

**EfVET Annual General Meeting of Members**  
**Thursday 26 October 2000, 16.00**  
**CEDEFOP Conference Centre, Thessaloniki, Greece**

**Minutes**

Present:

See annexed list of attendees

**1. Apologies for absence**

Val Davis, former Secretary to the Board, started her responsibility 18 months ago in response to a need. She has recently resigned as Secretary to the Board, having retired.

Maria Filomena Pinheiro, national representative of Portugal

Maria Luisa Berardi Corridoni, national representative of Italy

**2. Minutes of the 1999 AGM**

To be added at the end of the minutes (see annex), under **Report of the Working Group on the future of EfVET**: *“The Action Plan was approved unchanged by the General Assembly”*

The minutes of the 1999 AGM were approved

**3. Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

**4. President’s report**

The outgoing President, Paddy Carpenter presented his annual report (see annex).

A few comments were added:

- Appointment of Mara Garofalo as Executive Secretary of the Central Office. Her functions will include managing of the Central office and acting Secretary to the Board. The Central Office has no trainee for the time being. Help is requested. It was suggested to publish an announcement in the website.
- The EfVET newsletter will now appear more often (4 times a year)
- The Culture project was completed and has been helpful in covering some costs. It is a kind of initiative to be pursued.
- New Steering Committee members: in order to ensure the Working Group Report’s implementation, Adriaan Vrienten was co-opted as a Steering Committee member. His work and that of the whole Working Group was highly commended. Leif Haar was also co-opted as part of the Working Group. Sven-Bertil Kronkvist was invited to join the Steering Committee as representative for Sweden.
- Rosa Calero and Paddy Carpenter offered their resignation in April. Paddy Carpenter requested to stay until the AGM, where he would hand the post over to Hans van Aalst.

**5. 1999/2000 Financial year Audited accounts**

Overall, the situation has improved, though there are still some problems with membership payments (see annex).

The procedure for membership payments is now defined: members can withdraw only before October 1<sup>st</sup> for the next consecutive year.

A few members are still slow payers/reactors. The list of 1998 and 1999 debtors was presented (see annex). The SC agreed to withdraw bad payers.

The budget (see annex) was approved by the AGM.

A few comments/questions were made by the attendees, clarifications were made by the SC:

- Debtors: in total EUR 12,500 of which EUR 7,500 were paid.
- The national bodies are entitled to a transfer of 10% of the fees collected in their country after submission of a financial report. In 1999 no funds were transferred. Only the German national board made a claim, The Netherlands would claim it shortly. The claims can go back two years.
- The number of members is currently around 200, but a revised fee structure is needed. Fees should be accessible to everyone, taking into account the different systems and financial flexibility.
- A suggestion was made to apply for EU funding.

## **6. Changes to the Constitution**

Adriaan Vrienten presented the issue. At the 1998 AGM, a Working Group was created to work out the Strategic Paper of Helsinki. The results were presented at the AGM in Odense 1999, who approved the Action Plan to work out the changes (see annex).

A typing error was noted: Art 21.1 should read Art. 21.2.

Comments:

- Voting procedure and details needs to be decided. Draft proposal of rules to vote to be prepared and discussed at the SC.

The Changes to the Constitution were accepted by unanimity by the AGM.

## **7. Approval of membership fee for 2001 and percentage to be returned to National Bodies**

Frans Schneider presented the current fee structure.

Comments from the assembly:

- Proposal: to link the membership fees with conference fees.
- Need for a concrete proposal in 6 months as there is no accurate information
- A request was made to have a list of members with their corresponding fees. FS offered it in three weeks time, with the newsletter.
- The transfer of the 10% to National bodies is not automatic, only upon request. Need to rephrase it "*10% will be returned to National Bodies upon request and in receipt of activity plan and financial report*". FS offered to have a proposal ready after the SC meeting in January.
- Suggestion to put on the website a discussion space on fees and membership. To be considered, the particular situation on Southern countries to increase their membership.
- Possibility to include students fee.

The AGM approved the current fees.

### **8. Announcement of new Steering Committee and retirement of Paddy Carpenter, the outgoing President**

It was proposed that three Honorary Members be nominated:

- Jan Willem Hollanders
- Jo Clough
- Paddy Carpenter

The proposal was accepted by the AGM. The official announcement was to be made on Saturday morning.

### **9. Remarks by the new President, Hans van Aalst**

The incoming President, Hans van Aalst presented his views on EfVET, its future, and his Action Plan (see annex).

Comments and questions and replies from the President:

- EU funds could be available, especially since there is a growing interest for globalisation.
- To attract members we need to operate on two levels. First by reaching the macro objectives with micro actions. We need to build a European platform, to devise additional ways of communicating.
- An analysis of country realities/perceptions needs to be done, especially by working on the micro level.
- The SC portfolios will be linked with the Action plan.
- Need to appoint a member of the SC to deal with the conference theme. A discussion list already exists. There is a need for a multichannel approach, through several media. Communication needs to be solved.

The meeting was closed

Thessaloniki, October 26<sup>th</sup> 2001.

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