement of infrastructure in the camp). It would be very helpful if donors could be found explicitly for such structural costs.

Regarding the staff in UB: When hiring a new person with the desired profile, it must be expected, that a higher salary might become necessary than previously for Saikhanaa.

Regarding the treasurer: Rebekka Blumer actually does a lot of work which should be done in the office in UB. The lack of personnel in UB currently places excessive demands on her.

The finalization and then implementation of the managementplan must be followed by ITG. A trip to Mongolia from people of the board and talks on site in UB are needed.

The financial report and the balance of 2018, based on the auditory report as well as the budget for 2019 are accepted.

4. Granting discharge to the ITG Board

The ITG board unanimously is granted discharge.

5. Approval of the activities 2018

Details are presented on the slide of the Annual General Assembly in the appendix. Since the year has long since began, many activities are already underway (e.g. Lena Michler presence in Mongolia, the planning of the next workshop and of conferences, boundary marking).

6. Agreement on the annual fee 2019 (CHF 500.00 / Euro 500.00)

The ITG board unanimously accepts the annual fee of CHF 500.00 / Euro 500.00 for zoos and organizations.

7. Elections

- 7.1 Re-elections of the ITG Board members
- 7.2 Re-election of the ITG President
- 7.3 Re-election of the research officer
- 7.4 Re-election of the auditing agency

A total renewal election of the board is pending. Mirjam Würsch resigned in 2018. Mr. Batsansar of the Ministry of Nature, Environment and Tourism (MET) is dropped off and will not be reelected as a member of the ITG board. Mr. Purevsuren (Ambassador of Mongolia in Switzerland)



ITG International Takhi Group Freunde des Wildpferdes

continues to represent the Ministery and will remain as an alternate member for Mr. Batsansar as permanent guest in the ITG board.

All other persons, the auditing agency and both the president and the vice president are reelected unanimously.

8. Applications / requests from members

No applications received.

9. Varia

- 9.1 Report on latest news from Takhin Tal: the first foals have been born in the Gobi B in April and at the beginning of May, many more are expected in the coming up months of 2019.
- 9.2 The next General Assembly takes place on May 5th 2020 at the same place.

For the minutes of the

ITG, International Takhi Group

Reinhard Schnidrig President of the ITG

Ruth Baumgartner Actuary of the ITG

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Appendix



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