

# **ANKYLOSING SPONDYLITIS INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION**

## **Report and Accounts 31 December 2018**

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## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees present their report and the annual accounts of the Ankylosing Spondylitis International Federation (“ASIF”) for the year ended 31 December 2018, prepared in accordance with current statutory requirements.

ASIF was registered as a Charity in England and Wales (charity registration no 1173902) on 21 July 2017.

### 1. STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

#### a. Constitution

ASIF is an unincorporated association, formed in 1988, comprising a world network of societies of patients suffering from Ankylosing Spondylitis (“AS”). These societies are members of ASIF.

ASIF’s constitution, adopted on 8 October 2016, includes the requirement that a general meeting of all members of ASIF must be held annually, at which Trustees are elected to manage the affairs of the association.

The Objects of the Charity, as adopted at a Special General Meeting in June 2017, are:

*“The relief of sickness and preservation of health by advancing the diagnosis of, and treatment of persons suffering from, Ankylosing Spondylitis and its related conditions throughout the world through promoting awareness of and funding and encouraging research into, the causes, diagnosis and effective treatments of Ankylosing Spondylitis and its related conditions throughout the world and disseminating the results of such research worldwide.”*

#### b. Trustees

The constitution requires that there are a minimum of 5 Trustees and a maximum of 10. Trustees are appointed for a term of 4 years and are eligible for appointment for a second term.

The Trustees who served during the year were:

Zhivko Yankov	Chairman	Bulgaria
Andri Phoka	Secretary	Cyprus
Hedley Hamilton	Vice President and Treasurer	UK
Tuncay Duruoz		Turkey
Ruta Grigiene		Lithuania
Raj Mahapatra		UK
Yuki Zeniya	(appointed 11 October 2018)	Japan
Cassie Shafer	(appointed 11 October 2018)	USA
Alexei Sitalo	(appointed 11 October 2018)	Russia

#### c. Officials and Advisers

Accountant	Simon Frost, Godalming, UK
Bankers	HSBC, Woolwich, London, UK
Examiner	Justino Romao, Lisboa, Portugal

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – continued**

### **1. STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT – continued**

#### **d. Partnerships and Networks**

ASIF is a member of the European League Against Rheumatism (“EULAR”) and actively supports EULAR meetings and conventions.

ASIF maintains a close relationship with People with Arthritis/Rheumatism in Europe (“PARE”).

#### **e. Management**

ASIF is administered by the Trustees, who meet at least six times a year. The Trustees determine and implement ASIF policies, decide on the appropriateness and timing of projects, review existing funds and set budgets for future expenditure. Decisions are made by simple majority vote.

Trustees are entitled to claim reimbursement of expenses. They are not normally entitled to receive any remuneration but from time to time they may be paid fees for representing ASIF at international conferences. Such payments are individually approved by the Trustees acting as a whole.

#### **f. Risk assessment**

The Trustees have reviewed the risks faced by ASIF and have adopted appropriate policies to mitigate these risks. The principal risks and the policies adopted are as follows:

- Risk of loss of funds: Funds are maintained solely as bank balances and as a result there is no investment risk.
- Risk of loss of through fraud: bank accounts are maintained so that at least two signatories are required to effect any payments.

The Trustees believe that ASIF has sufficient resources for the time being to support its activities.

### **2. MISSION AND OBJECTIVE**

ASIF’s mission is to increase public awareness of AS and related diseases and to disseminate knowledge of these diseases throughout the world.

ASIF’s charitable objective is the relief of sickness and preservation of health by advancing the diagnosis of, and treatment of persons suffering from, Ankylosing Spondylitis and its related conditions throughout the world through promoting awareness of and funding and encouraging research into, the causes, diagnosis and effective treatments of Ankylosing Spondylitis and its related conditions throughout the world and disseminating the results of such research worldwide.

ASIF seeks to achieve this objective through organising conferences for member organisations, through attending conferences organised by associated organisations, through running projects and by disseminating information on its website and by other means to its members and the public, and through making presentations to affiliated groups including representatives of the pharmaceutical industry.



## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES - continued

### 3. ACHIEVEMENTS, PERFORMANCE AND FINANCIAL REVIEW

#### a. Performance in the year under review

During the year ASIF raised funds totalling £49,793 (2017 - £30,484) of which £43,919 (2017 - £27,440) related to the specific activities undertaken in the year.

ASIF incurred costs of £28,067 (2017 - £6,180) on educational activities and £26,169 (2017 - £15,873) on campaigning activities during the year.

ASIF's business plan 2017-2020 includes projects which are broadly based and cover three main areas:

<i>Website Development</i>	to create a platform for easy exchange of information
<i>Information and Awareness</i>	to create projects and campaigns that raise awareness and reduce the delay in diagnosis.
<i>Increase in Membership</i>	to increase the number of member countries therefore increasing awareness and to create tools to assist countries where there is no representation

In 2018 ASIF has made the following progress towards achieving the goals set out in the business plan.

#### *Website Development in 2018*

In 2018 ASIF developed and launched a new website at [www.asif.info](http://www.asif.info). This has been widely well-received. It is now possible to advertise news and projects and the home page also includes a link to the #ASWalkSelfie pictures that were a major part of the World AS Day project in 2018. The website project is ongoing and, at the request of member, there is a plan to create a members' forum in 2019.

#### *Information and Awareness*

ASIF ran two main projects for World AS Day in 2018, both in collaboration with WalkAsOne. The first was WalkYourASOff, which promoted a month of walking, and the second was the ASWalkSelfie. We asked members to promote the taking and posting of selfies which were posted to facebook, twitter and Instagram and from there were linked back into the ASIF website. We translated the instructions for both initiatives into 8 languages and teams took part around the globe.

In October 2018, ASIF held a very successful 13<sup>th</sup> General Council Meeting in China. This was the first time the meeting had been held outside of Europe. A key milestone for ASIF. Delegates from over 20 countries were the guests of our hosts the Chinese AS Society. The opportunity for ASIF's members to learn from each other via networking, presentations, sharing information and workshops remains the best added-value that ASIF can offer its members.

#### *Increase in Membership*

In 2018 we welcomed South Africa, Columbia, Chile and the Ukraine as new country members. ASIF continues to work on attracting new members around the globe and to look at ways we can help those countries where there is no patient association, to start one.

In 2018 ASIF was very happy to welcome three new Trustees, Cassie Shafer, USA, Yuki Zeniya, Japan and Aleksei Sitalo, Russia. This will broaden the worldwide spread and reach of the Trustee board and will increase its areas of expertise.

In 2019 we intend to increase awareness of World AS Day by supporting projects such as Walk Your AS Off and the Global Spondylitis Summit. The Trustee Board has created sub-committees to work specifically on World AS Day and Social Media. In 2019, in addition to regular newsletters, we intend to increase awareness via social media campaigns.

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES - continued**

### **3. ACHIEVEMENTS, PERFORMANCE AND FINANCIAL REVIEW - continued**

ASIF is also working with our industry partners to promote further awareness of Axial Spondyloarthritis (AxSpa). IMAS, the International Mapping of Ankylosing Spondylitis will show the results of a global survey, instigated by the University of Saville and Ceade and supported by Novartis.

Together with UCB we plan to create and disseminate infographics concentrating on explaining the latest terminology around AxSpa which has changed over the last few years and can cause confusion and also to inform people about the prevalence across the population, in particular how it affects women far more than was previously believed.

#### **b. Investment performance**

ASIF's funds are held in cash. The main part is on deposit with HSBC on which interest is earned. Because of the current economic climate interest rates are very low and income from this source is very limited.

#### **c. Fundraising**

ASIF does not seek to raise funds direct from the public. Instead it seeks subscriptions from its member organisations and solicits support from the pharmaceutical industry and from associated institutions and charitable organisations.

#### **d. Reserves**

ASIF's Reserves comprise the Unrestricted Fund.

The Restricted Funds are those amounts set aside to fund specific projects for which grants from Pharmaceutical companies and other interested institutions are solicited.

The Unrestricted Fund represents accumulated surplus income and can be expended in accordance with the ASIF's objectives without further restriction.

### **4. STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES IN RESPECT OF THE ACCOUNTS**

The Trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Trustees are required to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of ASIF and of the incoming resources and application of funds for that year. In preparing those accounts, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the applicable accounting standards
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- prepare the accounts on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that ASIF will continue in operation.

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES - continued**

**4. STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES - continued**

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the transactions undertaken and to disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of ASIF and to enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with relevant regulations and the provisions of the Constitution. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of ASIF and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

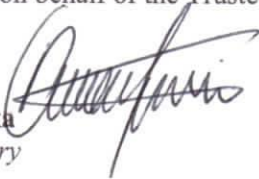
The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the financial information included on ASIF's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

**5. AUDITORS**

Mr Justino Romao, registered auditor, has expressed his willingness to continue as the charity's auditor.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees

**A Phoka**  
Secretary



27 May 2019



**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT  
TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE ANKYLOSING SPONDYLITIS INTERNATIONAL  
FEDERATION**

Report on the Financial Statements as at December 31, 2018

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of the ANKYLOSING SPONDYLITIS INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION (ASIF), which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2018, the statement of income, for the year then ended, and notes with a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

**Responsibilities**

ASIF's Trustees are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my review. I conducted the audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that I comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

**Basis for the opinion**

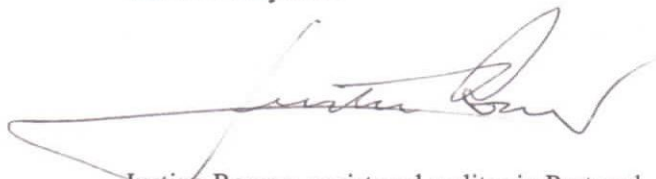
An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

**Opinion**

In my opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of ANKYLOSING SPONDYLITIS INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION as at December 31, 2018, and its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with Financial Reporting Standards applicable to non-profit organizations.

Date: 27 May 2019



Justino Romao, registered auditor in Portugal  
Avenida 5 de Outubro 85 3º  
1050-050 Lisboa, Portugal

ANKYLOSING SPONDYLITIS INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION  
Report & Accounts 2018

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**For the year to 31 December 2018**

	Note	Unrestricted Fund £	Restricted Funds £	Total Activity 2018 £	Total Activity 2017 £
<b>Income from:</b>					
Subscriptions and donations		5,227	-	5,227	2,356
Principal activities		43,919	-	43,919	27,440
Investments		647	-	647	688
<b>Total income</b>		<b>49,793</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>49,793</b>	<b>30,484</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Raising funds		279	-	279	333
Principal activities					
Education		28,067	-	28,067	6,180
Campaigning		26,169	-	26,169	15,873
Governance		5,127	-	5,127	6,600
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>59,642</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>59,642</b>	<b>28,986</b>
<b>Net income (expenditure)</b>		<b>(9,849)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(9,849)</b>	<b>1,498</b>
Transfers between Funds		-	-	-	-
Gains/losses on investments		-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(9,849)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(9,849)</b>	<b>1,498</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		<b>113,608</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>113,608</b>	<b>112,110</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	3	<b>103,759</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>103,759</b>	<b>113,608</b>

The notes on pages 9-10 form part of these accounts.



**ANKYLOSING SPONDYLITIS INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION**  
**Report & Accounts 2018**

**BALANCE SHEET**  
**31 December 2018**

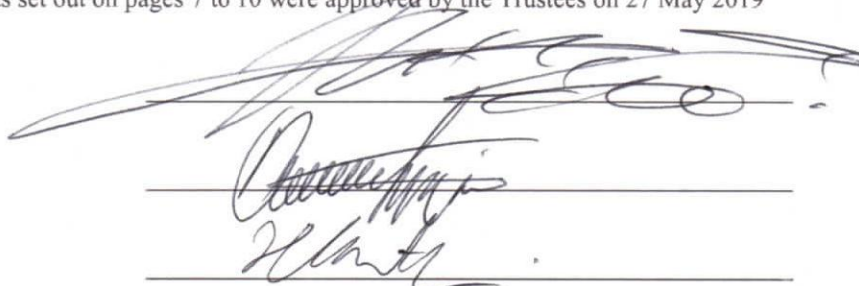
	Note	31 December 2018 £	31 December 2017 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Investments		-	-
<b>TOTAL FIXED ASSETS</b>		-	-
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Prepayments		-	7,525
Cash at bank and in hand	2	105,304	107,628
<b>CREDITORS:</b>			
Amounts falling due within one year			
Accruals		(1,545)	(1,545)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		103,759	113,608
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>		103,759	113,608
<b>The Funds of the charity</b>			
Restricted Funds		-	-
Unrestricted Fund		103,759	113,608
<b>TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS</b>	3	103,759	113,608

The Accounts set out on pages 7 to 10 were approved by the Trustees on 27 May 2019

Z Yankov  
Chairman

A Phoka  
Secretary

H Hamilton  
Treasurer



**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**As at 31 December 2017**

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**(a) Accounting convention:**

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) issued in 2014 and under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined in FRS102.

ASIF is exempt from the requirement to provide a Cash Flow Statement.

**(b) Designation of funds:**

Restricted Funds are maintained where the funds raised are to be used for specific purposes. Accumulated surplus income, which forms the Fund's reserves, is retained in Unrestricted Funds. Reserves are maintained to meet the Fund's continuing obligations and to cater for future needs and contingencies. Unrestricted funds comprise those funds which the trustees are free to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objects.

**(c) Investments:**

The investments are a form of basic financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value at the balance sheet date and unrealised investment gains or losses are reflected in the Statement of Financial Activities.

**(d) Subscriptions, donations and legacies:**

All income is recognised once ASIF has entitlement to the income and it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably. Subscriptions from members are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when received. Donations and legacies from private and other sources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when received. Gifts-in-kind are valued by the Trustees and are included at that valuation in the Statement of Financial Activities when received.

**(e) Grants received:**

Grants received from pharmaceutical companies towards shared costs are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when received or deferred to the extent that they relate to future accounting periods.

**(f) Expenditure and liabilities:**

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates. Costs of generating funds comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income. Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by ASIF in the delivery of its activities and services for the beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them. Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the audit fees and fees linked to the strategic management of the charity. Support costs are allocated to charitable activities in proportion to the estimated time expended by the Society's staff on these activities.

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance Sheet date as a result of a past event and it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably. Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

**(g) Foreign currency:**

Foreign currency transactions are translated at the average exchange rate applicable during the year. Assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date are translated at the exchange rate applicable at that date. Foreign exchange differences arising are recorded in the Statement of Financial Activities for the year in which they arise.