



The European Association
of Fisheries Economists

MINUTES OF THE 10TH ANNUAL

GENERAL MEETING

The Hague, The Netherlands

1st April 1998.

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| Present | Pavel Salz | President |
| | Ramon Franquesa Artes | Vice-President |
| | Aaron Hatcher | Secretary |
| | Henning P Jørgensen | Treasurer |
| | J Paul Hillis | Rapporteur |

And approximately thirty-five Full and Associate Members

1 **President's Report.** (A copy is appended)

There had been no Bureau Meeting during the year, the number of ordinary members had remained constant, while the number of Institutional Members had increased.

Having started as Editor of the *Bulletin* Vincent McEwan had resigned, citing insufficient network connections with good sources of information as his reason. Subsequently, CEMARE (Portsmouth University) had been approached, but the initiative had been late and no contributions had been received, hence no Bulletin had been produced. The Association now had a website at LEI, and Pavel Salz would welcome contributions.

Proceedings of EAFE for Quimper were stated by Jean Boncoeur to be in draft, but it was noted that we still await the Hieraklion (Crete) Proceedings. Those in Hieraklion had not responded to

Mr Salz's latest queries, so he did not know what the position was

2. Treasurer,s Report. (A copy is appended/J. Boncoeur had draft)

Of the two sets of columns the definitive one was that in Danish Kroner (DKK) The cash flow position of the Association was affected by the timing of payments Among EAFE's functions was that of providing a float for conference organising Members were asked to pay their subscriptions in their national currencies, while the Association was grateful to receive payment in ECU's they attracted higher bank charges than national currencies A South African participant asked if payment in Rands was n order and was told it was

The Treasurer enumerated the membership subscriptions (in ECU's) as follows

Ordinary, 40, Associate, 30, Student, 20, Corporate, minimum 200

3. EAFE Conference Fee

Mr Salz, speaking as Conference organiser, stated that sponsorship must be obtained early or else it was impossible to know what resources were available with which to run the Conference He then showed the meeting his draft budget for this conference, as follows -

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| <i>Draft Conference budget):</i> | Venue | 2,000 |
| <i>(in ECU's, for 100 participants)</i> | Coffee/Tea (3 x 3 1ECU ea) | 1,000 |
| | Lunch (3 x 10 each) | 3,000 |
| | Dinner (50 each) | 5,000 |
| | Coach excursion | 2,000 |
| | Welcome cocktail | 2,000 |
| | Proceedings | 3,000 |
| | <u>Conference materials</u> | <u>1,000</u> |
| | <u>Total</u> | <u>19,000</u> |

On foot of this information, he proposed that EAFE adopt as standard a conference fee of 150 ECU's

In discussion, Patrice Guillotreau expressed the view that willingness to come to Conference could suffer if the fee were placed too high and suggested moving towards an IIFET situation. Mr Salz pointed out that IIFET conference-holding institutions remit half of the fee to IIFET.

Mr Guillotreau felt some of the conference entertainment to be unnecessary. Mr Salz suggested that we might introduce a reduced conference fee for students of , - say 50 – 75 ECU's.

Wietse Dol stated that some organisations maintain bursary funds, and added that some workers from Eastern European countries cannot afford to attend any EAFE conferences. Jean Boncoeur mentioned that many countries had similar problems.

Mr Salz then suggested levels for conference fees of 150 ECU's for members, 200 for non-members and 75 ECU's for students. Mr Guillotreau then asked if dinners could be payable separately. Mr Salz then said that in the case of large associations, like ICES for example, conferences were often organised by professional organisers. Coach and dinner contractors normally wanted to know their numbers early. Most relatively small institutes lacked the capacity to do a large amount of organising, but dinners were good for introductions, team-building and general networking. Mr Guillotreau agreed that EAFE was too small to do some things effectively on its own.

Mr Salz asked if anyone had other ideas for economic and effective conference running. Mr Guillotreau suggested waiting until sponsors had pledged the funds, to which Mr Jørgensen replied that if one didn't know what sponsorship was available one couldn't plan realistically. Mr Hillis then called on any organisers of previous conferences present to tell the meeting of their experiences of seeking sponsorship. Mr Boncoeur stated that sponsorship must be secured before budget date, sometimes they would "snowball", and in France, the state tended to be a less reliable source of funding than some other countries, making sponsorship relatively more important. Mr Salz stated that in the Netherlands, sponsors tended not to influence each other into such "snowballing". Aaron Hatcher noted that the 1995 conference, in Portsmouth, had only one sponsor. Mr Dol emphasised that it was important to offer several products offering display of the sponsors' names, and Ramon Franquesa agreed that this was very much the case in Barcelona.

4. Bulletin.

Mr. Salz asked if we had any budding editors, to which Vincenzo Placenti replied yes, that it could be done in IREPA (Salerno) Mr. Guillotreau said that all necessary infrastructure should then be transmitted from CEMARE (Portsmouth) as soon as possible Mr Dol then spoke to emphasise the importance of the website, to which Mr. Salz, while agreeing stated that most people still wanted hard copy, and thus it should remain

5. Transfer of Duties to new bureau following elections.

Mr. Salz stated that transfer of responsibilities to the new bureau should take place immediately after the end of the conference during which the election took place

He therefore proposed -

Article 6.13. Newly elected officers will assume responsibilities after the conference at which the election takes place.

Philip Rodgers suggested that a rule change was unnecessary. Mr. Salz called for comments on the proposal and/or on Mr Rodgers' suggestion The proposal was put to a vote and passed unanimously

6. Election of Bureau.

The members of the current Bureau were all eligible, and for re-election and all accordingly stood There being no other proposals, they were all elected to the offices which they currently held Mr Rodgers proposed a vote of thanks to them for their work over the past year

7. Next Year's Conference.

Mr. Salz asked if there were any offers; Mr Hillis said that he would be willing to see if the Marine Institute of Ireland would be willing to host the 1999 conference In response to the comment that Denmark had not hosted it yet while Ireland did so in 1991, Hans Frost explained that his university institution was about to be merged with another university and the process was expected to be fully in its throes of changing organisation in 1999 Mr Hillis's offer was therefore accepted.

8. Matters arising from the report of the previous year's AGM (Quimper, France).

Dominique Leveil reiterated his request for production of the document requested *by him* in last year which would show the contribution of EAFE to promotion of fisheries economics req in Quimp Mr Salz said that he would like to pick up Mr. Leveil's point He said that the Bureau would try to make arrangements to produce such an overview of fisheries economics research in the European Union

Regarding the website, Mr. Salz stated that it was mainly Erik Buizmann's work, and that, as all were well aware, it was still under construction He said that he would like to hear if people had found it useful, and hear suggestions for its future role and development They were trying to get the EAFE website separated from that of LEI, which, Mr. Buizmann stated was already happening

Regarding eligibility for membership, Mr Rodgers stated that since EAFE had become stronger over the years, it no longer needed the protection of specified that applicants for membership must have a qualification in economics EAFE had never vetted applicants, and contained in its membership workers and employees in the field of fisheries who had never graduated in economics

He also drew attention to Rule 3.3 which, he told the meeting did not, as it stood, make sense, since – “a corporate body” cannot be “an economist” This ‘typo’ should be corrected with due regard to what are and ought to be the rights of corporate bodies in the Association One participant stated that he was not qualified in economics and strongly the hope that EAFE could include him in membership Mr Salz stated that attendance at Conference was open to all

Mr Jørgensen stated the view that while the role of corporate members might be to a considerable extent a patronal one of showing appreciation of EFAE, it still meant that corporate members should exercise the privileges of ordinary membership

Pavel: more common

Mr. Frost recommended that we should think carefully and discuss this matter over the coming

year He stated the view that as economists we did not reject non-economists, but that If we removed the word economists from the rules we should also remove the word economists from the Association's name (i e the second "E" from "EAFE") We already accepted non-economists as "passive" members as was also the case with "foreign (i e non-*European*) nationals" Mr Guillotreau recommended that we should think about this matter carefully, if we wanted multi-disciplinary research, we should welcome others We could very easily change our name to that of the "European Association for Fisheries *Economics*"

Mr Levieil then made two points

1 With projects likely to get bigger, workers would be forced to include more biologists/technologists in proposals and one could see now aquaculture projects with little economics insight Perhaps there should be special sessions to deal with this problem next year

2 With the likelihood of European Community enlargement, members should consider getting financial help To this end, PHARE and ACE programmes were available EAFE Conference should consider rendering assistance to the 'Eastern Bloc' He had forwarded some ACE application forms to Egypt, and EAFE could also consider work with Black Sea countries, and maybe Croatia (not '*officially*' a 'Mediterranean' country)

Mr Salz, returning to the debate on 'Membership', noted that we already had the category of Associate Membership Often these wanted access to full membership He noted that Mr Frost counselled caution, while Messrs Rodgers and Guillotreau advocated opening up/ liberalisation He suggested that it might be made available before next conference by website Mr Rodgers pointed that he was not necessarily seeking liberalisation, but he was seeking accurate and explicit wording in EAFE's rules

For voting rights of corporate members, Mr Hillis suggested simply the same as for ordinary members, - one vote for each corporate member, he suggested that this should be discussed and a recommendation presented the next year's Annual General Meeting. Mr Salz agreed that we should clarify the position of (full) Members, Associate Members and CorporateMembers.

9. Any Other Business.