# **GENERAL ASSEMBLY ATHENS 2001**

### Minutes of the General Assembly of the 24th Annual Congress of the European Accounting Association The meeting took place in the Athenaeum Intercontinental Athens, Friday 20 April, 2001, 16:30 - 18:00

## **AGENDA**

- 1) Approval of the Minutes 2000, Munich
- 2) Results of Election & Officers for 2001/2002
- 3) Report from the President
- 4) Accounts 2000 & Auditor's Report
- 5) Membership Situation 2000
- 6) Report on EAR (Lukka)
- 7) Report on Doctoral Colloquium (Power)
- 9) EAA Statutes
- 10) Collection of Membership Fees (explanation of new procedures as decided in 2000)
- 11) Report on EAA Congress 2002 in Copenhagen (Elling)
- 12) Future Congresses (Zambon)
- 13) Miscellaneous

#### 1) Approval of the Minutes 2000, Munich

The minutes were approved.

#### 2) Results of Election & Officers for 2001/2002

Wolfgang Ballwieser announced the results of the Elections:

- Belgium: A. JORISSEN:
- Denmark K. KLARSKOV JEPPESEN
- Ireland : A. PIERCE
- Norway : F. GJESDAL
- Sweden :
- O. OLSON - Switzerland: **B. MORARD**
- The Netherlands: T. GROOT

The New Officers as well as the President-Elect will officially come into office at the end of the General Assembly.

The General Assembly approved Jens Elling, who organises the Copenhagen Conference 2002 with Anne Loft, as President-Elect (equally coming into office at the end of the G.A.) for the year 2001/2002.

#### 3) Report from the President

The Incorporation Process of EAA has advanced considerably during the last year but is not yet finalized. EAA is expected to announce its incorporation officially at the Copenhagen Conference in 2002.

EAA co-sponsored an event with AAA and the Schmalenbachgesellschaft in June, in order to strengthen the network between European and American Researchers. The EAA web site has been improved and extended, featuring a new design and new functions. This development has been strongly supported by CIMA sponsorship.

#### **4**) Accounts 2000 & Auditor's Report

In order to render the accounts more transparent, more budget lines had been added on the Statement of Income and Expenditures. Also it should be noted, that the consolidation with the EAR accounts was finalized. (ANNEX II) Sundry debtors included Interest Payments for the year 2000, the Consolidation EAR Account, the Surplus from the Bordeaux Conference and the Sponsoring for the Web Site by CIMA. Sundry Creditors consisted of Administrative Payment to EIASM. Payment of for the Journal to Francis&Taylor, UIA and the Webmaster, A. Lymer. EAA is financially healthy and added another 24.000 Euro surplus to its accounts. (ANNEX I)

The accounts were approved.

#### Membership Situation 2000 5)

There has been a slight increase in Membership to 1187 Members (ANNEX III). As agreed previously, in the future there shall only be elections in countries with at least 10 members.

# 6) Report on EAR (Lukka)

Kari Lukka announced the publication of #4. The target was to be on time with the Publication Schedule in 2001.

The editor pointed out the general policy and the editorial policy of EAR and gave a report on the state of the Association's Journal (ANNEX IV).

The annual subscription list consists of all EAA members and several hundred other subscribers.

The role of associate editors is to forward ideas, interest, find reviewers, add expertise in the different areas and to do reviews themselves.

Great thanks were extended to Kari and his work.

### 7) **Report on Doctoral Colloquium**

Once again the Doctoral Colloquium of EIASM/ EAA was sponsored by PWC. Sponsorship will extend to the year 2002.

The event was chaired by Michael Power (who unfortunately had to cancel his participation due to illness), and co-chaired by Alfred Wagenhofer. The faculty additionally consisted of: Mike Shields, USA / Christian Leuz, USA / Peter Pope, UK / John Christensen, Denmark / David Cooper, Canada/ Jan Mouritsen, Denmark. The president thanked their contributions. As Michael Power is unable to continue chairing the Colloquium due to his heavy workload, John Christensen and Tom Groot will take over this role. The main tasks are the management of contents and sponsorship. 17 students from European Universities were selected to participate in the Colloquium and one student was sent as the representative of the AAA. In exchange a European student is selected to participate in the next Doctoral Event of the AAA.

## 8) EAA Statutes

After the decision of the General Assembly in Munich, the Incorporation of the EAA is in full course but not yet completed due to some delays in the Ministry. Minor technical details still have to be resolved but there is no change in contents of the statutes as approved last year.

## 9) Collection of Membership Fees (explanation of new procedures as decided in 2000)

As decided by the General Assembly of the EAA in Munich 2000, there has been a switch in the way membership fees are being collected. As from the Athens conference 2001 on, EVERY participant is paying their membership fee along with the conference fee. This fee will thus entitle the registered person to all membership benefits during the year FOLLOWING the conference (in this case 2002). Meaning: at the Athens conference participants are obliged to pay their membership fee for 2002. At the Copenhagen conference 2002 they will be paying your membership fee for 2003. During this switch-over year (2000/2001), the following arrangement has been made: if a person was a member in 2000, this individual will automatically also be a member in 2001 (and thus receive EAR for free). This person does not have to sign up in order to be a member 2001! Persons who were not a member in 2000, however, can register for 2001 at the Brussels head offices. Persons not attending the Athens conference can equally register for membership 2002 at the Brussels offices.

The advantages of the new system are that membership lists will be up-to-date at the beginning of the year (so members can receive EAR on time!) and the collection of fees

at the conference is simplified (no longer fee differentiation between "members" and "prospective-members").

It should be noted that due to this switch-over a deficit will show on the accounts 2001, as no fees were collected during this year pertaining to this year (but instead they were collected for the year 2002).

## *10)* Report on EAA Congress 2001 in Athens and 2002 in Copenhagen (Loft)

The conference in Athens had been a huge success thanks to George Venieris, Dimos Hevas, and their staff!

912 participants registered for the conference. Large delegations came from Greece (53), Russia (68), Spain (73), Sweden (58), UK (117), USA (57). Out of the 622 Total of Papers Submitted, 384 were accepted (acceptance rate of 61,74%). Of the Submissions, 112 papers pertained to the field of Management Accounting,66 to Financial Reporting , 57 to Auditing. 324 Papers were presented in Parallel Sessions, 60 in Research Fora.

Anne Loft gave the first presentation of the EAA Congress 2002. The event will take place 25-27 April and will be hosted by the Copenhagen Business School in Copenhagen, Denmark. She presented a first Programme Overview, the list of members of the Organising Committee, chaired by herself, and the Scientific Committee (ANNEX V). All details on the Congress 2002 - including deadlines - can be obtained via the EAA web site at: http://www.eaa-online.org

## 11) Future Congresses (Zambon)

Stefano Zambon presented the list of Future EAA Congresses:

2002 - Copenhagen.

2003: Seville, Spain (dates 2-4th April)

2004: Prague (dates - to be confirmed)

2005: Gothenberg (dates - to be confirmed)

For 2006 and 2007 there have been proposals from Dublin/ Ireland and Lisbon/ Portugal. Neither country had hosted the EAA Congress before.

### 12) Miscellaneous

The Newsletter HEAADLINES is now available to members via the web site. It is not a rival to EAR and does not consist of reviewed articles. Members are encouraged to use the newly launched EAA site (<u>http://www.eaa-online.org</u>) and make use of the facility.

The second conference of the Asian Academic Accounting Association, which was formed 3 years ago, is taking place 17-19 September 2001 in Penang, Malaysia. The 2002 conference is planned in Japan.

Once again George Venieris and his team were congratulated for a wonderful conference in Athens.

No further points were raised and the meeting was adjourned.

The Annexes of this General Assembly are the same as for the Executive Committee Meeting.