

## JOINT ANNUAL BOARD MEETING 2022 [ZOOM] THE HAGUE, THE NETHERLANDS

### The Zero Project

Chairperson: Mr Eric F. Ch. Niehe [EN]  
Secretary: Mr P. Gobets BSc [PG]  
Treasurer: Mr M. Dixit MSc [MD]  
Member: Dr V.A. van Bijlert [VvB]  
Member: Mr R. Sachdev [RS]  
Member: Ms Gisèle Bidenbach [GB]

### International Friends of Zero Association (IFZA)

Chairperson: Wahid Saleh [WS]

The **Joint Annual Board Meeting 2022** was held online via Zoom on **Friday, November 25<sup>th</sup>, 17:00-18:00**.

EN: Formally opens Joint Annual Board Meeting; gives floor to PG to briefly outline agenda points.

PG: Logic behind sequence of agenda points: chronological over 2022: starting with **online event (successfully completed in May, 2022)**; *Expertise Center on Zero (XCZ)*; Monograph book project; fundraising campaign.

Followed by brief overview on the XCZ – **launched in 2022**, signatories from Europe, Asia, North Africa;

VvB: notes that our website makes no reference to the XCZ; suggests list of confirmed signatories to be posted.

PG: to take necessary action (**NOTE**: meanwhile implemented);

EN: Signatories from USA?

PG: No, not so far.

RS: in response to XCZ / reference earlier to funding, RS argues in favor of secondary focus to application in AI and quantum computing next to academic/historic research only; suggests XCZ signatories identify research questions related to AI and/or quantum computing under XCZ;

WS: on fundraising mentions exploring two viable avenues of approach being pursued within his network, but no concrete results to date. **NOTE**: see also Financial Statement 2022);

EN: Proposes all Trustees draft proposals on the subject by the end of the year to be followed up in more targeted fundraising campaign. **NOTE**: this exercise was done without success among academics as well as IT Majors.

GB: Notes distinction between funding for book publication and XCZ research program – since focus of discussion so far had been for funding of XCZ; points out ‘limitation of freedom’ in Board allocation of funds since donors may require funding to go to XCZ and not book publication.

RS: distinguishes 3 separate streams of funding requirements: running the Foundation/secretariat; book publication; XCZ.

EN: concurs with GB and RS; suggests compromise maybe possible

PG: continues briefing, now on Monograph: papers are in; copy edited; awaiting Introduction by co-editor Dr Robert Lawrence Kuhn (**meanwhile received**); VU University Press quotation to publish the Monograph put it out of reach for the Foundation;

RS: suggests self-publication; Print-on-Demand (PoD) option; notes credibility issue involved in backtracking on commitment to academics; but argues in favor of wide exposure instead of no publication at all.

PG: VU had disadvised PoD stating that they only do so for 5 copies or less sold per month.

RS: distinguishes two separate issues involved: publishing house brand equity (VU) and actual printing of book / outsourcing.

EN: notes we will not be able to take things further at this stage so let’s revert in due course to the subject

PG: final agenda point: UBO formalities completed – no further action required.

MD: Summarized as Treasurer that fundraising proposals must be made ‘relevant’ (as discussed above); will contact PG to discuss.

EN: closes formally Joint Annual Board Meeting at 18:00.

## THE ZERO PROJECT

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