



Highlights from the September 2017 Rotary International Board of Directors Meeting

The second 2017–18 RI Board of Directors meeting was held on 25–28 September in Evanston, Illinois, USA. At this meeting the Board reviewed 11 committee reports and recorded 51 decisions.

Club and District

The Board

- received a report on membership trends that included as of 1 July 2017 the following data:
 - membership: 1,202,937 Rotarians (down 4,969 Rotarians from 2016)
 - clubs: 35,656 (up 257 clubs from 2016)
 - average club size: 34 members

Programs and Awards

The Board

- received the Strategic Planning Committee's proposed updates to the process and criteria for establishing Rotary's next corporate project and requested the committee propose recommendations on this process and criteria, including a timeline, at the Board's January 2018 meeting;
- agreed to eliminate the District Leadership Seminar from Rotary's training cycle;
- selected the recipient of the 2017–18 Rotary Alumni Global Service Award and the Rotary Alumni Association of the Year Award, which will be presented at the 2018 Toronto convention;
- supported President Riseley's plan to grant the Rotary Award of Honor to President-elect Sam Owori, who passed away unexpectedly in July.

Meetings

The Board

- tentatively selected Singapore for the 2024 RI Convention and Calgary, Alberta, Canada for the 2025 RI Convention;
- accepted the proposal of Districts 1800, 1850, 1890, and 1940, to host the 2019 Rotary International Convention on 1–5 June 2019 in Hamburg, Germany;
- canceled the 2018 International Institute and agreed to host instead a Rotary Peacebuilding Summit, in conjunction with the 2018 Toronto convention.

Administration and Finances

The Board

- in considering partnership matters, requested the general secretary to institute a new recognition platform for external organizations beginning at contributions of US\$100,000;
- elected John Germ, Per Høyen, Sangkoo Yun, and Gulam A. Vahanvaty to be trustees of The Rotary Foundation, beginning 1 July 2018;
- recommended, at the discretion of RI committee chairs, and in consultation with the general secretary, that incoming members of those committees that have a meeting planned in the second half of the Rotary year be invited to the committee's last meeting;
- approved a new regional leader evaluation methodology to be used for annually assessing the performance of regional coordinators, Rotary public image coordinators, Rotary Foundation coordinators, and endowment/major gifts advisers;
- accepted the preliminary, draft 2016–17 audited financial statements and report on The Rotary Foundation's financial results. An annual report will be published in accordance with the RI Bylaws.