



IHGC Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

*Madrid, Spain
April 12, 2023*

AGENDA

1. Opening and delegates' quorum
2. Approval of the minutes from the previous video call on November 4, 2022
3. IHGC ongoing activities
4. Future activities and events
5. IHGC membership
6. Sundries

Point 1

The Executive Committee meeting took place in the Hilton Airport hotel in Madrid, Spain on April 12, 2023. It followed the Economic Committee meeting in chair with Zdeněk Rosa debating the country reports by member delegates and illustrating the market situation by the DHWV vice-president Stephan Schinagl. The IHGC president Leslie Roy proposed the agenda, which was adopted and the meeting delegates were reminded to respect the Compliance rules ([link #1](#)). It was determined that we were in compliance.

A quorum for formal IHGC decisions was constituted, since 20 of 35 (at that time) IHGC member representatives proved their active presence on the meeting or on line. Hop associations from the named countries (9 of 21) and hop merchants' companies (11 of 14) as listed: AR, CZ, DE, ES, GB, PL, SI, SP, US; Assoc. Dev. Hop Agr., BarthHaas, Charles Faram & Co., CZ Union Hop Merchants & Proc., German Hop Ind. Assoc., Inbarco, Hmezad exim, Hopsteiner, Hopsteiner Spain, HVG Germany, Yakima Chief Hops.

Point 2

The Executive Committee minutes from the previous video-call had been published on the website ([link #2](#)). Meeting materials have thus been available to members, while other (non-member) stakeholders have limited availability to IHGC deliverables. No comments or supplementary claims had been submitted, so the minutes were adopted unanimously.

Point 3

A bring up-to-date on MRL Harmonization situation for hops had been discussed by the Committee on Regulatory Harmonization chair persons Maggie Elliot and dr. Erich Lehmail. In the face of shipping rejections stemming from an MRL of 10 ppm for hops in South Korea, last November USHIPPC and DHWV distributed shipping advisories to merchants noting the grave risk of shipping rejection. Working in concert with the U.S. Embassy, BCI consultant Matt Lantz traveled to Korea to discuss the situation with the Korean Liquor Association to encourage them to engage with the government. In December the Korean regulatory authorities announced they would drop iron testing for hops intended for beer.

Maggie shared the incidence of American and EU hop being rejected due to marginal fluctuations in residues. While the organic hops are tested prior to export without issue, upon arrival in the EU, organic inspectors are testing and having findings, leading to rejections from small amounts of residues. Customers in Europe can petition to have a product remain organic due to accidental contamination, but the option can only be used twice per year. The confirmatory testing is conducted in a number of labs which may be undertaking differing methodologies. In addition, Maggie verified USHIPPC is managing residue trials for *acequinocyl* to petition for a Codex MRL for the compound in 2026.

Point 4

Based on previous proposals and discussions of member countries – we confirmed and recapped dates and places of future IHGC events:

- IHGC Scientific-Technical Committee conference in Ljubljana, Slovenia (06/2023, [link #3](#));
- IHGC Economic and Executive Committee meetings in Freising, Germany (August 18, 2023, at 3 PM) and in Nürnberg, Germany (November 27, 2023, at 3 PM);
- IHGC Congresses in Poland (2024), in Tettang, Germany (2026) and in the U.S. (2028);
- IHGC Hop tour in Belgium and in its nearby hop region in France (2025).

Point 5

The two IHGC membership applications had been received to the Secretariat. From

- **Association of Hop Growers in Bulgaria**, proposed by Assen Ivanov and
- **J.A. Szalas** (hop company) from Poland – proposed by Jan Szalas.

In addition, the two IHGC members were proposed to be excluded from our organization for the sake of their over two years unresponsiveness – i.e., no contact with the IHGC:

- **Xinjiang Kinner Agric. Co.** from PR China and
- **Hop Growers Assoc. from Ukraine.**

Based on the IHGC Constitution § 3 and § 4, the Executive Committee approved uniformly the proposed changes of the IHGC membership (+2, -2). Thus, the number of members remains the same, which is 35.

Point 6

To keep certain website contents available only to its members - from June 2021 on - main IHGC documents have been coded while being posted on the website. That decision will remain in power. Thus, documents from the one meeting have the same code that relates to the date of the meeting (Congress documents are coded with **2022-07-28**, the Madrid meeting ones with **2023-04-12**), etc. Member delegates may inform their interested co-workers about the codes.

IHGC newsletters are regularly being emailed to contact member representatives as well as to some additional email addresses which member representatives had sent to the secretariat. The decision to keep covered email addresses of IHGC newsletter recipients also remains in power.

The next meeting is planned to be in Freising, Germany in August 18, 2023, at 3 PM. Details will follow.

IHGC General Secretary
Dr. Martin Pavlovič