

Annual and Financial Report 2019 ISSTDR Conference Support Foundation

**Condensatorweg 54
Amsterdam, Netherlands
Registration Chambre of Commerce KvK 34178793**

1. Annual Report

1.1 Statutory aims

The *ISSTDR Conference Support Foundation* was established in 2009 for the express purpose of providing financial support to the International Society of Sexually Transmitted Disease Research (ISSTDR) and its activities. The statutory aims of the Foundation are:

1. To sustain and support the continuity of the ISSTDR conferences;
2. To give financial support to the local organizers of conferences of the ISSTDR;
3. To maintain and manage/administer resources/funds in this respect and every matter connected to this.

1.2 Background

The ISSTDR organizes biennial conferences. These meetings are widely recognized as having been scientifically successful for over three decades, and to our knowledge most or all were financially successful as well, i.e. revenues collected generally exceeded expenses. The ISSTDR Board believes that the Society's "brand" has been central to these successes.

Furthermore these meetings have been financially independent of one another and from the Society as a whole. Each president/local organizer has assumed independent responsibility for both financial liability and potential gain from running the meeting in the Society's name, often in a contractual relationship with a local institution or another legal entity. Further, through most of its history the ISSTDR has not been a legally constituted entity that could receive or disburse funds, although the ISSTDR Board functions as a governing body.

At the meeting of the ISSTDR Board of 27th June 2009 this issue was discussed with the following governing principles as an outcome:

- The *ISSTDR Congress 2005 Foundation* with a minimal change in the articles can be transferred in *ISSTDR Conference Support Foundation*. The articles of discontinuance can remain unchanged as they say that in case of liquidation of the foundation the favourable balance has to be handed over to organisers of a next ISSTDR conference.
- The ISSTDR Board consists of thirteen individuals and is elected by peers with two or three newly elected positions every two years.
- Local organisers respond to a call sent out before every conference and then are chosen by the ISSTDR Board at the board meeting held during the conference.
- The *ISSTDR Conference Support Foundation* (legal entity) acts in partnership with ISSTDR Board (not a legal entity) and with the local organiser for any particular ISSTDR conference (should be a legal entity).
- The relation between the *ISSTDR Congress Support Foundation* and the ISSTDR Board has been formalized in the articles of the foundation.
- The *ISSTDR Conference Support Foundation* board itself is under Dutch law responsible for its good governance.
- Local organisers are free to choose their own way of working and also the type of legal entity they use as a vehicle to run the ISSTDR Conference.
- The ISSTDR Conference has to be considered as a brand with an economic value in its name, in its database of participants and its goodwill based on a longstanding tradition. Also there is a general interest beyond the once-only interest of the local organizers in the quality of the congress (logistics and content) as it affects the value of the brand ISSTDR Conference and therefore the continuity.

Based on consideration above the ISSTDR Board meeting of the 27th of June 2009, it has been

brought into conclusion that the *ISSTDR Conference Support Foundation* is the legal entity to fulfil the international support function to the ISSTDR conferences. So, the remaining funds have to be transferred to the Foundation and to be used to help assure the financial security of the Society and of future ISSTDR meetings and, with anticipated growth, may permit expansion of the Society's activities and mission in service to STD prevention.

Since 2013 additional principles were added:

- First was accepted that the Chair of the Foundation should attend ISSTDR Board meetings as an observer.
- Second, the minimum money in the ISSTDR Support Foundation is EUR 25,000.
- Third the Board agreed in 2013 to pledge biennial a minimum of EUR 10,000 and a maximum of EUR 20,000 to be used for scholarships as long as the Foundation bank balance was a minimum of EUR 50,000 (seed money for two conferences).
- All seed money should be transferred in Euro's. Seeding money agreed to be EUR 25,000.
- The local organiser has the discretion to retain for the pursuit of STI research a fraction of the profits that must not exceed 50% of the profit or EUR 50,000, whichever is the smaller. In all cases the ISSTDR Support Foundation should keep the ISSTDR Board involved.
- For a combined ISSTDR and IUSTI meeting the funds will be distributed as follows: 35% to the International Society for Sexually Transmitted Disease Research Conference Support Foundation as the lead scientific body and in recognition that the ISSTDR only hold meetings biennially. 35% to the Local Organizer, less the total amount of any discounts on registration provided to its members – in recognition that the Local Organizer is assuming the major financial risk. 30% to the International Union against Sexually Transmitted Infections (IUSTI), less the total amount of any discounts on registration provided to its members.

The principles are laid down in the Conference Support Agreement. Local organizers of the biennial ISSTDR meetings have to meet this agreement if they want to be qualified for support and to sustain the quality and the good reputation of the ISSTDR. The agreement is a legal translation of the principles and decisions of the ISSTDR Board decided in London on the 27th of June 2009 and the additional principles added since 2013. As it is in the general interest of ISSTDR there is a set of conditions in this regulations to safeguard the continuity of the ISSTDR conferences to be translated in formal regulations: The local organiser (ISSTDR President) represented by a legal entity (of any kind) is required to present a formal budget to the ISSTDR Conference Support Foundation. The contract contains some agreements on no-liability for a failed conference, seed money, money that is transferred not to be paid back and/or money for a conference in trouble and some practical conditions about payments, settlement of accounts.

ISSTDR trademark

The board decided in 2013 to file the trademark by using the International Registration system; first file a registration in the Benelux on which an International registration, designating the USA and the European Union, can be based. This International Registration system offers the Foundation the possibility to have our trademark protected in the (85) participating countries for substantially lower fees than normal 'national' application fees. Furthermore, the International Registration system also simplifies greatly the subsequent management of our trademark, since it is possible to record changes or to renew the registration through a single procedural step. This will protect the brand of ISSTDR to ensure its good reputation and the investment gained over twenty meetings for the next ten years. In 2014 the registration as a trademark for the Benelux and EU was completed, but the trademark application has been provisionally refused in the USA that year. After the clarification of some descriptions of the designated services the application was accepted in 2015 and the USA registration procedure has been round-off in 2016.

1.3 Activities in 2019

The board of the Foundation held one board meeting in the year 2019. The annual and financial report for 2018 was delayed and will be prepared and distributed in 2020. The current financial status was presented to the ISSTDR Board for information. There were no comments.

ISSTDR 22nd meeting

The ISSTDR held its biennial meeting in Latin America for the first time and it was combined with the IUSTI meeting into the World STI & HIV Congress 2017 in Rio de Janeiro. Approximately 1,000 people attended the Congress from all over the world on 9-12 July 2017. It was a very successful meeting.

For the Rio de Janeiro meeting, which is a combined ISSTDR and IUSTI meeting, the Conference Support Agreement was signed by the Setor de DST da Universidade Federal Fluminense als the local Organizer. The Foundation's share in the surplus was EUR 20.083,40 and transferred to the foundation in 2019.

ISSTDR 23rd meeting

On 14-17 July 2019 the ISSTDR held its biennial meeting in Vancouver, Canada and it was combined with the IUSTI meeting into the World STI & HIV Congress 2019. The biennial Congress was one of the largest international Congresses on sexually transmitted infections, drawing 1 338 delegates from 61 countries. It was a very successful meeting. In 2019 the Local Organizers announced the Foundation's share will be USD 66,536.37 CAD (about EUR 45,660).

ISSTDR 24th meeting

At the 2017 meeting in Rio de Janeiro Amsterdam, the Netherlands was chosen to organize the 24th ISSTDR meeting. This will be a combined ISSTDR and IUSTI meeting, the World STI & HIV Congress 2021. In 2018 the Conference Support Agreement has signed and an appeal by the Local Organizers for the payment of EUR 25,000 seed money was agreed upon.

ISSTDR 25th meeting

At the 2019 Vancouver meeting a group represented by Dr. Barbara Van Der Pol was chosen to organize the 25th ISSTDR meeting to be held in Chicago, U.S. This will be a combined ISSTDR and IUSTI meeting, the World STI & HIV Congress 2023.

1.4 Finances in 2019

Expenditures in 2019 were made for hosting and maintenance of the ISSTDR website, which was transferred to Aidsfonds to be hosted more easily and much cheaper (EUR 36.30).

We received in 2019 the 35%-share of the surplus of the 22nd meeting in Rio de Janeiro, which was EUR 20.083,40.

The credit balance of 2019 was EUR 20,047.10. This brings the total assets to EUR 89.052,77.

1.5 Plans for 2019

The board spoke in 2013 about the continuation of the generic ISSTDR website that currently acts as a central repository of abstracts from previous meetings and a list of current ISSTDR board members. This was considered by the Foundation board to be valuable and could be further developed. The board agreed that no central database for past participants will be developed by the Foundation.

1.6 Governance

There is a specific profile of the foundation board, which at the point of nomination of new board members should contain a former chair of the ISSTDR Board, two members of the current ISSTDR Board, a “free” nomination profile and the secretary-treasurer. The latter constitutes in person the linking pin with the (foundation) Aidsfonds - Soa Aids Nederland, which continues to run the financial administration and paper work for the foundation. The rotation schedule of the board members of the foundation means every two year the ISSTDR Board has to nominate/re-nominate two of the board members of the foundation for a term of four years. This keeps both organisations interconnected. The maximum number of terms is two.

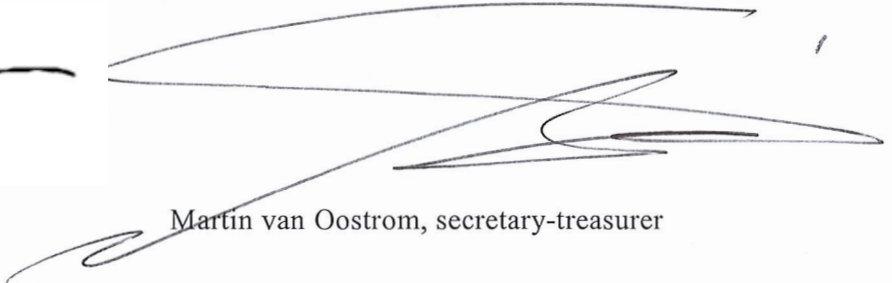
There were no changes in the board. Barbara J. van der Pol and Nicola M. Low were available for a second term, re-nominated and re-appointed. The current rotation schedule is:

Rotation schedule per 31-12-2019	End 1 st Term	End 2 nd Term
Jeanne Marrazzo (chair)	01-09-2021	
Martin van Oostrom (secretary-treasurer)	01-09-2018	01-09-2022
Barbara J. van der Pol	03-11-2019	03-11-2023
Nicola M. Low	03-11-2019	03-11-2023
Henry de Vries	01-09-2017	01-09-2021

Amsterdam, 7th of January 2019



Jeanne Marrazzo, chair



Martin van Oostrom, secretary-treasurer

2. Financial Report

Balance sheet as at 31-12-2019			
Assets per 31-12-2019	EUR	Liabilities per 31-12-2019	EUR
Current account Aidsfonds	89,052.77	Capital per 31st of December 2018	69,005.67
		Result 2018	20,047.10
Total assets	89,052.77	Total liabilities	89,052.77

Profit and loss account for the year 2018	
Income	EUR
Surplus Rio de Janeiro 2017	20,083.40
Total income	20,083.40
Expenditures	
Hosting ISSTDR website	36.30
Total expenditures	36.30
Result	20,047.10

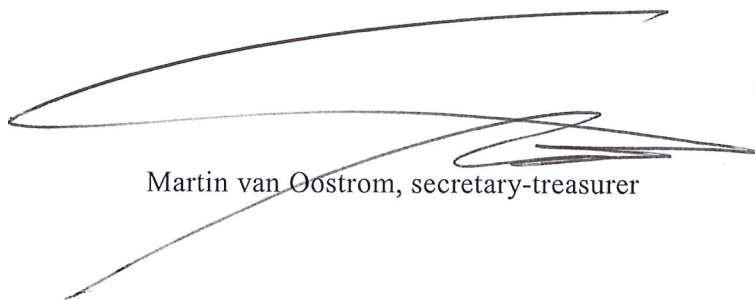
Drawn up by Koos Boering, controller Aidsfonds – Soa Aids Nederland



Amsterdam, 7th of January 2019



Jeanne Marrazzo, chair



Martin van Oostrom, secretary-treasurer