



MINUTES of

EAFE Bureau and Corporate Members Meeting

Portsmouth

11 July 2006

AGENDA

1. Follow up of the actions agreed during the 2005 Rome meeting
2. The new secretariat and website
3. New rules and the role of the Advisory Committee
4. What to present to members during the AGM
5. Next year's Conference
6. Other issues

Present:

Evelina Sabatella (President, IREPA)
Luc van Hoof (Vice President, RIVO)
Erik Lindebo (Secretary, European Commission)
John Anderson (Seafish)
Angus Garrett (Seafish)
Max Nielsen (FOI)
Bertrand Le Gallic (CEDEM)
Massimo Spagnolo (IREPA)
Remi Mongruel (Ifremer)

Apologies:

Hans Frost (Treasurer, FOI)
Hazel Curtis (Auditor, Seafish)
Regis Kalaydjian (IFREMER)

Introduction

ES welcomed the participants to the meeting and outlined the content of the agenda. She informed the participants that the bureau meeting was opened also to corporate members to finalize the process started last year in Thessaloniki and in the meeting in Rome, that considered some actions to be taken by corporate members.

The minutes of the meeting below do not strictly follow the agenda structure, although its content was almost completely covered. Only point 3 - new rules and the role of the Advisory Committee – has not been addressed.

Next year Conference

Olafur K. expressed the interest for Iceland to host the 2007 EAFE Conference.

The conference will be organized by the University of Iceland with the support of the Bank of Iceland and the Ministry. Ragnar Arnason will be responsible for the scientific organization. It was decided to ask the members in the AGM to express their preference regarding the timing of the Conference (May will be cheaper, but end of June – beginning of July will attract more people).

Regarding the themes and the organization of the conference, Massimo Spagnolo suggested to identify two major themes and to ask members to prepare papers related to these themes. Another session will be considered for all the papers not strictly related to the main themes. This idea was accepted and a discussion was opened regarding the identification of the main themes that could cover the issue of fishing rights and local management, and another issue related to markets. It was decided that the bureau will identify two people to assist Ragnar in the definition of the program.

A first announcement of the conference with the date, general program and main themes will be sent to members by the end of September.

Web Site

Following our discussion of the last bureau meeting, Bertrand Le Gallic reported on the state of the development of the new EAFE web pages by CEDEM. It seems there are some problems in the individuation of the present server address where the EAFE web site is hosted at the moment. It was proposed that a new domain of eafe.eu be created. Erik Lindebo suggested to ask FOI to put on a CD all the files and the information present at the moment on the web site and to send it to Bertrand.

The development of the new web site will require some funding from EAFE. Bertrand Le Gallic estimated that about 600 Euros will be total cost. The bureau members accepted this request. CEDEM will provide EAFE with an invoice and a description of the new web site and its content. A timetable of the provisional release of the page will be also provided.

Massimo Spagnolo pointed out the necessity to have an EAFE newsletter. There are several information and communications that could be of interest for our members. The newsletter is also an instrument to maintain continuous contacts with members. It was decided that the web site editor will also propose a structure for the newsletter.

Follow up of the actions agreed during the 2005 Rome meeting

During the Rome meeting it was decided that sub-groups be established to deal with the specific commitments of EAFE, with a chair person for each sub-group. Unfortunately, the response rate has not been very high.

ES asked other bureau members if this approach has to be continued or if an alternative strategy has to be considered in order to increase members' participation. The bureau considered the establishment of the working group as a good way of action and invited ES to ask members during the AGM to subscribe in the case they had not done it yet.

Other issues

Treasury

An Institute (preferably a corporate member) has to be identified to take over the management of the Treasury. Spagnolo outlined that responsibilities and workload should be equally balanced among the corporate members, as an efficient management of the Association is a common interest.

SeaFish already investigated the possibility to take over the Treasury, but with no positive results. Luc van Hoof informed the bureau that he will investigate the possibility for his Institute to act as Treasury. Massimo Spagnolo also informed that Irepa could accept this position if no other members are available.

Regarding the treasurer's report, the bureau expressed its concern regarding the difficulties to keep track on members and in particular who has paid. It was pointed out that the payments procedures have to be improved in order to avoid this type of problems. Also, credit card payments should be accepted.

EIFAC and EAFE

EAFE received an invitation from EIFAC (European Inland Fishery Advisory Commission) to co-organize the 2008 symposium and in particular to provide it with a socio-economic theme for inland fisheries. The bureau appreciated this invitation, but considered EAFE not in the position to organize the symposium in conjunction with EIFAC. In any case, EAFE will be willing to help with its network.

ES closed the meeting and thanked all participants for a very productive meeting.

Evelina Sabatella

Salerno, 22 August 2006