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Report on the accounts for the year 2022 And provisional budget for 2023

Bordeaux, 16 mars 2023

As indicated to members last week, the independent accountant "Gadras associés" did not have the material time to close AREPO's 2022 accounts within the statutory deadline of 30 days before the General Assembly. You will therefore be invited to vote on these accounts by e-mail after the General Assembly on March 2nd.

I therefore present to you the report on the 2022 accounts prepared by the independent accountant and the provisional budget for 2023. You will also find attached the report of the independent accountant.

Comments on expenditure 2022

The main expenditures in 2022 were:

- More than €30,000 as in 2021 for interpretation services organised for GAs and Executive Board meetings with an increase in the number of language combinations used;
- Staff costs of almost €89,000 with the end of Matteo's internship, the return of Giulia from maternity leave and Francesca.
- Consulting expenses for European projects for €38,000.
In the context of a public contract
- And, with the end of the restrictions linked to COVID, the resumption of travel for 44,000 € of which 16,000 € (AREPO staff) and 28,000 € (organisation costs of plenary meetings and travel of Executive Board members).
- Finally, €7,800 for work on intellectual property (defence of GIs on the Internet) as part of the Agrosmart Global project.

www.arepoquality.eu

Secretary General: secgen@arepoquality.eu; Tel: + 33 (0) 6 10 13 11 89
Representative Office in Brussels: policyofficer@arepoquality.eu; Tel: + 32 (0) 4 86 60 54 62



It is worth recalling the agreement with the Emilia-Romagna region, which makes its premises in Brussels available free of charge, with AREPO only incurring costs for insurance of goods and persons. However, AREPO has taken out a more comprehensive insurance policy for €2,900 (previously €600).

In addition, it is worth mentioning the agreement with the Nouvelle-Aquitaine Region, which provides the Secretary General's time and that of Alexandra Duriez, the assistant accountant, available free of charge.

Comments on the 2022 revenue

29 regions are up to date with their membership fees and one region is in arrears, i.e. 100% of the official membership. All these contributions are for the year 2022. In such a difficult economic context, this mark of confidence obliges us to achieve better results in the defence of quality and origin products in the interest of producers and the development of rural areas.

The Horizon2020 MOVING project started in September 2020 and we received a first payment of €41,400 at the end of 2020. Therefore, there were no further payments in 2022. In this project, staff and consultancy costs are 100% funded. The MOVING project on sustainable mountains will represent a funding of €85,600 over 4 years.

It should be noted that AREPO's three German member regions, Baden-Württemberg, Bavaria and Hesse, joined forces to organise the General Assembly at the end of 2022 in Würzburg. AREPO incurred costs usually covered by the host region and these costs were reimbursed by the 3 German regions.

Commentary on the 2022 result

The financial year 2022 shows a negative result of -48 544 €. The association funds remain at an appreciable level of 181,000 €. The objective of controlling the level of association funds, in order not to store public money in an exaggerated manner, has now been achieved.

It is therefore now a question of better controlling costs, further developing European projects and recruiting new regions.



Comments on the provisional budget 2023.

The provisional budget for 2023 will, as usual, be proposed in balance.

In addition to the first General Assembly in Caceres, AREPO will hold its tri-annual event in Brussels to mark the end of the European Agrosmart Global project. The event has a cost of €34,000. The project will take into account 75% of the cost, up to a maximum of €20,115.

In addition, the project will be the subject of the last two financial reporting periods. A financial reporting will also be made for the MOVING project.

The consulting budget will decrease (3000 €/month → 2500 €/month) to save money.

Finally, two regions have already announced their wish to join AREPO: Grand-Est (France) and Castilla y Leon (Spain). The effort to develop the number of members is one of the priorities although AREPO already represents more than 60% of the geographical indications.

The Region of Western Macedonia has paid two annual membership fees since the GA in Caceres.