



**Decisions from**  
**Servas International General Assembly 2022**  
**(SIGA 2022)**

Held at Panchgani, India

November 25-26 2022

Prepared by

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A Servas International General Assembly (SIGA) was held at Panchgani in India from November 25 to 26 2022. This document contains a compilation of the decisions for that meeting.

SIGA is the business part of the Servas International Conference and General Assembly (SICOGA).

Please find more information about SIGA at the bottom of this document.

This document also refers to the document “Minutes SIGA 2022 November 25-26”.

Each event (SIGA-E) and decision (SIGA-D) recorded in these SIGA 2022 minutes has been assigned a unique serial number with which it can be referred to. For example SIGA22-E-003 and SIGA22-D-001 is referring to SIGA 2022 Event number 003 and SIGA Decision 001.

<b>SIGA 2022 serial and decision numbers</b>	<b>November 25, 2022 (Day 1) Event/Motion</b>
SIGA22-E-003  SIGA22-D-001	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approval of moderators chairing SIGA 2022.</li> </ul> <p>The following SIGA 2022 moderators were approved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Pamela YANG</li> <li>* Pramod KUMAR</li> <li>* Hamsa SINGH</li> </ul>
SIGA22-E-004  SIGA22-D-002	<p>Approval of minute recorders in the SIGA 2022</p> <p>The following SIGA 2022 minute recorders were approved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Joanne FERGUSON CAVANAUGH–USA</li> <li>* Kent MACAULAY – Canada</li> <li>* Kiat TAN – Malaysia</li> <li>* Ester POMA (Italy)</li> <li>* Elena Olivera Begué (Spain)</li> <li>* Claire TAILLARDAT - France</li> <li>* Rita DESSAUVAGE – Belgium</li> </ul>
SIGA22-E-005  SIGA22-D-003	<p>Approval of SIGA rules of Order and other meeting procedures</p> <p>SIGA rules of Order and other meeting procedures were approved</p>
SIGA22-E-008:1 SIGA22-D-004	<p>Approval of minutes from SIGA 2018</p> <p>Minutes from SIGA 2018 were approved</p>
SIGA22-E-008:2 SIGA22-D-005	<p>Adoption of draft agenda</p> <p>Draft agenda was approved</p>
SIGA22-E-009	<p>SI Member Group’s status. Approve membership revision and voting rights</p>

<p>SIGA22-D-006 SIGA22-D-007 SIGA22-D-008</p>	<p>Membership revision and voting rights were approved. Servas Pakistan to be reinstated as member of SI. The following countries lost their membership status: Honduras, Bulgaria, Slovenia, Sierra Leone, Peru, Greece, Kazakhstan</p>
<p>SIGA22-E-010 SIGA22-D-009</p>	<p>Review and adopt SI Annual Report since 2018 The following SI Annual Reports were reviewed and adopted: - 2021 SI Annual Report - 2020 SI Annual Report - 2019/2020 SI Annual Report - 2018 SI Annual Report</p>
<p>SIGA22-E-014  SIGA22-D-010</p>	<p>Receive the audited SI accounts and the auditor's reports  The audited SI accounts and the auditor's reports were received and adopted.</p>
<p>SIGA22-E-015          SIGA22-D-011</p>	<p>Original motion: SIGA to empower SI Exco to appoint an external auditor for independent professional auditing with yearly contracts or SIGA to elect an external auditor. The external auditor will be appointed by a SI Distant Vote for the following years. The external auditor shall verify, annually, the accounts of the SI Treasurer and shall submit a yearly report to the SI Executive Committee (SIExco). These reports shall be submitted for adoption to the next SIGA. Amended motion: SIGA to empower SI Exco to appoint an external auditor for independent professional auditing with yearly contracts. The external auditor will be appointed by a SI Distant Vote for the following years. The external auditor shall verify, annually, the accounts of the SI Treasurer and shall submit a yearly report for approval by the SI General Assembly (SIGA) or by a Distant Vote. Each report shall be submitted to the next SIGA for adoption.</p>
<p>SIGA22-E-016</p>	<p>Proposal to amend the SI Exco SIGA motion on SI Statutes to include a human-earth dimension</p>

<p>SIGA22-D-012</p> <p>SIGA22-D-013</p>	<p>Failed amended Motion: To modify the following from SI Ethos and Values: [We, the members of Servas, believe that our lives are enriched when we meet,interact, share and learn from each other. <del>Our key values are caring for people and the planet.”]</del></p> <p>Amended Motion <i>Principles:</i> The first fundamental principle of Servas International is the belief in the dignity and worth of the human person, and in the equal rights of all human beings as a foundation for a more peaceful world.</p> <p><i>Principles:</i> The fundamental principle of Servas International is the belief in the dignity and worth of the human person, the equal rights of all human beings as well as the conviction that respect and care of the environment lay a foundation for a more peaceful world.</p> <p><i>Ethos and Values:</i> We, the members of Servas, believe that our lives are enriched when we meet, interact, share and learn from each other. Our key values are caring for people and the planet.</p> <p><i>Vision and Mission:</i> The aim of the networking is to create conditions for exchange of ideas, experiences and knowledge that promote tolerance and understanding between the peoples of the world. We aim to do this in a way that is in keeping with our principles and values.</p>
<p>SIGA22-E-017</p> <p>SIGA22-D-014</p>	<p>SI Nominations committee - not appointed team</p> <p>It was proposed that: The Servas International Nominations Committee (SI NC) should be a group that is elected by Servas International General Assembly (SIGA).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● SI NC should consist of 3–5 elected Servas members.</li> </ul> <p>Explanation* Make it possible to elect the members of the SI NC from the floor (there are no candidates for elected positions, only for appointed positions).* See explanation at the asterisk below</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● SI NC should replace the current SI Nominations Team (SI NT) which is appointed by the Servas International Executive Committee (SI Exco).</li> <li>* When a member of the SI NC resigns the remaining members of the SI NC will propose a candidate, who will be appointed by SI Exco as soon as possible.</li> <li>● The current job description for SI NC should be updated and approved by the SI Exco for 2023-2025 not later than 31st of March 2023</li> </ul> <p>SIGA 2022 will return to this.</p>
SIGA22-E-018	Adoption of a procedure for conflict resolution by member groups
SIGA22-D-015	<p>Motion was passed that the Subject Working Group would rework the following proposed motion:</p> <p>All countries respect the conflict resolution policy that is in effect from SI Exco. If a country does not have their own conflict resolution policy, the one from SI Exco is in effect. If a country has their own conflict resolution policy, it must be compatible with the policies of the SI Exco version to enhance or clarify policies for their country, but not fundamentally change the conflict resolution policy from SI Exco.</p>
SIGA22-D-016	<p>Amended motion:</p> <p>SIGA 2022 recommends that in order to avoid escalation of conflicts, all Servas National Groups have a conflict resolution policy. If required, they may use the conflict resolution policies of Servas Canada, Servas France, Servas Malawi or US Servas (attached as supporting documents), as a model for making their own policy document.</p>
SIGA22-E-019	<p>Code of ethics and behavior</p> <p>All country/groups are bound by the Servas International (SI) Code of Ethics and BehaviourAll members of the country/group are expected to agree to this policy as a fundamental requirement for membership within Servas.</p>

<p>SIGA22-D-017</p> <p>SIGA22-D-018</p>	<p>Amendment on the motion passed All country/groups are bound by the SI-Code of Ethics and BehaviourAll members of the country/group are expected to agree to this policy as a fundamental requirement for membership within Servas. Code of ethics and behaviour document will be worked on by the Subject Working Group and presented for approval by the General Assembly through a distant vote in May,2023.</p> <p>Amended Motion passed All country/groups are bound by the SI-Code of Ethics and BehaviourAll members of the country/group are expected to agree to this policy as a fundamental requirement for membership within Servas. Code of ethics and behaviour document will be worked on by the Subject Working Group and presented for approval by the General Assembly through a distant vote in May,2023.</p>
<p>SIGA22-E-020 SIGA22-D-019</p>	<p>Standardized and universal LOI Motion The model for the Letter of Introduction(LOI), available on <a href="http://www.servas.org">www.servas.org</a> each member’s profile, should be adopted fully and universally by all Servas groups/countries. Once filled out by the traveller-member, the LOI (Letter Of Introduction) will be approved by the country’s travellers Officer, whose name and contact details will appear on the LOI. The LOI is validated by the Servas group/country that has received its proof of payment. The LOI has the validity of maximum one year, limited to the period of validity of thetraveller membership to a specific Servas group/country. The traveller has the responsibility for the accuracy and update of all the information contained in the LOI.</p>
<p>SIGA22-E-021</p>	<p>SI elected CRC – not appointed team</p>

<p>SIGA22-D-020</p> <p>SIGA22-D-021</p>	<p>The Servas International Conflict Resolution Committee (SI CRC) should be an entity whose members are elected by Servas International General Assembly. The SI CRC should consist of 3 to 5 members, elected For total independence and autonomy of its work goal, it is advisable that the SI CRC members are not appointed by SI ExCo(Servas International Executive Committee). The current Job Description for SI CRC should be updated and approved by SI Exco 2022-2025, no later than March, 31, 2023</p> <p>Amendment on the motion passed: The SI CRC should consist of <del>3 to 5</del> <b>5</b> members, elected</p> <p>Amended motion passed: The Servas International Conflict Resolution Committee (SI CRC) should be an entity whose members are elected by Servas International General Assembly. The SI CRC should consist of <del>3-5</del> <b>5</b> members, elected For total independence and autonomy of its work goal, it is advisable that the SI CRC members are not appointed by SI Exco (Servas International Executive Committee). The current Job Description for SI CRC should be updated and approved by SI ExCo 2022-2025, no later than March, 31, 2023</p>
<p>SIGA22-E-022</p> <p>SIGA22-D-022</p>	<p>Determine interval before next SIGA : To have next SIGA in about 3 years time.</p> <p>Next SIGA will be in about 3 years time</p>
<p>SIGA22-E-024</p> <p>SIGA22-D-023</p> <p>SIGA22-E-025</p> <p>SIGA22-D-023</p>	<p>Election: SI President (SI P) Elected: Radha Radhakrishna – USA</p> <p>Election :SI Vice President (SI VP) Elected: Carla Kristensen- Portugal</p>



SIGA22-E-026 SIGA22-D-023	Election: SI General Secretary (SI GS) Elected: Jonny Sågänger - Sweden
SIGA22-E-027 SIGA22-D-023	Election: SI Treasurer (SI T) Elected: Jain Suresh Sohanlal- India
SIGA22-E-028 SIGA22-D-023	Election: SI Peace Secretary (SI PS) Elected: Francisco Salomón Luna Aburto – Mexico
SIGA22-E-029 SIGA22-D-023	Election: SI Membership and Technology Secretary (SI MTS) Elected: Paul Nielsen – Australia
SIGA22-E-030 SIGA22-D-024	Election: SI Distant Vote Administrator (SI DVA) Elected: Craig Melrose – Australia
SIGA22-E-031 SIGA22-D-025	Election: SI Internal Audi Committee (SI IAC) Elected: Yukiko Namariyama - Japan Gulsen Elyak - Türkiye Ana Rita Gama - Portugal
SIGA22-E-032 SIGA22-D-026	Election: SI Development Committee (SI DC) Elected: Pamela Yang - Taiwan Evren Özkan - Türkiye Neuma Dantas - Brazil Jamie Robertson - Britain Bhudeb Chakravarti -India
SIGA22-D-033 SIGA22-D-027	Election: SI Youth and Families Committee (SI YFC) Elected: Raffaella Rota - Italy Elena Olivera Begué - Spain Bogdan Ionescu -Romania Mehmet Ateş - Türkiye Hiren Goradia - India
SIGA22-E-034	Approval of SI Budget for 2023-2025, or until the next SI General Assembly

<p>SIGA22-D-028</p>	<p>Amendment on motion: To increase Youth Meeting budget from 2000 CHF to 4000 CHF  Youth Meeting budget is increased from 2000 CHF to 4000 CHF</p>
<p>SIGA22-D-029</p>	<p>SI Budget for 2023-2025, or until the next SI General Assembly was approved</p>
<p>SIGA22-E-035</p>	<p>Signatories on behalf of SI  Determine which members of SI executive Committee (SI Exco) shall be empowered to sign on behalf of SI, or empower SI Executive Committee (SI Exco) to sign on behalf of SI. Two signatures shall be required.</p>
<p>SIGA22-D-030</p>	<p>SI Executive Committee (SI Exco) is empowered to appoint up to 4 exco members who may be signatories on behalf of SI</p>
<p>SIGA22-E-036</p>	<p>Destruction of ballots after completed elections of SI officers for the coming SI mandate period. A so called housekeeping motion</p>
<p>SIGA22-D-031</p>	<p>Motion withdrawn</p>
<p>SIGA22-E-037</p>	<p>Approval of SIGA 2022 Minutes</p>
<p>SIGA22-D-032</p>	<p>SIGA 2022 Minutes were approved as correct records</p>




## About SIGA 2022

Many of the SIGA 2022 agenda items were before the general assembly first discussed by different groups of participants, for example in SIGA Subject Working Group (SWG) in the co-working space Servas M365 Teams, by SI Nominations Team (SI NT) and SI Exco and in different workshop sessions. The recommendations or proposals, which emerged from these workshops, were then put to vote in the SIGA sessions.

In some cases, agenda items were during the sessions merged together by the group members and were sent to SIGA 2022 in the form of a single motion or proposal.

If a motion is not mentioned in the minutes, then it is because it was not presented, or possibly it was presented but no SIGA delegate moved it.

Some proposals for SIGA 2022 were deemed not suitable to be a SIGA motion and was instead discussed and handled as a SICOGA 2022 Discussion Paper.

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Sample from the minutes:

<b>SIGA 2022 serial and decision numbers</b>	<b>November 25, 2022 (Day 1) Event/Motion</b>
SIGA22-E-001	Official opening of SIGA 2022 business meeting. SI Exco President and Chairman of the General Assembly, Jonny Sågänger, called the 2022 Servas International General Assembly (SIGA) Session SIGA001 to order at xx:xx o'clock local India time with xx (number) SIGA delegates in attendance in person and virtually via Internet.
SIGA22-E-002	• SI Exco's President hands over SIGA 2022 to the moderators of the meeting.

SIGA22-E-003	• Approval of moderators chairing SIGA 2022. The following SIGA 2022 moderators were elected:
SIGA22-D-001	*
SIGA22-D-002	*
SIGA22-D-003	*

The number of voting SIGA delegates varied during the week and also during sessions, since some delegates were absent for periods of time. Whenever a vote occurred, care was taken to receive a vote from each delegate present.