



EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERING

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Andreas J Kappos (Greece), Carlos S. Oliveira (Portugal)*

Honorary Members:

N.Ambraseys (UK), D.Anicic (Croatia), G.Grandori (Italy), A.A.Moinfar (Iran)

Audit Committee:

Philippe Bisch (France), Panayotis Carydis (Greece)

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Number: 1

Date: September 8, 2006

Place: Geneva, Switzerland

Attendance:

*Martin Koller, President
Robin Spence, Vice President
Mihail Garevski, Vice President
Atilla Ansal, Secretary General
Mauro Dolce
Rainer Flesch
Andreas J Kappos
Carlos Oliveira
Roger Musson, ESC Representative
Philippe Bisch, Audit Committee
Panayotis Carydis, Audit Committee*

Absentee:

Emilia Juhasova

Prologue:

The first meeting of the Executive Committee of the European Association for Earthquake Engineering for 2006-2010 Period was held in Geneva, Switzerland on Friday September 8, 2006 between 17:00 and 18:00 after the Closing Ceremony of the 1st ECEES. The Executive Committee meeting was chaired by the President.

Agenda:

1. *Approval of the Agenda*
2. *Remarks by the President*
3. *Remarks by the Second Vice President*
4. *Remarks by the Secretary General*
5. *Election of Treasurer*
6. *Guidelines for ECEE*
7. *Statutes (ESC Representative-Founding Member)*
8. *Task Groups*
9. *FP7 Projects*
10. *Miscellaneous*

Item 1: Secretary General reviewed the items of the Agenda, and asked for suggestions. The proposed Agenda of the Meeting was approved by all the members present.

Item 2: The President welcomed the members to the first Executive Committee Meeting for the Period 2006-2010. He expressed his thanks to all Executive Committee Members for his election and his appreciation and thanks to Robin Spence for his past presidency. The President summarised his views and stressed the need to focus on EAEE objectives and implement an effective working plan for the following four years.

Item 3: The Vice President thanked to all Executive Committee members for their support in electing Skopje as the next conference venue. He expressed his desire to continue the success of the first EAEE-ESC joint conference with similar number of participants in Skopje. He mentioned that Skopje and the organizing team have the required experience based on their previous organizations. He suggested that all efforts should be made by announcing the 14th ECEE at every possible occasion to increase the participation of all related groups.

Item 4: Secretary General expressed his congratulations and thanks to the President for the very well organised conference. He summarised his views concerning the issues that will be in the agenda of the new Executive Committee during the coming four years: There will be Executive Committee meetings at least once every year. The Central Office will inform Member Organisations to pay their membership dues at the beginning of each year. The Central Office will be making efforts (campaigns) to increase the number of individual membership by sending invitation letters via e-mail to the participants of recently held conferences and to the members of EAEE National Associations. The Bulletin of Earthquake Engineering and book series are being published at a steady rate however additional support and ideas are needed to publish BEE Special Issues and new books in the series.

The Central Office will continue preparing two issues of the EAEE Newsletter per year. The Internet-EAEE web Pages will be updated when additional information becomes available. The web pages will be transferred to a server at the Central Office in Kandilli if it becomes necessary. He expressed his hopes to have regional seminars or workshops in the coming four years and asked the support of the Executive Committee members to convince National Societies for organising regional seminars.

Item 5: According to the EAEE Statutes, the election for the post of the Treasurer needs to be conducted during the first meeting of the new Executive Committee. Secretary General proposed the past treasurer, Rainer Flesch, as the Treasurer one more time. The nomination of Rainer Flesch as the Treasurer was approved unanimously by the members present.

Item 6: Although the Guidelines for Organising EAEE Conferences were reviewed by the previous Executive Committee, the revisions were not finalised. The President accumulated significant experience during the organisation of this first joint EAEE-ESC conference that could be very helpful in revising the Guidelines. It was decided that Secretary General should prepare a draft document in the coming months to be distributed to all ExCom Members. The discussion and approval of the Guidelines for Organising EAEE Conferences will be in the agenda of the future meetings of the Executive Committee.

The President suggested inserting a new item in the Guidelines for Organising EAEE Conferences stating that Secretary General should be exempted from the registration fee in the future EAEE conferences. Secretary General proposed that this suggestion should also include EAEE employees as well as Secretary General in the EAEE Conferences.

Item 7: During the revisions of the EAEE Statutes, in the item defining the members of the Executive Committee the sub item "one representative appointed by ESC" was omitted by

mistake. It has been a long-term tradition between EAEE and ESC to have representatives of each other in their Executive Committees. It was decided unanimously to insert this item in its previous location in the new Statutes.

The revised Statutes was proposed to Turkish Government as a part of the attempt to gain legal identity as an NGO. Since the approval phase is still in progress, it is required to have all seven founding members in the ExCom. Peter Fajfar was among this seven founding members and was the only one who was not a candidate for the new ExCom. Secretary General proposed to invite Peter Fajfar as the sixth member of ExCom because of the necessity from legal perspective. This suggestion was approved unanimously by the members present.

Andreas Kappos, on behalf of the Hellenic Association for Earthquake Engineering (ETAM) has voiced his concern regarding the change in the Statutes referring to the equal voting rights given to the individual and collective members (national associations) in the election of the ExCom members. He asked the ExCom to consider other possible choices that would more fairly reflect the number of people represented through their national societies (as opposed to individual members who only represent themselves), without necessarily adopting a fully proportional representation system (one member-one vote).

Item 8: The Secretary General summarised the latest situation with the Task Groups. He mentioned that there are presently ten Task Groups that need the approval of the Executive Committee for the extension of their activities. Task Groups have presented their reports to the Central Office. Their reports were included in the Central Office Report for 2002-2006 that was distributed in the General Assembly. The Coordinators of Task Groups will be asked formally by the Secretary General to submit their working plan for the following four years before the next ExCom meeting. The Executive Committee will review the presently submitted activity reports for 2002-2006 as well as the work plans for the future four years. The extension of the Task Group activities will be in the agenda of the next Executive Committee meeting for discussion and decision.

A new Task Group proposal was submitted by Andreas Kappos on the topic of “Seismic Design, Assessment and Retrofitting of Bridges”. The proposal was received positively and Andreas Kappos was asked to prepare a short abstract concerning the proposal and a list of possible members, which will be circulated through ExCom Members and if voted in favour, eleventh TG will be established.

Item 9: The Secretary General informed ExCom members about the resubmission of the training course proposal to FP7 with the collaboration of EAEE Task Group Coordinators and Executive Committee members. The training course program appears to be an effective tool for most of the Task Groups to continue their activities. There are plans to cooperate with some agencies in Europe in addition to EAEE task groups to enhance the acceptability.

Item 10: It was decided to have the second Executive Committee Meeting in Thessaloniki, Greece on 24th of June, 2007 just before 4th International Conference on Earthquake Geotechnical Engineering.

Epilogue: The first meeting of the Executive Committee of the EAEE held in Geneva was finalized. The meeting ended with the thanks of the President to all participating members.

Atilla Ansal
Secretary General