

# REPORT ON THE CENTRAL OFFICE ACTIVITIES FOR 1995 - 1996

## GENERAL

The main activities of the Central Office during 1995-1996 were correspondence with National Delegates, Task Group Coordinators, related international organizations, and publication of the Bulletin. The Secretary General participated to four conferences (*Fifth International Conference on Seismic Zonation, 17-19 October 1995, Nice, France; Fifth SECED Conference on European Seismic Design Practice, 25-26 October 1995 Chester, UK; First International Conference on Earthquake Geotechnical Engineering; November 14-16, 1996 Tokyo, Japan; First International Conference on Seismic Safety in the Urban Areas, Petropavlovsk, Kamchatka, Russia, 13-16 February 1996*) and to one Symposium (*Policies for Natural Disasters and Human Settlements, Habitat II NGO's Forum, Istanbul, Turkey, June 7, 1996*) and to two workshops (*Workshop on Implications of Recent Earthquakes on Seismic Risk, Japan-UK Seismic Risk Forum, 2-4 April 1996; A Workshop on Improvement of Collaborative Earthquake Research in the Mediterranean Basin, June 10-12, 1996, Rome, Italy*) to attend to Task Group meetings and to technical sessions. He made brief presentations about the EAEE and about Task Group activities in four of these meetings.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee had its second meeting during the 18th European Regional Earthquake Engineering Seminar on September 5, 1995 in Lyon, France. The minutes of the meeting were prepared and forwarded to all Executive Committee Members as well as to the representative of ESC and UNESCO. The minutes were also published in the second issue of the EAEE Bulletin.

The Central office made a formal application to Habitat Secretariat for accreditation to participate to the Second UN Conference on Human Settlements, Habitat II organized in Istanbul during June 3-14, 1996. The official participation EAEE was approved and the Secretary General participated to the official forum and to some of the NGO meetings. He also took part in the organization of a Symposium on "Policies for Natural Disasters and Human Settlements" where he made a brief presentation about EAEE activities.

During 1996 it was not possible to organize an Executive Committee meeting in any of the international conferences in the field of Earthquake Engineering. However, the Central Office, with the approval of the most of the Executive Committee Members will organize the Fourth Executive Committee Meeting in Istanbul on August 31, 1996 with the support from the Turkish Earthquake Foundation.

In general, efforts have been made to establish close contact between the members of Executive Committee and the Central Office by fax and e-mail. All the documents prepared by the Central Office were first sent by fax and later by mail to all the members of the Executive Committee including Honorary Members and representative of ESC.

## MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS OF EAEE

The minutes of the Third Executive Committee Meeting, the Report on the Central Office Activities for 1994-1995, the Proposal for the Changes in the EAEE Statutes, the Rules for EAEE Task Groups and the Postal Balloting sheet were forwarded to all National Delegates on 23 February 1996.

According to the decision of the Executive Committee a postal ballot was conducted for the approval of the proposed changes in the EAEE Statutes and the Rules for the Task Groups. Up to the present 23 affirmative votes out of 28 National Delegates were received by the Central Office. This number is sufficient for the approval of the changes in the EAEE Statutes according to Art.11 that requires affirmative votes from 2/3 of the total number of Delegates for the approval of the changes.

The Spanish Society for Earthquake Engineering, the member organization from Spain, have informed the Central Office by a fax on February 28, 1996 and later by a formal letter dated June 20, 1996 that Dr.Rafael Blázquez was elected as the new President and the new National Delegate and Mr.Francisco Navarro as the new Deputy Delegate of Spain in EAEE. The Central Office also received the new Statutes of the Spanish Society for Earthquake Engineering.

The German Society for Earthquake Engineering and Structural Dynamics, the member organization from Germany, have informed the Central Office with a letter dated March 19, 1996 that Prof.Dr.-Ing.Stavros A.Savidis was elected as the new President and the new National Delegate of Germany in EAEE.

An application was received from the Georgian Republic National Committee on Earthquake Engineering and Engineering Seismology to become a member of EAEE.

## **WORKING GROUPS AND TASK GROUPS**

The First Meeting of the Joint Task Group, of EAEE TG6 on "Earthquake Geotechnical Engineering and Microzonation" and ESC WG4 on "Microzonation" was held on October 16, 1995 Nice, France during the Fifth International Conference on Seismic Zonation. The meeting was attended by 20 members from different national organizations. The minutes of the meeting were prepared by the Coordinators and were distributed to all the TG members and it was also published in the second issue of the Bulletin.

The First Meeting of the TG1 on "Evaluation of EC8 and Harmonization of Seismic Codes" was organized in Chester, United Kingdom on October 27, 1995. The General Secretary participated to the meeting and prepared a summary of the meeting that was published in the second issue of the Bulletin. A detailed transcript of the discussions during the meeting was also prepared and was distributed to all participants for their comments. This corrected detailed transcript will be distributed to all Executive Committee members for evaluating the future and reorganization of TG1.

The Coordinator of TG3 on "Seismic Risk and Earthquake Scenarios" Prof.Maruo Dolce have prepared a project proposal to establish a network within the INCO-COPERNICUS program of EU. Eleven institutions (Bulgaria, Romania, Albania, Czech Republic, Slovak Republic, Hungary, Italy, Greece, United Kingdom and France) participated to the proposal. The Central Office supported the preparation of the proposal and offered its help when needed.

## **EUROPEAN SEISMOLOGICAL COMMISSION**

Along with the decision reached in both Executive Committees of EAEE and ESC, the second Joint Task Group TG6 was established and as summarized above had its first meetings during 1995. The two Joint Task Groups will have their Second Meetings during the XXV General Assembly of ESC in Reykjavik, Iceland in September, 1996.

The Secretary General will participate to the XXV General Assembly of European Seismological Commission to be held in Reykjavik, Iceland, during September 8-13,1996 to take part in the Task Group Meetings as well as to attend the Executive Committee Meeting of ESC.

## **JOURNAL OF EUROPEAN EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERING**

All the minutes of the Executive Committee Meetings and information concerning Task Group activities were sent to the Editor of EEE. A major portion of this information was published in the issues that came out in 1995 and 1996.

## **BULLETIN**

The second issue of the Bulletin was prepared and published at the end of February but the distribution by mail took a long time. Before the publication, a survey was conducted through all National Delegates to determine the number of copies that would be needed to distribute the Bulletin to all related people and organizations. The total number necessary was approximately 2500 copies. Unfortunately due to budget restrictions it was only possible to publish 1500 copies. I have not received information from all member organizations but I believe every body received the packages forwarded.

The first issue of the Bulletin for 1996 has been prepared. The printing will start at the beginning of August and it will be distributed during August and September, 1996.

## **Internet - WEB**

An Internet-WEB that was created under the following address

<http://www.ins.itu.edu.tr/eae/eae.htm>

is still open to all Internet users. However, most likely due to connection problems encountered frequently it was not always available. The first and second issues of the Bulletin are loaded as the EAEE documents in the Internet. This third issue will also be loaded shortly. A series of improvements has been implemented in the Internet connections at Istanbul Technical University and I hope in the near future the frequency of the problems will decrease.

## **Others**

In the General Conference of UNESCO in 1995 it was decided to evaluate and reclassify all international non-governmental organizations previously classified in former A, B and C categories. EAEE was admitted to category C in 1976. An application letter with all the supporting documents (Minutes of the Executive Committee, Minutes of the Task Group Meetings, Bulletins, Names and addresses of all Executive Committee Members and National Delegates, information about all Task and Working Groups, List of recent conferences and regional seminars) were forwarded to UNESCO. An appeal was made to upgrade the previous classification and be admitted to the new category named "Formal Associate Relations". No answer has been received up to the present.

**Information concerning EAAE and its activities were sent to following organizations:**

**CBD Research Limited for Directory of Pan-European Organizations**

**Union of International Organization for Who's Who in International Organizations and for Yearbook of International Organizations**

**UNESCO-IDNDR Secretariat**

**UNESCO-Habitat Secretariat**

**Prof.Dr.Atilla M.Ansal**

**Secretary General**

**August 1996**