

## EGPA STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

Brussels, Friday & Saturday, 2-3 February 2007

Friday, 2 February 2007: 01.30pm-06.30pm (Lunch at 12.30pm and Dinner at 07.00pm)  
Saturday, 3 February 2007, 09.00am-12.30pm

### Minutes

#### *In attendance*

Geert Bouckaert, Sylvia Horton, Salvador Parrado Diez, Wim Van de Donk, Werner Jann, Katju Holkeri (03/02)

#### *Guest:*

Cristina Juarranz (Institutional Cooperation-INAP-Madrid)  
Victor Bekkers and Bram Steijn (Erasmus University Rotterdam) (03/02)

#### *IIAS*

Rolet Loretan (IIAS Director General)  
Fabienne Maron

#### *Apologies received for absence*

Calliope Spanou, Jacques Ziller  
Christopher Pollitt

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### Friday, 2 February 2007: 01.30pm-06.30pm

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

Geert Bouckaert also welcomed the new IIAS Director General, Rolet Loretan.

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

*Decision 1:* The Agenda was approved

#### **2. Approval of the Minutes of the last Meeting (Milan, 7 September 2006)**

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

He went through the Minutes.

*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. Presentation and Report of the IIAS new Director General**

The IIAS Director General gave his activity report and presented both the accounts and budget of IIAS/EGPA. He provided the participants with his view on the IIAS future. He underlined the

synergies between the 3 entities IIAS/EGPA/IASIA. He pointed out the different problems to be faced and the importance of the support of the EGPA steering committee for the future strategy.

The EGPA President thanked the Director General for his efforts to ensure that a substantial report was submitted and that a more transparent situation set out.

Geert Bouckaert asked the members whether they have questions.

The members asked the Director General to present himself and to provide them with his personal profile.

Further to this presentation, a debate followed on the different issues: AdvancedFair, Finances, Membership revenues, Competencies management.

Rolet Loretan proposed some priorities (Internet and Better Communication, Marketing and Sponsoring, Conference Management, Transparency on Finances and Competences management) and to delineate a 'steps by steps strategy'. He also underlined the effort to clarify the financial situation but he also pointed out the difficulties (to have a clear situation).

A discussion followed.

The EGPA President suggested to strengthen the staff capacities and to increase the financial resources.

## **5. Activity Report from the EGPA Secretariat**

Fabienne Maron presented briefly the 2007 activity report.

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

## **6. Statutory Issues : Renewal of the Steering Committee Terms & Nomination of New Members-candidates: "co-opting portfolio strategy"**

On the basis of the term of office chart provided by the secretariat (annex 1), a discussion followed on the co-opting strategy: to maintain the continuity and to strengthen EGPA by co-opting well known academics and practitioners, to reinforce the portfolio strategy, finding new names to support the ambitious EGPA strategy. The EGPA President mandate would be extended.

The EGPA President underlined some important criteria: academics/practitioners, portfolio strategy, geopolitical balance, man/woman balance...

Some names were mentioned. A discussion followed.

*Decision 5:* It was decided to send names to the EGPA President and the final list would be circulated for decision before the Madrid meeting.

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

### **7.1. EGPA Activities**

The EGPA President asked the Executive Secretary to add the RSPM initiative to the list of activities.

#### **7.1.1. Conferences**

### ***Milan 2006: Evaluation & Report.***

Decision 6: The final report on the 2006 Conference was welcomed.

The members asked the Executive Secretary to provide them with more details on the results of the Evaluation. Fabienne Maron went through the evaluation report and gave the main figures including the financial details regarding the Conference revenues and depenses.

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

Geert Bouckaert welcomed Ms. Cristina Juarranz from the Institutional Cooperation-INAP-Madrid. She presented a progress report on the organisational/scientific aspects and Mr. Salvador Parrado added some important elements on the host country panel. He asked the members advices on the panel theme.

A debate followed on the structure of the Conference and on the theme.

Conference Theme: Public Administration and the Management of Diversity

Host Country Panel: The Role of the Central Administration in a multilevel State: the Spanish experience

Geert Bouckaert mentioned the organisation in Madrid of the National Sections Platform and the Editors Platform.

He thanked Cristina Juarranz for her report and invited her to have a meeting with the Executive secretary for the practical details.

### ***Other Activities***

The EGPA President mentioned the 2008 Conference and the invitation from Erasmus Universiteit Rotterdam. Victor Bekkers and Bram Stein would join us on Saturday morning.

He also underlined the 2009 EGPA Conference and he mentioned the invitation from Malta to be confirmed.

Further to a debate, the steering committee members decided not to go to Prague for 2008 or 2009 Conference.

Decision 7: We decided not to go to Prague and asked the Executive secretary to inform the local organiser.

The EGPA President mentioned the other 2007 upcoming activities:

- Washington 2007: Transatlantic Workshop on Ethics and Integrity
- Delaware 2007: 3<sup>rd</sup> Transatlantic Dialogue on *Leading the Future of the Public Sector*

He also announced the joint Conference to be organised by EGPA/Nispacee in Tallinn in January 2008: the first **Trans-European Dialogue (TED)** on the theme: New Weberian State

Decision 8: The joint initiative was welcomed.

Geert Bouckaert thanked the members for coming and adjourned the meeting to Saturday, morning.

**Saturday, 3 February 2007, 09.00am-12.30pm**

The EGPA President opened the second session of the Steering Committee meeting and welcomed Victor Bekkers and Bram Stein.

They invited EGPA to organise the 2008 EGPA Conference in Rotterdam. They presented the venue and the Erasmus University Rotterdam and its research programme.

They also mentioned the members of the organising committee.

They proposed a Conference Theme: Innovation in Public Sector. New Challenges of Multilevel Governance in Europe: legitimacy and integration. For the host country panel, they would like to focus on big problems of Rotterdam: Integration, Migration, Public safety, Security. They also pointed out the local practical facilities. They would to develop a sponsorship concept. They mentioned some elements to be discussed: logo, EGPA website content, translation, yearbook, badges, themes, keynote speakers, dates, repartition of fees, fees, time frame, hotels.

A debate followed on the theme: the participants mentioned different approaches as Innovations in Public Administration facing difficult challenges; Innovations in Public Management; Nature of Innovation, New Ideas-New Practices; Theories of Innovation?; How to innovate...

The EGPA President thanked them for the invitation.

*Decision 9:* The 2008 EGPA Conference would be organised in Rotterdam by Erasmus University on the theme: Innovation in Public Sector: How can we innovate in Public Sector?

Dates: 03/09/2008-06/09/2008

The first deadline would be September 2007. The Rotterdam Conference would be announced at the Madrid Conference.

*Decision 10:* Wee asked the executive secretary to send a message to the chairpersons of the Study Groups to ask them to think to the theme and to link it with their own topic.

#### **7.1.2. Study Groups and PhD Summer School**

The Study Groups on Evaluation and on Regulation would convene for the first time in Madrid and this first session would be evaluated.

#### **7.1.3. Publications**

The contract with Palgrave would be renegotiated and we need a paperback series.

#### **7.1.4. Cooperation with neighbouring institutions and partners**

EPAN and EAPAA\* meetings would be organised in Madrid by EGPA

\* There was a missing link between Western/Eastern Europe concerning the accreditation procedure.

We need to guarantee 1) a follow up; 2) fresh blood; 3) cooperating challenges.

But there were some problems identified: EAPAA is not accredited as accreditation agency. It would be interesting to have EAPAA accredited with EGPA/IIAS behind. What would be the rationale?

Wim van de Donk offered to use his position to put forward this project.

The PhD Groups will convene in Madrid prior to the Conference.

#### **7.1.5. Database of non-English Journals in PA**

Geert Bouckaert mentioned that the Instituut voor de Overheid provided the first staffing.

He went through the report provided by Steven Van Roosbroek.

*Decision 11:* We would have a presentation of the Database in Madrid. First results. We decided to ask IIAS staffing help to go further with this excellent project.

To draft a letter explaining what you would like as French/English summaries to be put in this database for non English journals.

#### **7.1.6. Permanent Practitioners Group**

We need more practitioners in EGPA. We decided to launch a new PPG with EIPA and to organise a first session of this group during the Madrid Conference.

**EPSA:** European Public Sector Award

Further to a presentation by the EGPA President, a debate followed on this initiative in partnership.

*Decision 12:* EGPA would remain a strategic partner.

### **8. Other Business**

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

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

The next meeting would take place in Madrid on Thursday, 20 September 2007.