# Minutes of the Annual Assembly of the MSSA (for the period December 2018 - December 2019)

The Annual Assembly of the MSSA was held on 27.12.2019, at the NGO Center at the Youth Cultural Center in Skopje. The annual assembly was attended by: Prof. Dr Vladimir Trajkovski, Prof. Dr. Risto Petrov, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vladimir Ilievski, M.Sc. Ivana V. Petrovska, M.Sc. Tanja Stankova, M.Sc. Natasha Mladenovska Tosevska, Stojan Andonov, Peco Stojanovski, Viktorija Siljanoska, M.Sc. Meri Nolcheva, Liljana Ivanova, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Dejan Trajkov, Prof. Dr. Daniela Dimitrova-Radojicic, Natasa Jovanovska, Rozeta Paskalieva, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ana Fritzhand, Zivka Dimitrova, Vesna Filipovska, Aleksandra Jordanov, M.Sc. Fiki Gaspar, and Adrijana Kukoska.

Justifiably absent were: Prof. Dr. Zoran Kitkanj, Rozalija Boskovski M.A., Dr. Vesna Kostikj Ivanovikj, Slavica Todorova, M.Sc.

The annual assembly officially began at 1:00 p.m. with the following:

# Agenda:

## 1. Adoption of the minutes from the annual assembly for 2018;

The President of MSSA Prof. Dr. Vladimir Trajkovski presented in detail the minutes of the last annual assembly held on 21.12.2018, and then the members were invited to vote for its adoption. After the voting, the minutes were unanimously adopted by those present.

#### 2. Admission of new members in MSSA;

Regarding the second point, the President announced that this year he has received four membership applications, but one of the members is absent. He therefore called on the other three members to introduce themselves before the membership. After they introduced themselves, the president called for a vote. New members of MSSA are: Viktorija Silijanovska spec. in Clinical Speech Therapy, Liljana Ivanova - B.Sc. speech therapist, and Rozeta Paskalieva - psychologist.

#### 3. Report on the work of the MSSA from 2019

The President declared 2019 as quite successful and productive for MSSA, filled with many activities and projects. He also invited and encouraged everyone present if they want to write papers or apply for projects in NGOs and municipalities. Then all the activities by the President and the Vice President were presented in chronological order (attached Report on the work of MSSA-period December 2018-December 2019)

Fiki Gaspar gave his opinion on this point, expressing his satisfaction with the attended international conference held from 18-20.10.2019 in Budva due to the large number of papers presented and media coverage.

The coordinator M.Sc. Ivana V. Petrovska and Rozeta Paskalieva, also expressed their positive opinion about the MSSA project in cooperation with UNICEF (ASP) which is still ongoing, emphasizing that the project is intended for professionals, children with autism spectrum and their families.

The Secretary of MSSA briefly gave information about the completed project Art for All, which is in cooperation with the National Gallery of Macedonia with the support of the Kingdom of the Netherlands - expressing satisfaction with the final products - works of art by children with autistic range of umbrellas, ceramic cups and canvases .

At this point prof. Dr. Risto Petrov asked for word, emphasizing that he is very satisfied with the entire report on the work of the association and that he would like the MSSA to organize a conference, because it has staff and strength. The President said that it is given the priority now to the ReAttach Conference, which is going to be held in May 2020 in Skopje, and further that he would be happy to organize another conference.

### 4. Financial report for 2018 - 2019

The fourth item on the agenda referred to the Financial Report for 2019 and it was presented by Vesna Filipovska. The total income is MKD 1,048,368.00. The amount of expenses incurred in this time period is MKD 839,026.00, the negative difference is MKD 209,342.00, and the current account balance at the end of 2019 is MKD 342,785.00. The financial report was put to a vote, and after the vote it was adopted by those present.

# 5. Assembly work program for 2020

The President invited the new Vice President M.Sc. Ivana Vasilevska Petrovska to present the program for the work of the Assembly during 2019.

During 2020, the Macedonian Scientific Association for Autism plans to perform several activities:

- Activities within the Erasmus Plus **Autism PCP** project;
- Activities under the Erasmus Plus Autism Friendly Places project;
- Activities within the UNICEF project **ASP**;
- Involvement in activities to mark the International Day of People with Autism April 2;
- Holding the Ritach conference to be held at the Arka Hotel on 29 and 30 May 2020 where the MSSA appears as co-organizer;
- Holding trainings in the kindergartens and regular primary schools on the territory
  of the city of Skopje, and if necessary in cities from the interior of the Republic of
  Macedonia;
- Participation of MSSA members in project meetings within the Erasmus Plus EU project: "Autism PCP project" in Bulgaria and Autism friendly places in Malta;
- Applying for international projects (through EU funds, etc.);

The President of the MSSA also spOKE at this point, adding some information about the conference to be held in May 2020. He listed all the professors from all over the region who will

be at the conference, and also mentioned that there are no sponsorships for this conference so far. It was pointed out that there are 4 days left to pay the minimum registration fee. This was followed by prof. Daniela Dimitrova Radojicic who said that she thinks that the selection of the participants in this conference according to the amount they paid (with or without a meal) should not be with different colors of badges, but to be done differently - for example with cards in the working materials. The same view was supported by most of those present. The President replied that he would try to point out this remark to the organizers.

After the discussion, the work program for 2020. is unanimous adopted.

#### 6. Reduction of the number of EB members

At this point the president prof. Vladimir Trajkovski first read the submitted letter from Dr. Vesna Kostic, where she asks to withdraw from the EB of the MSSA due to the great engagement (attachment email). Then prof. Trajkovski opened the debate with the attendees on the proposal to reduce the number of EB to 5 members. Prof. Daniela Dimitrova Radojicic said that she believes that the change of the already existing members of the EB would not be good to do since some of them are not present at the assembly, and the President replied that precisely of that reason that they are absent without notice, he believes that they should be changed. The proposal to reduce the number of EB was supported by prof. Risto Petrov emphasizing his opinion that this way the EB would be more efficient in functioning. Prof. Vladimir Ilievski asked if the Statute stipulates how many members of the EB should be, to which the President replied that there is not. At the same time Assoc. Prof. Vladimir Ilievski asked to be removed from the position of a member of the EB of the MSSA due to excessive engagement. After the debate, it was unanimously voted that the members of the EB be: Prof. Dr. Vladimir Trajkovski, M.Sc. Ivana Vasileva Petrovska, Vesna Filipovska, Fiki Gaspar and Prof. Dr. Dejan Trajkov.

#### 7. Miscellaneous

At this point shared by Assoc. Prof. Vladimir Ilievski was the information that the City of Skopje has opened a competition in the field of Social and Health Care if anyone wants to apply.

After exhausting all the points on the Agenda, the President thanked everyone present and wished them happy holidays and a successful 2020.

**Date:** 27.12.2019

Minutes prepared by: Vesna Filipovska