

## Foreword

With this new-year, we will inaugurate new ways of communicating and exchange together to enhance the sense of belonging of the industrial hemp family of FIHO.

This internal news-letter is meant to give you the main up-dates about the activities of our federation and the upcoming activities for you to pin in your calendar.

Please feel free to communicate to the secretariat any information that you would like to share with other members so that we can make it a live document. As this is still time for new-years wishes, let us wish ourselves a wonderful year for FIHO and for each of your organization as well as for yourselves and your closest ones.

Cheers,

Ted & Frederic

## Past activities

2023 started with a great event in Geneva with the first ever workshop organized by a UN agency about industrial Hemp. The UNTCAD workshop was attended by some 200 participants, both on site and online. It gave an overview of the development of the Hemp sector in different fields of application as well as in the different continents with presentation from Europe, Latin America and Northern America thanks to Lorenza Romanese, Lorenzo Rolim and Herrick Fox as well as from other parts of the world (South-Africa, Morocco, Thailand and Malaysia...).

For those who have missed it, you can access the recording of the workshop here <https://indico.un.org/event/1003549/> or download the presentations made by the different speakers here <https://unctad.org/meeting/workshop-industrial-hemp>

The workshop gathered both experts and producers or manufacturers and was the occasion to inform the participants of the existence of FIHO and to invite those who are not yet members to join the federation. UNTCAD and the European Commission representative informed us of the reluctance of some UN and European States regarding the questions related to Hemp development, which alone confirms the importance of working together for the recognition of Hemp as a solution for many of the challenges our modern society has to face. This workshop was the first one, it surely won't be a stand-alone opportunity considering the level of interest it rose both in the Hemp community and at the UN.

## Feed-back from the board of directors

The board of directors met on January 17, it was the first one after the AGM, an occasion to remind everyone that All FIHO members should consider providing complementary memberships in their organizations to all other FIHO members. This would include the posting of FIHO member logos (with hyperlinks). Members are invited to send their logo with hyperlinks as well as a quote from their leaders to the secretariat in order to share it throughout the membership. The board heard the report from a meeting with NOCO's organizer Morris Beegle, details on the exchange and the decision to participate to NOCO can be found in the board's report. A discussion was held on the potential for inviting Cannabis

companies to join FIHO as Associate Members or as members of an Advisory Committee. There were differing opinions on the value of this engagement. The Board reached a consensus that FIHO will focus on its own development at this time and revisit the Cannabis connection at some time in the future.

Two new members were approved by the board: Tshwane University of Technology of South Africa (Tier 5) and Hemp Feed Coalition of the USA (Tier 5).

The Board also discussed options for the timing and location of the next FIHO AGM. It was noted that the AGM is to be held within 6 months of the year-end to respect the Canadian Corporations' rules. At the invitation of EIHA, the AGM will take place in Brussels back to back to EIHA's annual conference on the 9<sup>th</sup> of June 2023, it will be held both on site and on line.

The Committee reviewed a draft of the Hemp Nomenclature Position Paper proposed by the Policy and Regulations' Committee. All Directors were requested to add their own comments to the draft paper and submit the material to the Secretary General. The Secretary General and the Policy and Regulation Committee will review all the comments and finalize the position paper for final approval by the Executive Committee or Board. A draft synthesizing the different comments already received will be circulated shortly.

***read the complete draft minutes of the board meeting here:***

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1KM5xaZQZ1K4fgHhMACLaKBhqrOeYzwxrPwmE4r168NA/edit#>

Note that the board decided to continue holding its meetings on a monthly basis, every third Tuesday of each month. (see dates below)

## Upcoming events and activities

### ➤ Board meetings :

***Directors are invited to take note of the dates of the board meetings for this year:***

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| i. February 21, 2023                             | vii. June 2023 – TBC (New Director Orientation) |
| ii. March 21, 2023                               | viii. July 17, 2023                             |
| iii. April 18, 2023                              | ix. September 19, 2023                          |
| iv. May 16, 2023                                 | x. October 17, 2023                             |
| v. June 9, 2023 (AGM)                            | xi. November 21, 2023                           |
| vi. June 16, 2023 (Board Organizational Meeting) | xii. December 19, 2023                          |

➤ **NOCO** : 29 to 31 March – Colorado Spring <https://www.nocohempexpo.com/>

➤ **EIHA Annual Conference** : Members attending the FIHO AGM are invited to join the EIHA annual conference if they wish to - 7-9 June 2023 – Brussels <https://eiha.org/>

➤ **FIHO AGM** : 9 June 2023 – Brussels (Hybrid)

## Reminder:

- Members who have not done so yet are invited to respond to the Committees participation's survey to propose voluntary participants to the committees as members or as experts : [https://docs.google.com/document/d/14bW9BSitFQIFUKczZ7cQ6kyc62gihz6f31fSDI\\_6lzl/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/14bW9BSitFQIFUKczZ7cQ6kyc62gihz6f31fSDI_6lzl/edit)
- Members who have not yet covered their 2022 fees are also invited to do so at the soonest.