

## EGPA STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

Rotterdam, Thursday, 4 September 2008

### *Draft Minutes and Executive Summary of Decisions*

In attendance: Geert Bouckaert (EGPA President); Calliope Spanou, Sylvia Horton, Wim van de Donk, Salvador Parrado, Katju Holkeri, Tiina Randma-Liiv, Isabella Proëller (Members); Ludmila Gajdosova (Invited).

Rolet Loretan (IIAS), Fabienne Maron (IIAS), Mélissa Monaco (IIAS), Johannes Irschik (IIAS), Roxane Debus (IIAS).

Guests: Victor Bekker and Bram Steijn (Rotterdam Conference Organising Committee); Emmanuel Camilleri and Herald Bonnici (Malta Conference Organising Committee), Théo van der Krogt (EAPAA)

Apologies received for absence: Werner Jann, Jacques Ziller (Members); Christopher Pollitt (Invited)

### *Draft Agenda*

1. Approval of the Agenda
2. Approval of the Minutes of the last Meeting (Tallinn, 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2008)
3. Matters arising from the Minutes
4. Report from the IIAS Director General
5. Activity Report by the Executive Secretary
6. Website Management & IIAS Website Project: Demo by IIAS Webmaster & Designer.
7. Finances: Report by IIAS Finance and Marketing Director
8. EGPA Strategy 2008-2011

#### 8.1. EGPA Activities

##### A. Conferences & Dialogues:

- Rotterdam 2008: Conference Progress Report
- Malta 2009: Second Report by the Organising Committee
- Toulouse 2010: Invitation Letter
- Aix-en-Provence 2008: 1<sup>st</sup> MED
- Helsinki 2009 2<sup>nd</sup> TED – Progress Report
- Washington 2009 - 5<sup>th</sup> Transatlantic Dialogue

##### B. Study Groups and PhD Summer School

- Current Study Groups – Report
- Study Groups – New Proposal: *Strategic Management in Government*
- PhD Summer School in Rotterdam
- PhD Education in Europe

##### C. Publications

- Publication Procedure with the Publishers (IOS-Palgrave-Bruylant)
- Publication Strategy
- Publication Committee
- RISA-IRAS-RICA

##### D. Cooperation with Neighbouring Institutions and Partners

- Progress Report from the Task Force
- EPAN & EAPAA Meetings to be organised in Rotterdam
- Promoting EGPA at the 5<sup>th</sup> QC in Paris (2008)
- MENA Project

- NISPAcee Cooperation
- EAPAA & EGPA
- E. National Sections & Editors Platform – BABEL@PA report
- F. Permanent Practitioners’ Groups (PPG) – Progress Report
- G. CAF at the EGPA Conference – CAF users’ Group
- H. EUPAN & EGPA Cooperation
- I. Learning Platform
- J. Prospective in Public Administration - Platform (New)
- K. European PPG of National Schools
- L. Futures of PA in Europe Permanent Strategic Group – European Science Foundation (New)
- M. Ateliers of the Committee of the Regions (New)
- 8.2. Organising EGPA Activities
- Membership (Overview, Streamlining, Recruiting) – New Strategy
- Finance (see item 7)
- Secretariat
- Website Management (see item 6)
- EGPA Governance
- 8.3. Implementing the Strategy Plan 2008-2011
- 9. Other Business
- 10. Date of the Next Meeting

### *Minutes and Summary of Decisions*

#### *1. Approval of the Agenda*

Decision 1: The Agenda was approved.

#### *2. Approval of the Minutes of the last Meeting (Madrid, September 2007)*

The EGPA President went through the Minutes

#### *3. Matters arising from the minutes*

Professor Bouckaert suggested going through the decisions later. He proposed to address item 8.1. directly. EGPA Activities, especially item A. the Conferences.

Decision 3: This proposal was approved.

#### *8.1. EGPA Activities*

##### *A. Conferences & Dialogues:*

*- Rotterdam 2008: Conference Progress Report*

Geert Bouckaert welcomed Victor Bekkers and Bram Steijn and thanked them for the Erasmus University hospitality and the very good professional organisation of the 2008 EGPA Conference.

He asked them to give a short progress report. Victor Bekkers underlined the good cooperation with the EGPA Secretariat for the preparation of the Conference and the increasing number of participants. He mentioned the closing of registration prior to the Conference because of the limited number of participants (400). He also pointed out that approximately 40 % of papers proposals were rejected.

Fabienne Maron went through the statistics of the Conference participants.

Decision 4:

It was decided to maintain the selection criteria as decided in Brussels, to maintain the repartition of participants. The quality of the paper was of first importance.

Geert Bouckaert thanked them for this short report and the excellent Conference organisation.

*- Malta 2009: Second Report by the Organising Committee*

Geert Bouckaert invited Emanuel Camilleri and Herald Bonnici to give a progress report on the preparation of the 2009 EGPA Conference.

Emanuel Camilleri presented a short report on the scientific coordination and Herald Bonnici went through a PPT on the practical aspects. They also presented the social programme including the Reception and the Dinner at the Mediterranean Conference Centre. The Conference venue would be the Hilton Hotel – St Julian. They confirmed the Conference theme: “The Public Service: service delivery in the Information Age”. The host country would be focused on the topic: SMART City – Intelligent Island. One of the keynote speakers would be Prof Bono from Malta University (to be confirmed). They would appreciate suggestions for the second keynote. There would be a practitioners’ panel.

Mélissa Monaco would prepare the Conference website: [www.egpa2009.com](http://www.egpa2009.com). The IP address was booked. Mélissa presented the Conference website home page.

Decision 5: It was decided to prepare all calls-for-papers by January 2009 and to circulate the invitation by e-mail.

*- Toulouse 2010: Invitation Letter*

EGPA received an invitation letter from IEP Toulouse to host the 2010 Conference.

Geert Bouckaert recommended that the Steering Committee accept, as IEP had excellent experience in organising this type of event.

A brief discussion followed.

Decision 6: The EGPA Steering Committee accepted the invitation from IEP Toulouse for organising the EGPA 2010 Conference.

The EGPA President also mentioned the intention of Turkish delegates to host one EGPA Conference. He hoped to explore this offer for 2011.

*- Aix-en-Provence 2008: 1<sup>st</sup> MED*

The 1<sup>st</sup> MED would be held in Aix on 10-11 October 2008. The Invitation brochure was circulated by Fabienne Maron.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> MED would be held in Tunis but this would be discussed in October during the MED Steering Committee meeting.

A debate followed. The SC members underlined the fact that Tunis might be a risk but was also a good opportunity for networking (French/Arabic).

The MED Secretariat would be based in Aix-en-Provence (at the IMPGT).

Decision 7: An evaluation would be carried out and the process would be monitored carefully.

- *Helsinki 2009 2<sup>nd</sup> TED – Progress Report*

The 2<sup>nd</sup> TED would be held in Helsinki on 6 and 7 July 2009; the theme was “Citizens vs. customers”.

The scientific coordinators would be Steven van de Walle and Isabella Proeller for EGPA and Wolfgang Drechsler and Katarina Staronova for NISPAcee. Katju Holkeri would be the local organiser.

Decision 8: A coordination meeting would be organised in Helsinki. The number of participants would be limited to 50 persons.

- *Washington, D.C. 2009 - 5<sup>th</sup> Transatlantic Dialogue*

The 5<sup>th</sup> TAD would be held in Washington, D.C. at the Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Administration of George Washington University from 11 to 13 June 2009 on the theme: “The Future of Governance in Europe and the U.S.”

The draft call-for-papers was circulated by the Executive Secretary.

Decision 9: The call-for-papers would be sent to our respective networks as soon as possible.

- *6<sup>th</sup> Transatlantic Dialogue*

Geert Bouckaert also mentioned the current discussions about the 6<sup>th</sup> TAD. The theme could be ICT (UK - Birmingham) or Financial Management (Prof. Mussari – Siena). He planned to examine the different opportunities with the EGPA/ASPA Chairs.

- *3<sup>rd</sup> TED*

The 3<sup>rd</sup> TED would be held in Ljubljana. The EGPA President would follow up on this opportunity.

A discussion followed.

#### ***4. Report from the IIAS Director General***

Rolet Loretan briefly presented his report which was circulated by e-mail to all the members.

The EGPA President thanked him for his presentation.

#### ***8.1. B. Study Groups and PhD Summer School***

Geert Bouckaert presented the project to establish a ***PhD database*** including information for PhD students in Europe.

There would be information on courses and training and other important issues relevant to PhD programmes.

A debate followed on different aspects of the database: links to national associations, users’ access system vs. open access system, World Observatory for PA Studies (Lausanne)...

#### ***PhD Pre-Conference Seminar***

The EGPA President invited Prof Reichard to give his report on the PhD Pre-Conference Seminar.

Christoph Reichard underlined the quality of the seminar: 20-25 proposals, 10 papers accepted and a 2-day meeting with 5 projects to be presented per day. Some Study Group Director wished to extend the initiative to their PSG. Walter Kickert preferred to maintain his working method for Malta.

There would be coordination with the Chairs of the other PSG to avoid misunderstandings about the concept of the Pre-Seminar.

Christoph Reichard also mentioned that the PSG 9: PA and Teaching would contribute to the PA Education platform; he drew attention to EGPA/PSG9 and EPAN cooperation.

Decision 10: A coordination meeting would be organised with the different potential partners of this PhD and PA Education Platform.

## **6. Website Management & IIAS Website Project: Demo by IIAS Webmaster & Designer.**

Geert Bouckaert invited MéliSSa Monaco to present the new structure of the new IIAS-EGPA-IASIA website and especially the applications of the *EGPA website*.

MéliSSa Monaco presented a demo of the new website and underlined the different technical aspects; she then indicated the next steps concerning the migrations of information to the EGPA homepage.

The new EGPA website would be operational in the autumn of 2008. It would have a new look and new tools such as a dedicated mini-site for each PSG or a link to the current PSG website.

There would be room for improvement and for developing new applications such as closed-user groups, wikis, etc.

Geert Bouckaert thanked her for the presentation and opened the debate.

A request was made to clearly mention the different types of Dialogues on the left side of the page: Conferences, TAD, TED, MED and other important projects as BABEL@PA.

### **8.1. E. National Sections & Editors Platform – BABEL@PA Report**

The EGPA President asked Johannes Irschik to present a brief report on the database *BABEL@PA*.

Johannes Irschik reported on the state of affairs regarding the sending of abstracts in French/English and underlined the next meeting of the Editors to be held on Friday. A new logo of the Project would be presented and a deadline for the submission of abstracts (late January, late July) would be proposed.

A discussion followed on the use of the database, financing the project and the open access to the database.

The participants underlined the quality of the database was subject to the quality of the search engine/tools.

Decision 11: The SC decided to closely monitor the project and also to place announcements in the journals of the various partners.

### **8.1. B. Study Groups**

A proposal was made by Paul Joyce and Robert Fouchet for a new study group on Strategic Management in Government.

As the proposal was circulated and discussed by e-mail prior to the meeting, the EGPA President proposed that the proposal be accepted.

Decision 12: The PSG proposal was accepted.

Concerning PSGs on Regulation and Evaluation, Geert Bouckaert mentioned that Frédéric Varone declined his offer to reactivate the PSG on Evaluation.

He also asked the SC members for suggestions.

### **8.1. D. Cooperation with Neighbouring Institutions and Partners**

#### ***EAPAA & EGPA Cooperation***

Geert Bouckaert welcomed Théo van der Krogt and underlined the EAPAA/EGPA converging strategy: How could EAPAA survive in the European context? How could we have more EGPA members involved in EAPAA? How could we help Universities get accreditation?

Théo van der Krogt thanked EGPA for hosting EAPAA meetings prior to its Annual Conference. He mentioned that EAPAA was registered as accreditation association.

A debate followed on the international recognition of EAPAA as an accreditation association.

Geert Bouckaert drew attention to the following aspects: EAPAA/EGPA/NISPAcee had to work together, financing EAPAA activities.

It was also suggested to establish a very clear communication strategy – A letter could be sent to the EGPA corporate members (Universities).

He proposed to invite Théo van der Krogt as a guest to the Steering Committee meeting.

Decision 13: Théo van der Krogt would be a guest member of the Steering Committee.

#### ***EGPA Membership Fees***

Further to this item, another question was raised concerning the EGPA membership fees.

The idea was to slightly increase the EGPA membership fees (from 375 € to 400 € and from 75 € to 80€).

A note on membership fees would be drafted and discussed.

### **7. Finances: Report by IIAS Finance and Marketing Director**

Geert Bouckaert invited Roxane Debus to present her report on finances.

Roxane Debus went through her report which had been circulated to the SC members. She introduced the new presentation of the analytical accounting model and underlined the changes and the efforts made to improve the visibility and the exactitude of the sums noted so as to produce a reliable system during the course of the 2009 financial year. She reported on membership fees collected and the clarification for better invoicing. She also noted that EGPA would remain the leader in terms of revenue under the conference item within the three entities. Roxane Debus explained the staff costs repartition. This item included a percentage of the Executive Secretary's salary and that of the staff overall. Then, she went through the operating costs: office supplies, telephone, fax, internet, computer

costs, taxes and DG expenses. 2007 operating costs had amounted to 24,592 €. (10%-15% of the IIAS operating costs)

The 2008 and 2009 operating costs would be less. She announced a major innovation in the IIAS budget: EGPA would receive an IIAS subsidy amounting to 10.000 €. She gave details about the calculation.

Geert Bouckaert thanked Roxane Debus for her presentation. It provided a clear overview of the financial situation and was close to reality. He thanked IIAS for better transparency and also for the 10.000 € subsidy.

Geert Bouckaert mentioned there would be a political statement concerning European membership fees and a strategic statement regarding the repartition.

A long-term vision was needed concerning the costs covered by the repartition of the European membership fees and the subsidy.

Rolet Loretan underlined that this issue would be discussed during the next meeting of the Presidents.

Geert Bouckaert asked the SC members in which projects they would like to invest the subsidy.

He suggested to dedicate money to the 1<sup>st</sup> MED for inviting some PhD students, to invest in BABEL@PA and to the development of the PhD platform.

Decision 14: The amount of 10.000 € would be shared for the different innovations as mentioned.

#### **8.1. F. Future of the Discipline and 35<sup>th</sup> EGPA Anniversary**

A discussion followed on the Future of the PA discipline and the 35<sup>th</sup> EGPA Anniversary in 2010.

Geert Bouckaert suggested preparing a note on the future of the discipline. This note would be discussed further as a basis for a nice book/memorandum.

Decision 15: To invite SC members to prepare this book with the support of the EGPA PSG

Rolet Loretan mentioned the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of IIAS in 2010. There would be a major event organised in Brussels.

#### **8.1. D. Cooperation with NISPAcee**

Ludmila Gajdosova underlined the good cooperation concerning the TED organisation.

Geert Bouckaert mentioned that someone would be appointed for the EGPA/NISPAcee Joint Committee.

#### **8.1. H. EUPAN & EGPA Cooperation**

A discussion followed concerning EUPAN/EGPA cooperation.

The EGPA President suggested that EGPA could be the scientific back office of EUPAN

It was mentioned that all EUPAN Directors would attend the 5<sup>th</sup> QC; this would be a good opportunity for networking.

#### **8.1. M Workshops/Ateliers of the Committee of the Regions**

Geert Bouckaert opened the discussion: What could EGPA do with the Regions (COR)?  
A suggestion was made to establish a PSG on regional governments/regional studies or to have 'Regional cooperation' as a Conference theme.

Decision 16: EGPA would be a scientific support for Regions and proper titles for this Group would be suggested by e-mail to the EGPA President.

### **9. Other Business**

As there was no other business, Geert Bouckaert closed the Steering Committee and thanked the participants for their contribution.

### **10. Date of the next meeting**

The next meeting would take place in Brussels on Friday and Saturday, 23-24 January 2009 or 30-31 January 2009. A consultation by e-mail would be organised.