

## DRC DANISH REFUGEE COUNCIL'S COUNCIL MEETING

#### 29 MAY 2024

### MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

The Board of Directors (in red)

FIRST NAME	SURNAME	ORGANIZATION
Agi	Csonka	Chairperson (Board)
Nina	Monrad Boel	Amnesty International
Vibe	Klarup	Amnesty International
Rasmus	Stuhr Jakobsen	CARE Denmark
Kim Kirkegaard	Zachariassen	Danish Union of Teachers (Danmarks Lærerforening)
Thomas	Andreasen	Danish Union of Teachers (Danmarks Lærerforening)

Thomas Andreasen Danish Union of Teachers (*Danmarks Lærerforening*)

Mette Feifer The Danish Chamber of Commerce (*Dansk Erhverv*) (Board of

Directors)

Lise Bidstrup Danish Authors' Association (*Dansk Forfatterforening*)
Alan Melchior The Jewish Community in Denmark (*Det Jødiske Samfund i* 

Danmark)

Linda Herzberg The Jewish Community in Denmark (Det Jødiske Samfund i

Danmark)

Julie Lindmann Danish Youth Council (Dansk Ungdoms Fællesråd)

JørgenEstrupDanish UN Association (FN-Forbundet)KarinMunkholmDanish UN Association (FN-Forbundet)OleOlsenDanish UN Association (FN-Forbundet)

Pia Heidi Nielsen FOA (Trade and Labour) (trade union for public service

workers)

Kim Simonsen HK (Deputy Chairperson of the Board)
Caroline Tromer Dragsdahl Women's Council Denmark (Kvinderådet)

Juliane Marie Neiiendam Women's Council Denmark (Kvinderådet) (Board of

Directors)

Karen-LisbetJacobsenWomen's Council Denmark (Kvinderådet)SteenFolkeActionAid Denmark (Mellemfolkeligt Samvirke)MetteRoerupActionAid Denmark (Mellemfolkeligt Samvirke)

Mette Lybye Oxfam Denmark

Vogn Berthelsen Oxfam Denmark (Board of Directors)

Mette Diemer Save the Children

Bente Christensen Sct. Georgs Gilderne in Danmark

Birthe Munck-Fairwood Intercultural Christian Centre Denmark (*Tværkulturelt* 

Center)

Bettina Bach Volunteer Representative (Board of Directors)

Erik Lyby Volunteer Representative
Jens Vinter Frederiksen Volunteer Representative
Regitze Videbæk Volunteer Representative
Sinne Rørdam Jensen Volunteer Representative
Shadie Baker Ali Volunteer Representative

HenrikBodskovExternal member of the Board of DirectorsTorbenHussExternal member of the Board of DirectorsUllaNæsby TawiahExternal member of the Board of DirectorsSigneHusted DavidsenDFUNK (observer Board of Directors)



Stig Glent-Madsen Honorary Member

**GUESTS** 

Christian Dalmose Pedersen Deloitte Henrik Wellejus Deloitte

Audit committee Finn Schwarz Michael Bach Audit committee

Stendevad Carsten Candidate for the post of Chairperson

#### **EMPLOYEES OF THE DRC DANISH REFUGEE COUNCIL**

Charlotte Slente Secretary General

Kasper Bremer Orloff Executive Director for Finance, Risk and Supply Chain Eva

Grambye Executive Director for Strategy, Programme and Learning

(speaker)

Kenneth Flex **Director Integration** 

Mads Egeskov Sørensen **Executive Director for People and Organization** 

Vibeke Bach Madsen Corporate Strategic Advisor

Trine Korsholm Jensen Executive Assistant to the Secretary General (keeper of

minutes)

Agi Csonka, Chairperson of the DRC Danish Refugee Council (DRC), welcomed the meeting of the DRC's Council.

Agi welcomed the audit by Deloitte, the Audit Committee by Finn Schwarz and Michael Bach, Honorary Member Stig Glent-Madsen and the Board of Directors. Unfortunately, Honorary President Andreas Kamm was unable to attend the meeting. The same applied to the new employee representative on the Board of Directors, Ali Al Mokdad, who unfortunately could not be present.

Agi also welcomed Signe Husted Davidsen, Chairperson of DFUNK. Tarek Hussein, Director of DFUNK, was unfortunately unable to attend the meeting.

DRC's management was represented by Secretary General Charlotte Slente, Kasper Orloff, DRC's new Executive Director for Finance, Risk & Supply Chain, Mads Sørensen, Executive Director for People & Organization, Kenneth Flex, Director of Integration, and Eva Grambye, Executive Director for Strategy, Programme & Learning.

# Theme: DRC's work with localization – towards locally-led aid and development

Presentation by Eva Grambye, Executive Director for Strategy, Programme & Learning.

Agi introduced the topic and referred to the special challenges when working with local actors.

Eva Grambye started her presentation with an introduction to what localization is and how it affects DRC's work.

The Grand Bargain put localization at the center. It has taken a few years for localization to gain traction, but there is now a lot of attention to it among both donors and organizations. A stronger civil society is putting pressure on us to become more equal partners.

The DRC has set as a goal that the number of equal partnerships should be 50 percent by 2030. The goal is to move us from a consultation role to a more facilitating role. We want to be a preferred partner for both donors and local actors.

Eva shared examples of what it looks like when DRC works with localization.

After the presentation, there was an opportunity to ask questions.



Questions were asked as to whether DRC expects to venture into areas where we have not been before, i.e. trade and marketing. To this, Eva replied that DRC currently has 5 sectors that we are working with, and that these will be reassessed in the process towards a strategy 2030. The Secretary General added that localization is about getting better as an organization at making partnerships to strengthen local anchoring, but that it is expected that this will be in areas where we already work.

Another question addressed whether there is a risk involved when responsibility is shared to a greater extent with partners. To this, the answer was that it naturally comes with dilemmas including in relation to neutrality, as local actors are not always completely neutral. DRC has a responsibility to ensure that everyone is heard, and to ensure the quality of what is delivered, but it is a delicate balance.

Finally, it was asked how it will be feasible to also finance local actors, and what DRC's role will be when local actors take greater ownership. It was questioned how the DRC will ensure that localization is not only symbolic, but that it also shows up in the budgets. Eva pointed out that the discussion about financing is very important, but that it can also be toxic. The important thing is how to get the most out of the money. Many of DRC's efforts are in emergency situations, where we get involved quickly. This will mean that there is still a part of the budget that goes directly to DRC and not to partners. If local NGOs lead the projects, they must of course have the main part. The discussion is primarily about how to share the administration costs. DRC has chosen to share overhead with local partners. They get a minimum of 4% and the same as DRC if they have full capacity. Locally, this will probably mean that some local employees will be employed directly by partners instead of DRC, and this may cost DRC money in the short term. But it is an important decision. The Secretary General added that it is the donors' expectation and ambition that the DRC goes the localization route. But at the same time, there are donors who expect organizations like DRC to act as intermediaries, to own risks, ensure quality, etc. It is expected that in major humanitarian disasters there will still be a need for both local and international actors to be present, but in the future, a shift is expected where it will be the local actors who are in the driver's seat and who can request DRC's support or involvement.

The Chairperson thanked Eva for the presentation.

# Re item 1. Election of chair of the meeting

On behalf of the Board, the Chairperson proposed to elect lawyer and member of the DRC Danish Refugee Council's Audit Committee, Finn Schwarz, as chair of the meeting.

#### Resolution: Finn Schwarz was elected chair of the meeting by acclamation.

The chair of the meeting expressed his thanks for the election and said that it had to be determined whether the Council had been lawfully convened and formed a quorum before the meeting could proceed.

According to **article 9(2)** of the Statutes of the DRC, the Annual Meeting of the Council must be convened by the Chairperson at no less than two months' notice. Proposed motions that Council members wish the Annual Meeting to consider must be submitted in writing to the Chairperson no later than 21 days before the Annual Meeting. No later than 14 days before the Annual Meeting, the Chairperson must circulate any proposed motions as well as the Annual Report and the agenda for the meeting setting out a number of regular items.

- Notice of the meeting was given by email on 8 March 2024. A reminder was sent on 8 April 2024.
- The agenda, the 2023 Annual Report and appendices were circulated to the Council members by email on 15 May 2024.

The chair of the meeting announced that the meeting had been duly convened.

**Article 8(3)** of the Statutes of the DRC reads as follows: Each member organisation has one vote on the Council. The six representatives of the voluntary groups and advisory services for refugees that are part of



and have concluded a co-operation agreement with the Danish Refugee Council and the members of the Board of Directors have one vote each. They cannot vote by proxy, but before the start of the Council meeting, the member organisations and the voluntary groups may register a substitute for a Council member who is unable to attend. Decisions shall be made by a simple majority vote unless the Statues provide otherwise.

The full Council comprises

22 member organizations x 1 persons 22
+ Board of Directors (incl. the Chairperson) 11
The network of volunteers 6

The Council comprises a total of 39 members

This means that the presence of at least 20 voting members is required for the meeting to form a quorum.

A roll call confirmed the presence of 32 representatives, that is, at least half of the voting representatives were present at the meeting, and the chair of the meeting was therefore able to announce that the meeting **formed a quorum**.

# Re item 2. The Chairperson's oral report and its adoption

The chair of the meeting gave the floor to Agi Csonka, who presented her oral report.

Agi opened her report with a few excerpts from the DRC 2023 Annual Report and highlighted, among other things, the humanitarian crises in Sudan, Chad, and Ukraine.

Agi explained the reason why the DRC has chosen to close operations in some European countries. This is due to financial challenges. It has been a difficult decision, but if we cannot finance our efforts, we have to close. It is not because there are no needs.

In addition, Agi shared examples of DRC's work on climate change, for example in South Sudan where the drought has hit hard, mixed with torrential rainfall, and she highlighted how access continues to be a challenge. DRC works a lot to reach those who are hard to reach. We do that, among other things, by working to build trust. A strong example is Nigeria, where the DRC has established a humanitarian response in an area that is difficult to access and that few people are aware of.

Agi drew attention to the need for new ways to get funding for DRC's work. Therefore, the DRC has opened a Representation Office in Berlin and is working on the same in Washington, in order to be able to work more with American donors.

Agi sent a special thank you to the 5,500 volunteers who make a huge effort for the integration in Denmark, and congratulated them on the 25th anniversary of the volunteer activities.

Finally, Agi made the Council aware that DRC is moving. It is too expensive to renovate and restore Borgergade to an acceptable level. DRC is therefore moving to Lyngbyvej, formerly the National Danish Meteorological Institute, together with other organizations incl. Oxfam and Amnesty.

Agi ended her oral report by describing how her 6 years as Chairperson of the DRC have offered all the conceivable crises one could imagine. Management crisis and a new Secretary General, IT system crisis, closure of language schools and interpretation services, liquidity crisis, etc. She highlighted how the situation has successfully been turned around, first and foremost thanks to strong management, strong employees, and a Board of Directors that has stood together. Agi thanked the Board for all they have been involved in, and expressed pride that DRC has ended up in a good place after the last turbulent years, and



has maintained its position as one of the world's best NGOs. New and different efforts are now needed to lift the DRC further, to the global level that is being sought.

This was the last oral report for Agi, who resigns as Chairperson after 6 years in the post.

After the Chairperson had presented her oral report, there was an opportunity to ask questions about the report.

Among other things, questions were asked about the DRC's relationship with the current Government. To this, the Secretary General replied that the fact that the DRC is under contract with the state to solve a number of tasks, is a recognition of our capacity, as well as the importance of impartiality in some of the areas where we are involved. In addition, DRC is widely used as an advisor, and is asked a lot for advice in relation to Danish development assistance. DRC does not always agree with the Government, including in relation to asylum policy, but we have a constructive dialogue with the rapporteurs, also on the points where we disagree.

In addition, the questions focused on specific conditions regarding Danish asylum legislation, more specifically a) Ukrainians in Denmark's temporary residence permit, b) reopening of cases for rejected asylum seekers who cannot be returned, and c) DRC's work with Kurds living in Denmark. To this, the Secretary-General replied as follows: a) The Danish legislation follows the legislation of the EU. This means that residence for Ukrainians has not been treated as an asylum case. The EU permit that forms the basis for residence in Denmark is currently valid until a few months into 2025. It is still unclear how/if it will be renewed. DRC is working to ensure rapid clarification. b) DRC agrees with the issues in relation to the reopening of rejected asylum seekers' cases, and works with this in the counselling of refugees and asylum seekers on how to proceed. In addition, we have a general and case-specific dialogue with the authorities and do advocacy work. This is an issue we have a lot on our radar and which we address both in Denmark and Europe. c) DRC works with all refugees and asylum seekers both with counselling and integration. In Syria, we operate from Damascus in close cooperation with the Red Crescent.

The oral report is appended to these minutes.

Resolution: After it had been possible to ask questions regarding and comment on the report, the chair of the meeting noted that the Council had approved the oral annual report.

# Re item 3. Adoption of the 2022 Annual Report of the DRC

The chair of the meeting informed the Council that the 2022 Annual Report had been sent to the Council members together with the recommendation from the Audit Committee and the Board of Directors that it be approved.

Henrik Wellejus and Christian Dalmose Pedersen of Deloitte, the external auditors of the DRC, as well as Finn Schwarz of the law firm of Horten and Michael Bach of ActionAid Denmark, representatives of the Audit Committee of the DRC, attended the meeting to answer any questions.

The chair of the meeting gave the floor to Kasper Bremer Orloff, Executive Director for Finance, Risk and Supply Chain, who presented the **2023 financial results**.

The result for 2023 is positive with a net profit of DKK 600,000. A result that, in addition to increasing activity, is affected by a number of factors, including losses due to exchange rate fluctuations, provisions related to the organization's impending move to a new head office, support for the Danish Refugee Council Youth (DFUNK), etc. This is not a large profit, but it is sensible, considering that DRC does not aim to make a profit. The crucial thing is that DRC needs to grow in income to be able to maintain activity levels globally.

**Revenue** in 2023 was again historically high (DKK 3.6 billion), which is an increase of 8 percent from 2022. This is largely due to an increase in DRC's international work, as well as a large increase in fundraising related to the situation in Ukraine. National activities remained at the same level as last year.



**Investments** in 2023 amounted to approx. DKK 33 million, which is almost back to the level of 2021. This is a point of attention from DRC's management, which is working purposefully to ensure even greater capacity to invest strategically in the coming years.

DRC, with the support of the Board of Directors, has decided to change the terminology regarding **equity** and in the future instead refers to **reserves**, to make it clear that it is money that is expected to be spent on DRC's activities and that is only kept to ensure the maintenance of the organization's operations. They are divided into **free reserves**, which are what will ensure ongoing operations and the ability to handle unforeseen events, as well as **restricted reserves**, which are earmarked for specific purposes. The free reserves in 2023 amount to DKK 362.2 million. In addition, DKK 31 million has been set aside for restricted reserves, of which DKK 5 million is reserved for emergencies, DKK 20 million is reserved for strategic investments, and DKK 6 million is set aside to be able to share profits from commercial contracts with the country operations that implement them.

**Liquidity** is good and has been stable since 2022. At the end of 2023, liquidity was just under DKK 1.2 billion.

In **2024**, the budget is expected to increase by around 9 percent and to hit around DKK 3.9 million, with a profit before investments of DKK 39 million and investments of DKK 26 million. The expected net profit is approximately DKK 13 million.

Following Kasper's presentation, the floor was opened for questions. These mainly related to DRC's opportunities to secure increased funding and the focus that the annual report has on international fundraising, as well as the way in which DRC's donor landscape is presented in the report. To this, Kasper replied that DRC has laid the foundation for increased funding by having created a fundraising department and by working to establish a presence in Germany and the United States. It is a priority for the management to invest in creating opportunities for increased funding. This is part of the reason why DRC's management has decided to work purposefully to ensure that 1% of DRC's revenue is dedicated to investments by 2025. The desire to see more comprehensive information about DRC's major donors in the annual report was noted.

Resolution: The chair of the meeting expressed his thanks to Kasper Bremer Orloff for the presentation and announced, following the approbation by the Council in meeting, that the DRC's Annual Report for 2023 had been adopted by the Council.

The Annual Report for 2023 is available for download at drc.ngo.

# Re item 4. Consideration of proposed motions

The chair of the meeting said that no motions had been proposed.

# Re item 5. Proposed amendment to the Statutes of the DRC §17(6) Annual report and audit: reformulation and adaptation to updated guidelines for internal audit

The chair of the meeting opened the item by clarifying requirements for carrying the proposed amendments.

Article 18 reads as follows: The Statutes of the Danish Refugee Council may be amended if at least two-thirds of the Council members present and entitled to vote, see article 8(3), but no less than half the total number of Council members entitled to vote, are in favour at an annual Council meeting. As there were 32 Council members present and entitled to vote, at least 21 votes were required for a sufficient majority.



The chair of the meeting referred to Appendix 5 "Proposal for amendments regarding DRC's Audit Committee (Article 17(6) of the Articles of Association)".

#### Re Appendix 5

The Board of Directors recommended that the Statutes of the DRC Danish Refugee Council be amended so that the Statutes reflect the updated strategy and policy for internal audit (approved by the Audit Committee on 3 May and the Board of Directors on 7 May 2024).

The recommended amendment pertains particularly to clarifying the role of the secretariat in the audit committee and that internal and external auditors must participate in the audit committee.

In order to ensure continuity, it is further proposed that the election of members of the Audit Committee should be staggered.

#### **Entry into force**

The Board of Directors recommends that the proposal for staggered election of members of the Audit Committee elected by the Council enters into force upon adoption – so that the member with expertise in financial matters and who has a state-authorised public accountant designation is elected for 1 year (and thereafter for 2 years, as stipulated in section 17(6)).

The chair of the meeting presented the proposed amendments and asked the members of the Council whether they had any comments on the proposal. No one had any comments.

Resolution: The chair of the meeting announced that the motion to amend the Statutes of the DRC Danish Refugee Council had been passed.

# Re item 6. Election of Chairperson for the Board of Directors

The chair of the meeting opened the item by clarifying requirements for nominating candidates for as Chairperson.

Cf. section 11(2). The deputy chairperson shall call for nominations for chairperson no later than two months before the Council meeting, allowing one month for submission of nominations. The names of candidates for the chairpersonship shall be communicated to the members of the Council no later than 14 days before the Council meeting. The chairperson may be re-elected for another two election terms.

The invitation letter was sent out on 4 March 2024 with information that the Board of Directors – after a thorough process – nominates Carsten Stendevad as DRC's new Chairperson.

In the invitation letter, the deadline for candidates was set at 8 April at 12:00 – that is, within the deadline prescribed in the Statutes.

The chair of the meeting referred to Appendix 6.1 "Recommendation for new Chairperson in DRC" and Appendix 6.2 regarding "New Chairperson - Competence Profile for Carsten Stendevad".

No other candidates had been submitted for the post of Chairperson of the DRC, and Carsten Stendevad was thus the only candidate for the post.

The chair of the meeting gave the word to Kim Simonsen, Deputy Chairperson of DRC, who on behalf of the Board of Directors justified the choice.

Kim explained that the Board has been working for a long time to identify what qualifications a new Chairperson should have and to find a suitable Chairperson. He concluded that the Board is happy with the match with Carsten and that it is a unanimous Board that recommends Carsten Stendevad as the new Chairperson of DRC.

Carsten Stendevad then had the opportunity to introduce himself.



Carsten started by expressing that he was happy to be a candidate for the Chairperson position at DRC. Carsten is strongly concerned about the refugee cause. He has a long management experience from Denmark and from abroad and hopes that this, as well as his network, can be of use to DRC.

#### Being Danish and global at the same time

DRC is Danish, with a Danish foundation and Danish experience, but is also now a global player. Abroad, DRC is known as the global player, but there is still a Danish starting point. How do you accommodate both? In many ways, this resembles Carsten's personal development. He knows well what it means to be from one place but also to belong to another.

Throughout his career, Carsten has sought exposure to development and humanitarian issues. He has advised organizations including UNDP, started a microfinance organization in India and a blended finance structure also in India. Carsten has also been on the UNICEF's Board and has been on many committees, roundtables, etc. about blended finance, i.e. how to channel private financing towards development and humanitarian engagement. What it takes to make the two worlds merge.

Carsten shared his ambitions for DRC as well as his thoughts on the role of the Board.

## The ambition is for DRC to be at the table. This requires:

- 1. a certain size/scale, with broad competencies and the capacity to act quickly;
- **2.** a mindset, that it is not only about emergency relief but also thinking in terms of change and long-term development;
- 3. quality;
- 4. good reputation.

DRC has these 4 things, and we must protect and develop it so that we can continue to make a huge difference.

**What does this mean for a Board?** There must be good governance in relation to management. The Board must ensure that there is a good space for management, ensure that the organization is in a good financial position, and challenge and encourage innovation, as well as ensure good dialogue with stakeholders, including the Council.

After Carsten's introduction, the Council had the opportunity to ask questions. The chair of the meeting then asked if the Council could approve Carsten Stendevad as the new Chairperson.

Resolution: There were no questions or comments from the Council, and Carsten Stendevad was elected Chairperson by acclamation.

#### Re item 7. Election of three members to the Board of Directors

The chair of the meeting introduced the item. This year, there was an ordinary election of three members to the Board.

The chair of the meeting then presented the proposed transitional arrangement. As mentioned in the notice letter and the agenda, it was recommended to the Council to approve a transitional arrangement to Article 12(2) of the Statutes on the number of re-elections/years one can be a member of the Board of Directors. Specifically, this means that current Board members will have the opportunity to be members of the board for up to 9 years, which corresponds to the current Statutes. It also means that the specific Board members under the transitional scheme will be able to be re-elected 3 times, as opposed to the Statutes' rules on re-election 2 times. Upon approval of the transitional arrangement, persons who have been re-elected 2 times, can be re-elected a 3rd time.



Resolution: The chair of the meeting asked the Council if they could approve the transitional arrangement. It was accepted without comment.

With the approval of the transitional arrangement, the following members of the Board of Directors were up for re-election (see also Appendix 7.0 with a list of Board members):

- Bettina Bach, nominated by the DRC Volunteers (did <u>not receive</u> re-election)
- Juliane Neiiendam, nominated by the Women's Council (did <u>not receive</u> re-election)
- Kim Simonsen, nominated by HK (received re-election)

In addition, two new candidates had announced their candidacy for the Board:

- Caroline Tromer Dragsdahl, nominated by the Women's Council
- Rasmus Stuhr, nominated by Care

The chair of the meeting asked the newly nominated candidates to introduce themselves.

Caroline made it clear that being on the Board of DRC is aligned with her personal vision that everyone should be able to live as they want. Rasmus also introduced himself. He emphasized that his heart beats for the organization and for the cause, and that he shares DRC's vision. Kim noted that with this election, it is his last round as a member of the Board of Directors of the DRC. He would like to help stabilize the transition and stay through the transition after Agi leaves as Chairperson.

The chair of the meeting noted that since there were three candidates for three seats, the election was considered a peace election. He congratulated the elected members.

Resolution: The Council approved the election of Kim Simonsen (HK), Rasmus Stuhr Jakobsen (Care) and Caroline Tromer Dragsdahl (Women's Council) for a three-year period.

## Re item 8. Election of state-authorized auditor

The chair of the meeting referred to Appendix 8, where the Board of Directors recommends that the Council elect the auditing partner Deloitte as state-authorised auditors for the DRC for a further 2-year period.

Resolution: No questions or comments. Elected by acclamation.

## Re item 9. Election of two persons for the Audit Committee

The chair of the meeting referred to Appendix 9, where the Board of Directors recommends re-electing Michael Bach (MS) who has expertise in financial matters and a state-authorized public accountant designation (as stipulated in the adoption of the transitional arrangement for the amendment of the Statutes on the audit) for a 1-year period, and Finn Schwarz (The Jewish Community in Denmark) for a 2-year period.

Resolution: No questions or comments. Elected by acclamation.

# Re item 10. Membership fees for 2025

The chair of the meeting referred to Appendix 10 and announced that the Board of Directors recommended that the membership fees for the DRC remain unchanged for 2025.

Resolution: As there was no proposed motion to amend the recommendation, the chair of the meeting announced that the membership fees will remain unchanged for 2025.



# Re item 11. Scheduling of the 2025 Council meeting

The 2025 annual meeting of the Council was scheduled for 3 June 2025 at 5.00 pm.

## Re item 12. Any other business

No further business to be transacted under this item.

# Re item 13. Closing of meeting by Agi Csonka

The floor was passed to the Chairperson, who expressed her gratitude to the Council members for a good annual meeting and fruitful discussions.

Agi thanked outgoing Board members Juliane Neiiendam and Bettina Back and welcomed incoming Board members Caroline Tromer Dragsdahl and Rasmus Stuhr Jakobsen. She congratulated Kim Simonsen on his re-election.

Agi expressed her gratitude to Charlotte and the leadership of the DRC. It takes something very special to be a leader in an organization for DRC. She emphasized how much she has appreciated the basic respect and care for refugees that shines through among employees throughout the DRC.

Agi sent a special thank you to Andreas and Stig – the honorary members – who during Agi's time as Chairperson have shared from their experiences to help the DRC well on its way, as well as to the Council and to the other members of the Board.

Finally, thanks were conveyed to Finn Schwarz, for once again chairing a good Council meeting, and Agi wished him a happy birthday.

Before the meeting ended, Kim, the Deputy Chairperson, and Charlotte, the Secretary General, took the word.

Kim thanked Agi for a fantastic effort as Chairperson and for handing over a strong organization. He wished her luck.

Charlotte reminisced how it was Agi who welcomed Charlotte when she started in DRC. They have had a strong mutual relationship of trust and Agi has been a solid sparring partner for Charlotte and the management of DRC, who has understood well the role and mandate that a Board of Directors for an organization like DRC needs. Charlotte thanked Agi for her commitment and work for the DRC.

Applause and buffet.

The meeting ended at 8:00 pm.

Copenhagen, 28 June 2024.

\_Finn Schwarz

Finn Schwarz

Chair of the meeting

Trine Jensen (Jul 1, 2024 12:57 GMT+2)

Trine Korsholm Jensen

Keeper of the minutes

Agi Csonka (Jul 1, 2024 18:13 GMT+2)

Agi Csonka

Chairperson