

## STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

Milan, Thursday, 7 September 2006

### Draft Minutes and Executive Summary of Decisions

***In attendance:*** Geert Bouckaert (EGPA President), Salvador Parrado Diez, Wim van de Donk, Katju Holkeri, Sylvia Horton, Calliope Spanou, Werner Jann, Jacques Ziller (Members)

***Guest:*** Franz Strehl (IIAS President), Hans Peter Bull (IIAS Vice-President), Christopher Pollitt (IRAS Editor in Chief), Christopher Reichard (PhD Group-Chairs), Elio Borgonovi & Paolo Fedele (EGPA 2006 Organising Committee), Mr. Francisco Ramos Fernández-Torrecilla & Mrs. María de la O Álvarez López, INAP (EGPA 2007 Organising Committee)

***IIAS :*** Michael Duggett (IIAS Director General), Fabienne Maron (European Affairs Manager)

***Apologies received for absence:*** Mirko Vintar, Barbara Kudrycka (End of Terms)

#### Draft Agenda

1. Approval of the Agenda
2. Approval of the Minutes of the last Meeting (Brussels, 27-28 January 2006)
3. Matters arising from the minutes
4. Activity Report from the EGPA Secretariat and Report from the IIAS Director General
5. Statutory Issues: Renewal of the Steering Committee Terms-of-Office
6. EGPA Strategy 2007-2010
  - 6.1. Streamlining: progress report
  - 6.2. EGPA activities
    - 6.2.1. Conferences:
      - Bern 2005: Final Report
      - Milan 2006: Progress Report
      - Madrid 2007: Progress Report (Guests: Mr. Francisco Ramos Fernández-Torrecilla & Mrs. María de la O Álvarez López, INAP)
      - 2008 Conference: EGPA/ NISPAcee Joint Event and Venue
      - Leuven 2006: 2<sup>nd</sup> Transatlantic Dialogue (EGPA-ASP): Final Report
      - Delaware 2007: 3<sup>rd</sup> Transatlantic Dialogue "Leading the Future of the Public Sector": Progress Report
      - Washington 2007: Transatlantic Workshop on Ethics and Integrity
      - Contracts and Financing
    - 6.2.2. Study Groups, Research Groups and PhD Summer School
      - Current Study Groups : Progress Report
      - Proposals for New Study Groups
      - Research Groups: Closing Report
      - PhD Summer School : First Progress Report
      - EU Projects
    - 6.2.3. Publications
      - Palgrave Contract
      - Publications from EGPA Study Groups
    - 6.2.4. Cooperation with Neighbouring Institutions and Partners
      - Progress report from the task force
      - EPAN & EAPAA meetings organised in Milan

- CAF at the EGPA Conference
- Promoting EGPA at the 4 QC in September in Tampere
- Other partners

- 6.2.5. National Sections' Platform
- 6.2.6. Editors' Platform
- 6.2.7. Practitioners' Platform

### 6.3. Organising EGPA activities

- 6.3.1. Finance
- 6.3.2. Secretariat
- 6.3.3. Website Management
- 6.3.4. EGPA Governance

### 6.4. Updated Strategic Plan 2007-2010

- 7. Other Business
- 8. Date of Next Meeting

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, (Brussels, 27-28 January 2006)**

Geert Bouckaert asked the participants whether they had comments. There were none.

Decision 2: The Minutes were approved. 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**

Fabienne Maron presented briefly the 2006 Activity Report

Decision 4: The Activity Report was welcomed and would be put on the website.

#### **5. Statutory Issues: Renewal of the Steering Committee Terms-of-office**

Geert Bouckaert went through the terms-of-office relative to Steering Committee members. He underlined the statutory procedure and pointed out that the Steering Committee's decisions had to be approved by the EGPA General Assembly and he had to present them to the IAS Executive Committee. He would like to extend the mandate of the EGPA President as had been done for the IAS President. He also mentioned the important role of the EGPA Steering Committee; he proposed to strengthen the portfolio strategy. EGPA would be able to carry out many activities.

A discussion followed on these two issues: the renewal of the President's mandate and the portfolio strategy. Scientific and institutional supports were underlined and would be included in a long-term strategy.

Decision 5: The President's term-of-office would be extended and the portfolio strategy would be further implemented. The current members were asked to send their suggestions concerning this perspective. The General Assembly had to decide.

#### **4 (bis). Report of the IIAS Director General**

Michael Duggett asked the EGPA President to take the floor and present briefly his report. He mentioned the end of the OLAF project, he also pointed out the contract with Palgrave and the Spanish version of the International Review of Administrative Sciences (RICA).

##### ***Publications***

Some comments were made concerning the Palgrave Contract (paperback, editing procedure). An evaluation of the contract would be made after 2 years and the possibility to renegotiate it was mentioned. The current procedure would be clarified and put on the website. Wim van de Donk proposed to clarify it for the Steering Committee members.

Geert Bouckaert asked the Director General whether he had announcement to make concerning his mandate.

Michael Duggett announced the end of his mandate before its term. He would leave by the end of the year.

Some members thanked the Director General for his work at the IIAS.

#### **6. EGPA Strategy 2007-2010**

Geert Bouckaert presented the EGPA Strategy 2007-2010 and underlined that the Secretariat had circulated it in advance, as well as the implementing chart (see in annex 1). He asked the members for their comments.

A debate followed on the strategy.

The Steering Committee members asked the IIAS President to provide them with greater details on the IIAS context in which the EGPA strategy would be implemented.

Franz Strehl, IIAS President, underlined that competition was to be avoided but many synergies had to be developed. The important element of the IIAS strategy was the website. It would be important to analyse carefully the streamlining strategy and to define different options.

Geert Bouckaert thanked the IIAS President and asked the IIAS Vice President for Europe, Hans Peter Bull to give his view on the EGPA Strategy.

Hans Peter Bull welcomed the strategic plan as an excellent project.

A discussion followed on the strategy's implementation. Comments were made: to (hierarchy) list objectives and different activities in order of importance, to maintain focus, to continue to find partners for implementing the strategy and different goals.

The EGPA President and the Executive Secretary were thanked for their efforts to produce a rolling strategic plan and the implementation chart.

Decision 6: The implementation of the strategic plan would continue with the different partners; new aspects would be developed, new partners would be solicited and the operationalisation would be encouraged.

## **Conferences**

### ***Milan 2006: Progress Report***

Geert Bouckaert welcomed Elio Borgonovi (President of the 2006 Conference's Organising Committee) and thanked him for the excellent organisation of the Conference. He invited him to give his progress report.

Elio Borgonovi mentioned that organising the EGPA Conference had been a great opportunity for the Bocconi University because "to win" on the University market was important. He underlined that the Rector, Mr. Monti, greatly appreciated the quality of the Conference programme. The difficult points had been the financial aspects. With the elections at the Municipal level, Milan had given less financial support than expected, but the region had provided them with a good support. Private sponsors and the institutional partners had also been included. He thanked his team, Davide Galli, Paolo Fedele and Patrizia Pellizzari who had worked with Fabienne Maron.

The Steering Committee members thanked the Bocconi team for organising the 2006 Conference.

Geert Bouckaert thanked Elio Borgonovi for his report and the work well done.

### ***Madrid 2007: Progress Report***

Geert Bouckaert welcomed Mr. Francisco Ramos Fernández-Torrecilla & Mrs. María de la O Álvarez López from INAP and invited them to present a progress report.

Mr. Francisco Ramos Fernández-Torrecilla introduced the INAP (PPT) and invited EGPA to organise its 2007 Conference in Madrid from 19 to 22 September 2007. He mentioned the experience of INAP in organising Congresses (CLAD 2004). He also suggested the following theme: "*Coopération et alliance de civilisations*" (in French). He underlined that the organising committee would also like to set up a Mediterranean Dialogue. He reported on all the INAP facilities to be made available the Conference venue and he indicated some of the practical details.

Geert Bouckaert thanked him and confirmed that the themes were in accordance with the EGPA strategy. He then asked Mr. Francisco Ramos Fernández-Torrecilla to present his power-point presentation at the closing session, with a view to inviting the Conference participants to join them in Madrid.

A discussion followed on the theme which was considered very interesting. Some members proposed that names of well known experts be suggested as chairs or keynote speakers. The title of the Conference would be defined further and the welcome message would also be developed in Spanish.

The issue of financing the EGPA Conference was raised and the fee repartition between IIAS-EGPA/Organising Committee was discussed.

Decision 7: It was decided that the announcement of the 2007 EGPA Conference would be put on the EGPA website. The dates would be circulated by the Secretariat via EGPA mailing lists.

## 6. EGPA Strategy 2007-2010

Geert Bouckaert went through the strategic plan and pointed out the activities carried out in 2006.

He underlined that the cooperation with neighbouring institutions had been further developed. EAPAA and EPAN had organised their meetings before the EGPA Conference under the umbrella of the European Group of Public Administration. He also pointed out that the National Sections' and Editors' Platform would be held during the Milan Conference.

Decision 8: It was decided to strengthen the cooperation with EGPA partners, with a view to becoming "THE" European Platform for Public Administration

He mentioned the current discussion on cooperation with NISPAcee for organising a Trans-European Dialogue (TED) under the same framework than TAD.

Decision 9: EGPA would like to organise the 1<sup>st</sup> TED in 2007-2008.

He pointed out the progress made in organising the 3<sup>rd</sup> Transatlantic Dialogue: "*Leading the Future of the Public Sector*" and the 1<sup>st</sup> Transatlantic Workshop on "*Ethics and Integrity*". He asked Fabienne Maron to circulate the 3<sup>rd</sup> TAD & the 1<sup>st</sup> TAW call-for-papers.

Decision 10: The programme of the 3<sup>rd</sup> TAD & the 1<sup>st</sup> TAW would be placed on the website and circulated to EGPA networks by e-mail.

Werner Jann mentioned a Meeting of COBRA partners (Comparative Public Organization Data Base for Research and Analysis – network) to discuss COBRA-specific issues: progress, future seminars would be organised during one session of the EGPA Study Group on Governance of Public Sector Organizations (on Thursday, 7 September 2006).

Geert Bouckaert welcomed Christopher Reichard (Chair of the PhD Seminar) and asked him to give a brief report on the activities of the PhD Summer School organised prior to the Conference.

Christopher Reichard reported that 30 abstracts had been sent to the Directors, 22 had been selected, 20 papers had been received and 20 presentations had been given. The PhD students received hard feedback from the directors and methodological comments. A good debate followed. He recommended that EGPA become a platform for PhD programmes, education and exchange. This project could be strengthened by EAPAA, notably the accreditation aspects. The quality of the programme could be maintained by involving different networks. He also underlined the role of the permanent Study Group on Public Administration & Teaching in this perspective.

Geert Bouckaert mentioned the role of the Task Force to ensure the coherence between the different projects on Teaching Public Administration.

Decision 11: It was decided to organise a PhD Seminar in 2007 prior to the Madrid Conference; 2-3 sessions on the Methodology would be given and one senior keynote speaker would be invited to introduce the sessions. It was also suggested to integrate research groups (and their results) and to develop further a common strategy.

### ***Promoting EGPA at the 4 QC in September in Tampere***

Fabienne Maron mentioned that a stand had been booked for EGPA and that the promotional material would be sent to the organisers of the 4 QC in the coming weeks.

It was suggested that Fabienne Maron would go to Tampere to manage the stand and to introduce EGPA to the 1000 delegates (Civil Servants)

Decision 12: The Executive Secretary would attend the 4QC in Tampere and represent EGPA at the Quality Conference.

### ***EGPA Annual Conference – Structure***

A discussion concerning the plenary sessions of the annual conference followed. Some members of the Steering Committee suggested making the plenary sessions (opening, closing, panel...) more attractive. The question of the two workshops on the main theme was raised and a solution had to be found. A member proposed that chairs of the permanent Study Groups should be approached in advance for proposals.

Decision 13: It was decided to leave the discussion open and to analyse the different options which would be proposed by the Steering Committee members and the partners.

### ***Organising EGPA Activities***

A debate followed on IAS-EGPA management issues.

Due to factors of time and the importance of the signature of the 2007 EGPA Conference contract, members strongly recommend that Michael Duggett sign the Contract with Mr. Ramos, both in English and in Spanish.

Decision 14: The 2007 EGPA Conference contract would be signed by Mr. Duggett & Mr. Ramos as prepared respectively by the two executive managers.

### ***Updated Strategic Plan 2007-2010***

Geert Bouckaert asked the members to approve the Updated Strategic Plan 2007-2010 and to present it to the upcoming General Assembly.

Decision 15: The Updated Strategic Plan 2007-2010 was approved and would be proposed to the General Assembly for adoption. Further to its approval, it would be put on the website.

Due to the Conference programme (Host Country Panel), Geert Bouckaert thanked the members for their participation and closed the meeting. Possible dates for the next meeting (2007) would be circulated by the Secretariat.