

**MINUTES**  
**9<sup>TH</sup> WORLD ELECTRONICS FORUM**  
**FORMAL ADMINISTRATION MEETING**  
**OLD PARLIAMENT HOUSE, CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA**  
**TUESDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> SEPTEMBER 2003**

**1. PRESENT AND REPRESENTED**

Uri Har, **Meeting Chairman**, and representing the **Israel, Israel Association of Electronics & Information Industries -**

**Australia, Australian Electrical and Electronic Manufacturers' Association Ltd (AEEMA)**

Christopher Janssen

Angus M Robinson

**China, China Electronic Chamber of Commerce (CECC)**

Wang Ning

Shirong Sui

Li Wei

Zhao Wenzhi

Cui Weidong

**France, Federation Industry Electric Electronic Communication (FIEEC)**

Gabriel Coron

**Hong Kong (China), Hong Kong Electronic Industries Association (HKEIA)**

Kei Biu Chan (Dr)

Charles Chapman

**Japan, Communications and Information Network Association of Japan (CIAJ)**

Shigeru Ikeda

Hideki Yagi

**Japan, Japan Electronics & Information Technology Industries Association (JEITA)**

Kazuro Kaneko

**Korea, Electronics Industries Association of Korea (EIAK)**

Sang Kun Kim

**Taipei, Taiwan Electrical & Electronic Manufacturers' Association (TEEMA)**

Fu-Hsiong Cheng

Hsi-Dung

**USA**

Gary Shapiro, Consumer Electronics Association

Adam Goldman, Electronics Industries Alliance (EIA)

Matthew Flanagan, Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)

Dan Heinemeier, Government Electronics & Information Technology Association (GEIA)

## **2. APOLOGIES**

- Brazilian Electrical & Electronics Industry Association
- Electronics Scotland
- Orgalime – Europe
- Indian Electrical & Electronics Manufacturers' Association
- Intellect UK
- Romanian Association for Electronics & Software Industries
- Electronics Industries Federation of South Africa
- Association of Electronics and Information Technology Industries of the Basque County of Spain
- Turkish Electronics & Information industries Association
- Semiconductor Industry Association of the USA
- Vietnam Electronics Industry Association

## **3. 10<sup>th</sup> WEF MEETING HOST**

1. According to the WEF document concerning the election of the WEF host, there is a rotation of hosting regions, and next year (the 10<sup>th</sup> meeting), it is recognised that it is the turn of the America's region.

2. There has only been one proposal received – from the EIA and the TIA of the USA which presented two options.

- (a) September 2004 – Washington DC
- (b) January 2005 – Las Vegas (in conjunction with the CES show)

3. The meeting agreed that option (a) was preferred because considerable value was placed on the opportunity to involve senior representatives from the host country's government.

It was AGREED that the 10<sup>th</sup> WEF will be hosted by EIA, CEA and TIA in September 2004 (21<sup>st</sup> -23<sup>rd</sup>) in Washington DC, USA.

It was also AGREED that an interim meeting of WEF will be held during the CES in Las Vegas in January 2004.

## **4. STATUS OF WEF**

1. The Chairman explained the status of WEF – a voluntary, non-incorporated forum, and described the advantages and disadvantages of this status. He explained that apart from the Secretariat being hosted by one association (currently the EIA of the USA), there was no organisational structure, no official members (therefore open to worldwide associations), no fees or payments, and all activities are undertaken on a voluntary basis.

It was AGREED not to change the current arrangements. However, it was decided to seek a wider opinion by sending out an explanation letter with a questionnaire to other WEF members. **The Chairman agreed to prepare a suitable document that will be presented to the interim meeting in January 2004.**

## **5. WEF STATEMENT**

The original WEF statement was drafted in 1997. The Chairman raised the issue of whether it was now timely to review the contents to check its currency.

**It was AGREED that Gary Shapiro would check the need to update this basic document and present a recommendation to the next WEF meeting for reapproval.**

## **6. INCREASE OF PARTICIPANTS IN WEF MEETINGS**

1. The Chairman pointed out that during the last three years, the number of participating associations had dropped to 15 and less, while it was recognized that the potential for a higher level of involvement was much higher, given the large number of worldwide associations.
2. The meeting discussed various ways to encourage a higher level of participation.

### **(a) Location of meetings:**

After reviewing successes versus failures, it was AGREED that the current system of rotating the hosting of meetings from broad geographic (continent based) region to region should be retained.

At the suggestion of Australia, it was also AGREED that 'Oceania' should be adopted as the region in which Australia was located. This would enable other countries with electronics industries such as New Zealand to participate.

Gary Shapiro suggested that early consideration should be given to identifying a suitable host country for 2005.

### **(b) Content of Meetings**

It was AGREED that there is a need to deal with the subject of direct importance to the associations such as free trade and that the programme for 2004 should be discussed and agreed to at the next interim meeting.

### **(c) Promotion**

It was AGREED that promotion of the WEF meeting should be undertaken by the selected host and also by each association in its geographical region and with co-operating associations.

## **7. CONTINUING ACTIVITY**

- (a) It was AGREED that where possible, there should be a continuous activity of WEF in between meetings.

- (b) It was also AGREED that the nature of the activities should relate to those of major interest to the majority of the participating Associations. To achieve this objective, it was suggested that a coordinator would be identified for each agreed topic, and that the coordinator would activate by email to interested associations to participate in the preparation of a position paper for submission to WEF and to other relevant international bodies such as WTO, ITU etc.
- (c) **As a pilot, it was AGREED to select a few topics and to seek the support of several associations to prepare a proposal for a working programme on each subject to be presented at the interim meeting (January 2004). The subjects to be selected are:**
- **Telecommunications: Matthew Flanigan (TIA) and Hidaki Yagi (CIAJ)**
  - **Free Trade: Gabriel Coron (FIEEC)**
  - **Environmental Matters: Adam Goldman (EIA)**
  - **Anti Terror Technologies: Dan Heinemeier (GEIA)**

## **7. REGISTER OF WORLDWIDE ASSOCIATIONS**

The Chairman advised that the register distributed at the meeting includes over 90 associations from over 50 countries.

It was AGREED that the guiding principles for including associations in the register would be based on the following.

- (a) The Association is dealing with, and has members as manufacturers of, hardware in electronics/communications.
- (b) The Association can be international, regional (continental), and national, and in the case of a regional (within a country) association, will be included unless a specific objection is received from the national association representing the country in which the region is located.