

BIEN Report Research Manager

Toru Yamamori

During 2018/19 academic year, I compiled an index to help visitors to the BIEN website navigate the resources that we already have online.

In August 2019, as research manager I was appointed by the 2019 GA (together with Annie Miller) to take the lead in the working group on the Clarification of the Basic Income definition (CBID). The background of this issue is traced back to the 2014 GA in Montreal:

2014: A group of life-members put a motion to GA, which asked to change the definition of Basic Income (BI). The motion was tabled due to time constraint.

2016: In GA in Seoul, two different motions which asked to change the BI definition were put: one is by the same group above with broader signature, and the other is by a different member. Obviously the matters (the discussion itself of BI definition and the procedure on how to discuss two motions on the same topic) needed to be discussed before the GA, thus the EC set up the working group during the congress. I was appointed to chair the group. The group agreed to have a unified motion for a new BI definition and its clarification, and also to have a separate motion on the relationship of BI with other social services. Both motions were passed in the GA with a minor revision.

2017: A life-member put a motion to GA in Lisbon, which changes the clarifications of BI definition. The motion was tabled.

2019: A life-member submit a motion to GA in Hyderabad. Before the GA, the chair and the vice-chair discussed with the submitter, and they agreed to ask the GA to set up the working group. The GA gave the following remit: 'The Chair and Vice chair have asked that a working group should be set up, of which Toru Yamamori and Annie Miller will be leading members, and which other BIEN members will be able to join, to discuss draft wording of a new page or pages on the BIEN website to provide clarification on the definition of Basic Income, the wording to be amended and authorised by the Executive committee before publication. The Executive Committee thanks Annie for her initiative to set up this working group'.

During 2019/20 academic year, following the above GA remit, with Miller I co-chaired monthly online meetings on how to proceed the working group, in which two relevant life member attends: Télémaque Masson, who joined the 2016 working group and currently conducts research on the BI definition, and Ali Mutlu Köylüoğlu, who submitted

the 2017 motion to the GA, and seconded the 2019 motion to the GA.

We prepared for sessions of the open dialogue at the 2020 Congress in Brisbane. While the congress was cancelled due to the current pandemic, we ran monthly study meetings instead and we certainly hope to host an open dialogue at the 2021 congress in Glasgow.

As research manager I also reported the decision of the working group to the EC, and also conveyed the EC's advice to the working group.