



# IHGC Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

*Nuremberg, Germany  
November 7, 2016*

## AGENDA

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Quorum of the IHGC delegates
3. Approval of the meeting minutes from July 29, 2016
4. IHGC events and committees' activities
5. Sundries

### Point 1

The Executive Committee [meeting](#) took place on November 7, 2016 in the hotel Maritim in Nuremberg, Germany. The IHGC president Leslie Roy opened the regular Executive Committee meeting – after the Economic Committee meeting had been finished. He proposed the agenda – as stated above.

### Point 2

A quorum for formal IHGC decisions was constituted, since on the meeting 22 of 33 (at that time) IHGC member representatives proved their presence. This was more than one third of all the members, as required by the Constitution of the IHGC. The delegates representing the IHGC country member hop associations (10 of 17) and hop industry companies (12 of 16) are listed below. In addition, the meeting [participants](#) are listed separately in a separate document:

Australia:	<i>absent</i>	Joh.Barth&Sohn:	<i>Peter Hintermeier</i>
Austria:	<i>Hermann Bayer</i>	German Hop Ind. Ass.:	<i>Josef Grauvogl</i>
Belgium:	<i>Joris Cambie</i>	Powisle s.j.:	<i>absent</i>
Czech rep.:	<i>Michal Kovařík</i>	X. Fub. Sapporo Hop:	<i>absent</i>
France:	<i>Francis Heitz</i>	Hopsteiner:	<i>Pascal Piroué</i>
FR Germany:	<i>Otmar Weingarten</i>	CZ Union Hop M&P:	<i>Pavel Šponer</i>
New Zealand:	<i>Doug Donelan</i>	Inbarco:	<i>Ivo Bračun</i>
Poland:	<i>absent</i>	Hopsteiner Spain S.A.:	<i>absent</i>
PR China	<i>absent</i>	Charles Faram & Co. ltd:	<i>Paul Corbett</i>
R South Africa:	<i>absent</i>	Am. Dwarf Hop Assoc.:	<i>Leslie A. Roy</i>
Romania:	<i>Akatiu E. Mora</i>	Xinjiang Kinner Agric.:	<i>absent</i>
Slovakia:	<i>absent</i>	Hmezad exim:	<i>Jože Čas</i>
Slovenia:	<i>Martina Zupančič</i>	Brewers Supply Group:	<i>Laura Hansen</i>
Spain:	<i>absent</i>	Lutega cooperativa Galega:	<i>absent</i>
U. K.:	<i>Ali Capper</i>	47 Hops:	<i>Douglas MacKinnon</i>
Ukraine:	<i>absent</i>	YCH HOPS:	<i>Steve Carpenter</i>
USA:	<i>Ann George</i>		

### Point 3

The Executive Committee minutes from the meeting in Freising, Germany on July 29, 2016, had been published together with the usual congress meeting documents on the website [www.ihgc.org](http://www.ihgc.org). In addition, contact delegates have been updated with meetings' contents within the IHGC newsletter documents' links. In this way, the meeting materials have openly been available also to hop industry stakeholders.

No comments or supplementary claims had been submitted, thus the minutes were adopted unanimously.

### Point 4

The following future IHGC events were discussed and confirmed:

- The next meetings of the Economic and Executive Committee is scheduled for April 9, 2017 in Washington DC, USA – a day prior to the [Craft Brewers Conference](#) & BrewExpo America 2017.
- The [Technical-Scientific Committee meeting](#) with various research contributions is planned for June 25-29, 2017 in the 'Mühlviertel' growing region of the Upper Austria, where the scientific programme, meals, and accommodation will take place under the one roof. The official invitation will follow.
- The 56<sup>th</sup> [IHGC congress](#) would be held in Yakima, WA, USA from July 30 till August 2, 2016 – with pre- and post-congress days. Business sessions will be combined with a brewing chemistry conference at Oregon State University. Furthermore, a discussion on global plant protection issues with regulatory officials and industry is foreseen.

The chairperson of the ***Committee on Regulatory Harmonization*** (CRH) Ann George illustrated various issues, where the relevant documents had been available prior to the meeting:

The CRH works closely with the US Hop Industry Plant Protection Committee and the European Union Commodity Expert Group for Hops on the harmonization of issues impacting the international trade of hops, particularly in the area of chemical (pesticide) residue Maximum Residue Levels (MRLs). They maintain a database comparing hop MRLs in several key hop producing and customer countries, as well as the international Codex Alimentarius Commission. Information from around the world is summarized and provided to IHGC delegates, to insure that all hop producing countries are aware of regulatory issues impacting the trade of hops ([document](#)).

As customers are increasingly asking suppliers for certification of food safety and sustainability program compliance, several schemes and checklists have been developed in recent years by customers, merchant/processors and grower organizations. US growers are proposing for their use the development of a globally recognized standard through GLOBALG.A.P. to serve as an option for producers, who do not have access to a customized program specific to their country's hop industry ([document](#)). On the meeting a request for the IHGC Support of GLOBALG.A.P. Hop Sub-Scope was discussed. EU hop growers and merchants

use different quality systems compared to G.G., such as ISO standards and the state controlled hop origin and quality certification systems. They support the US idea – but only as a free option - not as an obligatory one. Finally, the IHGC is morally supporting that HGA initiative.

The chairperson of the ***Technical-Scientific Committee*** dr. Elisabeth Seigner presented - together with dr. Florian Weihrauch - the usual hop variety issues.

IHGC updates of hop varieties by countries and in addition, alphabetically ([document](#)). The Executive Committee was updated that the list of hop varieties based on individual countries' reports about hop varieties, their abbreviations and their allocation – having a variety character of aroma, bitter, flavor or dual purpose. County delegates were encouraged for a feedback. All comments for future updates should be drafted in a written form.

A discussion followed also towards (re)naming of abbreviations for hop varieties from present 2, 3, or 4 characters into precisely 3 ones. The US hop industry has already started implementing this idea for optimizing its sector ICT management (codes for states, growers and varieties). For new hop varieties, no problem is foreseen. However, for some German varieties with 2 digits - as discussed - such changes would influence logistic activities, software updates, labelling, packaging – all linked with additional costs. An optimal system should reduce users' misunderstanding because of coming new varieties. Within updating the future IHGC list of world hop varieties – the producing countries may try to find a solution based on the mentioned initiative. The debate will continue on future meetings.

Furthermore, there was a discussion about the hop variety names – possibly changed for their use in different countries. Growing the same variety in different countries with different names would not be legally permitted. In addition, such eventual changes make promotion and business with hops more complicated.

## **Point 5**

Since no other issue was raised, the IHGC president thanked to delegates and the interpreter. He closed the meeting and wished successful business days at the [BrauBeviale](#).

IHGC General Secretary  
Dr. Martin Pavlovič