MINUTES IACR BOARD MEETING *VIRTUAL-4 '21*

14 APRIL 2021

1. OPENING MATTERS

1.1. **Welcome, roll of attendees, identification of proxies.** At 16h04 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 Yung holding proxy for Standaert. These minutes are reordered to the original agenda for consistency.

1.1.1. *Roll of Attendees.*

Attendees (Elected). Michel Abdalla (President 2020-2022); Shai Halevi (Vice President 2020-2022, *TCC* Steering Committee); Brian LaMacchia (Treasurer 2020-2022); Joppe Bos (Secretary 2020-2022); Masayuki Abe (Director 2021-2023); Marc Fischlin (Director 2020-2021); Nadia Heninger (Director 2019-2021); Tancrède Lepoint (Director 2021-2023); Anna Lysyanskaya (Director 2019-2021); Bart Preneel (Director 2020-2022, *FSE* Steering Committee); Peter Schwabe (Director 2020-2022); Moti Yung (Director 2021-2023, *PKC* Steering Committee).

Attendees (Appointed). Foteini Baldimtsi (Communications Secretary (2019-2022)); Lejla Batina (*Eurocrypt'20/'21* General Chair (2019-2021)); Allison Bishop (*Crypto'22* General Chair (2021-2022)); Colin Boyd (*Eurocrypt'22* General Chair previously *Eurocrypt'21* General Chair (2020-2022)); Jian Guo (*Asiacrypt'21* General Chair (2020-2021)); Vladimir Kolesnikov (*Crypto'21* General Chair (2020-2021)); Vincent Rijmen (Journal of Cryptology Editor-in-Chief 2021–2023). Douglas Stebila (Membership Secretary (2017-2022)); Bo-Yin Yang (*Asiacrypt'22* General Chair (2021-2022));

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

Absentees (Elected). Francois-Xavier Standaert (Director 2020-2022, *CHES* Steering Committee).

Absentees (Representatives and Others). Hilarie Orman (Archivist); 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-3 '21.*

2. CONFERENCES

2.1. *Asiacrypt* **2023 Proposal.** Zhang is to present the *Asiacrypt'23* proposal. There are audio issues and the President decides to postpone this to the next Board Meeting.

2.2. **Update on 2021 conferences.** McCurley reports that the *PKC* website is online and the registration is open. Kolesnikov provides an update for *Crypto*; sponsorship is going fine. This was planned to be reported back to McCurley in batches but it is suggested to do this as soon as possible to increase visibility of the sponsors on the conference webpage. Schwabe reports that there are no updates for *CHES*. Batina recalls the decision point for a hybrid or virtual *Eurocrypt* is in July and there are no further updates. There are also no updates for *Asiacrypt*: there is still the hope that some travel is possible by December. The decision for a hybrid or virtual *Asiacrypt* will also take place in July.

3. APPOINTMENTS, COMMITTEES, AND POLICIES

The President recalls the Board needs to select the Program Co-Chair for *Crypto 2023*. The second Program Co-Chair for *Crypto 2023* will be decided at the next board virtual meeting. Several excellent candidates are nominated, and after discussion a candidate is selected.

Decision 2. *Anna Lysyanskaya is appointed Program Co-Chair for Crypto 2023. [Lysyanskaya subsequently accepted.]*

4. Topics

4.1. **Ethics committee: update to guidelines.** Lysyanskaya provides an update from the Ethics Committee. Given some feedback from the community they propose some minor changes to the Ethics Guidelines which have been shared with the Board before the meeting. This is related to when a reviewer has an automatic Conflict-of-Interest (CoI) with a submission. In practice, the reviewers will be asked to acknowledge that they have no CoI with the paper by checking a box.

The President wonders if such a checkbox will actually resolve anything. Halevi suggests to include a text box where one can type a statement to indicate a CoI (if any). Halevi also suggests to clarify that discussing a topic with someone does not automatically mean there is a CoI: how should this be phrased in our guidelines? Kolesnikov wonders if this has happened frequently in order to change our policy. Preneel thinks this measure might be an overkill: will the Chair enforce this if reviewers don't fill in this field properly? Bos agrees and wonders who will have to the time to enforce this. He suggests reviewers do this once when they accept to join the Program Committee. Lysyanskaya mentions that this does not cover sub-reviewers. Stebila thinks this is a no-brainer and we should just implement it.

The President concludes the discussion that some minor changes are needed and suggest we vote for this over e-mail.

4.2. **New journal proposal update.** Bos recalls that as agreed in the last Board Meeting the New Journal Committee has been in contact with various external parties to get more information. Bos and Schwabe have upcoming meetings with the Ruhr-Universität Bochum and Radboud University Nijmegen while Bos and Smart are talking to EasyChair and Cambridge University Press. The outcome of these discussions will be shared with the Board in the next meeting.

5. Closing Matters

Abdalla closes the meeting at 17h33 CEST.