

MINUTES OF THE 9TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Quimper, France.

28th April 1997.

Present:	Mr. P. E. Rodgers	President
	Professor O. Flaaten	Vice-President
	Dr. J. P. Hillis	Rapporteur

and about 30 members and associate members of EAFE

1. President's opening Remarks

The President opened the meeting by greeting members and guests, including invited keynote speakers Professors P. Copes and D. Fluharty, and European Union Commission representatives Messrs. D. Levieil and G. Robledo Fraga.

He then invited the meeting to stand in silence in memory of the late Bob O'Connor, Research Professor Emeritus of the Economic and Social Research Institute, Ireland, who had died since the last Annual General Meeting. This was accordingly done.

2. Apologies:	Mr. Henning P. Jørgensen,	Treasurer
	Ms. Z Bakela	Secretary

3. Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting

The minutes of the last Annual General Meeting (1996), having been circulated were taken by the President as read and, in the absence of any amendments were signed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings of that meeting.

4. Matters arising from the Minutes

4a. The President mentioned that there had been a suggestion that the question be examined of the basis of the registration of the Association be changed from French law to European Union law. However, the meeting expressed no reservations about the current regime of registration being under French law.

4b. It had been proposed that the procedure be introduced whereby the Treasurer would prepare an annual budget. However, it was felt that this would be more suitable for the incoming Bureau to deal with at an early stage.

5. President's Report.

A copy is appended.

The President stated that the increase in EAFE activities was still not enough. However, two good editions of the EAFE Bulletin had been produced, and once again a Bio-economics Workshop had been held in Edinburgh. It was still difficult to obtain adequate funds for participants to travel. He had hoped to hold the meeting jointly with the IIFET Groundfish Modelling Workshop, but this had not been practicable. The Rennes Socio-economic workshop had also been supported, and its Proceedings would soon be available.

Proceedings of the 1993 (Brussels) and 1994 (Hieraklion) conferences were in process and it was hoped that they would be available soon.

He congratulated Professor Franquesa on the rapid and good quality production of the Barcelona Proceedings.

He admitted that the response to the membership drive in Norway and Iceland had been disappointing, and regretted that it had not been practicable to move the funding of EAFE onto a better basis during his time in office.

To obtain 1,000 ECU subscriptions from industries required meetings, which it had not been possible to set up in the time available. Relations with the European Union had improved and effort had been devoted to making working relations with the Commission better; There was growing awareness of the importance of fisheries economics in Brussels. On the other hand EAFE was not too involved with ICES.

In discussion, Professor R. Franquesa mentioned that he expected to receive ECU 3,000. The President noted that the Barcelona conference had virtually 'broken even', and complimented him on that achievement. He noted that it was EAFE practice always to pay the expenses of keynote speakers

He thanked those who had worked hard and helped him during his three years presidency.

6. Treasurer's Report.

In the unavoidable absence of the Treasurer, the President asked if the Report OF Accounts was agreed. The President reminded the meeting that members could pay their subscriptions to EAFE in their own national currency. Mr. Salz noted that in addition to the funds noted ECU 1,000 was due from Barcelona.

7. Election of Officers.

The following were elected:

<u>Office</u>	<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Proposer</u>	<u>Second</u>
President:	P. Salz	V. Placenti	J. P. Boude
Vice-President	R. Franquesa	P. Salz	V. Placenti
Treasurer	H. P. Jørgensen	P. E. Rodgers	P. Salz
Secretary	A. Hatcher	A. Neiland	O. Flaaten
Rapporteur	J. P. Hillis	P. E. Rodgers	O. Flaaten

8. Election of the Editor of the EAFE Bulletin.

The President reported that Mr. V. McEwen was willing to serve, and he was accordingly elected unopposed, by acclamation.

9. Future conferences.

An invitation to to EAFE to meet in in 1999 at the Hague, in the Netherlands, a country which had not yet hosted an Annual Conference, was extended to the meeting

by Dr. Salz, and enthusiastically accepted. An invitation to meet in Denmark in 1999, conveyed to the meeting by Ms. Eva Roth, was also accepted.

Dr. Salz then spoke briefly about his ideas for the 1998 conference. He favoured a different formula to that of previous conferences, with the conference lasting for 3¹/₂ to 4 days, with more time for speakers and for discussion, and also poster sessions. He noted that a good poster session gives more opportunity to authors to explain their work, and to report adequately on their projects. He favoured posters incorporating one to two large tables. At present, many people did not know very well what was going on in research amongst EAFE members. The dates of the Conference would fall in April 1998

10. Any Other Business.

Mr. Rodgers announced that the name of the 'Fisheries *Conservation* Standing Commission' had been changed by the Bureau to 'Fisheries *Management* Standing Commission' to avoid ambiguities inherent in the meanings of the word 'conservation' in fisheries contexts.

Mr. Leveil pointed out that the latest issue of the EAFE Bulletin sought comments on how proposals are evaluated. In the 5th Framework there would be a follow-up to the FAIR Programme. In the 4th, there had been a number of specific programmes, and the last call within the FAIR Programme would be in January 1998

The following would be main subject areas for proposals for funding:

1. Political priority for socio-economic research.
2. Research on coastal zones.
3. Economic analysis of fishing effort

In the Fifth Framework Programme, the following subjects would have priority:

1. Biological and environmental research.
2. Information Science.
3. Sustainable and competitive growth.

We would have to be involved in new working groups.

The funding would comprise 125 million ECU's over a four year period. Work should also be done to assess which domains should receive priority.

He continued that EAFE is a success story. He would like to write a paper showing numbers of EAFE papers and papers connected with EAFE rising all the time.

He wondered how much money EAFE has received, directly and indirectly in the past. He would use this information for drafting his EU proposals and for seeking increased budget share for fisheries economics projects. This didn't include fisheries studies, but the information might be useful for Guillermo Robledo Fraga as well.

Occasionally, acknowledgement of CEC funding was omitted from reporting of work from funded projects. In North America, non-acknowledgement is considered as much an offence as plagiarism. He then sought a meeting after the AGM with people involved in the EU Commission's Annual Economic Report and other interested persons.

Mr. G. Robledo Fraga confirmed that information regarding DG-XIV participation in assisting fisheries economics research would also be available from him.

The President then closed the meeting

J. P. Hillis

5/5/97, revised 26/3/98

President's Report

The year has seen an increase in EAFE activities, though it is still not at such a level as I feel the members truly deserve for their subscriptions. We have succeeded in ensuring that two well presented and informative editions of the *EAFE Bulletin* were published throughout the year and there is every intention on the part of the Bureau that this will continue.

The Bioeconomic Modelling Workshop was again held in Edinburgh last autumn though with a smaller than usual participation. This coming year we hope to combine the workshop with a meeting of the IIFET World Groundfish Trade Modelling Group but this is dependent on sponsorship being forthcoming and attempts to secure funding have so far proved unsuccessful. EAFE also supported the workshop in Rennes last December which was concerned with the socio-economic aspects of changes in fisheries. That workshop produced some useful proceedings and plans for future projects.

Mention of proceedings reminds me that I am able to report that the proceedings of the Brussels and Crete Conferences are both now complete, sponsorship having been secured, and should be available to members very soon. Which reminds me that we owe a word of congratulation to Ramon Franquesa for publishing and despatching so quickly the proceedings of last year's Conference in Barcelona.

I finally managed to get round to undertaking a membership drive in Norway last month. It is too early yet to say what the response has been and we will need to chase up the first approach with a second. The disappointment of my Presidency has been that I have been unable to put the funding of EAFE on a more sound basis by expanding the Corporate Membership to industry representative organisations throughout Europe. If I may suggest something to my successor it is that we should draw up a plan to approach personally all the fishermen's organisations in Europe to invite them to join.

I am pleased to report that the improvement in relations with the European Commission that led to my being invited to the Council of Europe meeting in Salerno last year has continued. This has been reflected in my being invited as EAFE President to contribute formally to consultations about fisheries economics on at least three occasions. It is important that these contacts be continued by my successor as there is now a growing recognition being expressed by Commission officials of the importance of economic aspects of fisheries. To achieve this I feel strongly that we must maintain our separate identity and not attempt to join ICES. EAFE was originally set up to act as a parallel organisation and we are now beginning to establish ourselves.

Finally I would like to thank those who have served with me on the Bureau during my three years for their help and support and also the members who have contributed to the meetings.

