



MINUTES EFVET STEERING COMMITTEE

Brussels, 17th June 2006

Present:

Hans van Aalst; Frans Schneider, Leif Haar, Leila Lahti, Kent Andersen, Geoff Scaplehorn, Stefano Tirati, Larry Kavanagh, Stelios Mavromoustakos, Louise Rosthoj, Birgitta Johansson, Rasa Zygmantaite Hans Huibers, Michiel Geursen, Raimo Sivonen, Ralph Hoffmann and Mariàn de Villanueva.

Chairman: Hans van Aalst

- Leila Lahti will leave the Steering Committee and will be replaced by Raimo Sivonen. He is Head of Department in his college and is involved in several international projects.
- Ralph Hoffmann (DE) was welcomed, he was substituting for Birgit Hook.
- Hans Huibers and Michiel Geursen (NL) were welcomed, they were substituting for Jos Leenhouts.

1. Apologies for absence

Peter Hodgson, Alessandra Marinheiro and Tibor Dori.
No news from Haralambos Loukissas (OEEK, Greece)

2. Minutes of the last meeting (28 January 2006)

Birgitta asked for a clarification related to number 6 of the minutes (update on the integrated LLL Group).

Since Jos Leenhouts is not present, we need to ask her in the next meeting what she has done about it. The minutes were approved as a true record of the meeting.

3. Minutes Executive Team (14 June 2006)

Hans Huibers would like to put this item after item 6 on the agenda: "EFVET constitution, BVE Raad/AOC business". BVE Raad has some suggestions that might need a change in the role of the Executive Team and a change in the constitution.

Hans van Aalst replied we still are working under the current constitution and the work needs to be done. He went through the E.T. minutes in more detail:

- Central Office: There are various options: the E.T. will try to come to a concrete proposal at their next meeting on 11 August to put to the S.C. meeting of 9 September.
- Collaboration with EVTA: The E.T. proposed Leif Haar to be the liaison. He will meet with EVTA representatives at least four times a year. The S.C. agreed.



- IVETA conference in Moscow next 23-25 August: EFVET has got a free place at this conference under the collaboration agreement. Geoff Scaplehorn, already involved in the collaboration with the “Russian Federation of Principals” is willing to go there as the EFVET representative. The S.C. agreed.
- European Commission: Economic and Social committee hearing next 11 July. EFVET got an invite via the EUCIS platform to take part. It was agreed Rasa Zygmantaite will represent EFVET at that hearing.
- Seminar under the banner of EUCIS on non-formal education, a project for the inhabitants of the City in Lyon (FR) next 13 September: It was agreed Hans van Aalst will represent EFVET there.
- ILO seminar in Geneva next 26 June: it was agreed Geoff Scaplehorn will represent EFVET.
- ECVET in practice, a conference on new approaches to transparency, mobility and international recognition of competences in Prague next 18 September: It was agreed Geoff Scaplehorn will represent EFVET.

Hans van Aalst remarked that when someone is representing EFVET, he/she should provide to the Steering Committee an information report of the event, and during the event he/she should provide information, brochures, etc of EFVET. These brochures can be provided by Frans Schneider.

AGM: The National reports should be sent out with the documents for the AGM next 28 October. This should be done in the format agreed by the Steering Committee in their meeting of June 2005.

By the end of August Marián de Villanueva should have received those National Reports.

Hans van Aalst will send the agreed format to the National Reps. again.

Election of officers:

Nominations for new president should be sent to Peter Hodgson. It will be good to have someone from the South, the new member states or a representative from the employers interested in LLL.

If there are no nominations by the next Steering Committee meeting or the AGM, Hans van Aalst is prepared to stay on till a suitable candidate is found.

The posts of Treasurer and Secretary are open too. Marián de Villanueva (secretary) and Frans Schneider (treasurer) have put themselves forward as candidates for re-election.

The Executive team decided that nominations from the membership should be sent to Peter Hodgson by the end of June.

Hans van Aalst asked the National Reps. to inform the members in their country of this decision.

The Steering Committee agreed with the proposed procedure.



4. Matter arising

There were no matters arising which are not on the agenda already.

5. Financial update

As soon as Frans Schneider and the accountant have the documents ready, Frans will send these around. He will also send to the National Reps. the latest database with the information of members and withdrawn/old members of EFVET.

6. Policy Committee

Hans van Aalst reported on the meeting of the Policy Group of 12 April 2006 which focussed mainly on the following:

- ✓ Structure of EFVET (Constitution)
- ✓ Focus on the Policy initiative

Hans Huibers stated the focus is on the following 3 points:

- ✓ Improve the strategy of EFVET: involve headmasters
- ✓ Discuss the reform of EFVET: constitution, ways of working
- ✓ Develop the National representation, professionalize the National Boards.

Louise Rosthoj explained the content of the letter of the Danish National Board. The proposals of the BVE Raad/AOC are not far from the direction EFVET has been taking so far and most of the National Reps. are already members of the management of colleges.

Geoff Scaplehorn reported on the AOC position. He doubted whether the AOC is really part of the discussion: he did not get any advice/direction from the AOC Board for this meeting. He felt the decision to re-consider membership of EFVET had primarily been influenced by value for money proceeds. AOC is taking a great interest in the WFCP (World Federation), of which John Brennan, the CEO of AOC, just had been elected as vice president. He was hoping to return to the AOC after the meeting with some compromise solutions to encourage AOC to continue their membership. He reflected on the views in UK colleges on the perceived importance of EU lines. He also reiterated that he had explained the dual side of EFVET both at strategic level in the European political arena and cooperation at institutional level.

Michiel Geursen answered: AOC is still on board and part of this discussion.



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Larry Kavanagh agrees with Geoff. EFVET was established by practitioners and the main focus was to get finance from the EU for projects. The influence on policy on education in the EU was not a point to become a member. Like the UK it is the focus of the schools/colleges how to generate more income.

Stefano Tirati suggested having a Kit Dissemination Tool. Asked for suggestions for improving the membership nationally. He also proposed a balance among the two aspects of EFVET: the practical side (projects) and strategic side towards the Commission.

The needs are different in each country, because of the different structures. Some principals' organizations are not at all interested in international affairs, so they delegate this task to an international office.

Leif Haar agreed with Stefano. In Denmark there are 4 associations of principals which are not even talking with each other, let alone have a common view on European Policy. In most colleges the European work is done by an International coordinator, that is a need because of the fact Internationalisation is part of the curriculum in Denmark.

Birgitta Johansson, Leila Lahti and Raimo Sivonen agreed with Leif Haar, it is the same in their perspective countries, Sweden and Finland.

Leila Lahti explained that in Finland the Union of Principles is a member of EFVET, not because of the policy side, they are not interested in that. They are a member because of the college's need to go international, expanding a network, getting to know people who think likewise and getting information.

Stelios Mavromoustakos also put forward the expectations of the different countries in the role of EFVET. What is the focus, the need of the old member states or the need of the new member states. These needs/expectations are quite different and on a different level. EFVET should represent all 25 member states of the Union and not expect the new member states to catch up in a flash with the old member states. He looks at the BVE Raad/AOC paper as a threat: either catch up immediately or leave.

If the Steering Committee will be an elite of principals, Cyprus will not be part of EFVET.

On the other hand, if the S.C. will consist of only practitioners the BVE Raad/AOC will not be part of EFVET.

He proposed to try to find a solution within EFVET where every country can find itself, both "old" and "new" .



Hans van Aalst remarked that EFVET's policy has always been focussed on the tasks of management and of practitioners. The changes into the structure of EFVET should be done carefully. There is a structure in place. You could destroy a lot if there is no clear advantage to change it. Each proposal should be accompanied by the plusses and minuses and a budget to see whether we are able to afford the changes.

He proposed an extra meeting of the policy group to come up with a concrete proposal to put to the next Steering Committee meeting on 9 September 2006.

He also proposed Stefano Tirati and Stelios Mavromoustakos to be members of the Policy committee to balance representation from the "north" and the "south".

The Steering Committee agreed.

Hans Huibers asked for commitment of the S.C. after an acceptable proposal has been put forward by the Policy Group.

The Steering Committee agreed.

After consultation the expanded Policy Group will have their next meeting next 19 July in Amsterdam.

7. IVETA Conference

Decision taken (Ref. n° 3)

8. EFVET-EVTA

Decision taken (Ref. n° 3)

9. Cooperation with EAIE

There was no decision been taken yet, we would like to get more information about this organisation from Kent Andersen.

10. EFVET and project dissemination

Nothing to report. The list of projects in which EFVET is involved has been handed out in the January 2006 meeting. There have been no changes so far. There are some projects still waiting for approval.

11. European Civil Society Platform for LLL (EUCIS)

There were two very interesting topics that have been send out to the members:



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-The Bono report.

-The speech of the D.G. of the Directorate General for Education and Culture to the platform about the future policy.

Both are on our Website.

Being one of the initiators to set up this platform the Steering Committee of EFVET is pleased about the way this initiative has been received by the Commission.

12. Membership issues

There is still the issue whether AOC is a member, they have not paid their membership fee for 2006 yet. Frans Schneider will send to the National Reps. the edited version of the database of members.

13. Web and newsletter

With regards to the Newsletter Leif Haar reported he had only one article from our Spanish member HETEL so far for the next issue. He asked the S.C. to send in articles (no too long. 1 page) and information a.s.a.p. He also would like an article from Stelios Mavromoustakos about the next International EFVET conference in Cyprus.

With regards to the Website Kent Andersen handed out a CD with instructions on editing.

Hans van Aalst stressed to make sure the information on the Website is correct at all times. He asked the members of the S.C. to send their comments about the Website direct to Kent Andersen.

14. Internationalisation

Frans Schneider reported the president of the WFCP, Jim Doyle, has resigned. George Boggs (AACC) has been elected to succeed him as the new president. John Brennan (AOC) has been elected as vice president. He expressed his impression the AOC has taken more interest in the WFCP than in EFVET. The only new members of the WFCP are eight colleges from the UK, which used to be members of EFVET. There is not a lot happening within the WFCP at the moment.

15. Conference update – Budapest 2005 and Cyprus 2006

The financial papers of the conference in Budapest are not ready yet for publication, however Frans Schneider expects this conference made a little profit.

Cyprus: Stelios Mavromoustakos provided a list of the participants so far. Workshops are based around the theme of the Conference

National representatives should be focussed on the dissemination of the Conference. There are very few delegates from Germany, Italy, Greece, Hungary, Portugal, Spain, UK, etc.



There are a lot of delegates from The Netherlands, Finland and Denmark.

We should be careful this conference won't be a conference of the northern countries.

Hans van Aalst asked the National Reps. of the countries with very little delegates to advertise the conference to make a balance between north and south, east and west.

Hans Huibers asked whether there is room in the programme to discuss the future direction of EFVET.

This will be decided in the preparation group.

16. AGM papers

The documents described in the agenda should be send to Marián de Villanueva before the next Steering Committee. The report on portfolios will not yet have an allocated budget, this will be done in the future

17. Any other business

Frans Schneider reported on a survey on obstacles within the mobility programme of the E.C.

This has been contracted out by the E.C. to PricewaterhouseCoopers. EVTA and EFVET are still negotiating whether they and their members will take part in this survey. As soon as there is clarity in this matter he will contact the National Reps.

18. Date of the next meetings

Policy Group: Amsterdam, 19 July 2006 at 11.00 hours at Schiphol

Executive Team: Brussels, 11 August 2006 at 11.00 hours at the Central Office

Steering Committee: Brussels, 9 September 2006 at 09.00 hours at the Central Office