

# **EuroGeographics Extraordinary General Assembly**

**15-16 May 2018**

The Leuven Institute for Ireland in Europe  
Leuven,  
Belgium



# Areas of Business

## Formal Business

- The Articles of the Association define one General Assembly each year;
- This meeting is an Extraordinary General Assembly to allow members to sign off the 2017 Accounts before they are registered with the Belgian Court of Commerce;
- There are no new applications for membership from qualifying organisations this year; and
- To undertake additional important Association business.

# Other important work

- Briefs members on the work of the Association
- Provides Members an opportunity to:
  - Find out about products and services and hear how users benefit from pan-European data;
  - Understand the progress being made towards European Location Services;
  - Receive updates on the activities of the Knowledge Exchange Networks (KENs);
  - Learn how EuroGeographics will continue to provide value and relevant benefits to all members; and
  - Preview the main business issues to be presented at the 2018 General Assembly in Prague, Czech Republic.

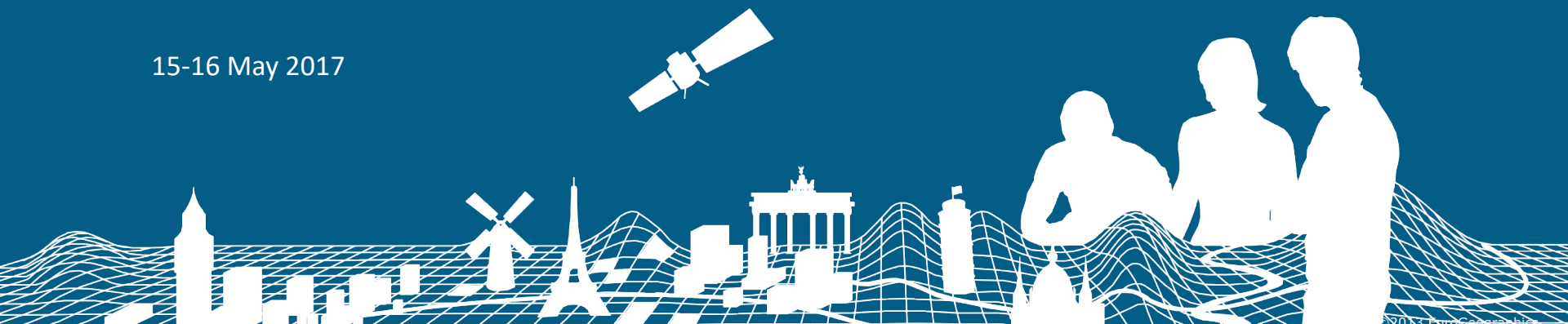
# Extraordinary General Assembly

## Formal Business

Mick Cory  
Secretary General & Executive Director  
EuroGeographics

Irish College, Leuven

15-16 May 2017



# Items for Formal Business

1. Approval of EuroGeographics AISBL 2017 Financial Accounts;
- The Treasurer, David Henderson, will present the 2017 Accounts;
  - There will be an opportunity for questions before votes are cast.

# Voting Procedure

# Articles of Association

- Approval is achieved by a simple majority vote of the Full Members present or represented, with no quorum required.
- Only Full members whose subscription payments have been received at midnight on the working day prior to commencement of a General Assembly have a voting right.
- Each Country with at least one (1) Full Member has three (3) votes;
- Each Country may have up to three (3) Full Members;
- The three (3) votes will be divided amongst the number of Full Members, who shall agree jointly among themselves on the distribution of votes;
- If not otherwise agreed between them, the votes will be divided equally between them.
- Any Full member unable to attend may give in writing a formal power of attorney to another member, or the President, to exercise its voting right.
- Associate Members do not vote – they participate as an observer only.

# Voting Procedure (1)

- A new procedure has been put in place since 2017 to respond to members wishes that their voting slips are placed into sealed ballot boxes.
- The Association's formal business is now addressed at the start of the Extraordinary General Assembly and voting will take place over the lunch period.
- Two members representatives need to be appointed by the Extraordinary General Assembly to scrutinise the ballot and count
  - Volunteers
  - Appointment



# Voting Procedure (2)

- At the end of the formal business presentation, a single representative from each member organisation must go to the registration table to collect their organisations voting slips, which will be in an envelope.
- The member representative will sign against their organisation's name to show they have received their voting slips.
- The ballot papers are colour coded to indicate the number of votes held by the member who is voting;
  - **White = 1 vote   Yellow = 1½ vote   Green = 3 votes**
- Each voting member has ONE ballot papers
  - for the 2017 Financial Accounts
- A ballot box will be clearly labelled and set up in the reception area.

# Voting Procedure (3)

- Members can cast their vote at anytime over the lunchtime period
- Vote is cast by, marking your ballot paper and then placing the completed voting slip it into the sealed ballot box in the reception area.
- The ballot boxes will be overseen by an independent member representative and a member of the Head Office team.
- At the end of the lunchtime period, the sealed ballot boxes will be taken and opened by an independent member representative.
- The votes will be counted by Head of Operations and the Membership & Communications Manager and will be independently verified.
- The results will be presented to members before the afternoon coffee break.
- All voting results will be recorded in the minutes.

# Questions



# Items for Formal Business

## **1. Approval of EuroGeographics AISBL 2016 Financial Accounts.**

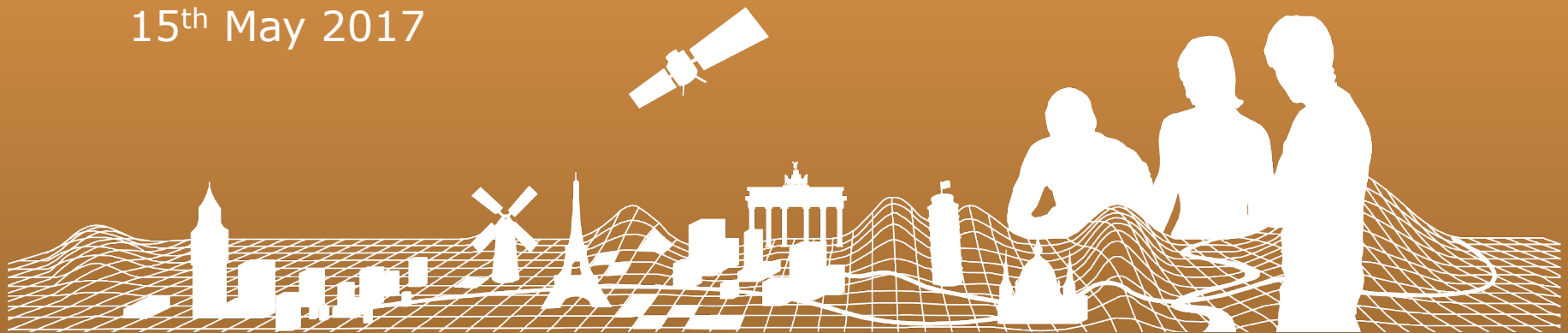
# Articles & Rules of Association

- Article 12.2 of the **Articles of Association** requires that members approve the annual financial statements;
- Article 15 requires the Management Board to draw up final accounts for each financial year, which it shall submit for approval to the General Assembly through the Treasurer in accordance with Article 12.2.;
- Such approval is achieved by a simple majority vote of the Full Members present or represented, with no quorum required;
- Article 3 of the **Rules and Regulation** of the Association require the annual financial statements to be prepared by an accountant and approved by the Management Board before being submitted to the annual General Assembly;
- Details were provided in the papers distributed;
- Members approval required before they are registered with the Belgian Court of Commerce.

# Financial Report and Accounts 2017

David Henderson  
EuroGeographics Treasurer

15<sup>th</sup> May 2017



# Introduction

- The formal accounts for 2017 have been prepared by our accountants 'Fiduciaire Optimea' for the year ending 31 December 2017, and are presented in paper "3. Accounts - Etats Financiers 2017 final".
- This report presents the closed end of year spend against budget and the formal accounts, and are submitted to the Members at the Extraordinary General Assembly for approval.
- They were approved by the Management Board at its meeting on 19 April 2017.

# ***2017 Budget***

- Approved by the General Assembly in October 2016;
- Revised by the Management Board in July 2017.
- This revision took into account
  - the financial position of the Association at the end of 2016,
  - the actual costs of delivering the 2017 operating plan in the first 6 months of 2017, and
  - the expenditure plans for the Open ELS project following the May 2017 approval of EC grant funding.
- The 2017 budget review reflected an increase in budgeted expenditure from €1,663,484 to €2,049,848.
- The budget review also increased the expected income from €1,635,131 to €1,835,676, largely as a result of an expected increased income from EC grant of € 181,705.



# ***The 2017 outcome***

- Cost of running the Association €1,926,789
- Income €1,731,967
  - generated from sales, membership subscriptions and from EC grant for the Open ELS project.
- Deficit € 194,822
  - compared to forecast deficit of €214,172,
  - arising from some increased operational costs, and an underspend on the Open ELS project, where only approx. 20% of the EC funds granted have been claimed.

# Association Activities

- Association membership activities cost €1,154,364
  - within 3% of budget.
- Income from subscriptions fees € 963,000
  - outstanding membership receipts from 2017 (€ 30,365)
- Surplus of trading income (next slide) contributes and supports Association membership activities
- Other minor income items slightly higher than budgeted due to currency gains.

# Income

- Association trading Income € 700,614
  - Higher than expected due to increased sales.
- Income from Eurostat contract € 414,500
  - As expected.
- Costs of trading activity € 318,550
  - Within budget,
- Generating a positive contribution to other Association activity.
- The renewal of the Eurostat contract in 2018 is of critical importance to the Association's finances in future years.

# European Location Services

- ELS Transition Costs € 335,909
  - slightly higher than expected
- Open ELS Costs € 117,967
  - significantly lower than expected
- Total ELS Costs € 453,876
  - 25% underspend (€154,357 )
- Income from Open ELS EC Grant € 58,983
  - Lower than expected due to less time being spent on Open ELS project than intended
  - It is expected that activities will increase in the current year with more funds being drawn down from the grant.
- Expenditure on ELS to be funded by income from trading activity, after covering membership activity costs, and from reserves.

# Conclusion

- *The Association's finances remain healthy*
- Reserves decreased as expected
  - From €1,048,524 at 1 January 2017
  - To € 853,702 at 31 December 2017.
- Careful financial management is necessary to mitigate potential risks as we draw down on reserves in order to fund the transition into an operational European Location Service.

# Questions



# Decision

The Management Board recommend that  
Members approve the 2017 Accounts

# Voting

