



EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERING

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Audit Committee: Philippe Bisch, France; Panayotis Carydis, Greece

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Number: 2

Date: September 29, 2007

Place: Lisbon, Portugal

Attendance:

Martin Koller, President
Mihail Garevski, Vice President
Atilla Ansal, Secretary General
Emilia Juhasova
Andreas J Kappos
Carlos Oliveira

Absentee:

Robin Spence, Vice President
Rainer Flesch, Treasurer
Mauro Dolce
Peter Fajfar
Dario Slejko, ESC Representative

Prologue:

The second meeting of the Executive Committee of the European Association for Earthquake Engineering for 2006-2010 Period was held in Lisbon, Portugal on Saturday September 29, 2007 between 10:30 and 16:30. The Executive Committee meeting was chaired by the President.

Agenda:

1. *Approval of the Agenda*
2. *President's summary concerning Geneva Conference*
3. *Summary by Vice President M.Garevski concerning 2010 conference preparations*
4. *Summary by Carlos Oliveira concerning recent developments in EU activities*
5. *Central Office Report for 2006-2007 term*
 - General
 - Memberships
 - Budget
 - Task Groups and decisions for extension or termination
 - Bulletin of Earthquake Engineering
 - Book Series
 - Newsletter
 - Internet, Web
6. *Establishment of EAGE Lectureship to be presented in each ECEE*
7. *Guidelines for European Conferences on Earthquake Engineering*
8. *Miscellaneous*

Item 1: The proposed Agenda of the Meeting was approved by all the members present. The minutes of the First Executive Committee Meeting were approved and signed by all the Executive Committee Members present.

Item 2: The President welcomed the members to the Second Executive Committee Meeting and presented a brief summary concerning the First European Conference on Earthquake Engineering and Seismology held in Geneva during September 3-8, 2006. He informed the Committee about the final budget of the Conference and mentioned that approximately 9% of total income was profit, which was shared equally among ESC and the Swiss Society of Earthquake Engineering. The Swiss Society tentatively decided to use half of this amount to support Swiss students attending 14WCEE in Beijing and to donate the remaining half to the Macedonian Association for supporting students during the 14th European Conference on Earthquake Engineering. The President contemplated that the profit was mostly due to the fact that number of registrations matched the maximum number of possibly expected participants and therefore all the material prepared for the participants were distributed. He also mentioned that the major portion of the expenses of the conference was financed by the sponsors and students and young researchers from economically weak countries were supported by a grant program. The Conference attracted large number of participants from outside of Europe and especially from Japan that increased the participation number significantly.

The President pointed out that EAEE Executive Committee should discuss and decide if the next ECEE will be an EAEE – ESC joint conference before the next Meeting that is planned to be a joint meeting with the ESC Executive Committee. He stated that he is very much in favour of having joint conferences and asked the opinions of present members on this item. All of the Executive Committee Members present were not in favour of the joint conference, because the joint conference becomes very large, logistically and technically hard to follow, and the different cultures of Associations in conference organisation also introduces additional complications.

The Vice President Mihail Garevski stated that they would be able to organise a joint conference in Skopje if it is decided to have a joint conference by both Associations. He pointed out that if separate conferences will be organised, they should be scheduled with sufficient time interval to make it more feasible for people that will be attending both.

Emilia Juhasova expressed her observation that there were few engineers attending seismology sessions, while there were much more participation from seismologists to engineering sessions. She proposed as an alternative to organise the common conference after 8 years. The President agreed on this observation and emphasised that EAEE at the least should concentrate more in organising common sessions with seismologists during the next ECEEs.

During the review of the Minutes of the Meeting, it was suggested by Mauro Dolce to organise joint seminars that could be before or after EAEE or ESC conferences with lower or no participation fees and with selected lecturers and longer time allocated for discussion. This proposal received support in the Executive Committee.

Item 3: The Vice President Mihail Garevski gave a summary concerning 2010 conference preparations. He presented a draft agenda for the conference preparations for the next three years and asked the assistance of the Executive Committee and especially from the President to benefit from of his recent experiences. He mentioned that Skopje and the organizing team have the required experience based on their previous organizations. According to the draft agenda preparation activities will starts in the beginning of 2008 and the primary item will be to

prepare the first announcement to be distributed during the 14th World Conference in China. He pointed that all efforts should be made to announce the 14th ECEE at every possible occasion to increase the participation of all related international groups and for this purpose they will distribute the first announcement via e-mail to all the participants of recently held international conferences. The conference dates were tentatively agreed to be between 30 August – 3 September 2010. The Vice President Mihail Garevski was asked to prepare a draft budget and a registration fee proposal to be discussed and approved by the Executive Committee.

Item 4: Carlos Oliveira on the behalf of and based on the report prepared by Robin Spence summarised the recent developments in EU related activities. He gave a brief history stating that the first initiatives started two years ago in October 2005 during “*EAAE - EU Workshop on Earthquake Risk Reduction in Europe*” held in Lisbon. “*Executive Summary on Earthquake Risk Reduction Programme*” proposed by EAAE summarises the conclusions and recommendations of the Lisbon Workshop was the first document on this topic. A meeting of Contact Committee of EAAE with the European Parliamentarians to present the EAAE proposals on Earthquake Risk Reduction in Europe was organised on February 28, 2007 in Brussels. The participation of European Parliamentarians was limited to this meeting but there were others from different agencies of EU.

During the following months Helmut Wenzel working with the Natural and Man-Made Hazards Working Group of the European Construction Technology Platform drafted the first version of “*The Strategic Research Agenda for FP7*” based on the “*Executive Summary on Earthquake Risk Reduction Programme*” prepared by EAAE. Later after series of comments and suggestions, “*The Strategic Research Agenda for FP7*” was modified and it was decided by correspondence that since EAAE is one of the supporting associations of this initiative, the EAAE logo should be on the cover page. Very recently Helmut Wenzel proposed a new action programme on “*EU Earthquake Protection Initiatives*” that follows “*The Strategic Research Agenda for FP7*”. Executive Committee discussed the possible future actions that can be taken to support all these efforts. It was decided that connection with the MPs would be very crucial and EAAE National delegates of EU member states can be asked to get in contact with their MPs and if possible arrange briefings concerning “*Earthquake Risk Reduction Programme and Strategic Research Agenda*”. If it is recommended by the National Delegates, Executive Committee Members may participate to these meetings depending on their availability and funds. It was decided that the Secretary General should prepare a letter to be forwarded to all National Delegates related to his issue.

Item 5: Secretary General presented the Report of the Central Office Activities for the term September 2006 - September 2007 summarising the present situation concerning to the EAAE Memberships, Budget, Task Groups, Bulletin of Earthquake Engineering, Book Series, Newsletter, Internet and Web. He summarised the main activities of the Central Office during the past year and the occasions that he participated to represent EAAE and to attend Task Group meetings and technical sessions.

Secretary General started by showing the official approval document of EAAE as an international NGO with its Central Office at Bogazici University, Kandilli Observatory and Earthquake Research Institute signed by the Cabinet of Ministers and the President of Turkey. By this approval, Central Office established a new bank account under the name of EAAE and started to receive payments by credit cards.

The Secretary General informed the Committee about the number of individual and organizational members and presented the related statistics. The Central Office has been

informing Member Organisations about their membership dues by sending out e-mail letters. Eighteen of the EAEE National Member Associations have paid their National membership dues for 2007 and fifteen still have not paid. The efforts continue to increase the number of individual membership by sending invitation letters via e-mail to the participants of recently held conferences and to the members of EAEE National Associations and by distribution of EAEE Newsletter with the membership form in the conferences and meetings. The number of individual membership has increased to 128 by the 25th of September 2007. Out of these 128 members 73 (55 electronic and 18 paper copy) have paid for 2007.

Secretary General presented the budget for the term of September 2006-2007 given below.

	<u>INCOME</u>	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>
BALANCE FROM SEPTEMBER 2006	5,677.09 €	
Membership fees from		
<i>National Members</i>	2,716.16 €	
<i>Corporate Members</i>	182.00 €	
<i>Individual Members - Electronic Subs.</i>	1,830.30 €	
<i>Individual Members - Paper Copy Subs.</i>	757.00 €	
Secretary of the Central Office 13 × 250 €		3,250.00 €
Support to Ex.Com Members for the Workshop in Brussels		
<i>Carlos Oliveria</i>		460.00 €
<i>Robin Spence</i>		382.00 €
Office Expences		
<i>Rate for bank account and Interest</i>		85.10 €
<i>Newsletter Printing</i>		545.44 €
<i>UPS</i>		420.99 €
SPRINGER		
<i>Electronic (2006)+Hard Copy(2006+2007)</i>		4,338.00 €
<i>Electronic (2007)</i>		750.00 €
SUM	11,162.55 €	10,231.53 €
DIFFERENCE		931.02 €
SPRINGER DEBT		304.00 €

The budget was controlled by the Treasurer Rainer Flesch as of July, 2007. In the present situation the incomes and the expenditures were 11,162.55 € and 10,231.53 €, respectively with a balance of 931.02 € from which 304.00 € is EAEE's recent debt to Springer. The budget was approved by the Executive Committee.

The activities of the Task Groups were reviewed based on their activity reports and plans for the future activities. Except TG1 all other TGs had expressed their preference for the extension for one more term. The activities of TG1 were terminated in accordance with the request from the coordinators. The discussions on the TGs were concluded with a decision that all TGs asking for extension will be allowed to continue for the remaining period of three years. However, following the proposal made by A. Kappos, it was decided that the guidelines for TGs should be revised and TGs should be asked for some tangible outputs like conferences, seminars, papers, website, etc. during this extension period. If no tangible output were produced by 2010, the inactive TGs will automatically be terminated during the last Executive Committee to be held before the 14ECEE. It was also decided that all TG Coordinators should be asked for a list of TG members. It was decided that Secretary General should revise the Task Group Guidelines as discussed and circulate it among the Executive Committee Members for the approval of the Executive Committee.

Secretary General briefly summarised the situation of BEE. He explained the changes in the BEE Editorial Board. Since Bryan Skipp retired being SECED Delegate, Robin Spence was invited to be a member of the Editorial Board. Later Julian Bommer resigned from the Editorial Board and John Douglas was invited to replace him. Due to increase in the submitted manuscripts, Rui Pinho and Roger Musson were asked to join the BEE Editorial Board starting as of 2008. He presented the numbers of submitted, published, in printing, under review, declined and withdrawn manuscripts during the last year compared with the total and summarised the five new Special Issue proposals received during the past year.

Secretary General informed the Ex. Com. about the published third volume of the book series "Earthquake Geotechnical Engineering" Editor: Kyriazis Pitilakis composed of the Second Prof. Kenji Ishihara Lecture by I.M. Idriss, keynote and theme lectures.

Secretary General informed the President about a pending Book proposal composed of some selected keynote and theme lectures from 1st ECEES as separate volume in the Springer Book Series on Geotechnical, Geological, and Earthquakes Engineering, and asked for a joint Introduction from him and the President of ESC.

The Central Office prepared two issues of the EAEE Newsletter last year. The first issue for 2007 (V25/1) was an electronic newsletter, it was forwarded to all EAEE members and earthquake related organisations. The second issue (V25/2) containing information concerning the past and present activities of EAEE was again an electronic newsletter but was also published as 1000 copies to be distributed to all participants of COMPDYN, 4ICEGE, and LessLoss Workshop participants.

The web page was modified in early 2007 to enable the EAEE Individual Members with electronic subscription to download all the published issues of the Bulletin of Earthquake Engineering via secure connection procedure using special ID and passwords specified by the Central Office.

Item 6: Secretary General proposed the establishment of EAEE Lecture to honour Prof. Nicholas N. Ambraseys to be presented in the future in every European Conference on Earthquake Engineering. The two main motivations for such a lecture were; (1) To award European leading researchers, to promote EAEE and (2) To honour Prof. Nicholas Ambraseys who has been a pioneer on Earthquake Engineering in Europe. Establishment of the EAEE Lecture – with a full paper from the Lecturer was approved by Executive Committee Members. Carlos Oliveira stated that four years period for the Lecture may be quite long and his preference was this Lecture to be given in every two years. This suggestion was also accepted such that after the first Lecture to be held in 14th ECEE, Skopje; the Prof. Nicholas Ambraseys Lecture can be hosted by the Universities, Institutes etc. in Europe and can be broadcast online.

Item 7: Secretary General presented the draft document of the Guidelines for Organising EAEE Conferences with the revisions due to mainly the change in the Statutes. Concerning the previous suggestions of the President and experience gained during the organisation of first joint EAEE-ESC conference, the new items inserted in the Guidelines are as follows:

- EAEE Secretary General and EAEE employees should be exempted from the registration fee for the conference.
- During the Conference the Local Organising Committee need to allocate one office room for the EAEE Secretariat.
- The Organisers of ECEE should support the EAEE budget by donating 1% of the registration fee of all the participants registered fully.

An additional statement was added in the item about the proceedings such that the proceedings should be published preferably with keynote and theme lectures as separate volume in the Springer Book Series on Geotechnical, Geological, and Earthquakes Engineering. The EAEE Association Council Dinner, the EAEE General Assembly and Conference Dinner were rescheduled with the final decision left to the local organizing committee. Based on the discussions given in Item 6, the local organizing committee was asked to organise a general session for the presentation of the EAEE Prof. Nicholas N. Ambraseys Keynote Lecture to be selected by the EAEE Executive Committee.

All the revisions proposed for “The Guidelines for Organising EAEE Conferences” were approved by the Executive Committee.

Item 8: It was decided to have the next Executive Committee Meeting in Crete, Greece on Sunday September 7, 2008 just before ESC General Assembly as a joint meeting with the Executive Committee Members of the ESC.

Carlos Oliveira announced the World Conference candidacy of Portugal and asked for the support of EAEE to hold the World Conference in Europe. He also distributed the announcement of the “International Seminar on Seismic Risk and Rehabilitation of Stone Masonry Housing” to be held in Horta, Azores on July 4 – 9, 2008. The seminar will be supported by EAEE and the Individual EAEE members will have the advantage of reduced registration.

Epilogue: The second meeting of the EAEE Executive Committee held in Lisbon ended with the thanks of the President to Carlos for the excellent organisation of the meeting and to all participating members.

Atilla Ansal
Secretary General