

# MINUTES IACR BOARD MEETING *VIRTUAL-12 '22*

14 DECEMBER 2022

## 1. OPENING MATTERS

**1.1. Welcome, roll of attendees, identification of proxies.** At 16h03 CEST Abdalla opens the meeting and briefly goes around for an introductory round, confirming attendees and establishing who is holding proxies. There are 20 full time attendees with the following proxies: LaMacchia holds Stebila's proxy (when absent), Abdalla holds Stehlé's proxy (when absent), Schwabe holds Yang's proxy (when absent), Preneel holds Rijmen's proxy, Hale holds Boyd's proxy, and Stebila holds Lepoint's proxy (when absent). Benjamim Wesolowski is present as an observer to prepare for his new role as Secretary.

### 1.1.1. *Roll of Attendees.*

*Attendees* (Elected). Michel Abdalla (President 2020-2022); Joppe Bos (Secretary 2020-2022); Shai Halevi (Vice President 2020-2022); Brian LaMacchia (Treasurer 2020-2022); Tancrede Lepoint (Director 2021-2023); Bart Preneel (Director 2020-2022, *FSE* Steering Committee); Peter Schwabe (Director 2020-2022); Francois-Xavier Standaert (Director 2020-2022, *CHES* Steering Committee); Bo-Yin Yang (Director 2022-2024, *Asiacrypt'22* General Chair); Moti Yung (Director 2021-2023, *PKC* Steering Committee);

*Attendees* (Appointed). Masayuki Abe (Director 2021-2023); Allison Bishop (*Crypto'22* General Chair (2021-2022)); Jian Guo (Director 2022-2024); Britta Hale (*Crypto'23* General Chair (2022-2023)); Anna Lysyanskaya (Director 2022-2024); Douglas Stebila (Membership Secretary (2017-2022)); Damien Stehlé (*Eurocrypt'23* General Chair (2022-2023)); Fangguo Zhang (*Asiacrypt'23* General Chair);

*Attendees* (Representatives and Others). Kevin S. McCurley (Database Administrator);

*Absentees* (Appointed). Foteini Baldimtsi (Communications Secretary (2019-2022)); Colin Boyd (*Eurocrypt'22* General Chair; Vincent Rijmen (Journal of Cryptology Editor-in-Chief 2021–2023);

*Absentees* (Representatives and Others). Tal Malkin (*TCC* Steering Committee); Mitsuru Matsui (*Asiacrypt* Steering Committee); Hilarie Orman (Archivist); Kenny Paterson (*RWC* Steering Committee); Tal Rabin (Code-of-conduct Liaison); Yu Yu (Webmaster).

**1.2. Approve minutes from last BoD virtual meeting.** The President thanks the Secretary for the completion of the minutes which have been shared before the current Board Meeting. Abdalla calls for a vote to approve the minutes.

**Decision 1** (unanimous). *The Board approves the Minutes of the IACR Board Meeting Virtual-11 '22.*

## 2. CONFERENCES

**2.1. Update on upcoming conferences.** Yang gives a summary of *Asiacrypt 2022*: this was a success and many people attended. Stebila reports that we had approximately 240 physical attendees while around 150 people attended the affiliated workshops. LaMacchia reports that *RWC* is currently in the reviewing phase. Everything is on-track. It is noted that *FSE* takes place the week before *RWC* in Kobe, Japan and it would be good to cross-advertise.

## 3. TOPICS

**3.1. CANS 2022 follow-up.** The President recalls the reported incident at *CANS 2022* which was organized as an "in cooperation with IACR" event. In total four speakers were not allowed to give talks although some of them received a visa. The reason seems to be the additional requirement of a "speaker visa". The President asks if we should remove this ICW status from *CANS*. Schwabe asks if this means retroactively removing this for *CANS 2022* or for all *CANS* events (in the future). Halevi is in favor of removing this retroactively for *CANS 2022*. Abe points out that we should make it clear what the red line is for the IACR. Preneel stresses that the Board needs to make a choice: what are exactly the IACR rules we impose and then we should enforce these rules. The issue here is not with a visa to enter the country but this addition requirement of a speaker visa. There follows a discussion with the following outcome.

**Decision 2.** *The Board decides to retroactively revoke the “in cooperation with IACR” status for CANS 2022.*

Action Point 1: **President** (*no time set*):

Craft an updated policy for the “in cooperation with IACR” events.

3.2. **FSE 2023 proposal vote.** The Board has received an updated proposal for *FSE 2023* from the *FSE* Steering Committee. The original *FSE* proposal was to hold *FSE 2023* in China Beijing but due to the possible travel restrictions the *FSE* Steering committee has been looking for alternatives. The updated proposal is to hold a parallel event in Japan. The main event is in Beijing, China with a smaller version in Kobi, Japan. The President comments that although this will be more work and more expensive this will be a good experiment. Yung notes that we should make clear what we want to learn from this experiment to run at two locations in parallel. Preneel urges the Board to make a decision since otherwise it won't be possible to organize both events in time. It is still undecided how to organize the program talks from both locations in China and Japan. The Treasurer asks if he should treat this as one or two separate events. Viewing this as one *FSE* event at two locations would be administratively much easier: the Board agrees.

**Decision 3** (unanimous). *The Board approves the recommendation from the FSE Steering Committee to hold FSE 2023 in both Beijing, China with Bin Zhang and Meiqing Wang as General Chairs and in parallel in Kobe, Japan with Takanori Isobe and Fukang Liu as General Chairs.*

3.3. **CHES 2024 proposal vote.** The Board has received a proposal for *CHES 2024* in Halifax, Canada from the *CHES* Steering Committee. The President explains this is a very preliminary budget. The hotel seems to be popular but the Steering Committee. LaMacchia recalls that the plan was to hold event *CHES* in Beijing, China but it was decided to go to Canada instead. Stebila remarks that the current proposal estimates around 550 attendees: this might be an overestimation. There follows a discussion: all-in-all this looks like a good proposal. The figures are quite high but inflation has been high as well. Preneel remarks that the budget seems to be independent of the numbers of attendees so we should be fine.

**Decision 4** (unanimous). *The Board approves the recommendation from the CHES Steering Committee to hold CHES 2024 in Halifax, Canada with Colin O’Flynn and Hilary Taylor as General Chairs.*

#### 4. APPOINTMENTS

4.1. **Crypto 2024 General Chair.** The President recalls that we need to appoint the General Chair for *Crypto 2024*. Before the Board meeting several excellent candidates have been nominated, and after discussion a candidate is selected.

**Decision 5.** *Tancrede Lepoint is appointed the General Chair for Crypto 2024. [Lepoint subsequently accepted.]*

4.2. **CiC Editor-in-Chief candidates.** The President recalls that we need to select the second Editor-in-Chief for the IACR Communications in Cryptology journal. Some candidates have been nominated before the Board meeting. After a discussion it is agreed to use an additional week to collect more nominations. Then we can ask some questions over e-mail to the candidates. We can vote on the second Editor-in-Chief using Helios in January. Bos asks if we can aim to finalize this before the end of January. The President can only promise to proceed as quickly as possible.

4.3. **Springer.** The President has added an additional topic to the agenda: Springer. Springer has been late for multiple recent conferences. For *Asiacrypt* the proceedings are still not available. There follows a discussion and it is agreed that the most logical way forward is to inform Springer we do not want to have an auto-renewal option and the IACR should start to prepare to leave Springer. Our contract will be renewed until 31 December 2024 which means we should notify Springer by 1 March 2024. We have time but we should prepare.

#### 5. CLOSING MATTERS

Abdalla closes the meeting officially at 18h00 CEST.