

EGPA STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

Brussels

Friday, 23 January 2009: from 01.00pm to 06.30pm

Saturday, 24 January 2009: from 09.00am to noon

Draft Minutes and Executive Summary of Decisions

In attendance: Geert Bouckaert (EGPA President); Sylvia Horton, Jacques Ziller, Wim van de Donk, Katju Holkeri, (Members); Ludmila Gajdosova, Christopher Pollitt (Invited).

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

Guests: Emmanuel Camilleri and Herald Bonnici (Malta 2009 Conference Organising Committee); Laure Ortiz and Jean Michel Eymeri Douzans (Toulouse 2010 Conference Organising Committee)

Apologies received for absence: Werner Jann, Salvador Parrado, Isabella Proëller, Tiina Randma-Liiv, Calliope Spanou (Members); Théo van der Krogt (EAPAA) (Invited).

Draft Agenda

1. Approval of the Agenda
 2. Approval of the Minutes of the last Meeting (Rotterdam, 4 September 2008)
 3. Matters arising from the Minutes
 4. Report from the IIAS Director General
 5. Activity Report by the Executive Secretary (updates)
 6. EGPA Website by the IIAS Webmaster – state of affairs
 7. Finances: Report by the IIAS Finance and Marketing Director
 8. EGPA Logos
 9. EGPA Strategy 2008-2011
- 9.1. EGPA Activities
- A. Conferences & Dialogues:
- Rotterdam 2008: Evaluation Report by EGPA Secretariat and Final Report by OC
 - Malta 2009: Progress Report
 - Toulouse 2010: First Report by the Organising Committee & EGPA Secretariat
 - Aix-en-Provence 2008: 1st MED: Evaluation Report
 - Helsinki 2009 2nd TED – Progress Report
 - Washington 2009 - 5th Transatlantic Dialogue
 - 2nd MED – (Tunis): Progress Report
- B. Study Groups and PhD Summer School
- Current Study Groups
 - Study Groups – New Proposals: *Policy Studies & New Group on Local Government*
 - PhD Summer School in Malta
 - PhD and PA Education Platform: Progress Report (meeting: 21 January 2009)
- C. Publications
- Performance Publication
 - Governance of Public Sector Organizations proposal by Per Laegreid and Koen Verhoest

- Publication Strategy
- Publication Committee (20 February 2009)
- RISA-IRAS-RICA

D. Cooperation with Neighbouring Institutions and Partners

- Progress Report from the Task Force
- EAPAA & EGPA

E. National Sections & Editors Platform – BABEL@PA

F. Permanent Practitioners' Groups (PPG) – next meeting in Malta

G. CAF & EGPA – CAF users' Group

H. EUPAN & EGPA Cooperation

I. Learning Platform

J. Prospective in Public Administration - Platform

K. European PPG of National Schools

L. Futures of PA in Europe Permanent Strategic Group – European Science Foundation (New) : Note to the Standing Committee for Social Sciences

9.2. Organising EGPA Activities

Membership – New Strategy

Finance (see item 7)

Secretariat

Website Management (see item 6)

EGPA Governance

9.3. Implementing the Strategy Plan 2008-2011

10. Other Business

11. Date of the Next Meeting

Geert Bouckaert welcomed the participants and thanked them for taking part in the Steering Committee Session.

1. Approval of the Agenda

Decision 1: The Agenda was approved.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the Last Meeting (Rotterdam, 4 September 2008)

Decision 2: The Minutes were approved.

3. Matters arising from the Minutes

A discussion followed on the Conference participants' selection. The members underlined that the selection would be made on the criteria decided upon in Rotterdam with the aim of maintaining both a good quality of presentations and a good balance. It was advisable that the selection be completed as rapidly as possible and that those participants selected invited to register.

The priority would be given to: paper-givers, officials, practitioners and other. The quality of the papers would remain the first criteria.

Geert Bouckaert went through the Minutes and drew attention to all the decisions that had been taken. He announced that the implementation of these decisions would be examined for each item on the Agenda.

Decision 3: The quality criteria would be applied to the selection of participants to take part in the Malta Conference.

4. Report from the IIAS Director General

The EGPA President invited Rolet Loretan, IIAS Director General, to present his report to the Steering Committee.

Rolet Loretan presented the key points of his progress report since September 2008. The regularisation procedure in the Belgian Official Journal was progressing well but the amendments made to the Statutes required a procedure carried out by an official notary.

He also underlined the upcoming important meeting of the 3 Presidents to be held on 28 January. He pointed out the different items of the agenda: the budget, the governance structure, conferences themes and the coordination of dates, the logos...

The IIAS Director General mentioned that the new EGPA website went live in the third quarter of 2008. It had a new look and new tools which would be presented by the IIAS Webmaster, Mélissa Monaco, under item 6 of the Agenda. He also underlined the development of the knowledge portal and the involvement of trainees in its development under the supervision of the project manager.

Rolet Loretan also referred to the Marketing Plan for promoting a dynamic image of our Institute and its 3 entities. A report would be given by Roxane Debus.

Concerning Conference management, he underlined the successful implementation of Conftool which significantly facilitated the management of online Conference registration and had been greatly appreciated by our participants, as indicated by the response of users to the surveys in Rotterdam. Regarding the scientific management of IIAS activities, an effort to clarify some incoherencies was needed. This subject would be discussed at the meeting of the 3 Presidents.

The Director General then drew attention to the financial situation and underlined the efforts that had been made, including the setting up of a new analytical accounting system to be presented by Roxane Debus under item 7 of the Agenda.

Rolet Loretan mentioned new developments in staff management: a new IIAS Executive Secretary, Anne De Boeck had been hired. He also underlined that, in December 2008, each member of IIAS staff had been evaluated on the basis of 2008 objectives; they also signed an agreement to meet performance objectives for 2009. He mentioned that his term of office as IIAS Director General was almost at an end and the decision to be taken by the Executive Committee to recommend a renewal of his term of office to the Council of Administration.

Rolet Loretan sought to establish a Working Group to develop the IIAS Membership Network and to deliberate on a coherent strategy for its members. This WG would be chaired by Manfred Matzka (Austria). The proposal would be discussed at the next IIAS EC meeting in March. As soon as the project was approved, it would be launched.

The IIAS Director General also noted that the management report on internal projects had been updated; this report was a steering tool for him (updated every 2 months).

Finally, he summarised 2009 activities: Malta (EGPA 2009); Helsinki (IIAS 2009) and Rio de Janeiro (IASIA 2009). He pointed out that the negotiations for the 2010 events were progressing well: Toulouse (EGPA 2010) and Bali (IIAS & IASIA 2010).

In conclusion, he underlined the excellent contacts that had been developed in Latin America. He had signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with CLAD in November 2008. His focus in 2009 would be on North America. He also drew attention to the negotiations with Brazil and Mexico to re-adhere as IIAS Member States.

Geert Bouckaert thanked Rolet Loretan for his report and asked for comments.

A discussion followed on a possible Euro-Latino Dialogue as there was an official/visible partner: CLAD.

Rolet Loretan explained that the idea was to set up a regional network such as EGPA in Latin America entitled LAGPA. The contact person was José Castelazo and a cooperation agreement would be discussed.

5. Activity Report by the Executive Secretary (updates)

Fabienne Maron briefly reported on upcoming EGPA activities. She noted that the report was an update covering the period from September 2008 to January 2009. She also mentioned the progress made in preparing EGPA's upcoming events: TAD, TED, MED and Annual Conference. Good progress was being made across the board.

The EGPA President thanked her for the report and the efforts made in 2008 and 2009.

6. EGPA Website by the IIAS Webmaster – state of affairs

Geert Bouckaert invited the IIAS Webmaster to provide the EGPA Steering Committee with a progress report on the new EGPA website. He also thanked her for the transfer of the website and for its new design available since December 2008.

Mélissa Monaco reported on the EGPA website and underlined the work carried out in cooperation with Fabienne Maron, notably with regard to setting up the new structure of the EGPA website. She also mentioned that improvements had to be made, especially in the interactive processes. She also noted the possibility of a closed-users group for the EGPA Steering Committee.

A debate followed on the friendly-user aspects of the EGPA website.

The issue of the domain address was raised and the idea of creating www.egpa.org or www.egpa.eu was discussed.

Decision 4: It was decided to test and book these addresses as well as to redirect the EGPA website to these addresses.

A discussion followed on the common structure of the PSG websites and the same framework to be applied for presenting details on the PSG.

Decision 5: A common structure and the same presentation of information would be applied for each PSG. The Webmaster had to harmonise the process, requesting the chairs to provide the same details. The photos of the chairpersons should be put online. A more interactive website would be implemented for Malta.

The new structure for the PSG website would be presented to the chairpersons of the EGPA PSG.

Fabienne Maron noted that the new structure had already been circulated to all the chairpersons of the EGPA PSGs. She would like to contact them again to keep them involved in the reform process of the website.

Decision 6: During the Chairpersons of PSG Meeting in Malta, a similar presentation of the new website would be made. A demonstration of the website would also be given during the Malta meeting.

The new developments on the EGPA website were the databases: PA@BABEL ([progress report attached](#)) and PhD and PA Education Platform. These projects would be discussed later.

Geert Bouckaert requested that a European Map also be included on the website. By clicking on a specific country, links to information on that country could be found.

What about Europe? What about Finland?

The objective would be to make the website interesting for all the users.

Mélissa would discuss the development of this map with the Swiss developer (Andreas Sidler).

Jacques Ziller suggested that EGPA might be inspired by consulting the European Map relating to the Lisbon Treaty Ratification on Europe.

The idea of a photo shoot of the Steering Committee in Malta was discussed.

Decision 7: 1) A European Map would be developed by the next meeting in Malta.
2) An e-mail would be sent to SC members requesting of each a short CV and a photo.

Concerning each event/initiatives organised by EGPA (TED TAD MED Annual Conferences, PA@BABEL ...) a short notice would be placed on the website describing the event/project.

The image on the home page would be adapted to take into account the European perspective of EGPA (a flag, a photo exemplifying the purpose/rationale of EGPA).

Decision 8: The photo on the home page would be changed/adapted.

A discussion followed on the feasibility of developing a membership form online.

Fabienne Maron drew attention to a project to develop an online web-based database for all IIAS members. If this project was developed, each user would be able to register online and become an EGPA member. She pointed out that this project would be developed in 2 stages: migration of the current access database to the website online; the development of interactive dimensions: online form, online payment, closed-user group...

Geert Bouckaert suggested that a presentation and a progress report be given in Malta.

The members of the Steering Committee recommended that the contact item be moved under the item PA@BABEL.

Decision 9: Contact details would be added under the contacts item just below PA@BABEL.

The EGPA President thanked Méliissa Monaco and Fabienne Maron for the presentation of the new EGPA website; he acknowledged with thanks the improvements made.

9.1. EGPA Activities

9.1. A. 2009 Conference – Malta – Progress Report.

The EGPA President welcomed Emanuel Camilleri and Herald Bonnici, members of Malta Conference Organising Committee.

Geert Bouckaert asked them to report on the advancement of preparations for the 2009 Malta EGPA Conference.

Emanuel Camilleri and Herald Bonnici provided the Steering Committee with a progress report on the scientific and practical aspects of the preparation of the 2009 Conference.

Emanuel Camilleri confirmed that Prof Bono, from Malta University, agreed to give the keynote speech. The title of his presentation would be decided later.

He asked that another keynote speaker be designated by the members of the Steering Committee.

Some names were suggested: Magda Pröelh, John Taylor, Helen Magaret (Oxford).

Decision 10: Helen Margaret would be contacted by Christopher Pollitt and invited to become the second keynote speaker at the Malta Conference.

Concerning the scientific organisation, Fabienne Maron mentioned that the call-for-papers for the PSG would soon be available on the website. There were already some calls-for-papers online. The co-chairs of the workshop had been appointed.

Emanuel Camilleri was in contact with Nick Thijs to organise the Practitioners Platform. Nick Thijs was currently evaluating the Rotterdam experience.

A debate followed on how to develop a policy to maintain contact and dialogue between academics and practitioners?

The idea was to provide the opportunity for a common session led by academics comfortable with practitioners and practitioners comfortable with academics (for eg. Jocelyne Bourgon; Guy Peter...)

A list of names would be sent to the Organising Committee/EGPA Secretariat.

Emanuel Camilleri and Herald Bonnici raised the problem of sponsors. It was difficult to convince sponsors to provide the organisers with financial support. Emanuel Camilleri noted the assistance of the EGPA Secretariat in this respect.

The Hilton Hotel had provided the web link for online booking. Herald Bonnici summarised the progress made for organising the social programme. He also confirmed that all meeting rooms had been booked.

Geert Bouckaert thanked them for their progress report.

9.1. EGPA Activities: C. Publications

Geert Bouckaert asked Fabienne Maron to report on the state of affairs concerning Publications.

Fabienne Maron indicated the most recent IIAS publications that had been sent to each member of the Steering Committee, namely: the book edited by Wouter van Dooren & Steven van de Walle entitled “*Performance Information in the Public Sector*” published in the IIAS Palgrave *Governance and Public Management* series, as well as the book edited by Michiels Devries: *Improving Local Government*. She reported on the 2nd issue of Publi-Flash which had been circulated in December 2008. It had been concerned with coordination efforts being made between the Publications Committee and our publishers; it had also provided our members with an overview of new publications and a proposal for calls-for-manuscripts.

The upcoming publication edited by Ignacio Pichardo Pagaza & Demetrios Argyriades entitled “Winning the Needed Change: Saving our Planet Earth” would be available early in February.

The Publications Committee meeting would be held on 20 February 2009. A publications report would be circulated for comments to the members of the Steering Committee prior to the Conference.

Geert Bouckaert invited Christopher Pollitt to give a progress report on the IRAS.

Christopher Pollitt mentioned the publication planning for 2009 – the last issue of IRAS was a Symposium on Performance Management, results of the PSG on Performance at the Madrid Conference. One 2009 issue would be dedicated to Human Resources and was being coordinated by the chairpersons of PSG on Personnel Policy – this issue had already been revised.

He also noted the impact of the marketing campaign organised during the Rotterdam Conference. A short text had been circulated to all participants and a special access to some papers had been provided to participants. This same initiative would be taken for Malta and he planned to prepare a short text to be circulated to all participants inviting them to submit their papers to IRAS.

He drew attention, in particular, to the data on the IRAS provided by Sage in the December Report. An average of 55,000 PDF was downloaded per year. He also thanked his colleagues from the IRAS editors’ team (Isabella Proëller and Pan Suk Kim). Concerning the procedure for the manuscripts submission, the new software entitled Sage Track gave very good results and facilitated the revision process of manuscripts.

A debate followed.

The Steering Committee discussed the submission of manuscripts by PhD students (papers from dissertations).

A suggestion was made to coordinate a special issue on Europe and to invite experts from 4/5 continents to reflect on European PA.

Christopher Pollitt would like to coordinate an issue gathering non-American experts thinking about American PA.

It would be nice to invite PhD students to submit papers to IRAS.

Decision 11: 1) to publish a text inviting TAD participants (Washington, DC) to submit articles to IRAS; a similar text would be circulated at the Malta EGPA Conference and be presented during the chairpersons meeting. 2) to draw up a list of finished PhD dissertations (on the PhD platform).

Geert Bouckaert thanked Christopher Pollitt for his report.

9.1. EGPA Activities A. Other Dialogues

MED

Geert Bouckaert reported on the results of the 1st MED which was a success. He underlined his contacts with the ENA of Tunis, notably with a view to organising the 2nd MED. It would be discussed with the University of Aix – IMPGT. Robert Fouchet would like to investigate the various organisational possibilities. The MED Secretariat would be based in Aix in cooperation with the EGPA Secretariat (Brussels) that had prepared a technical note. A decision would be taken in the coming weeks.

The Steering Committee unanimously agreed that the MED was a good initiative but that it would have to be carefully monitored in future.

TED

The 2nd TED would be held in Helsinki (Finland) on 6-7 July 2009. The theme: *Citizen versus Customer*. The call-for-participants was available online: www.ted-2.org. A technical note had been prepared by Fabienne Maron. Katju Holkeri gave some details concerning the practical organisation of the Conference.

The 3rd TED would be organised in Ljubljana in 2010 (Slovenia) on a theme proposed by NISPAcee: *Current and Future Public Management Reforms: Do Technologies Matter?* The dates would be decided : the end January 2010 – beginning of February 2010. (proposal attached)

A discussion followed on the 3rd TED theme: ICT?, Technologies?; E-government/E-governance? What were technologies?

Decision 12: 1) to book the website domain: www.ted-3.org 2) to contact Fabio Ruge for discussing the philosophy of PA reforms and technology (broad sense of the term).

TAD

5th TAD would be held in Washington, DC at George Washington University – 11-13 June 2009. The theme: *Future of Governance*. The contact person for EGPA was Taco Brandsen. Conference website: <http://spaa.newark.rutgers.edu/5TAD>

The 6th TAD would be organised in Siena at the beginning of June 2010 on financial management. The EGPA PSG chairperson, Prof. Mussari, would be asked to prepare it with the ASPA section on Finances.

7. Finances: Report by the IIAS Finance and Marketing Director

Geert Bouckaert invited Roxane Debus to present the financial report.

2008 Accounts

Roxane Debus reported that the 2008 accounts were closed after the declaration of VAT (as from 20th January 2008). As from this date, the 2008 annual accounts (balance-sheet and profit and loss account) would be drawn up. The sums indicated would have to be considered as provisional (subject to the provision of various legal data that would not be made available to IIAS before March). The final accounts would be presented for approval in Helsinki in July during the meeting of the Executive Committee.

Invoices - identification

Roxane Debus also drew attention to the efforts that had been made to clarify and identify the payment of invoices for each entity. By attaching a colour sticker on each invoice, drawing our members' attention to the need to include their invoice/membership numbers when making payment, the result had led to the optimal reception and identification of payments.

Cleaning- up of Membership Fees

There had also been a cleaning up of outstanding/unpaid membership fees. In this way the Membership database had been updated.

The optimisation of payments

A tentative to improve the expenditure process had been initiated, notably by the introduction of a form to accompany each invoice received. This had led to real control over expenditures.

All IAS payments were made via the secure internet system of our bank. The paper procedure no longer existed. The accountant had access to encode payments. When the payments were encoded, the Treasurer had access to validate these operations. This process had improved the rapidity of making payments.

2009 Budget /2010 Preliminary Budget

Roxane Debus then explained that IAS could only close the 2008 accounts after completing and returning the 2008 fourth-quarter VAT declaration. The 2008 annual accounts would be drawn up provisionally in February. All relevant data from the social secretariat would only be received by IAS at the end of March.

For this reason, the 2008 annual account had not yet been finalised. This also prevented the preparation of a comparison of the forecasted situation with the real situation in 2008. However the 2009 Budget and the 2010 Preliminary Budget to be drawn up in 2009 could be adapted. The three entities would be kept informed. Moreover, in the budgets presented by Roxane Debus, all receipts and direct expenditure linked to EGPA had been 100% encoded to it. The general costs concerning the three entities had been shared on the following basis: 80% IAS; 10 % IASIA; and 10 % EGPA.

As from January 2009, a system based on a time-keeping worksheet linked to products/projects to ascertain real personnel costs had been introduced. Each member of IAS staff would now indicate the amount of his/her time spent on the eight products defined. The concept, to be presented in March at the IAS Executive Committee, would be implemented in the second semester of 2009.

Geert Bouckaert thanked Roxane Debus for her technical presentation and for the efforts made to improve financial clarity and transparency.

He underlined that behind the technical aspects, were also political issues. He mentioned that European countries were financing/subsidising other parts of the world.

He also asked to put this issue on the IAS policy agenda.

A discussion followed and some members of the Steering Committee thanked IAS for the real efforts made to improve transparency.

Decision 13: The EGPA Steering Committee requested that a financial report be sent to them in advance of the next meeting in Malta – to have time to read it and to prepare questions and comments.

8. EGPA Logos

A discussion followed on the EGPA proposition circulated a few months ago.

The comments made on the proposed logos: the brown colour was unacceptable; it was not really innovative and fresh; the European continent should be emphasized; the proposal was unilingual instead of bilingual. No problem with the EGPA/IIAS mention.

Decision 14: The Steering Committee requested a new proposal: bilingual EGPA-GEAP, deep red or other European colours, European continent visible on the globe...

7. Marketing Report

Roxane Debus explained the latest developments and initiatives implemented from September 2008 to December 2008, notably to improve the IIAS marketing material. She also showed slides of the IIAS stand at the 5QC held in Paris. She underlined the positive impact of the use of marketing tools: a range of products (ballpoint pens, business card holders, post-its, CD-ROM, etc.) as well as three large publicity posters (for the 3 conferences in 2009) and pertinent information (including objectives, services, reasons for becoming a member, etc.).

She also announced that:

a) a marketing concept would be formulated and would comprise: a market and competition analysis, an identification of problems and possibilities, a definition of objectives and a strategy via an action plan that would take into consideration our members' loyal adherence (also responding correctly to their needs) and acquiring new members; b) a sponsoring concept: acquiring funds and/or resources to develop products and activities.

Geert Bouckaert thanked her for the report.

9.1. EGPA Activities

9.1. A Rotterdam Evaluation Report.

The evaluation report sent by the Rotterdam Conference Organising Committee was circulated to the members and Geert Bouckaert pointed out some important aspects. Committee members drew attention to strengths and weaknesses of the 2008 Conference organisation. Rolet Loretan commented on the evaluation and replied to some erroneous assertions concerning the registration process, the preparation of procedures, and the delivery of certificates ...

Decision 15: EGPA would note the lessons learned from the Rotterdam experience to improve the Conference organisation and clarify the sharing of tasks.

9.1. B. Study Groups and PhD Summer School

Current Study Groups

EGPA had currently 13 permanent study groups.

Geert Bouckaert noted that Frédéric Varone had declined to become Chairperson of the PSG on Evaluation. The EGPA President promised to continue looking for new PSG Chairs for the PSG: Evaluation.

Decision 16: A time frame would be requested from all PSG Chairs for the Malta meeting, as well as a publication plan and a summary account concerning PSG websites.

- Study Groups – New Proposals

1) *New Group on Local Government*

The EGPA President presented the proposal from the Chairpersons of the PSG on Intergovernmental Relations to set up a new PSG on Local Government. A discussion followed. A PSG on Local Government would attract a new audience.

Decision 17: A detailed proposal was requested for the next EGPA Steering Committee meeting

2) Policy Studies

The proposal was explained by the EGPA President. A discussion followed on the need to focus on PA – implementation and PA theories.

Decision 18: Clarifications (not one to one relations) were requested for the next Steering Committee meeting.

- PhD Pre-Seminar in Malta

The PhD Pre-Seminar would be organised in Malta. The sessions would be chaired by Prof. Walter Kickert (Erasmus University Rotterdam), Prof. Christoph Reichard (Potsdam University) and Dr. Edward Warrington (University of Malta). The call-for-papers was already online and had been circulated.

- PhD and PA Education Platform: Progress Report (meeting: 21 January 2009-
minutes attached)

Geert Bouckaert and Fabienne Maron presented the three initiatives mentioned during the PhD and PA Education Platform and the project of platform for PhD training and PA education.

Summary of the databases' presentation:

1. WOTPA: World Observatory of Teaching in Public Affairs:

Website: <http://www.idheap.ch/wotpa.nsf>

The domain address would soon be: www.wotpa.org

The main objective of the database was to identify university level teaching programmes in public affairs throughout the world and then to analyse and compare them: the database included PhD and Master (1 & 2) levels.

The database accessible online provided details on 132 programmes in 40 countries, from 129 institutions – 21 short executive programmes, 1 bachelor, 107 Masters and diplomas of national schools of administration and 3 PhD programmes. The database could be consulted by name (programme), country, level, language. The database included basic information on each programme, namely: programme level, format, length of the full-time programme, main language, number of credits, tuition fees for the entire programme, website, practical details, admission procedure, list of core/optional courses, internship and thesis, partnership with other universities or joint programmes, objectives and pedagogical methods.

2. Database of the Italian Observatory on PA Academic Education

The aims of the Observatory were to monitor PA education in Italy, to provide knowledge services and to promote networking. The database included detailed information about the 2198 education programmes at different levels of 204 faculties from 72 universities.

Only programmes entirely dedicated to PA were taken into account for the survey.

The database was organised by levels, faculty, disciplinary aspects and clusters (legal-corporate-public). The distribution of PA programmes was also classified by these different characteristics.

Next steps:

Development of a dedicated website:

<http://www.economia.uniroma2.it/dsi/dsi.asp?a=28&oc=42&d=52>, inclusion of data concerning the number of enrolled students and placements/career successes, expansion of the database to cover professional institutes and the establishment of partnerships with several institutional actors.

3. Netherlands Institute of Government (NIG), the Dutch Research School for Public Administration and Political Science: <http://www.eur.nl/fsw/english/publicadministration/nig/>

NIG was presented as inter-universitary cooperation among nine universities: Erasmus University Rotterdam, University of Leiden, University of Twente, University of Utrecht, Free University of Amsterdam, Radboud University of Nijmegen, Technical University of Delft, University of Tilburg and University of Maastricht. NIG represented the researchers and departments in the field of public administration and political science of these universities.

The proposal was to stimulate communication and cooperation between different PhD training institutes in Europe. A discussion followed.

The EGPA Conference would be the meeting place for the Project Steering Committee meeting and the Platform meeting; a PhD and PA education meeting would be organised; the structure of the platform would be discussed further at the next meeting; one website & one database would be set up.

An e-mail would be sent to all EGPA members concerning the project requesting that they join the WOTPA database as member. A leaflet would be published on the PhD & PA Education platform and would be presented at the 2009 EGPA Conference in Malta.

A presentation of the Platform project would be organised in Malta during the EGPA 2009 Conference.

A steering group of the database/platform would be set up with the respective partners and an action plan would be defined.

EGPA would create the European PhD and PA Education Platform and make it Google visible.

Decision 19: EGPA would support the project financially and with human resources. An advisory group would be designated for steering the project. A person from the steering group would do the day-to-day follow up. The project had to be managed pragmatically.

EAPAA could use it for benchmarking. NISPAcee could join the project.

Saturday, 24 January 2009

9.1. A. Toulouse 2010: First Progress Report from the Organising Committee and EGPA Secretariat.

Geert Bouckaert welcomed Professor Laure Ortiz, IEP Director and Professor Jean-Michel Eymeri Douzans, Chairperson of the Organising Committee. Geert Bouckaert thanked them for hosting the 2010 EGPA Conference in Toulouse at the IEP.

Laure Ortiz presented IEP* (Institut d'Etudes Politiques: <http://www.sciencespo-toulouse.fr/>) and underlined that IEP would be very pleased to host the 2010 EGPA Conference.

The Institute of Political Studies of Toulouse* - a state-owned College created in 1948 - had as its main mission the training of senior executives in private and public organizations, especially in the field of public affairs, social relations, international relations, development, finance, management, media and communication. She underlined the multidisciplinary character of the proposed training programmes. She also provided figures: 1400 students enrolled; 250 students in special exchange programmes; 115 foreign students; about 30 teachers, a permanent staff and about 100 outside participants and teachers from foreign colleges.

For the Conference, she drew attention to some important partners, and especially the City of Toulouse. Jean-Michel Eymeri Douzans referred to the important role of Mrs Nicole Belloubet, Deputy Mayor of Toulouse and Professor at IEP.

Jean-Michel Eymeri Douzans presented all the practical aspects for organising the 2010 Conference.

Then, he presented the proposed theme: "Temporalities, Public Administrations & Public Policies". The proposal (in attachment) would be to reconsider the notion of "time" in Public Administration: the 'long-term' process; career system, continuity of State; political time vs administrative time. A debate on the theme followed.

Decision 20: The EGPA PSG Chairpersons would be invited to make proposals on the Toulouse theme and to advise the Organising Committee. An e-mail would be circulated to the Chairs of PSG. Proposals for the 2nd keynote speaker would be suggested.

Geert Bouckaert thanked Laure Ortiz and Jean-Michel Eymeri Douzans for their presentation.

He also drew attention to the need to think about the organisation of the 2011 Conference.

He pointed out the possibility of organising the 2011 EGPA Conference in the United Kingdom and asked the members for proposals.

9.1. E. Editors Platform – BABEL@PA

Geert Bouckaert mentioned the progress report on BABEL@PA sent prior to the meeting; the main objectives would be to fill the gap of abstracts, to find financial support and to control the quality of abstracts.

The Editors' Platform would be organised during the next EGPA Conference in Malta.

9.1. H. EUPAN & EGPA Cooperation

A strategic note (attached) on EUPAN & EGPA Cooperation was prepared by the EGPA President and was circulated during the meeting. A discussion followed.

Katju Holkeri and Johanna Nurmi would send a list of comments on the EUPAN-EGPA cooperation strategic note.

EGPA could provide EUPAN with new scientific perspectives/orientations and could also be the missing stability/continuity actor between EU Presidency Secretariats.

The CAF user group meeting in October 2009 would be a good opportunity to market this cooperation.

Decision 21: The following would be carried out: to investigate the possibility of cooperation; to contact EUPAN, to prepare the calendar of meetings – and to mobilise the Chairs of EGPA PSGs.

As Marga Pröhl, EIPA Director, was invited to EUPAN Troika Secretariat meetings, the question was raised as to whether the EGPA President could be invited.

9.1. L. The future of PA in Europe Permanent Strategic Group – European Science Foundation (New) : Note to the Standing Committee for Social Sciences

An EGPA note on the future of PA was circulated to members during the meeting ([attached](#)). A discussion followed on the different initiatives to be taken and implemented.

Decision 22: The following decisions were taken:

To create a steering group/a task force for the EGPA project on Futures of PA (Geert Bouckaert and Wim van de Donk as co-Chairs);

To draw up a list of key persons taking into account the following criteria: gender, region, discipline, new generation (names of young researchers to be sent to the EGPA President);

To invite these persons to a preparatory meeting in Brussels between Easter and summer holidays; and

To organise a ‘blog on Futures of PA’ to stimulate discussion on this theme and to circulate a survey amongst members for inputs.

9.2. EGPA Governance

The list of terms of office had been sent to the EGPA SC members; Geert Bouckaert asked them to suggest names for replacing those members whose term of office ended in 2009.

Decision 23: The list of proposals would be available for the Malta Conference and the new members would be nominated. They would then be invited to attend the Steering Committee Meeting in January 2010.

10. Other Business

Another issue was raised by Ludmila Gajdosova: EAPAA-EGPA-NISPAcee memberships and cooperation. How to push the project forward? How to harmonize membership differences/advantages and to avoid asymmetries?

Decision 24: A debate on this question (EAPAA-EGPA-NISPAcee memberships) would be organised in Malta.

11. Date of the Next Meeting

The next EGPA Steering Committee meeting would be held in Malta on 3 September 2009. Geert Bouckaert thanked all the members for their participation.