

# STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

Brussels, 27-28 January 2006

## Draft Minutes and Executive Summary of Decisions

***In attendance:*** Geert Bouckaert, Salvador Parrado Diez, Wim van de Donk, Katju Holkeri, Barbara Kudrycka, Sylvia Horton, Calliope Spanou.

***Guest:*** Christopher Pollitt

***IIAS :*** Michael Duggett, Fabienne Maron

***Apologies received for absence:*** Werner Jann, Jacques Ziller, Mirko Vintar, Hans Peter Bull, Elio Borgonovi, Paolo Fedele.

### ***Draft Agenda:***

1. Approval of the Agenda
2. Approval of the Minutes of the last Meeting (Bern, 1 September 2005)
3. Matters arising from the minutes and the strategic plan 2005-2008
4. Activity Report from EGPA Secretariat and Report from the IIAS Director General
5. Statutory Issues: renewal of the SC members terms & governance procedure
6. New EGPA Strategy :
  - 6.1. Streamlining IIAS-IASIA-EGPA
  - 6.2. EGPA Activities
    - 6.2.1. Conferences
      - Bern: final report
      - Milan: progress report
      - Warsaw: invitation
      - Leuven: 2<sup>nd</sup> Transatlantic Dialogue (EGPA-ASPA)
      - Contracts and Financing
      - Website
    - 6.2.2. Study Groups and Research Groups
      - Progress Report - further to the call for proposals
      - Research Groups: new format
      - EU Projects
    - 6.2.3. Publications
      - Publication Strategy
      - New Publisher
      - Publication Plans
        - Guest Speaker: Christopher Pollitt: IRAS: publication strategy
    - 6.2.4. Cooperation with EPAN, EAPAA and NISPAcee,...and other partners
      - Progress Report from the Task Force
      - Organising the EPAN Group and the EAPAA Conference
      - CAF (EIPA and EIPAN) at the 2006 EGPA Conference (Bocconi)
      - Promoting EGPA: presence of EGPA with a stand at the 4QC Conference in September 2006 in Tampere (Finland)
    - 6.2.5. Editors Platform
    - 6.2.6. Practitioners Platform
    - 6.2.7. PhD Summer School
  - 6.3. Organising EGPA Activities
    - 6.3.1. Finance
    - 6.3.2. Secretariat
    - 6.3.3. Extra Funding
    - 6.3.4. EGPA Governance Election
  - 6.4. Updated Strategic Plan 2006-2009
7. Other Business
8. Date of Next Meeting

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

### **Friday, 27 January 2006**

The EGPA President welcomed the participants and opened the Steering Committee Meeting. He thanked the members for coming.

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

*Decision 1:* The Agenda was approved

#### **2. Approval of the Minutes of the last meeting, Bern Switzerland, 1 September 2005**

Geert Bouckaert asked the participants whether they had comments. No comments.

*Decision 2:* The Secretariat was requested to put the Minutes on the website.

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

*Decision 3:* No questions were raised.

#### **4. Activity Report from EGPA Secretariat and Report from the IIAS Director General**

Fabienne Maron presented briefly an activity report and underlined the progress made concerning the updating of the website.

*Decision 4:* The activity report would be put on the website.

Michael Duggett presented his report and drew attention to membership categories and Conference participation.

Geert Bouckaert thanked them for their presentations. A debate followed. How to create synergies?

What was Europe's part in IIAS membership and participation in Conferences? How should European coverage be increased?

Concerning the streamlining, Michael Duggett referred to annexe 3. A debate then followed on: What should be done next?

*Decision 5:* To develop a more attractive package and to provide the Steering Committee with a clear view on the European contribution (part) to IIAS. A presentation from the Director General in Milan would offer a clear membership strategy. The Secretariat was requested to provide a clear view as to Europe's part within IIAS membership.

A debate followed. Setting out a clear identity and a new policy were recommended.

A debate also followed on the sharing of the conference fees between IIAS and the local organiser. The IIAS Director General mentioned the IIAS Statutes (25%-75%) The EGPA President then insisted on the fact that there would be no pool of potential partners in the future.

Geert Bouckaert welcomed Christopher Pollitt, IRAS Editor, and suggested that the following item be discussed.

### 6.2.3. Publications

Christopher Pollitt thanked the EGPA President for having invited him to join the EGPA Steering Committee.

He presented the *IRAS*: its background, strategy and future activity.

A.

As background, he mentioned 10 Key points: the *IRAS* was both a scientific journal and the IIAS house journal; its copyright was shared between the IIAS and Sage; it existed within an increasingly international, competitive and professionalized context and journal market; it subjected all its articles to double-blind lecture; it was experiencing a decline in traditional readership; it had a large circulation and there were more subscriptions outside Europe than inside; it was ISI registered but had not achieved a very high impact score; it received an increasing number of manuscripts per year; it made a substantial profit and it was published in English, French and Arabic.

B.

Concerning its future strategy, he underlined the following points: to improve ISI impact score without alienating the practitioner audience; to strengthen international topics; to develop theme issues (symposium); to ask staff to promote *IRAS* and to suggest interesting work; to ask young researchers for proposing papers; to encourage big names who never published with us; to investigate further reasons for low submission rates from the Francophone world.

C.

With regard to future actions, he suggested the following: one symposium to be organised; consistent prioritization of comparative and international topics; introduction of practitioners 'points' alongside academic abstracts; the setting up of a good catalogue; and the preparation of good letters of acceptance or rejection with substantive comments

D.

Last but not least, it was suggested that a European section not be developed but that selected papers from major events, such as the EGPA Conference (Milan) and Transatlantic Dialogue (Leuven), be promoted.

Christopher Pollitt also suggested that more guidelines and standards be set up. He certainly welcomed any suggestions from EGPA Steering Committee members.

Geert Bouckaert thanked Christopher Pollitt for his clear presentation and his publication strategy.

A debate followed on the freedom of publication of the chairs of EGPA Study Groups. They would be invited to submit their best papers.

He also mentioned the possibility of submitting papers to other journals.

A debate followed.

The question of a Spanish version of the *IRAS* was also discussed. A proposal from INAP would be discussed in Monterrey next July.

*Decision 6*: The publication strategy presented by Christopher Pollitt was welcomed and approved by the EGPA Steering Committee

Geert Bouckaert proposed discussing the new Study Group proposals before calling on the Milan Conference Local Organisers.

### 6.2.2. Study Groups

The EGPA President mentioned the decision to discontinue the Study Group on Justice. On the other hand 3 proposals for new study groups had been received. He suggested using the following evaluation procedure: a) acceptable or not b) suggestions on how to upgrade them

### **Proposals for new study group**

1) Governance of Public Sector Organizations by Prof. Per Lagreid, Prof. Werner Jann and Prof Koen Verhoest

Decision 7: The proposal was unconditionally approved. Comments: to focus on organisational theory. Well founded proposal.

2) Intergovernmental Relations by Prof. Edoardo Ongaro and Dr. Ellen Wallenberg

Decision 8: It was recommended that the proposal be re-formulated somewhat and that a British co-chair be found.

It was also suggested that clarification be made as to whether the focus would be on multi-level or Intergovernmental governance.

Prof. Andrew Massey was proposed as co-chair.

3) Public Finance and Management by Dr. Mihaly Hoyge and Dr. Ton Bestebreuer

Decision 9: This proposal was accepted as an important subject for Public Administration but it was recommended that the proposal be re-formulated and entitled: "Regulation Management, Finance and Public Utilities". A third co-chair would be proposed.

### **Current Study Groups**

Concerning the Study Group on *Management & Delivery of Justice*, the chairs could organise a closing session in Milan. A new proposal could be discussed during the next Steering Committee session.

Decision 10: The EGPA President would invite Dr. Philip Langbroek to make a proposal for a new study group.

As co-chair of the Study Group on European Administrative Law, Calliope Spanou noted that the chairs would like to add one term to the title of the Group to open it up to new members: "Management" or "Government"

Decision 11: This proposed change was accepted.

#### **6.2.1. Conferences**

- Bern 2005: final report

Decision 12: The technical report prepared by Dr. Reto Steiner and circulated in advance was welcomed and would be presented in its final version, to be discussed in Milan.

- Milan 2006: Progress Report

A progress report prepared by the Bocconi Organising Committee and the draft invitation brochure drafted by the EGPA Secretariat were circulated to members for discussion.

Prof. Elio Borgonovi and Dr. Paolo Fedele were then invited to give their progress report.

Decision 13: The report given by Prof. Elio Borgonovi and Dr. Paolo Fedele was unanimously welcomed and the EGPA President reaffirmed the confidence in the local organising committee.

A debate followed on the Conference theme and programme. The keynote speakers proposed by the Organising Committee were confirmed.

Decision 14: A meeting would be organised in Brussels later in February between the Local Organisers and the EGPA Team to continue the discussion on the scientific programme and the technical aspects of the 2006 EGPA Conference Organisation.

- 2007-2008 Conferences

A discussion was opened on the issue of a joint event with NISPAcee.

Barbara Kudrycka mentioned that it would be better to organise this joint event in 2008. The location would be Warsaw or Cracow.

The EGPA President underlined the managerial and the financial problems. There would be a negotiation between the EGPA President, NISPAcee President and the IIAS Director General.

Two separate conferences with joint events could be organized or a real common event.

Decision 15: It was agreed in principle to organise an EGPA/NISPAcee joint event in 2008; solutions would be found to the managerial and financial problems; this event would be discussed in Milan.

Further to a discussion, it was suggested that the 2007 EGPA Annual Conference be organised in Madrid. There would be an exchange of information. Salvador Parrado Diez would be the contact person between the IIAS, the EGPA Steering Committee and the INAP in Madrid.

Geert Bouckaert thanked all the participants and closed the meeting at 06.30 pm. An additional session of the Steering Committee would begin on Saturday morning, 28 January at 09.00 am.

### **Saturday, 28 January 2006**

Geert Bouckaert proposed discussing the *EGPA Strategic Plan* and especially the *Implementation Chart* (2006-2009)

He thanked Fabienne Maron for having prepared the chart.

He went through all the different items of the strategy plan-implementation chart and asked for comments

- *Streamlining* → a concrete proposal would be discussed in Milan
- *European Conferences* → to match the European Conference Strategy
- To redefine the *European Scope* → especially a link with the Mediterranean area and Maghreb.
- To strengthen the *role of the Vice –Presidents*.

A debate followed.

It was suggested that European National Sections be activated. A Platform of European National Sections would be organised in Milan.

The IIAS Vice-President for Europe, Hans Peter Bull would be keynote speaker at the Milan Conference.

Some new ideas were discussed: to create a network of “Conseil d’Etat”, to organise a platform for practitioners; to reactivate the Oeiras project to build up a network of lawyers and magistrates, ombudsmen; to contact the national associations for creating networks of networks.

### ***Neighbouring Institutions***

EPAN and EAPAA would organise their meetings before and during the EGPA Annual Conference and C. Reichard would also organise the first PhD Summer School.

### ***Journals***

There would be a platform for a non-English Journal. It would be organised with the ENA to create a database including a data set which comprised the tables of content and key words from titles and abstracts.

A demonstration would be held in Milan to support its usefulness.

Decision 16: These initiatives would be more fully developed and cooperation would be strengthened. The process would be evaluated after the Milan Conference.

### ***Website Strategy***

The website would be improved and top priorities would be defined. There was a real need to change both the website management and the procedure.

Decision 17: To propose a new website structure and a new website management

### ***Publications***

The IIAS Director General presented the letter concerning the Palgrave contract to be signed.

A discussion followed.

Wim van de Donk offered his assistance to look at the Palgrave contract.

Geert Bouckaert suggested looking into the Logo issue with a view to finding a solution with the acronym. This problem had to be solved as soon as possible.

### ***Finances***

Michael Duggett presented the current EGPA figures for 2005: the initial and revised budget.

A discussion followed on the sharing of staff costs between IIAS and EGPA.

Decision 18: The Director General was requested to provide additional figures and explanation for the Milan meeting. A budget for 2007 was not presented.

### ***Governance Issues***

The Steering Committee decided to clarify the rules of governance concerning its renewal and to redefine the Steering Committee as the EGPA Board.

Decision 19: A proposal taking up this question would be discussed in Milan and proposed to the General Assembly.

Statutory Issues: Renewal of the SC members' terms of office and governance procedure

The EGPA President went through the EGPA Steering Committee Terms Chart and asked the current members whether they would seek a second term in office in Milan. For those who could not be re-elected he asked whether they wished to put forward the name of a candidate to replace them.

Barbara Kudrycka had announced on Friday that she would not continue.

A debate followed on the functioning of the board, the role of vice-president, the role of key Study Groups' Directors and the cooptation procedure. The procedure of a direct election and confirmation by the General Assembly was recommended.

To facilitate the circulation of information, it was suggested that Study Groups' Directors remain informed. The procedure should be quiet, transparent and open.

A discussion followed on what to do next.

Decision 20: It was decided that a specific proposal would be discussed prior to the Milan meeting and that new names would be suggested for the renewal of Steering Committee membership.

Further to this first discussion on the governance issue, an exhaustive debate followed on the role of the IAS Director General, the role of the three Presidents and the different IAS/EGPA statutory institutions (committees).

The EGPA President thanked all the participants and closed the meeting adjourning the missing items to the next meeting. The next Steering Committee Meeting would be held on Thursday, 7 September 2006