REPORT

by Lt Col (Ret.) Svein-Erik MALMÖ-MOEN and Lt Col (Ret.) Jerker WESTDAHL
RAPPORTEURS

ON

THE WORKING SESSION OF THE 28th GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE WORLD VETERANS FEDERATION

Sopot, Poland 31 August – 4 September 2015

1. Opening of the General Assembly

The President, Mr Jacques GOUJAT, opened the 28th General Assembly in the presence of Mr. Bogdan Orusewicz, Marshal of the Polish Senate, Mr. Maciej Jankowski, Under Secretary of State, Ministry of Defence and Mr. Jan Stanislaw Ciechanowski, Head of the Polish Office for War Veterans and Victims of Oppression. He thanked Poland for having invited the WVF to the beautiful city of Sopot, welcomed the participants and expressed his hope for a successful General Assembly where WVF member associations could work together for the benefit of veterans and towards peace, justice and mutual understanding.

A message from the Secretary General of the United Nations, Mr. Ban Ki-moon was read out. The message is available to download on the WVF website.

The Torun Military Orchestra held a concert.

After the opening ceremony the President led an emotional and fitting tribute to the former President of the WVF, the late Datuk Hamid IBRAHIM who passed away last October. He presented the WVF Platinum Medal to his widow, Datin Samihani ABDULLAH; who was present throughout the Conference.

A minute of silence was held in his memory and in memory of all those that the Federation had lost.

2. Election of the Vice Chairman of General Assembly

General Stanislaw WOZNIAK (Poland), President of the UN Peacekeeping Missions Veterans' Association was unanimously elected as Vice Chairman for the General Assembly.

3. Designation of the rapporteurs for the plenary session

Lt. Col (Ret.) Svein-Erik MALMÖ-MOEN (Norway) and Lt. Col (Ret.) Jerker WESTDAHL (Sweden) were designated with acclamation as rapporteurs.

4. Designation of the Chairman and the rapporteurs of the Resolution Committee

Mr Robert CREANGE (France) was designated as Chairman of the Resolution Committee.

5. Designation of three scrutineers

Captain John Abdul ADOLE, Nigeria
Brig (Ret.) Tariq MAHMOOD, Pakistan
Mrs Inge NEDERGAARD, Denmark

were designated with acclamation as scrutineers to determine the results of elections.

6. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda proposed by the Executive Board was adopted unanimously. It comprised 28 items.

7. Roll call of delegations present

The Secretary General took the roll call. A total of 45 countries and 72 organizations were present as follows:

Represented by WVF member associations
Albania, Algeria, Australia, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Croatia*, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Georgia*, Ghana, Guinea, Hungary, Israel*, Jordan, South Korea*, Kosovo, Kuwait, Malaysia*, Montenegro, Morocco*, Nepal, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Poland*, Portugal*, Russia,

Serbia, Singapore, Slovenia*, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Taiwan*, Timor Leste, Turkey*, Ukraine, United Kingdom and Vietnam.

*Countries with 2 or more member organisations represented at the General Assembly.

Represented by Non-Voting Observers from Government Bodies, Ministries of Defence or Offices of War Veterans:
Cote d'Ivoire, Georgia, Kosovo, Norway, Poland, South Sudan and Sweden.

The Arab Veterans Union and the International Federation of Resistance Fighters were also represented

8. Applications for membership

The President declared that all of the applications for membership received by the Secretary General had been studied by the Executive Board before being submitted for ratification at the General Assembly. The Executive Board had given a favourable recommendation to all applications presented.

The following 6 Applications for WVF membership were ratified unanimously by the General Assembly:

- **Croatia - Veterans Motorcycle Club of Croatia**
- **Georgia - Georgian Union of Afghan War Veterans**
- **Kuwait - Kuwaiti Kinsfolk Association of Martyrs, Captives & Missing**
- **Nepal – Nepal National Ex-Servicemen Council**
- **South Africa - South African National Military Veterans Association**
- **Tunisia - Fidelity for the Rights of Families of Veterans who Fought with France**

An application by the **Retired Officers Association of Northern Cyprus** was debated at length and ratified by a majority decision. Some delegations were unclear about the status of "Northern Cyprus" in international law.

The Treasurer General assured the Assembly that the new Member Organisations had declared that they were able to pay their annual membership fees to the WVF.

9. Rules of procedure for the General Assembly

The Rules of Procedure, which had been circulated in advance, were presented by the President for adoption. The delegate from the United Kingdom pointed out that the British Members Council (BMC) had submitted a number of proposed changes to the document. The President argued that the Rules of Procedure had been tried and tested at a number of previous General Assemblies and Standing Committee Meetings, and that the proposed changes submitted by the BMC would be evaluated by the Executive Board at a later date.
The Rules of Procedure for the General Assembly were adopted without any modifications.

10. Report of the Executive Board

The reports from the Executive Board were presented and after a short debate the reports were unanimously accepted. The reports included:

10.1. Report of the President

The President focused on the impact that certain major events had had on the Executive Board and the Secretariat such as move to new rental offices in January 2014, the death in October 2014 of the President, Datuk Abdul Hamid IBRAHIM, and the departure of the Executive Director, Mrs Martine

FORT, who retired after 35 years' service with the WVF. He reported that that the running of the Secretariat has now stabilised under the direction of Ms Faye PURCELL with two full time Administrative Assistants (Mr. Florian DELVAL and Mr. Theo RADFORD).

He added that due to the change of offices in February 2014 it had been impossible to organise and prepare with maximum efficiency the 8th International Conference on Legislation, which was originally scheduled for March 2014. It is hoped to re-convene this Conference at a future date.

The President left the detail of the WVF finances to the Treasurer General but took the opportunity to remind Member Organisations that timely receipt of membership dues was one of the steps needed towards financial stability.

He also thanked the Secretary General for carrying out, over many years, the often thankless task of satisfying all parties whilst safeguarding the statutory and administrative rules of the organisation.

10.2. REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

The Secretary General submitted a detailed report in advance of the General Assembly highlighting some of the main elements of the Secretariat's work in support of the Executive Board during the period October 2012 - September 2015.

This included reports on:

- Relations and exchange of correspondence with Member Organisations.
- The setting up and execution of:
  - The Peace and Security Summit which took place in Sweden in May 2013
  - The Standing Committee for Asia and the Pacific which took place in Taiwan in October 2013
  - The Standing Committee on European Affairs which took place in Montenegro in June 2014.
- The on-going WVF Projects arising from previous General Assemblies such as the Walk for Peace, the International Conference on Legislation, and the World Veterans Voice Project.
- The development of the WVF Strategic Plan 2015 – 2018.
- The sale of the WVF Offices and subsequent move of the Secretariat to new rented premises.

10.3. REPORT BY THE TREASURER GENERAL

The Treasurer General submitted a detailed report in advance as part of the Working Documents for the General Assembly. The Report included the following:

Analysis of income and expenditure for the years 2012, 2013 and 2014.

Expenditure in 2012 and 2013 remained under budget, however deficits were incurred of €187k and €143k respectively. Expenditure in 2014 exceeded the budget and led to a €400k deficit, attributed to:

- Exceptional expenditure relating to moving the WVF Head Office and consequential annual rental costs of new premises.
- Exceptional expenditure relating to retirement bonuses for two members of staff.
- The decision of V-Fonds (Netherlands) to no longer send the 10% interest on the funds belonging to the former foundation in the Netherlands for an amount of approximately

€36k, after a period of 10 years. The reason given for this decision is that the €363k original capital has been refunded by V-Fonds to the Lottery Fund Foundation (ALN).

Sale of the Offices in Rue Nicolo: The WVF offices in rue Nicolo were sold on 16 January 2014 for €1.2m, which now constitutes the WVF's resources for financing current activities. Whilst this action has permitted the WVF to survive in the short term, it must be noted that the WVF now has no such option for the future. Therefore, in order to ensure long term survival measures must be taken to urgently find sources of income.

Membership Dues: Membership dues received in 2012 came to €110k, €127k in 2013 and €106k in 2014. Historically, 45 countries pay regularly, 19 pay sporadically and 30 have not paid for several years, leaving a shortfall of €600k since 2003.

It is abundantly clear that regular payment of Membership Dues by all Member Organisations would greatly alleviate the critical financial situation in which the WVF finds itself in. It is therefore imperative that Member Organisations take responsibility for the obligations that they committed to upon joining the WVF, in order to help ensure the WVF's survival.

The Executive Board recommended that the existing dues scales be maintained and emphasised Article 9 of the WVF Constitution, bringing it to the attention of those Member Organisations which have so far not paid their 2015 annual dues.

Fundraising: During the three years since the last General Assembly the French Secretary of State for Defence in Charge of Veterans and Victims of War has maintained the annual subvention from the French Government. In addition to the €36k (corresponding to the 10 % interest on the €360k) from the former foundation, which V-Fonds (Netherlands) continued to send annually to the WVF until 2013, the WVF also received contributions totalling €30k from the company AKLOMA (Sweden) under its "Companion of the WVF" scheme.

The Executive Board also gratefully acknowledges the contributions in kind by the hosts of various meetings, such as Jordan (27th General Assembly in 2012, Sweden (Peace and Security Summit in 2013), ROC on Taiwan (SCAP meeting in 2013), Montenegro (SCEA meeting in 2014) and of Poland, the hosts for the 28th General Assembly in 2015. The hosting of meetings represents a significant and important contribution to the essential running costs of the WV

Update on the V-Fonds Loan. In 2012 the Executive Board agreed for the loan from V-Fonds (Netherlands) of €1.7m held on account with HSBC in Paris to be transferred back to V-Fonds because the interest earned did not cover the cost of the required bank guarantee. V-Fonds have since decided to allow the WVF to use the capital amount, which was previously not available under the terms of the loan. Under the new terms, V-Fonds will grant subventions from the €1.7m they are now managing for the WVF, but only for specific projects and not to cover operational costs, including meeting costs.

As a result of the above new arrangement with V-Fonds, funding has been confirmed for the World Veterans Voice project in the amount of €154k for 2015. This project aims to enhance the visibility of the WVF and improve communications between its member organisations and individual members. An application for the funding of a World Veterans Mobile Application project has also been submitted to V-Fonds for approval.

Expenditure. Throughout the period the Executive Board has worked hard at keeping expenditure to a minimum in order to balance income and expenditure. This includes the decision to not replace one of the members of Secretariat staff who retired in 2014.

Conclusion

10.3.1 The General Treasurer stated that expenditure in 2015 remained within budget; however the payment of Membership Dues had unfortunately been very slow in the first quarter of 2015.

10.3.2 It was quite clear that the WVF finances and the reduction of the deficit can only happen by the improvement of income levels from the Membership Dues and the raising of external funds. If income and expenditure remain within the forecast budgets from now until 2017, the WVF will once again be in a critical financial situation at the end of 2017. Taking into account the cost of liquidation (calculated at approximately €80k, the WVF will be obliged to close in 2017, as the remaining funds will not be sufficient to cover the annual deficit, unless new income is generated through fundraising or through donations as part of the Companion of the WVF project.

11. Report of the Financial Committee

The report of the Financial Committee was presented and after a short debate the report was unanimously accepted.

12. Adoption of the audited accounts for the years 2012, 2013 and 2014

After some discussion the audited accounts for 2012, 2013 and 2014 was adopted

13. Adoption of the forecast budget for the years 2016, 2017 and 2018

The proposed forecast budgets were adopted by 30 votes for, 0 against and 0 abstentions

14. Adoption of the dues scales for the years 2016, 2017 and 2018

With reference to the Treasurer General's report (discussed under item 10 above) the dues scale was not changed. It was also a part of the adopted forecast budget (item 13).

15. Draft Amendments to Constitution

The Chairman of the Resolutions Committee, Mr Robert CREANGE (France) then presided over the debate on the proposed amendments to the WVF Constitution, of which one had been received, submitted by the British Members' Council (UK/AS-1).

The Chairman reminded the delegates that the proposed Resolution had been defeated at the last General Assembly in Jordan and that it did not have the support of the Executive Board.

Lt. Col. Joseph FALZON (UK) presented the arguments of the BMC for the Resolution. After some discussion during which some delegations expressed concern, stating that it was more democratic for the General Assembly to elect the Secretary General, the vote was taken. UK/AS-1 was adopted by 18 votes for, 11 votes against and 4 abstentions.

Col Alfred FULLER (Cameroon) requested for the vote to be re-taken because he considered that a number of the delegates did not understand the Chairman when he called for the vote. This request was turned down.

16. Draft Resolutions

MAR-11 entitled ***Regular Updating of WVF Websites and Websites of Member Organisations and Institutions*** was adopted by 25 votes for, 2 votes against and 0 abstentions

MAR-9 entitled ***New WVF International Conference on the Psycho-Social Consequences and Post Traumatic Disorders Caused by War*** was adopted by 27 votes for, 0 votes against and 0 abstentions

EGY-1 entitled ***Exchanging Services provided to Veterans among Member Associations of the WVF*** was adopted by 24 votes for, 0 votes against and 0 abstentions

EGY-2 entitled ***Exchanging Information and Experience among Veterans' Associations*** was adopted by 31 votes for, 0 votes against and 0 abstentions
(Paragraph no 4 and no 5 were switched suggested by UK and accepted by EGY)

MAR-6 entitled ***Improvements of Medical and Sanitary Services for Veterans, Former Resistance Fighters and Victims of War in Developing Countries*** was adopted by 29 votes for, 0 votes against and 1 abstention

EGY-5 entitled ***Help Elderly Veterans, Victims of War and those injured or disabled in Military Operations*** was adopted by 36 votes for, 0 votes against and 0 abstentions

EGY-3 entitled ***Designate a World Veterans Commemoration Day*** was adopted by 18 votes for, 8 votes against and 4 abstentions
(Paragraph 4 shortened and ends "...in member countries".)

BUL-1 AMD entitled ***Relations between Veterans' Organisations and the Younger Generation*** was adopted by 32 votes for, 0 votes against and 0 abstentions

BUL-2 AMD entitled ***Securing the Future of Veterans' Associations*** was adopted by 29 votes for, 0 votes against and 0 abstentions

NEP-2 entitled ***Documentation of Post Conflict Management*** was adopted by 30 votes for, 0 votes against and 0 abstentions

FRA-1 entitled ***70th Anniversary of the United Nations Charter*** was adopted by 29 votes for, 0 votes against and 0 abstentions

POR-1 AMD entitled ***Magna Carta of Rights for Disabled Ex=Servicemen and Victims of War*** was adopted by 31 votes for, 0 votes against and 0 abstentions

POR-2 entitled ***Protecting Benefits provided to Veterans during the Economic Crisis*** was adopted by 29 votes for, 0 votes against and 0 abstentions

CAM-1 entitled ***Help and Support African Countries in their Struggle Against The Terrorist Group Boko Haram*** was adopted by 28 votes for, 0 votes against and 0 abstentions
(Changes to be made)

FUS EGY-4/MAR-2 (MERGED) entitled ***Fight Terrorism in all Forms and Manifestations*** was adopted by 29 votes for, 0 votes against and 0 abstentions

MAR-1 entitled ***The Protection of Human Rights, A Necessity to Preserve Human Dignity, To Establish International Peace and Security and Favour Progress and Prosperity in the World*** was adopted by 28 votes for, 0 votes against and 0 abstentions
(Paragraph 3 was changed, old text ~~Southern~~ - new text a number of and Paragraph 7 the old text ~~notably by Southern countries~~ was deleted)

MAR-3 entitled ***The Protection of the Environment, an Unavoidable Arrival in the Durable Development Process*** was rejected by 4 votes for, 13 votes against and 5 abstentions

MAR-4 AMD 2 entitled ***Put an End to the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict*** – Adopted with changes agreed by the Israeli delegation was adopted by 16 votes for, 0 votes against and 10 abstentions

FUS PAL-1/6 entitled ***For a Peaceful Solution to the Israeli –Palestine Conflict*** was postponed to the next General Assembly due to an even vote by 11 votes for, 11 votes against and 3 abstentions

MAR-5 entitled ***Corruption is a Threat to the Stability and Security of the People*** was adopted by 11 votes for, 9 votes against and 9 abstentions

MAR-8 entitled ***For International Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage Against New Dangers of Destruction*** was adopted by 23 votes for, 0 votes against and 2 abstentions

MAR-10 entitled ***For a Global Awareness of the Situation of Women in the World*** was adopted by 31 votes for, 0 votes against and 1 abstention

MAR-12 entitled ***Combating Transborder Organised Crime*** was adopted by 22 votes for, 0 votes against and 5 abstentions

NEP-1 AMD entitled ***Veterans to Assist with the Aftermath of National Disasters*** was adopted by 29 votes for, 0 votes against and 1 abstention

KOR-1 entitled ***For the Denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula*** was postponed to the next General Assembly due to the absence of the Korean delegation

MAR-7 AMD entitled ***Put an End to the Inhumane Situations of the Saharan Populations*** was adopted by 23 votes for, 0 votes against and 6 abstentions

17. Symposiums: Veterans Support

This symposium was the initiative of Lt Gen Remco SEIJN (Netherlands) (in his capacity as Chairman of the SCEA Working Group on Western European Countries). Mr Jos WEERTS (Netherlands), former Senior Director at the Centre of Research and Expertise of the Veterans Institute at Doorn, gave a brief introduction and invited Dr Nicola Sorfleet (United Kingdom), Head of Psychological Therapies at Combat Stress, to give her presentation.

Dr. Sorfleet outlined the services of Combat Stress, the situation in the UK in relation to National Health Service provision and her role overseeing the delivery of a National Specialist Commissioned Treatment Programme for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. She also provided an overview of the clinical outcomes from the programme, which has treated over 900 Veterans with 70% of its attendees showing improvements in their symptoms and levels of functioning

Dr. Sorfleet also stressed that social or existential problems, mood disorders (depression), general anxiety disorders and abuse or dependency disorders (alcohol, drugs, gambling) can frequently arise as a consequence of wartime or war-like experiences.

The presentation was extremely well received and generated a number of questions from the delegations present, particularly from the delegations of Germany and Morocco.

A copy of the presentation is available to download on the WVF website.

18. Special session: 2015 – ANNIVERSARY YEAR

18.1. 70th Anniversary of End of WWII
18.2. 70th Anniversary of The Signature of The Charter for the UN

Dr Janusz Zuziak, an eminent lecturer from the Polish National Defence University gave a very interesting talk on the Polish military effort in World War II. He outlined the gallant efforts of the Polish defence against the Nazi invasion, rapidly followed by that from the Soviet Union, and subsequent operations by armed underground resistance movements and actions by Polish formed units in Europe, North Africa and the Middle East. Dr Zuziak concluded that in spite of its huge

sacrifice and military undertaking Poland was purely an object in the great game of the super powers and, after the war ended, Poland did not emerge with the feeling that it was amongst the winners.

Dr. Zuziak also talked about Poland's accession to the UN. The text of his presentation is available on the WVF website.

18.3. 65th Anniversary of the WVF

WVF Secretary General Mr. Mohammed Benjelloun presented a text drafted by Président d'Honneur of the WVF Mr. Serge Wourgaft. A transcript of the text can be found on the WVF website.

19. Public Relations

Lt. Gen Godfrey Giles presented the concept of World Veterans Voice which aimed to promote the WVF in a positive way with the principal goal of engaging the general public with war veterans and victims of war and creating better understanding and awareness of the consequences of war and conflict.

The project also aimed to support those initiatives that have similar aims and objectives as the WVF.

He explained that the project had attracted funding from V-Fonds (Netherlands).

The issue was discussed but no decision was taken.

20. Election of the Members of the Executive Board and the Members of the Financial Committee

President:
Candidates were

1. Dan-Viggo BERGTUN (28 votes)
2. Remco SEIJN (3 votes)

3 votes were void.

Mr Dan-Viggo BERGTUN was elected.

Deputy President:

Mr Dan-Viggo BERGTUN (Norway), Gen Stanislaw WOZNIAK (Poland), Dr El Mostafa EL KTIRI (Morocco) and Mr Robert CREANGE (France) withdrew their nominations.

As no candidates remained delegations were asked to propose candidates.

Admiral Mohd ANWAR (Malaysia) and Mr Mohammed BENJELLOUN (Morocco) were then both nominated and seconded.

Before the vote was taken, the Head of the Moroccan delegation informed the General Assembly that the nomination of Mr Mohammed BENJELLOUN was not supported by Morocco. The election process was then suspended to allow the Executive Board to consider this unexpected development.

After the adjournment the President invited the delegations present to vote on whether Mr Mohammed BENJELLOUN should be allowed to stand for election. This proposal was rejected by 9 votes for, 7 votes against and 2 abstentions.

Therefore Admiral Mohd ANWAR (Malaysia) was elected Deputy President.

Treasurer General:

Candidate was

1. Mrs Inge NEDERGAARD

Mrs Inge NEDERGAARD was therefore elected Treasurer General

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Financial Committee:
Candidates were

1. Lt Col Joseph FALZON (18 votes) Elected Member of the Financial Committee
2. Mr Robert CREANGE (18 votes) Elected Member of the Financial Committee
3. Col Lau Kee SIONG (18 votes) Elected Member of the Financial Committee
4. Mr Anders RAMNERUP (11 votes) Elected Alternate Member of the Financial Committee
5. Lt Col (Ret.) Svein-Erik MALMÖ-MOEN (10 votes) Elected Alternate Member of the Financial Committee

21. Ratification of the ex officio appointment of the Chairpersons of the Regional Standing Committees (Vice President, members of Executive Board)

The ex-officio appointment of the elected Chairpersons of the Regional Standing Committees as Vice Presidents of the WVF were ratified:

Standing Committee on African Affairs: Col Alfred FULLER (Cameroon)
Standing Committee for Asia and the Pacific: Lt. Gen Chung-Yuan KAO (ROC on Taiwan)
Standing Committee on European Affairs: General Stanislaw WOZNIAK (Poland)
Standing Committee on Women: Major Geirhild SNILDAL ENGEN (Norway)

22. Honorary titles

Honorary President

- Mr Jacques GOUJAT

Honorary Vice President

- Lgr. Godfrey GILES
- Mrs Marie-Elisabeth SVERI

23. Rehabilitation Prizes

The 2015 WVF Rehabilitation Prize was awarded to seven distinguished individuals and organisations in recognition of their work and achievements for the benefit of disabled veterans. The recipients were as follows:

- **Colonel John Etherington OBE – United Kingdom**. For his continued devotion to rehabilitation medicine of military personnel, veterans and civilians over decades at various levels. As the Director of Defence Rehabilitation he has produced policies and planning for DMRC Headley Court, the 15 Regional Rehabilitation units in UK and Germany plus 150 Primary Care Rehabilitation facilities. As National Clinical Director of Rehabilitation and Community Rehabilitation for NHS England he has transformed these services in the UK.
- **Mr Haim Bar – Israel - Zahal Disabled Veterans Organisation**. For his continued devotion to rehabilitation of disabled veterans through his contribution to defining and enforcing their legal rights, personally showing that life can go on in spite of their disabilities, ensuring their participation in sports at the highest level internationally and ensuring their recognition with an official annual day to their honour on November 29 each year.
- **"Tzevet" Association Health and Rehabilitation System – Israel.** In recognition of the continued long-term care and health care system given to thousands of veterans and their families over the last decade, which supplements the existing governmental health law with special emphasis on rehabilitation.

- **Mr Kim Deok Nam – South Korea.** For his continued devotion to veterans as the President of the Korea Disabled Veterans Sports Council and the promotion of sports programmes to improve their rehabilitation, health and wellbeing.
- **Centre of Studies for Medical, Psychological and Social Support for Veterans (CEAMPS) – Portugal.** For establishing, over many years, a network of volunteers who identify veterans and their families needing assistance, and via their local specialised services oversee and assist with their rehabilitation, with special focus on PTSD, poverty and social exclusion.
- **ITF Enhancing Human Security - Slovenia.** For commitment to the rectification of landmine issues and helping landmine survivors with physical and socio-economic rehabilitation, across the South Eastern Europe region over many decades and now embarking on a strategy for improving community resilience to the impact of mines/ERW posed by arms and ammunition in conflict affected communities.
- **The Mohammed V Foundation for Solidarity – Morocco.** For their humanitarian support of projects and programs undertaken for the benefit of veterans, war victims and victims of natural disasters in Morocco. Also for its interventions with other countries in assisting the disabled with rehabilitation and integration into communities and support of populations in conflict situations.

24. Decoration Ceremony (Medallions)

The Head of the Polish delegation then presented Polish Medals of Honour to Mr Dan-Viggo BERGTUN (Norway), Mr Jacques GOUJAT (France), Mrs Marie Elisabeth SVERI (Norway) and Maj Gen Rainer FIEGLE (Germany).

25. Report of the plenary sessions

The report would be submitted to the WVF Secretariat for distribution after the Assembly.

26. Other matters

An appeal was put forward by Morocco concerning migrants and was adopted.

A declaration was presented by Croatia concerning the political situation in the world and the outbreak of new armed conflicts. The declaration was adopted.

27. Date and place of the next General Assembly

The location of 29th General Assembly remained to be defined

28. Closing of The General Assembly

The new President Mr Dan-Viggo BERGTUN thanked the participants for their support and spoke about the 3 upcoming years.

A number of delegations expressed their gratitude and recognition to Gen Stanislaw WOZNIAK (Poland), The Office for War Veterans and Victims of Oppression and Member Organisations from Poland for the outstanding hospitality and all the excellent arrangements made for the General Assembly.

Mr Jacques GOUJAT thanked all the participants for their cooperation and contributions. He also warmly thanked the members of the Secretariat of the WVF, the Polish Organising Committee and the management and staff of the Sheraton Hotel. Finally he thanked the interpreters for their perseverance and diligence.

The 28th General Assembly was the declared closed.