

EGPA STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

Tallinn, Friday & Saturday, 1-2 February 2008

Draft Minutes and Executive Summary of Decisions

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

Fabienne Maron (IIAS)

Guests: Mr. Emmanuel Camilleri and Mr. Herald Bonnici (Malta Conference Organising Committee)

Apologies received for absence: Werner Jann, Wim van de Donk, Jacques Ziller (Members); Christopher Pollitt (Invited); Rolet Loretan (IIAS)

For the Joint Session with NISPAcee: Mzia Mikeladze (NISPAcee President); Gyorgy Jenei, Sergei Pushkarev, Wolfgang Drechsler.

Stanka Setnikar-Cankar (apologies received for absence)

Draft Agenda

1. Approval of the Agenda
2. Approval of the Minutes of the last Meeting (Madrid, September 2007)
3. Matters arising from the Minutes
4. Activity Report from the EGPA Secretariat & DG Report.
5. Statutory Issues
6. EGPA Strategy 2008-2011
 - 6.1. EGPA Activities
 - 6.1.1. Conferences
 - 6.1.2. Study Groups and PhD Summer School
 - Study Groups - Report
 - PhD Summer School in Rotterdam
 - PhD Education in Europe (Note)
 - 6.1.3. Publications
 - Publication Procedure with Palgrave
 - New Publication Strategy (note)
 - New Publisher
 - RISA-IRAS-RICA
 - PA@BABEL

Saturday, 2 February 2008, 09.00am-12.30pm

- 6.1.4. 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 QC in Paris (2008)
 - MENA Project

Joint Session with NISPAcee at 10.30 am

- **MOU**
 - **TED**
 - **Other Business**
 - **EAPAA**
 - **IRAS**
- 6.1.5. National Sections & Editors Platform

- 6.1.6. Permanent Practitioners' Groups (PPG)
 - 6.1.6.1.1. CAF at the EGPA Conference – CAF Users' Group (P. Staes – EIPA)
 - 6.1.6.1.2. EUPAN & EGPA Cooperation
 - 6.1.6.1.3. European Public Sector Award (EPSA) Lucerne Progress Report and Next Steps
 - 6.1.6.1.4. Learning Platform
 - 6.1.6.1.5. European PPG of National Schools
- 6.2. Organising EGPA Activities
 - 6.2.1. Membership (Overview, Streamlining, Recruiting)
 - 6.2.2. Finance
 - 6.2.3. Secretariat
 - 6.2.4. Website Management & IIAS Website Project: Demo
 - 6.2.5. EGPA Governance
- 6.3. Implementing the Strategy Plan 2008-2011
- 7. Other Business
- 8. 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

Decision 2: The Minutes were approved.

3. Matters arising from the Minutes

Professor Bouckaert suggested going through the decisions later. He proposed to address item 6.1. of the Agenda directly: EGPA Activities, especially the Conference.

Decision 3: This proposal was approved.

6.1. EGPA Activities

6.1.1. Conferences

Madrid 2007

Decision 4: The members of the Steering Committee welcomed the final report of the Organising Committee.

Rotterdam 2008

The Steering Committee members agreed with the capacity limitation of Erasmus University for a maximum of 400 participants. There would have to be priorities: EGPA members, European papers-givers and practitioners.

Great care had to be taken in the selection of the PhD group.

Decision 5: An e-mail would be send to EGPA members to invite them to register earlier.

Malta 2009

The EGPA President welcomed the Organising Committee members- Dr. Emmanuel Camilleri & Mr. Herald Bonnici and invited them to present their progress report.

Rolet Loretan, IIAS Director General, and Fabienne Maron, IIAS Scientific Administrator and EGPA Executive Secretary, visited the Conference site; the Conference contract was signed on 16 January 2008.

Dr Camilleri presented a first report and Mr. Bonnici underlined that the Organising Committee was negotiating with the Hilton Hotel, Malta St Julian as the venue for the 2009 EGPA Conference.

Dr. Camilleri then spoke on the Conference theme: “*The Public Service: Service Delivery in the Information Age*” and ask the SC members to send him suggestions for developing it.

Concerning the website, Fabienne Maron confirmed that the website address www.egpa2009.com was already in preparation and would be accessible to the Organising Committee. The IIAS Webmaster would make the necessary arrangements.

Decision 6: The members of the SC welcomed the progress report of the Malta 2009 Conference Organising Committee.

Decision 7: An interim report would be presented in Rotterdam.

6.1. EGPA activities

An Activities Chart was circulated and presented to the participants

A discussion followed on the 2nd TED to be held in Helsinki on 6-7 July 2009. The theme would be discussed further during the joint session with NISPAcee.

The 4th TAD would be held the second week of June at Bocconi University.

The 5th TAD was scheduled for June 2009 at George Washington University. Professor Bouckaert and SPAA Dean Marc Holzer continued their collaborative efforts to link scholars worldwide in transatlantic dialogues on critical matters relating to public affairs, management and administration, and had identified the “Future of Governance” as the overall theme for the 5th TAD.

The 6th TAD would be organised in the UK (Birmingham). Prof Bouckaert would approach the Chairs of EGPA Study Groups to ensure that they work with ASPA Groups to coordinate the meeting.

The first MED would be held in Aix-en-Provence in October (to be fixed)

The EGPA Conference was always fixed in early September.

A debate followed on the size of these events organised by EGPA, the selection of participants, the calendar, the registration fee, the strategy for ensuring their quality and diversity.

Decision 8: A monitoring table would be drafted and managed carefully.

Concerning the 2010 Conference, the IIAS had suggested that the EGPA Conference might be hosted in Greece (Athens). This possibility would be feasible if IIAS decided to hold its Conference in Bali. If not, EGPA would find another venue for its 2010 Annual Conference.

Decision 9: The Steering Committee members decided to accept the Athens invitation and to look for another venue if Athens would be hosting EGPA 2010.

3 *Matters arising from the Minutes*

Geert Bouckaert went through the Madrid Minutes and Decisions:

- Decision 1: Clarifying the EGPA Accounts

Decision 10: The EGPA SC members reiterated their request for finance and staff clarifications.

- Decision 2: Permanent Study Group (PSG) on Regulation and Management of Public Utilities/PSG on Evaluation

Decision 11: The Chairs of the PSG accepted the decision and EGPA would reactivate PSG on Evaluation by contacting EES.

- Decision 3: The PhD Group would meet before the Rotterdam Conference

Decision 12: There would be a PhD pre-Conference seminar in Rotterdam with C. Reichard and W. Kickert as Chairpersons.

- Decision 4: Future Group on the Future of PA in Europe.

Decision 13: A call-for-names would be launched to set up the Task Force on the Future of PA in Europe. An e-mail would be sent. – This group would have a workable size.

- Decision 5: MED – already discussed
- Decision 6: Interdisciplinary approach : already discussed
- Decision 7: streamlining membership

Decision 14: Needed: a clear situation, a pro-active back office, a streamlining strategy.

A discussion followed.

Decision 15: What was needed: a new website, new accounts, to talk politics and a timetable

A debate followed on the IIAS Director General's report and on IIAS.

6.1. EGPA Activities (continued)

6.1.2. Study Groups

Public Administration and Law: European Law, Court Management and Law as a Tool for PA; Interaction between Ombudsman & Courts.

Evaluation Group: Frédéric Varone was contacted and his response was awaited.

Regulation Group: New names would be proposed for Rotterdam meeting.

A debate followed on whether to set up a PSG on PA theories. A proposal should be made and a list of interested persons should be presented.

Decision 16: A paper on PSG on PA theories should be developed.

Other interesting topics for PSG were discussed further: 1) Policy Design and Implementation; 2) Public Sector Strategic Management.

The discussion continued on possible functions of the Think-Tank

- Design and formulation
- Agenda setting
- Implementation
- Decision making

Decision 17: An e-mail would be circulated asking for suggestions on this project.

Decision 18: All these Projects (reporting system) had to be monitored.

6.1.3. Publications

A note was circulated and presented by Fabienne Maron on the new publication strategy with Palgrave-IOS-Bruylant.

Database BABEL@PA

Geert Bouckaert presented the database project PA|@BABEL already online.

He mentioned the support of IIAS staff in implementing the database. Johannes Irschik would work with EGPA on this project. The objectives would be to extend the database and to ensure the translation of the abstracts into French.

Decision 19: EGPA thanked IIAS for its generosity in supporting the project.

6.2.5. EGPA Governance & 6.3. Implementing the Strategy Plan 2008-2011

Geert Bouckaert went through the strategic plan.

EGPA Governance had to be organized to make it manageable and workable.

Decision 20: Two (2) persons were needed to manage the EGPA Portfolio: to follow up the different projects, to allocate the Portfolio. The strategic plan had to be implemented before the end of the President's term of office.

Saturday, 2 February 2008

6.1.4. Cooperation with Neighbouring Institutions and Partners

- Progress Report from the Task Force
- EPAN & EAPAA meetings to be organised in Rotterdam

- EPSA
- Promoting EGPA at the 5 QC in Paris (2008)
- MENA Project

Geert Bouckaert presented the brief report from the Task Force.

- Bilateral relations for accreditation; (national)
- EAPAA would be recognised as Accreditation Association
- EAPAA would be linked to EGPA

Two challenges had to be faced: 1) Getting accreditation programmes in all European countries; 2) Attracting interested people from all these European countries.

The main issue: How to push this project forward? – Cooperation between EGPA, NISPAcee and EAPAA.

The EAPAA meetings would be organised prior to the Rotterdam Conference.

Decision 21: The EAPAA secretariat would be transferred and stabilised at EGPA. Make the link between EGPA and EAPAA visible.

EPSA experience

A discussion followed on the painful managing experience with EPSA 1.

For EPSA 2 which would be organised by EIPA and its new Director Prof. Dr Marga Pröhl, Geert Bouckaert reported on EGPA's possible involvement in 2 ways: 1) to be part of the Organising Committee; 2) to support the project by way of scientific contributions and to become a member of the Scientific Committee.

A debate followed.

Decision 22: EGPA would NOT participate in EPSA 2.

EGPA & Quality Conference

The EGPA Steering Committee members wanted to be involved in the Quality Conference. A lively debate followed.

Decision 23: The SC decided to support the Quality Conference scientifically – It was suggested that the 6th QC be organised in Belgium – Katju Holkeri promised to inform the QC Board.

Joint Session with NISPAcee

- ***TED***
- ***MOU***
- ***EAPAA***
- ***Other Business***

The EGPA President welcomed the NISPAcee President and members of the NISPAcee Board.

He drew attention to the features of the annual dialogue EGPA-NISPAcee: TED.

Mzia Mikeladze, NISPAcee President, provided the SC with her vision of this Dialogue.

TED

A discussion followed on different aspects of the TED especially, the format, the selection of participants, conference venue, registration fees, organising committee, theme, papers selection, and publication.

Decision 24: A paper would be drafted on: Organising TED and would be circulated to the members of the EGPA Steering Committee and to members of the NISPAcee Board.

MOU

Further to a brief discussion on the conditions of the MOU and also on the definition of the mission statement, the Memorandum of Understanding between EGPA and NISPAcee was signed.

EAPAA

The EGPA President presented the EGPA-EAPAA cooperation project and asked NISPAcee to join this initiative.

The NISPAcee President emphasised the difficulty for NISPAcee to designate supportive institutions.

Decision 25: NISPAcee could appoint someone to support the EAPAA Project.

EGPA-NISPAcee MOU Committee

A discussion followed on the EGPA-NISPAcee Committee.

The EGPA- NISPAcee MOU would be on the agenda of the respective Boards of Management.

Decision 26: Appointments could be made to this Committee but another meeting would not be held.

Geert Bouckaert thanked the participants for the very stimulating joint meeting.

7. Other Business

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

8. Date of the next meeting

The next meeting would take place in Rotterdam during the Annual Conference on Thursday, 4 September 2008.