

CEPA General Assembly

04 April 2008 – Roma, Italy

1 Formalities

1.1 The President, Mr. Robert Stuyt, welcomed the delegates to Rome and thanked ANID for its support in staging the first CEPA Europest Event.

1.2 Apologies and Delegation of the Votes

Apologies for absence were received from the Austrian, Cypriot and Spanish national associations and from Gunnar Akerblom of Anticimex. Delegation of votes, where specified, had been recorded.

The Director General drew attention to the registers at the door and reminded all those attending to sign in to signify their attendance. The Director General also explained the voting allocation and voting system.

The President reminded the Assembly that the working languages of CEPA by the statute are both English and French and communication in one of the languages is designated. For this meeting, the designated language was English and he thanked the delegates from France and Belgium for their acceptance of this position.

The Director general informed the meeting that the agenda and minutes had been prepared in both languages and that each delegates had been provided with these documents in the appropriate language.

1.3 Adoption of the Agenda

The Agenda was adopted.

2 Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of 20th April 2007 in London

The minutes were approved without amendment.

The President asked if there were any matters arising from the minutes. There were no matters arising.

3 Financial Affairs

3.1 Report by the Treasurer on the accounts of 2006 & 2007.

Rainer Gsell gave his report on the accounts for the year's 2006 and 2007. He referred to the objectives laid before the CEPA General Assemblies in Dublin and London and reported that he was confident that CEPA's finances were keeping pace with this period of rapid change. The 2008 budget, and 2007 Profit & Loss and Balance Sheets and a report from the Director General have been circulated to all delegates prior to the meeting.

Dr Daniel Bajomi of MaKOSZ raised a question about the Current Liability figures for 2007. He requested, on behalf of ANECPLA and MaKOSZ that all financial data be circulated at least 8 days and preferably 15 days prior to each meeting. Sergio Urizio of

ANID requested more detailed information.

Rainer Gsell noted the questions and undertook to provide quarterly reports in the future. This was accepted by the meeting.

3.2 Subscriptions 2008

The President commented that, currently the new International Members of CEPA pay higher subscriptions than even the largest Foundation national association Members. It was for this reason that a 20% increase in Foundation Member fees had been proposed by the Executive Committee after extensive discussion. It was emphasized that this was a 'one off' proposal for 2008 only. Robert Stuyt noted that the Belgian and Hungarian Associations did not agree with a 20% increase. Dr. Daniel Bajomi pointed out that MaKOSZ supported a 10% increase but not a 20% increase.

The Resolution for a 20% increase in subscriptions for 2008 was put to the General Assembly and approved (174 votes for the resolution, 39 votes against).

4 Reports

Director General

The Director General's report is attached with the minutes. He emphasised the collaboration and support he had received from the members. This included PC Media who had organised the first industry event in Romania. He also highlighted the success of both EPMD in Brussels and Europest, along with the increasing engagement with the European Commission and the "Brussels Community". Finally he reminded the Assembly that his role was part time, which at times meant that responses would not be as quick as might be expected or requested.

Comments on Europest included:

The meeting commented on the success of Europest and the way in which CEPA was driving forward and delivering added value to the industry. Support was confirmed for the continued strategy of two annual events (EPMD & Europest).

Specific Remarks Included

Alain van Lidth de Jeude (Rentokil) – Thanked all of the organisations that had participated and noted that the organisation team recognised that Europest 2008 was a starting point and that future events would aim higher.

Dr. Daniel Bajomi (MaKOSZ) – Noted that some associations were not represented (Austria, Cyprus & Bulgaria) and questioned whether the fees were too high.

Adam Puscinski, supported by Greek Association, emphasised the importance of the simultaneous translation facility. He commented that if this could be extended to cover more languages, then more delegates would attend.

Rapporteurs

Robert Stuyt outlined briefly how the Rapporteur system operated. Milagros Fernandez de Lezeta had given her apologies but it was observed that the market data from the CEPA 'Economic Affairs' report had been presented to the Conference

Michael Romer (Legal Affairs) presented a modified version of his presentation to last years Assembly.

The Director General reported on the progress of the service directive and its impact on the European pest control industry. He noted that the implementation of this Directive was being led by The Netherlands and UK.

Sergio Urizio (Professional Policy) noted that his report had effectively been made during the Conference and that the culmination of the work that he had been doing was the drafting of the Roma Protocol.

Roma Protocol

The Roma Protocol had been developed over a period of years to integrate industry professional standards, all aspects of training, continuous professional development of all staff within the industry and the positive promotion of the industry to national governments and international organisations.

The Roma Protocol is already being promoted to DG Environment of the European Commission and CEN (European Standards Authority) with the expectation that it will be endorsed as the European Industry Standard.

Robert Stuyt placed a Resolution before the General Assembly that the Roma Protocol be adopted as a Code of Practice for all CEPA member associations and companies. This resolution was adopted unanimously.

Marc Esculier, the Vice President, expressed his personal satisfaction in seeing the Roma Protocol's adoption. He compared its importance with the Orlando Protocol, signed by CEPA members in 2002, noting that whilst that protocol had been voluntary, the Roma protocol was mandatory.

Oliver Madge (Training) reviewed the work that he had been doing during the year in setting proposals for a European wide training policy which would harness the work already done under the Leonardo Da Vinci project, recognise the individual needs of different countries and encompass the many facilities already available in many countries. He was encouraged by the Assembly to continue with this work as training was central to the CEPA strategy.

5. 2008 Budget

The Director General referred to the proposed budget that had been circulated to the General Assembly. He pointed out that the coming year's budget was in the format traditionally used by CEPA to facilitate comparison with previous years. The budget had been subject to extensive discussion at both the December 2007 and February 2008 Executive Committee meetings.

5.1 Proposal and Vote

Rainer Gsell proposed through the President that 'the draft budget for 2008 be accepted' for approval by the General Assembly. This proposal agreed by the General Assembly with one abstention (Rentokil).

Alain Van Lidth de Jeude perceived the budget as presented to be a mix of budget and the current 'cash situation'. He requested that the budget be developed to show more detail. He emphasised that this should not be perceived as a negative, but as a note of caution to CEPA.

6. Appointment of Vice President

Robert Stuyt announced to the General Assembly that the Vice President, Marc Esculier, had chosen to resign as he had decided to stand down from the Board of CS3D. He commented that all options had been explored before accepting Marc's resignation after 10 year's service on the CEPA Board and 12 years in association work. Robert offered Marc his thanks for all that he had done for CEPA and for Pest Control in Europe. This was endorsed unanimously by the meeting with a round of applause for his contribution.

He also noted that the CEPA Statutes did not anticipate and provide guidance for such an eventuality. On this occasion the 60 day timeframe for resignation was not available and for practical reasons neither was it feasible for CEPA to work without a Vice President until the next General Assembly.

Having consulted with the Officers Robert Stuyt invited nominations for an 'appointment' to the role of Vice President for a period until the next General Assembly, by which time nominations can be sought in accordance with the Statutes.

Gunnar Akerblom of Anticimex was duly appointed as Vice President until the next General Assembly.

7. Any Other Business

Two items had been notified to the President ahead of the meeting as noted in the agenda circulated prior to the meeting.

7.1 Election of New Members

Robert Stuyt was please to announce that applications had been received from 3 National Associations wishing to join CEPA. Richard Strand read letters from each indicating how long they had been in existence, how many members they represented and why they wished to join CEPA. The applications were as follows:

- SEAME - Greece
- BS (Brancheforeningen for skadedyrfirmaer) - Denmark
- ANODDD – Romania

All three applications were approved. SEAME and BS as full members. ANODDD was endorsed as an Associate member due to the nature of the fast emerging Romanian market.

The appointment by the Executive Committee of Primatex from Macedonia as an associated member was endorsed by the Assembly as was the appointment of Kollant to the International Distributor college.

7.2 Power of Attorney

Robert Stuyt reported that to improve financial operations, CEPA needed to move its bank account from KBC in Brussels. To do so Brabers (the organisation handling CEPA's finances, requires 'power of attorney' to make the change. The President sought approval from the General Assembly to set up a short term Power of Attorney for this purpose only. This proposal was approved unanimously.

8. 2009 General Assembly

The next General Assembly would be held in Spring 2009 during the proposed CEPA EUROPEST event in London, planned in conjunction with PestEx. The date and venue will be notified at a later date.