



## MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2009

**Date:** February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009  
**Venue:** Amigo Restaurant, 55-57 Nguyen Hue, District 1, HCMC

### Attendants:

1. Sigmund Stromme - Chairman
2. Soeren Juelsbak - Vice Chairman
3. Hakan Ottosson – Secretary
4. Ole Leth Larsen – Board Member
5. Nick Jonsson – Board Member
6. Christel Monthean – Board Member
7. Marc Clement – Honorary Auditor
8. Jan Stromler
9. Klaus Vikkelso
10. Hang Vikkelso
11. Hannes Valtonen
12. Thue Quist Thomasen
13. Jasper Overgaard Waale
14. Klaus Krogh
15. Katrina Mojica
16. Viktor Skoglund
17. Aage Starup
18. Tran Thi Mong Chinh
19. Thomas Hermansen
20. John Rockhold
21. John Truong
22. Krister Kling
23. Steen Boesvang
24. Ken Johansen
25. Anders Moeller
26. Nguyen Mong Ngoc

### AGENDA

- **Presentation – Katrina Mojica from Ogilvy & Mather**
- **Welcome to Ms. Nguyen Mong Ngoc, new Executive Officer**
- **General Report 2008**
  - **Membership**
  - **Financial status**
- **Activity Calendar 2009**
- **Nordcham Charity Fund & Cooperation with Foreign Trade University**
- **Vietnam Business Forum, June 2<sup>nd</sup> – Topics for paper**
- **Relation with other Business Chambers**
- **Election of Nordcham Board**
- **Other**

Sigmund Stromme, Chairman, opened the meeting and greeted everybody welcome.

### PRESENTATION BY OGILVY & MATHER

Katrina Mojica from Ogilvy & Mather held the presentation with title "*Marketing in Recession*". The presentation was much appreciated. Members were discussing and addressing the recession in various sectors in Vietnam, mentioning that trade direction has changed. Several questions were raised to Katrina and comments were exchanged among members.

## **WELCOME TO THE NEW EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Ms. Nguyen Mong Ngoc started the job of Executive Officer from 1<sup>st</sup> February 2009. She is now working as volunteer until the resignation process of her current job is completed.

## **REPORT ON ACTIVITY REPORT 2008**

A short review of the activities from the previous year was done by the Chairman.

The membership has continuously and significantly increased since 2007 (20 members) till early 2009 (59 members).

There were 46 activities, which shown 21% increase compared to 2007 before. The increased activity scope was fully attributed to the Executive Officer, Katarina Runeberg, who was appointed in October 2007.

Main networking activities were the successful Nordic Viking Fest with more than 400 participants, the HanseDay, the Crayfish Party and the Christmas Party, NordCham Open Golf Tournaments. In addition to those activities there have been informal gatherings.

There have also been many business events, luncheon, seminars both organized by ourselves and co-hosted with other chambers.

Nordcham had also actively circulated information on new laws and regulations to its members.

The increased activity has resulted in a 59% increase of members from 37 to 59 members.

Our Nordcham license is valid until 2010, and when renewing it would also be an opportunity to revise and update the present charter which was made at a time when all business organizations had to register in Hanoi.

## **FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT**

The financial status is good. The accounts currently hold approximately USD 4,744.

The Honorary Auditor, Marc Clement, has written an audit report and had no further comments than that the financial statement gives a true and correct picture of the financial situation.

**Resolution:** Financial status report was approved of by the AGM.

## **NORDCHAM CHARITY FUND**

After the Christmas Party 2008, the Nordcham Charity Fund held USD 3,545. The Charity Fund will continue to donate the Norwegian Football Federation, NFF that is focusing on health and education of children, which is integrated with sport training and leadership training.

The scholarships to top performing students at the Foreign Trade University (FTU) will also be remaining. In connection with the handover of scholarships, Nordcham will organise a half-day at FTU, where Nordcham member companies can present themselves and arrange interviews with students for recruitment of interns.

## **ACTIVITY CALENDAR 2009**

For 2008, the main social events will be:

- The Viking Fest, which is held on Mar 14<sup>th</sup>. This will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> Nordcham Viking Fest which is expected to be as successful as last year. The event will be at the same venue, same food, The list of sponsors are being filled up with Diamond (USD 1,000), Gold (USD 600) and Silver (USD 300)

- NordCham Open Golf Tournament: April 19<sup>th</sup> .
- The Hansa-Nordic Boat Trip, end of May
- Vietnam Business Forum June
- The Crayfish Party September 25<sup>th</sup>
- The Christmas Party December 4<sup>th</sup>

The aim is further to organise business events as follows:

- Quarterly informal gatherings, linked to presentations/events
- 3-4 business events or presentations related to member working environment in Vietnam

As well as to keep members updated on legal issues and regulations, as well as forums and events we are invited to, the Nordcham website, [www.nordcham.com](http://www.nordcham.com), will serve as communication tool for this matter.

The activity calendar was approved of by the AGM.

### **VIETNAM BUSINESS FORUM, JUNE 2<sup>ND</sup>**

On June 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Vietnam Business Forum, VBF, is holding its next annual meeting. This is a consultative meeting between the PM, MPI and various ministries and WB – IFC and various foreign and national business groups. Nordcham intends to contribute with a paper to this occasion, emphasizing our particular strength of Nordic countries.

Intended Main topics:

- Environment
- Logistic
- Work Safety

The suggestion to submit a paper was highly supported of by the AGM.

### **RELATION WITH OTHER BUSINESS CHAMBERS**

The relation with other business chamber were good, particular close with the German and Canadian chambers.

Nordcham Hanoi had been passive for last year, but we are open for more cooperation with them, including sharing website.

The AGM was concentrating mainly on the discussion whether or not Nordcham should reply to an invitation from Eurocham to associate with them. The issue had been raised by two members of the board Soeren/Ole in January but the other board members did not share their view.

The AGM came to the decision to make a written vote among present members as well as by proxy, on the following two alternatives:

**AAA: Nordcham should negotiate with Eurocham the terms of a membership.**

**BBB: Nordcham should continue as an independent business association.**

There were 25 members voting and 12 by proxy, out of a total 60 members.

The result was:

30 votes (from 21 present votes and 9 proxy votes) supported BBB, the independent identity of Nordcham.

27 votes (from 14 present votes and 12 proxy votes) Supported AAA the idea of membership application to EuroCham.

## ELECTION OF NORDCHAM BOARD

Proposed Board for 2009:

- Sigmund Stromme
- Ken Johansen
- Soeren Juelsbak
- Thue Quist Thomasen
- John Rockhold
- Hakan Ottosson
- Nick Jonsson
- Hannes Valtonen
- Jasper Overgaard Waale

The constitution of the board will be decided in the first new board meeting on 17 March 2009.

**Resolution:** The proposed Board were approved of by the AGM.

## OTHER

Following documents were given to the participants:

- Detailed Financial Reports for 2008
- Current member list
- Intervention for Vietnam Business Forum in June 2008
- Charter of Nordcham in Vietnam

The participants were offered dinner after the meeting.

HMCH, March 15<sup>th</sup> 2009



Sigmund Stromme  
Chairman



Ngoc Jacqueline  
Executive Officer