



## IEBA NORDICS - Update

### The first 2018 IEBA Nordic Event was held in Oslo on May 28th.

The host of the event was Telenor, a leading Norwegian telecommunication company which also has a strong footprint in a number of Asian countries.

As the number of participants in the event was more than 50, it is clear that after 5 years, IEBA's local branch in Norway is now well established and appreciated.

Mr Bjørn Erik Gigernes from the IEBA Nordic Board and the global painting company Jotun made a welcome speech followed by Mr Hugh Gallagher who gave an update from the IEBA committee.

After the introduction, Telenor gave us two interesting presentations. The Corporate Insurance Manager **Mrs Cecilia Mjelstad** introduced us to the Telenor Group, a company with more than 7.5 million customers in the Nordics, a strong position in emerging Asia, as well as in Thailand and Malaysia. Mrs Mjelstad also explained the role of Telenor Insurance, a separate entity handling all insurances on behalf of the Group, including expatriate solutions as well as multinational pooling.

One of Norway's most experienced professionals in the international HR area, **Mrs Else Hermansen**, gave us a very interesting speech about Telenor and the

transformation from a purely domestic company to a global company. One interesting part of the internationalisation process were challenges related to a new group of employees, namely 'expatriates'. During the last few years Mrs Hermansen has been VP of HR Telenor Region Asia which includes being Head of Telenor's Global Employment Company in Singapore. The total mobile work force in Telenor today is around 500 individuals. Mrs Hermansen concluded by giving an interesting presentation related to her own experience as an expatriate.

The next speaker, **Dr Soren Carstens**, Head of Clinical Operations in BUPA Global, gave us an interesting and important insight into global medical trends. He highlighted the importance of each individual being responsible for himself or herself by focusing on healthy living, exercising and performing annual medical checks in order to reduce the risk of illnesses. A number of innovative tools are available enabling us to control part of our own health.

Dr Carstens also gave us a few words to remember from the Dalai Lama:

*"Our prime purpose in life is to help others and if you can't, at least don't hurt them"*

Working in the medical insurance industry is all about helping others.

The last speaker, **Mrs Esther Amalie Voktor Borgen** from the Consulting Engineering Company Multiconsult, talked about the risk and challenges related to large groups of employees working on projects in high risk areas. She explained how during the last few years Multiconsult have mainstreamed their policy and processes, including implementation of insurance solutions for their mobile work force/project workers in an impressive way.



Bjørn Erik Gigernes from Jotun and IEBA Nordic Board with Gudrun Lanes and Cecilia Mjelstad from Telenor Insurance



## IEBA NORDICS - Update continued



After the formal event, we had dinner in a cosy place near the Telenor office by the sea enabling the participants to continue with informal discussions. ❖

**Vigdís Haug**  
IEBA Nordic Board

### IEBA Nordic Event in Sweden

An IEBA Nordic Event also took place in Stockholm on September 5th, 2018 hosted by SPP. Details can be found on the IEBA website.

### IEBA Denmark

A new IEBA committee has been established in Denmark. The Head of the Committee is Mrs Inge Brabrand from Willis Towers Watson. The intention is to have the first IEBA Denmark Event either at the end of 2018 or the beginning of 2019.



Vigdís Haug