



## **Minutes of EAFE Annual General Meeting Held at the University of Portsmouth, UK, 11<sup>th</sup> July 2006**

**Participants:** 25 Members of EAFE, Alberto Spagnolli (European Commission), Ann Shriver, Cathy Roheim and Tony Charles (IIFET)

### **From the Bureau**

**Present:** Evelina Sabatella, President  
Luc van Hoof, Vice-President  
Erik Lindebo, Secretary  
Jim Watson, Rapporteur

**Apologies:** Hans Frost, Treasurer

### **1. Apologies for Absence**

Hans Frost was unable to attend the meeting in his capacity as Treasurer and was represented by his colleague Max Nielsen.

Hazel Curtis recently got married and was enjoying her honeymoon. Congratulations from EAFE!!

### **2. Adoption of the Minutes of the AGM held in 2005 in Thessaloniki**

The minutes were distributed among participants and were presented to the AGM for comments. No comments were forwarded, and the minutes of last year's AGM were adopted.

### **3. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

### **4. President's Report**

Evelina presented the President's Report.

First, I would like to thank CEMARE and IIFET for their hospitality. This is the first time that the Annual General Meeting does not take place in conjunction with our annual Conference. We benefited from the organisation of the IIFET Conference in Europe and we considered this conference an important event for all of us.

During the last year bureau meeting we decided to create 5 sub-groups (North Sea RAC, Baltic RAC, MARIFISH Project, EFARO, Academic network) to fulfil EAFE commitments. The Bureau indicated a chair person for each sub-group. A list of participants has been established after all members were invited to express their interest. However, not all members decided to join the

working groups and I strongly invite all members to join since we consider this approach as a way to increase members' participation in the association. Your support is obviously needed to strengthen the Association's role in all fields of activity covered by sub-groups.

Within the MARIFISH project, as you perhaps already know, we are invited to give feedback to a literature database and this issue will be treated in detail later on.

During last year, EAFE obtained the observer status in the North Sea RAC and in the Baltic RAC. EAFE is considered to be the vehicle to channel economic advice to support Regional Advisory Councils. We attended several meetings. NSRAC is the only one that is already functioning in some way, while BSRAC is just starting. We have been asked to give economic advice and in some cases to carry out some economic analysis. In any case it must be recognised that biological advice is still central in RAC's activity and to increase EAFE contribution is sometimes problematic. To better follow the issues debated within the two RACs we need to find better ways to allow for a more concrete and efficient EAFE participation.

During the last year, we discussed the need to introduce some structural adjustments in our Association in order to adapt to the evolution of European fisheries. These adjustments refer to the Secretariat, the new web page, the Treasury, and the timing of the Conference that we think should take place on a biennial basis. Some of these changes require an update two points of our Rules. We will discuss this later in this meeting.

We are very pleased to be able to welcome today Mr Spagnolli, the head of the new economic unit in DG Fish. EAFE has tried several times to persuade the European Commission to make greater use of EAFE as an unrivalled source of expertise in the economics of fisheries and we hope that the creation of an economic unit within DG Fish could facilitate this process.

We are also pleased to welcome today the IIFET president Cathy Roheim and the IIFET executive secretary Ann Shriver. They accepted to take part in our meeting to promote further collaboration between our associations.

I also want to thank FOI and, in particular, Hans Frost and Elsebeth Vido for the continuous and enthusiastic support to the Association and for the work they have provided, securing the EAFE Secretariat and Treasury for several years. FOI will not be able to continue to provide a Secretariat and Treasury, but I am sure that FOI's contribution to EAFE will be equally important in future.

I would like to express my thanks to the Bureau members for the help and advice they have given throughout the year.

The President's report was adopted.

## **5. Treasurer's report**

Max presented the Treasurer's report.

The accounts have been influenced by the EAFE conference in Rome in spring 2004, which was handled by the Treasury of EAFE. The conference in 2005 in Thessaloniki has not influenced the accounts. Cost and earnings of the conference have been placed in the account when payment took

place, and therefore not placed periodically. Therefore the conference of Rome covers two periods 2003-04 and 2004-05. The conference has contributed positively to the accounts of EAFE.

The development of the total assets is affected by the conference but 2005 compared to 2003 shows an increase. The Balance Sheet 2004-2005 is enclosed.

It has been increasingly more difficult to keep track on members and in particular who has paid. Payments are strongly facilitated by net-banking, making it easy for member to transfer money. However, as many people do not insert comments about payments it is impossible to see who has paid. Therefore we lose track of a number of payments. The Treasury has tried to make it easier and unequivocal by inserting a number of the membership form, but it has not solved the problems.

We know there are 5-8 corporate members:

IREPA, Seafish, CEDEM, LEI, FOI, IME-SDU, IFREMER, NFH-Tromsø.

In 2003 there were around 80 individual members, but this number has clearly declined over the last years. A rough estimate is that we are below 50 individual members currently. An effort to attract new members is required.

The Treasurer's report was adopted.

## **6. Election of Officers**

President:	Re-election	Evelina Sabatella
Vice-President:	Re-election	Luc van Hoof
Secretary:	Re-election	Erik Lindebo
Rapporteur:	New election	Hazel Curtis (or Seafish alternative)
Treasurer:	New election	Institute and officer to be determined
Auditors:	Re-election	Hazel Curtis & Henning Jørgensen
Secretariat/website:	New election	Bertrand Le Gallic (CEDEM)

Information on the setting up of the new Secretariat and Website at CEDEM (France) will be given in due course. Members are invited to send suggestions and comments to Bertrand.

## **7. Changes of Rules**

Evelina proposed the following changes to our Rules:

4.1 There will be a meeting every TWO years to approve the accounts, elect officers and undertake such other business as deemed necessary.

6.3 The officers will serve in one position for no more than FOUR consecutive years.

The Bureau will draft a new set of Rules in time for next year's AGM, when the Rules will need to be voted upon and approved.

## **8. Next year's conference/AGM**

The Bureau has been in contact with Olafur Klemenson with the aim of hosting the next EAFE conference in Iceland. A short introduction was given by Olafur and EAFE thanked him for his kind initiative. A first announcement should be made in September/October, containing the main themes and conference venue and dates. The two options of a May (cheaper) or a July (better weather, less workload) conference will be assessed, although the general consensus of members was that a summer conference would be preferred. A scientific committee will be chaired by Ragnar Arnason.

## **9. DG FISH: Presentation of the new Economic Unit**

Alberto Spagnoli, Head of the Economic Analysis Unit (DG FISH) made a short intervention on the work carried out. There are several areas that are particularly important:

- Establishment of a network of fisheries economists – this already exists in EAFE and thus DG FISH will seek to establish better links with members, especially with regards policy advice and STECF activities.
- Economic seminar – DG FISH is planning an "Economics in Fisheries" seminar during the first quarter of 2007. EAFE will be consulted on potential themes and speakers.
- Impact Assessment – DG FISH will be undertaking impact assessment on all major regulatory proposals in the future. For example, a current STECF working group will convene in September to assess the North Sea flatfish management plan. EAFE members will be asked to participate in this work.
- Property rights – DG FISH will seek to initiate a dialogue between Member States on rights based management in 2006.
- Research – DG FISH currently has a healthy budget for policy related studies under the Data Collection Regulation framework, with Calls coming up shortly. DG FISH will try to use the new EAFE website to better inform EAFE members of these Calls, as and when they are posted. The future of the 7<sup>th</sup> Framework Programme is less certain as it is being relocated to DG Research, resulting in less DG FISH control. EAFE members should thus anticipate that competition (e.g. from environment and agriculture) for overall 7FP research funds will intensify.

## **10. EAFE and IIFET: Discussing possible collaboration**

Cathy Roheim, IIFET president, thanked for the opportunity to attend the meeting. She felt that EAFE was a sister organisation and that both organisations would become stronger if they worked more closely together. The staggering of the biennial conferences would ensure that there was no direct competition and that each conference could attract a global audience. Cathy also added that regular brainstorming via email would also help fostering new members, build expertise, and establish better linkages with industry and governments.

Ann Shriver, IIFET secretariat, fully supported these views. She further added that since secretariat resources are very limited, we should seek better collaboration by means of sending out announcements, especially in the context of conferences worldwide. She also felt that regional organisation of special sessions, such as the Policy Day at IIFET 2006, should be sought.

Massimo Spagnolo (IREPA) reminded members that EAFE and IIFET have historically collaborated when it comes to identifying keynote speakers for conferences and this should continue.

## **11. Any other Business**

Hans van Oostenbrugge (LEI) made a brief intervention on a Coordination Action of MARIFISH. He urged EAFE members to make a contribution to the Database of Social Scientific Publications on Fisheries. More information is available on [www3.lei.wur.nl/marifish](http://www3.lei.wur.nl/marifish).

The AGM was closed.

Erik Lindebo  
17<sup>th</sup> July 2006

## BALANCE SHEET 2004 - 2005

June 2006

	April 1. 2004 – March 31. 2005		April 1. 2003 – March 31. 2004		April 1. 2002 - March 31. 2003	
	DKK	EUR <sup>1</sup>	DKK	EUR <sup>1</sup>	DKK	EUR <sup>1</sup>
Membership fees	72808.49	9773.61	116619.36	15664.54	36 833.89	4 959.86
Conference <sup>2</sup>	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Interest, savings account in DKK	123.75	16.61	168.12	22.58	823.03	110.82
Interest, check account in DKK	228.37	30.66	354.13	47.57		
Interest, Euro account in EUR	16.84	2.26	8.71	1.17		
Interest, giro account in DKK	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>73 177.45</b>	<b>9 823.14</b>	<b>117 150.32</b>	<b>15 735.86</b>	<b>37 656.92</b>	<b>5 070.68</b>
Meetings	0.00	0.00	11 808.71	1 586.17	21 974.22	2 958.93
Homepage	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
EAFE conf. 2004	85631.24	11494.90	9 419.15	1 265.20		
Bank charges, DKK accounts	510.00	68.46	472.30	63.44	315.00	42.42
Bank charges, EUR account	335.38	45.02	205.92	27.66		
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>86 476.62</b>	<b>11 608.38</b>	<b>21 906.08</b>	<b>2 942.47</b>	<b>22 289.22</b>	<b>3 001.35</b>
<b>Surplus</b>	<b>-13 299.17</b>	<b>-1 785.24</b>	<b>95 244.24</b>	<b>12 793.39</b>	<b>15 367.70</b>	<b>2 069.33</b>
Savings account in DKK (5195886)	107389.83	14415.71	97 749.81	13 129.94	93 683.39	12 614.91
Check account in DKK (1096120)	168244.42	22584.66	183 371.25	24 630.78	181 242.20	24 405.12
Euro account in EUR (9401371)	81836.41	10985.49	89 348.77	12 001.50	0.00	0.00
Giro account in DKK (60080550)	1070.95	143.76	1 370.95	184.15	1 670.95	225.00
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>358 541.61</b>	<b>48 129.62</b>	<b>371 840.78</b>	<b>49 946.38</b>	<b>276 596.54</b>	<b>37 245.04</b>

Note 1: Exchange rate March 2005: 1 Euro = DKK 7.4495  
Exchange rate March 2004: 1 Euro = DKK 7.4448  
Exchange rate March 2003: 1 Euro = DKK 7.4264;

Note 2: Included in membership fees

Hans Frost  
Treasurer

Evelina Sabatella  
President

Luc van Hoof  
Vice-president

Erik Lindebo  
Secretary

Jim Watson  
Rapporteur

Henning P. Jørgensen  
Auditor

Hazel Curtis  
Auditor

Treasurer's note:  
The accounts have not been audited.