

Summary of Agenda and Minutes of Pathoplexus General Assembly Meeting

Date and time:

10 June 2026, 13:00 CEST

Place:

Virtual (Zoom)

Members present:

Emma Hodcroft (chair)
Nick Goldman
Nawaal Weitz
Richard Neher
Vitor Borges

Peter van Heusden
Anna Parker
Tanja Stadler
Chaoran Chen
Emma Griffiths

Anderson Brito
Franziska Baechler
Alejandra Gonzales
Theo Sanderson
Alan Rice

Senjuti Saha
George Githinji
Anja Bedeker
Michael Bridger (joined later)

Head of the meeting:

Emma Hodcroft

Keeper of the minutes:

Richard Neher

Agenda

1. Determination of quorum (5 active members present)
2. Election of keeper of the minutes
3. Review of the past year by the Executive Board
4. Financial report by the Treasurer
5. Approval of the annual report (activity + financial report) and the Auditors' report and grant discharge to the Executive Board and the Treasurer
6. Program of activities 2026
7. Budget 2026
8. Nomination of an additional SAB member: Placide Mbala
9. Membership discussion
10. EOB/open discussion

Minutes:

Start of the Meeting: 13.05 (CEST)

1. Determination of quorum (5 active members present)

- 18 active members present → quorum reached

2. Election of keeper of the minutes

- Richard Neher was elected as the keeper of the minutes.

3. Review of the past year

- A short overview of achievements of the last year will be presented (covering late 2024-2025)
 - 14 viral pathogens covered by PPX now, 14.7k sequences submitted directly to PPX
 - Joined WHO IPSN in Nov 2025
 - Update on additional features of the PPX database
- Q&A: None

4. Financial report 2025 presented by the Treasurer

- Short presentation on the spends in 2025
 - Assets end of 2025: 9158 CHF
 - Income: 50/50 donations and prize money.
 - Expenses: Software/travel and Miscellaneous (1450 CHF in total)
 - Servers are covered by donated AWS credits
 - Software development covered by associated research groups.

5. Approval of the annual report and auditors report, and grant discharge to the EB and Treasurer

- Chaired by Richard Neher
- The members unanimously discharge the EB and the treasurer. The EB members and the treasurer abstained.

6. Program of activities 2026

- A short overview of the accomplishments so far in 2026 and plans for the second half of the year
- IGWG/PABS discussions
 - Became 'Relevant Stakeholder' to the IGWG
- Funding:
 - 500k US stable coin from Balvi (philanthropic arm of Vitalik Buterin)
- New submissions and viruses
 - Arboviruses
 - ANDV & BDBV outbreaks

7. Budget 2026

- Presentation of the proposed budget for 2026 and acknowledgement by members
 - Grant from Balvi translated into 381k CHF
 - Expected expenses in 2026: 81k
- Q&A: None

8. Nomination of new SAB Member: Placide Mbala

- Vote by the GA to recommend Placide Mbala to the EB for consideration as a new Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) member: 18/19 votes in favor of recommending Placide Mbala to the EB as SAB member

9. Continuation of discussion of membership

- On membership more broadly, members discussed how Pathoplexus could strengthen its position as a stakeholder in policy discussions, including through broadening membership to include institutional members such as academic/research institutions and public health agencies
- Institutional memberships
 - The group explored the concept of institutional memberships, which would likely have non-voting status and could be linked to membership fees. Various fee models were considered, including tiered structures based on GDP or level of usage, with reference made to similar models used by other open-access platforms, such as ArXiv
 - Members also raised the question of what institutional membership would offer to prospective members, with the potential benefits for public health agencies - such as reduced infrastructure burden to submit sequences - noted as relevant.
 - Some caution was expressed around the practical and bureaucratic challenges of institutional membership, particularly for universities and organisations that may lack established data-sharing policies enabling such a commitment. In addition, the current research and funding landscape may make this difficult for some institutions at the moment.
 - Members discussed that some institutions that may be candidates for institutional membership may not yet be aware of Pathoplexus, and awareness remains a challenge
- Membership more generally:
 - There was broad support for ensuring that any expansion of membership reflects genuine global representation and diversity, and not only institutions closely connected to current development efforts.

- The group agreed it would be valuable to hear suggestions from members for potential new institutional or individual members, particularly counterparts in public health agencies who might be keen to engage as active partners.

10. EOB/Open discussion

- A member raised that it would be nice to have more discussion around how to manage potential DUT violations, and more time to hear thoughts and feedback on ongoing PABS/IGWG discussions
- It was proposed that some informal side meetings could be held to discuss these topics further

Meeting was closed at 14:05