The scientific programme of the annual congress includes a number of research symposia. While, in the past, the number of symposia has varied over the years (between 8-13), the standard arrangement is now having a total of 9 symposia over the conference.\(^1\) Given that the EAA annual congress does not include keynote presentations, the symposia can be considered the flagship sessions of the congress, as they feature topical themes within the accounting field and attract a large number of delegates to the audience. As such, there is often considerable interest from academics, sponsors, and other stakeholders, who wish to have a say in and provide input to the organisation of the symposia.

The following principles guide the design of the symposia programme:

- Symposia are part of the scientific programme, and should meet academic criteria
- Symposia topics and speakers should be diverse, cover various aspects of accounting, and represent various approaches to accounting research, thus forming an overall balanced programme so that different interests of attendants are honoured
- One symposium is reserved to be filled at the discretion of EAR (EAR Symposium)
- One symposium is reserved to be filled at the discretion of AinE (AinE Symposium)
- One symposium is reserved to the ‘Editors’ Panel’

Given that the symposia are relevant for EAA’s key external stakeholders and for the Association’s relationships with the accounting practice and profession, it is paramount that in putting together the symposia programme care is taken to make sure that the views of interested parties are heard. For this purpose, the programme for the symposia is the outcome of cooperation and agreement between several parties: the Local Organising Committee (LOC), the EAA Management Committee (MC), the EAA Standing Scientific Committee (SSC), and the EAA External Relations Committee (ERC).
Symposia are coordinated and decided upon by a Symposia Committee, which includes one EAA MC member, one LOC member, the SSC Chair, and the ERC Chair. To ensure continuity over the years and communication towards the EAA Management Committee, the Committee is chaired by the EAA MC member.

An invitation to submit symposia proposals will be shown permanently on the EAA website. In addition, the Symposia committee will get in touch, in between mid-end October of the year preceding the conference, with some key stakeholders, including the Editors of EAR and AinE, key non-academic counterparts who have at times sponsored the EAA (e.g., professional bodies, accountancy firms), and the chairs of the various EAA committees.

The proposals for symposia should include a proposed title (topic), 200-words abstract discussing and motivating the theme, potential chair/speakers (preferably), and potential stakeholders interested in sponsorship. The deadline for submitting the proposals will be the end of January. The proposals should be sent to the Symposia Committee Chairperson and to the EAA Executive Secretary.

The Symposia Committee is responsible for the Editors’ Panel composition and theme. The Editors’ Panel will be organised according to the following guidelines:

- The Editors of the two EAA journals (EAR and AinE) will be part of the Panel
- The Panel will be composed of at least 5 and no more than 6 speakers
- Editors of non-EAA journals will be invited based on a rolling system, keeping into consideration diversity and the links with other big accounting associations
- The Editors’ Panel should not be chaired by an Editor.

The final list of symposia has to be approved by the Management Committee. Decisions regarding the symposia programme should ideally be made by the end of February of the year of the Congress. The Symposia Committee may decide to leave one or two symposia open until a later date, should there be some pending opportunities that would affect the decisions. The final list of symposia will be announced in due time through the Annual Congress website.

Once decisions regarding the symposia programme are made, the LOC is in charge of following up with the detailed organisation.

All symposia will be video-taped and made available on the EAA website accessible to members only upon discretion of the MC. Speakers should be aware that in case the link of the video is shared, the video will be also visible to non-EAA members. The LOC is in charge of collecting the necessary approvals from the speakers according to the current regulation on privacy.