



## EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERING

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## **MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Meeting number: 5 Date: 10 September 2020**

**(tele-meeting)**

### **Attendance:**

*Kyriazis Pitilakis (KP), President*  
*Atilla Ansal (AA), Vice President*  
*Radu Vacareanu (RV), Vice President*  
*Andreas Kappos (AK), Secretary General*  
*Alain Pecker (AP)*  
*Christoph Butenweg (CB)*  
*Mauro Dolce (MD)*  
*Rita Bento (RB)*  
*Katrin Beyer (KB) [joined after items 1 and 2]*  
*Maria José Jiménez (MJ), ESC Representative*

### **Apologies:**

*None*

Due to the restrictions imposed because of the pandemic, the fifth meeting of the Executive Committee (ExCo) of the European Association for Earthquake Engineering for the 2018-2022 period was held as a teleconference on Thursday 11 May 2020 between 11:30 and 13:00 CET.

The Executive Committee meeting was chaired by the President.

### **Agenda:**

1. President's welcome
2. Update on the 3ECEES (RV)
3. Working Group and Regional Seminars update
4. Ambraseys Award Committee
5. Young researchers award committee
6. Miscellaneous

7. Date of the next meeting

**Item 0:**

The agenda was approved without amendments. As the regular annual meeting was already held in May (see minutes), the annual reports of the President, SG and Central Office were submitted at the regular meeting.

**Item 1:**

The President welcomed the participants and made some general remarks on the current situation in Europe affected by the covid-19 pandemic.

**Item 2:**

RV on behalf of the Organising Committee of the 3rd ECEES which he chairs briefed the ExCo on the discussions held among the local organisers regarding a possible postponement of the dates of the Conference by about one year. A discussion followed involving all ExCo members and two possible options arose, one being to announce immediately a postponement and another to wait for a number of months until the situation becomes clearer and (hopefully) better.

The consensus reached was that any delay in the announce of the postponement should not be such as to cause problems in the local organisers; therefore, following a proposal made by RV, it was decided to make a decision on a postponement (which seems to be inevitable in the light of the current situation) by the end of the year.

**Item 3:**

A brief overview of the current state of the *EAE Working Groups* was provided, with particular focus on the new groups WG12 (Continuing Education and Professional Development), W13 (Seismic assessment, design and resilience of industrial facilities) and WG14 (Open Research Data in Seismic Engineering); it appears that the work of these groups is not overly affected by the pandemic, albeit it is conducted almost exclusively online. It was also announced by the SG that the decided appointment of a second coordinator (Francesca da Porto) to WG10 (Seismic Aspects of Historical Monument Preservations) went smoothly through, after AP contacted the current coordinator (E. Vintzileou) who agreed to the addition.

Regarding *Regional Seminars*, the WG12 coordinator RB gave an update and confirmed that there is agreement and even strong interest from both the EAE and the SC8 sides to organise seminars-webinars on the various parts of Eurocode 8; so far CB and WG13 expressed an interest to organise one on Part 4, and WG11 is positive to the idea of organising one on Part 2; both of them will be in close liaison with the pertinent SC8 Project Teams and will include top scientists-engineers involved in the revision of EC8 (for example coordinators of the different sections of EC8). RB also mentioned that she would be happy to organise a seminar on Part 3. From the discussion that followed, it was clear that at least for the next couple of years online seminars-webinars will be the only viable option and several ExCo members stressed that a major advantage of this form of seminar is that valuable material will remain online (preferably on the EAE website) accessible by potentially thousands of interested people. RB kindly agreed to organise a common format and platform for these online events, assisted by the WG12 members and by a professional; AK noted that some funding can be made available by the EAE to this purpose. It was decided to contact Ph. Bisch to have a preliminary go-ahead for these events (CB and AP will contact him). RB will contact the organisers of the Groningen seminar that was postponed, to see what the future plans on this event are.

**Item 4:**

The need for a 'reshuffling' of the existing *Ambraseys Award Committee* that (without major changes in its membership) has successfully served for more than 10 years was pointed out by AA, who suggested that KP and AK remain to ensure continuity and RB joins in, while AA and AP step down.

After brief discussions, it was decided that the new Ambraseys Award Committee will comprise K. Pitilakis, A. Kappos, C.Oliveira, M-J Jimenez and R. Bento. AK will launch the process for selecting the new Ambraseys lecturer (to present their lecture at the Bucharest ECEES) in early 2021.

**Item 5:**

The final version of the *Guidelines for EAAE Young Researcher Award* are included as Annex 1 to these minutes.

After a brief discussion where it was stressed that the (5-strong) Young researchers award committee should include sufficient expertise from all main disciplines of Earthquake Engineering, the following were selected as committee members: P. Fajfar (to be contacted by AK to check availability), A. Pecker, M. Dolce, C. Butenweg, and K. Beyer.

*Post meeting note:* P. Fajfar has been contacted by AK and he kindly agreed to serve on the Committee.

**Item 6:**

Under 'Miscellaneous', MJJ updated the ExCo on the recent developments regarding changes in the ESC ExCo, ahead of the forthcoming Gen. Assembly (to be held in Corfu in Sep. 2021), namely the decision to extend the offices of the ExCo until 2022 and the president of the LOC of the 3rd ECEES 2022 to become a member of the ExCo from September 2020.

**Item 7:**

It was decided that the next ExCo meeting will be a brief online one to deal primarily with the possible announcement of the postponement of the Bucharest ECEES. The date of Thursday 7/1/2021 was earmarked for that meeting.

The meeting ended with the thanks of the President to all participating members and by several ExCo members pointing out that they look forward to the return of person-to-person meetings (and the associated social events) in the near future.

Andreas Kappos  
Secretary General

## **Annex 1**

### **Guidelines for EAEE Young Researcher Award**

The EAEE Young Researcher Award is to be presented to a researcher up to 35 years old that has made substantial contributions to the field of earthquake engineering. The award may recognize career contributions or notable and /or singular achievements. The award is restricted to members of associations/societies that are members of the EAEE who have at least one paper as first author in an issue of Bulletin of Earthquake Engineering published or accepted before the call of the award is launched. The call for applications for the EAEE Young Researcher Award is launched every four years, approximately one year before the ECEE/ECEES.

#### **Applicants**

All applicants for the awards shall be put forward by the national members of the EAEE and by the members of the Executive Committee (ExCo) of EAEE. Each national or ExCo member may propose one Young Researcher. The national members and the members of ExCo should send a letter of support to the EAEE panel prior to the deadline specified in the call. In each country, the call for the EAEE Young Research Award should be announced to all members.

#### **Requirements**

The applicants should be 35 years old or under at the time the call is issued.

All applicants, suggested by national members or ExCo of EAEE, should provide a brief but concise curriculum vitae (format of CV available on the EAEE website).

Papers selected by the applicants must be judged to have made a significant impact in Earthquake Engineering, to provide a significant advancement to the state-of-the-art and/or to the understanding of a particular EE topic.

Conflicts of interest and bias in the selection of awardees shall be avoided at all cost. All oral and written deliberations concerning the selection of the candidates for the corresponding Award shall be kept in the strictest of confidence from award nominees.

#### **Closing Date and Presentation**

The recipient of the award will be chosen by a panel established by EAEE, composed by five EAEE members with significant contribution to the EE field, each coming from a different country. The decision of the panel will be final, i.e. no appeal procedures apply.

The Award shall be announced about six months before, and be presented at, the ECEE/ECEES conference.

#### **Prize**

The recipient will received a certificate, will be granted free attendance of the ECEE/ECEES conference, will be invited to present a keynote or theme lecture at the same conference, and will have one year of free membership as an EAEE individual member.