



EUROPEAN FORUM OF TECHNICAL AND
VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

MINUTES EFVET STEERING COMMITTEE
Brussels, Central Office, 6th September 2008

Present:

Peter Hodgson, Frans Schneider, Leif Haar, Stefano Tirati, Stelios Mavromoustakos, Rasa Zygmantaite, Tibor Dori, Ralph Hoffmann, Birgitta Johansson, Larry Kavanagh, Louise Rosthoj, Geoff Scaplehorn, Raimo Sivonen and Mariàn de Villanueva.

Chairman: Peter Hodgson

Peter Hodgson welcomed the members and encouraged all to move EfVET forward more effectively.

1. Apologies for absence

Portuguese representatives were struggling to afford the travel to SC meetings

Action: Frans Schneider will contact them to explain procedures and claim process

2. Minutes of the meeting (26th January 2008)

The minutes were approved as a true record

3. Matters arising not in the agenda

EuProVet: SC members expressed concern that a leaflet produced by EUproVET clearly indicates that it sees itself not as an association of associations but rather open to individual VET providers.

Raimo Sivonen will attend the EUproVET meeting in Rotterdam on 19th September 2008 which will take place during the Euroskills conference, representing his association.

Birgitta Johansson raised the question of why EFVET was not represented at Euroskills. EfVET itself was not represented as EUROSILLS more related to individual college members. EfVET members were encouraged to participate in their own right.

Despite the new developments EFVET should remain focussed on its own objectives and keep up the hard work moving towards fully implementing the 2007 Action Plan.

Action: Frans Schneider will contact the 10 Dutch colleges that remain members of EfVET and Peter Hodgson will write them to invite them to the EFVET Conference in Vilnius.



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Raimo Sivonen will report back on the EUproVET meeting.

AOC has been restructured and Pete Hodgson and Geoff Scaplehorn will follow the developments and seek to establish an on-going dialogue

Peter Hodgson and Geoff Scaplehorn will write to AoC Chief Executive to seek a meeting re future developments

New members have joined EfVET since the last SC meeting indicating the need of EfVET. Actions will be taken to bring back from the Netherlands and UK. The restructuring of AOC provides new grounds for the UK membership.

EUCIS:

AGM will be in March 2008. Peter Hodgson recommended that EFVET should be represented when invited to participate in conferences, policy discussions etc as much as possible. When such invitations are circulated SC members should respond quickly to ensure EfVET's representation.

EVTA collaboration:

We keep in close contact. EFVET is waiting a paper from Tomasso Grimaldi (General Secretary re future collaboration to send to European commission.

Summary of the Executive meeting: Peter Hodgson summarised the three recommendations resulted from the Executive meeting held on 5th September 2008.

National Reps should take action when members from their own country are late paying the annual fee. The National rep should contact the members because it is more effective.

The Executive to approach Raimo Sivonen to be involved in planning to have the EFVET accounts close to his association.

The ET could expand to include 2 or 3 more co-opted members which is constitutionally allowed. This will enable assignment of certain portfolios to the new ET members in an effort to speed implementation of all aspects of the Action Plan and shorten the reaction time on any matters arising.



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Peter Hodgson to circulate a proposal for adoption as soon as possible on the expansion of the Executive Team

EFVET: Promotional information: The post card was distributed to all SC members for use. It was welcomed by all and thanks to the team that produced it.

Action: Peter Hodgson will send a presentation he has prepared on EfVET for comments to all SC members. When finalised all SC members can then use it to promote EfVET.

4. Election new officers:

From the election process Peter Hodgson was re-elected President and Frans Schneider was re-elected as Treasurer for a two years term.

Stelios Mavromoustakos was re-elected as Vice President and Marián de Villanueva was re-elected as Secretary for a 1 and half year term.

According to the constitution, the ET members should not be all elected in office at the same time to ensure continuation. Unfortunately the elections two years ago resulted in electing all four ET members simultaneously. Therefore the aforementioned action was taken.

5. Progress on Action Plan

Policy group: In many ways this had been overtaken by the development of strategic policy development / consultation and interface with the Commission through EUCIS. EfVET is involved as a founder member of EUCIS in discussions with the Director Generale Odile Quinton and Gordon Clark about the possibility of direct funding within the EU budget lines to represent Education and Training NGOs in policy discussions. EC seriously seeking to support EUCIS as a monopoly for this purpose.

Marketing: A Brochure with more information in EfVET should be developed. Leaflets for all the projects in which EfVET is involved as disseminating partner should also be included in the brochure – with the cost divided between projects.

The postcard has been distributed among the members of the SC for wider circulation

Action: Rasa Zygmantaite, Tibor Dori will promote members in the East of Europe

Communication: website: The new website has been launched and comments for possible problems or improvements should be emailed to Stelios Mavromoustakos. Each member organisation has



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been issued already a user name and a password. In addition four more users from each member can be named for whom usernames and passwords will be issued.

Strategic Alliances: EVTA
 CEDEFOP
 World Federation

EfVET continues to work on collaborative ventures with those above. EVTA and EfVET are founding members of EUCIS and remains on the Steering Group of the World Federation

6. Website

A thanks to the website team (Stelios Mavromoustakos, Aletia Trakkakis, Stelios Demosthenous and Stefano Tirati) for the development of the new website.

7. Project activities

Frans Schneider handed out a list of the projects that have been approved for funding and EfVET is a partner. This was still needing to be updated as contractual process and budgets with National Agencies still being finalised. PH expressed thanks to those who had included EfVET in their partnerships. This has become a very valuable service to our members.

8. Financial report

Frans Schneider explained that EFVET for the fiscal year 2008 has managed to have a positive balance (9104€)

Tours Conference: Frans Schneider donated 5286 €. Still some debtors from previous Conferences

The annual financial documents were signed by Peter Hodgson and Stelios Mavromoustakos.

Budget for 2009: - it was agreed that Frans and Raimo with some assistance from PH would prepare a budget for 2009 for approval by SC in Jan 09 meeting

Action: Frans Schneider to prepare 2009 budget with assistance from Raimo and Pete

9. AGM papers

All documents for the 2008 AGM meeting for the conference in Vilnius should be sent to Marian before 15th September.

Action: All papers to go to Marián de Villanueva before 15th September



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10. Lithuania Conference. SC members were updated on the preparations for the conference to be held in Vilnius – end of October 2009

Action: Stefano Tiratti will send a presentation for the Mobility market.

When workshops finish, please, ask to the participants the theme for the next Conference.

Action: Leif Haar will send the list of workshops still requiring a facilitator to SC members. The leaders of each workshop should discuss with the participants possible themes for next year's conference.

11. Any other business

Bussines card: Peter Hodgson and Stelios Mavromoustakos need new cards.

Honorary Members: Kent Anderson and Birgitta Johansson who is retiring will be awarded honorary lifetime EfVET memberships for the long time standing contribution to EfVET. The award ceremony will take place during Gala dinner in Vilnius conference.

Geof Scaplehorn: Quavet project has been approved.

British Council has published a book of Internationalisation of VET Colleges, to promote European projects.

Contact seminar: Geoff will send information

Birgitta Johansson: Green paper of integration-inclusion has been published by the DG Social Affairs. Birgitta is working with them.

Thanks to all for the time spent. She is going to retire. On behalf of the SC, Peter Hodgson expressed all their thanks to Birgitta for her commitment and contribution to EfVET over the years. Birgitta was already working on finding a replacement as Swedish representative..

Leif Haar: deadline for the next newsletter will be 15th September

12. Date and Time of the next meeting

Executive Team: 30th January at 14:30

Steering Committee: 31st January at 9:00

Place: Central Office, Brussels.