



## EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERING

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### MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Number : 3

Date : September 16, 2000

Place : Lisbon, Portugal

#### Attendance :

*P. Bisch, President  
A. Ansal, Secretary General  
P. Carydis, Ex. Com. Mem. Greece  
C. S. Oliveira, Ex. Com. Mem. Portugal  
M. Koller, Ex. Com. Mem. Switzerland  
N.N.Ambraseys, Honorary Member*

#### Absentee :

*A. S. Elnashai, Vice President  
R. Flesch, Vice President  
F. Braga, Secretary  
M. Tomazevic, Ex. Com. Mem. Slovenia*

#### Observer :

*W. Lenhardt, Austria (R.Flesch)*

#### Prologue

The Third Meeting of the Executive Committee of the European Association for Earthquake Engineering was held in Lisbon, Portugal on Saturday, September 16, 2000 between 10:00 am and 5:00 pm. The Executive Committee meeting was chaired by the President.

#### Agenda :

- 1. Approval of the Agenda*
- 2. Approval of the Minutes of the Second Ex.Com. Meeting*
- 3. Report of the President*
- 4. Report of the Vice-President Prof.A.S.Elnashai*
- 5. Report of the Secretary General*
- 6. EAAE Statutes*
- 7. Regional Seminars*
- 8. Task and Working Groups*
- 9. EAAE Bulletin*
- 10. Miscellaneous*

**Item 1:** The Agenda of the Meeting was approved by all members present.

**Item 2:** The minutes of the Second Executive Committee Meeting were approved.

**Item 3:** The President expressed his concern for the earthquakes that have taken place in Turkey and Greece during 1999, and his support for the field missions and for the analytical work done by EAAE members.

The President expressed his worries about the regional seminars and other educational activities and about the level of activities in EAEE Task and Working Groups during the previous year.

He summarised the work done within the framework of EuroCode 8 and in the preparation of the ENV that was an important step for earthquake resistant design and construction.

He stated the need to improve the functioning of the association taking into account the political and economical changes taking place in Europe. He pointed out the increasing difficulties of finding funds even to have meetings. He stressed the importance of voluntary work and motivation in the election of the Executive Committee members as well as the Task Group coordinators. He suggested modifying the EAEE Statutes to increase the effectiveness and the level of activities of EAEE.

**Item 4:** The report prepared by the Vice-President Prof. Elnashai was read by the Secretary General since it was not possible for Prof. Elnashai to attend the meeting. In his report, Vice-President summarised the activities that has been going on in UK concerning earthquake engineering short course held at the Imperial College and recent educational programmes in the field of earthquake engineering.

He summarised the research activities mainly mentioning about the network project funded by UK and EU on "Safety Assessment for Earthquake Risk Reduction".

He stated that the second circular and call for abstracts for the 12<sup>th</sup> ECEE will be published and distributed shortly and that a web site is under preparation. He said that a review policy has been agreed whereby not only abstracts but papers will also be reviewed by an international panel of experts.

The importance of getting recognition from EU and related agencies for reviewing and assisting in earthquake related projects were discussed in detail. It was decided to prepare one page summary concerning EAEE history and activities that can be presented with a cover letter written by the President to all EU National Representatives as well as to the directors of DG12 and DG4. Considering the relevance of this recognition, it was decided to give priority to this issue to achieve positive results.

**Item 5:** The Secretary General informed the Committee of and expressed his condolences for the death of Prof. Sergej Bubnov from Slovenia who was the Co-Founder, past President and Secretary General and Honorary Member of EAEE

Secretary General summarised the situation and the major difficulties encountered after the 17 August Kocaeli and 12 November Düzce earthquakes. He pointed out the problems in the repair and strengthening works that is going in the earthquake affected areas. He mentioned the importance of earthquake education in three levels as; the education of engineers, public officials and the general public.

He expressed his concern about the organisation of the regional seminars due to the financial demand on the organising society. He suggested the possibility of EU supported summer schools as one other alternative for EAEE educational activities.

He summarised his thoughts about the present situation in the international associations that operate on voluntary bases. Due to the economic and political changes in the Europe and in the World, most of these international association are faced with financial difficulties in organising their activities. He expressed the need for some modifications to increase the activities and effectiveness of the EAEE in the future. He stressed the importance of finding new ways of injecting energy into the association to increase the input from the member societies as well as from the individuals who are involved with research and applications in the field of earthquake engineering. He mentioned that one possible alternative is to allow the association to have individual membership that could lead to more favourable conditions for voluntary contributions. In addition membership fees collected from individual members as well as from member societies would give more flexibility to the Executive Committee and to Task Groups to organise meetings and to initiate some activities.

The Executive Committee discussed the possibilities concerning individual membership and membership fees. There was a general consensus about the advantages of having individual members in the EAEE. Different views were presented concerning the membership fees. It was suggested to get in contact with the Secretary General of the International Association for Earthquake Engineering to find about the developments that has been going for some time on these issues.

**Item 6:** As decided in the previous Executive Committee meeting, the President presented his suggestions concerning possible modifications and changes in the EAEE Statutes. The Executive Committee exchanged views concerning the possibilities for modifications in the EAEE Statutes. The Committee debated in detail the possible modifications in the election of officers and executive committee members and other items in the Statutes. The general tendency was to have both the representatives of the national societies as well as the individual members in the executive committee. The importance of the voluntary participation to EAEE activities was discussed and some possibilities were suggested to achieve this purpose in the election of the executive committee members.

It was decided that the President, Vice-Presidents and Secretary General should work together and prepare proposals for possible modifications in the EAEE Statutes concerning the election of the executive committee members, officers, individual membership, regional seminars, financial and general organisational issues to be discussed in the next Executive Committee meeting.

**Item 7:** The Executive Committee exchanged ideas concerning the organisation of the regional seminars for informing and educating young engineers and scientists about the developments in the field of earthquake engineering. There was a general agreement that regional seminars are very important and EAEE should make an extra effort to have at least two regional seminars during the four year interval between the European conferences.

The Executive Committee discussed the future possibilities and approved the preliminary proposal of Martin Koller, the Executive Committee Member of Switzerland, to organise a regional seminar during the first half of September 2001 in Switzerland.

**Item 8:** Secretary General summarised the activities of the existing Task Groups and the Executive Committee discussed the present situation concerning :

*TG2 on "Interpretation of Strong Motion Records for Engineering Applications"*

*Coordinator: Prof. N.N. Ambraseys, UK*

Task Group have successfully completed the first phase of their project of compiling strong motion data from Europe and produced a CD containing approximately 2000 records. The CD was distributed free of charge to all interested parties. The Executive Committee approved the proposal of Prof. Ambraseys to initiate short seminars, as the second phase of their project, to educate the practising engineers about the contemporary use of strong motion records for analysis and design purposes. It was decided to inform all National delegates about this proposal and encourage them to organise seminars that will be conducted by the members of TG2.

*TG3 on "Earthquake Hazard, Earthquake Risk and Earthquake Scenarios"*

*Coordinator: Prof. Mauro Dolce, Italy*

Secretary General informed the Executive Committee about the activities of TG3. There was a general agreement that a short report summarising the activities of TG3 during the year 2000, prepared by the Coordinator to be published in EAEE Bulletin, would be very informative and appropriate.

*TG6 on "Earthquake Geotechnical Engineering and Microzonation"*

*Coordinator: Prof. Atilla Ansal, Turkey*

Secretary General informed the Executive Committee about the symposium on "Site effects and experimental data" organised during the "XXVII General Assembly of the European

*Seismological Commission*" by Subcommission F - WG3 on "*Microzonation*" jointly with TG6 and about the decisions reached in the meetings of the WG3 and SC-F. It was decided that WG3 and TG6 should work together and prepare a short guidelines for conducting microzonation studies to be first distributed to all active members of the WG3 and TG6 to be reviewed and improved. The main intention is to distribute the finalised version of the "*Microzonation Guidelines*" to all related agencies involved in microzonation studies within Europe and in member countries. It was also suggested that WG3 and TG6 should organise a joint seminar or a workshop on "Earthquake Geotechnical Engineering and Microzonation" before the next ESC Assembly.

The Executive Committee approved the cooperation of TG6 and WG3 and the joint organisation of a workshop on "Earthquake Geotechnical Engineering and Microzonation".

*TG7 on "Development of Shaking Table Testing Techniques"*

*Coordinator: Prof. Roy Severn, UK*

Secretary General informed the Executive Committee about the activities of TG7. There was a general agreement that a short report summarising the activities of TG7 during the year 2000, prepared by the Coordinator to be published in EAEE Bulletin, would be very informative and appropriate.

*TG8 on "Seismic Behaviour of Irregular and Complex Structures"*

*Coordinator: Prof. Victor Rutenberg, Israel*

Secretary General informed the Executive Committee about the activities of TG8. There was a general agreement that a short report summarising the activities of TG8 during the year 2000, prepared by the Coordinator to be published in EAEE Bulletin, would be very informative and appropriate.

*TG9 on "Repair and Strengthening"*

*Coordinator: Prof. Alberto Castellani, Italy*

Secretary General informed the Executive Committee about the intentions of Prof.Castellani to organise a workshop in Italy in the first half of the year 2001. There was a general agreement to support the workshop. However, because of time limitations the Secretary General was asked to get in contact with Prof.Castellani in the near future to acquire more information concerning progress of the organisation.

*TG10 on "Seismic Aspects of Historical Monument Preservation"*

*Coordinator: Prof. Costas Srymakezis, Greece*

Secretary General informed the Executive Committee about the recommendations approved in the ESC General Assembly for establishing cooperation among Subcommission A on "Seismology" with TG10 concerning the effects of historical earthquakes on historical structures.

There was a general agreement in the Executive Committee to support this cooperation among two European associations. It was decided to inform Prof.Srymakezis about this development and to acquire his suggestions concerning such a cooperation.

*TG5 on "Seismic Isolation of Structures "*

Secretary General summarised the situation of TG5. There was a general agreement that the subject of the TG is important and an activity in this field would be very positive. The Secretary General informed the Executive Committee about his contact with Dr. Alessandro .Martelli from Italy and about his willingness to be the new Coordinator of TG5. The Executive Committee approved and recommended to the President to appoint Dr. Martelli to be the Coordinator of TG5.

*New Task Groups*

The Committee discussed the possibilities of establishing a new TG related to earthquake insurance. It was decided that Martin Koller should investigate this possibility by getting in

contact with related individuals in Switzerland and Europe. He was asked to inform the Executive Committee about the developments on this matter in the next Executive Committee meeting.

**Item 9:** Secretary General summarised the present situation of the EAEE Bulletin and the difficulties of publishing two issues per year because of insufficient number of articles and contributions. He informed the Committee that it was not possible for him to publish the second issue for the year 1999 mostly because of the additional work load due to the recent earthquakes in Turkey and partly because of lack of articles. He proposed to publish only one issue per year summarising all the EAEE activities within that year. He also mentioned about the increasing cost of mailing and proposed to publish only 500 copies per issue. Since the Bulletins are also available in the EAEE Home page, he proposed to send 10 copies from each issue to all National Delegates to be put on display in the related libraries in their perspective countries.

The Executive Committee approved these proposals and it was decided that the EAEE Bulletin should be published once a year and as 500 copies and each National Delegate will receive 10 copies from every issue to be displayed in related libraries. Secretary General will inform all National Delegates and all those interested by a short e-mail note when the Bulletin is ready in the EAEE home page.

The Executive Committee discussed in detail concerning the present situation of the official journal of the EAEE, the European Earthquake Engineering Journal published in Italy. There was a general agreement about the need for improvement concerning the format, scientific quality, popularity and acceptance of the journal within the earthquake engineering community. It was decided that the Secretary General should get in contact with the Chief Editor Prof. Dulio Benedetti to discuss about the possibilities for the future of the journal.

**Item 10:** The Executive Committee debated on the possibilities of establishing an award lecture to be presented in each European Conference on Earthquake Engineering. It was decided to prepare draft guidelines for the selection of the award lecturer.

The Executive Committee discussed in detail the proposal of Martin Koller concerning the EAEE Charta for the support of post earthquake missions. The establishment of a clearing centre in the earthquake stricken country would be very suitable and would decrease the demand for information from individuals. The different types of post earthquake missions were discussed. There was a general agreement that each member society can appoint one person to be in charge of collecting preliminary data, to be responsible for establishing the clearing centre web sites and to respond to the inquires coming from other national societies. The educational aspects of post earthquake missions was evident and this aspect should be considered important.

The Executive Committee asked M.Koller to prepare a draft "*EAEE Charta for Post Earthquake Missions*" in the light of the discussions in the meeting, to be reviewed and to be published in the EAEE Bulletin and in the EAEE Home page. It was also decided to ask the National societies to nominate a coordinator that will be responsible for post earthquake missions.

The date for the next meeting was discussed. The two possibilities are Italy and Switzerland regional seminars if they take place. Otherwise Secretary General will be responsible to determine a possible date by corresponding with the Executive Committee members. The meeting ended with the thanks of the President and all those present to Prof. Carlos Oliveira for his hospitality and for organising the Executive committee meeting.

Atilla Ansal  
Secretary General