

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND RESOURCE ECONOMISTS

Date: Wednesday 26 June 2002, 18:15-19:30

Location: Monterey Marriott Hotel

Chair: Professor Klaus Conrad (KC)

Attendance: More than 40 members of EAERE were present.

1. **EAERE Council 2002-2003:** Klaus Conrad (President), Karine Nyborg (Vice-President), Alistair Ulph (Past President), Christoph Böhringer (Secretary General), Carlo Carraro, Jean-Charles Hourcade, Cees Withagen.
2. **Minutes of AGM on 29th June 2001 (available on EAERE web-page):** approved without comments.
3. **Membership of EAERE:** KC reported membership statistics for EAERE. His report was based on best knowledge given problems of information transfers (i.e. membership sheets) from the former President Alistair Ulph (University of Southampton). Considerable effort had to be undertaken in order to clean up the transferred membership sheets and to set-up a membership database. Apart from the distinct decline of full rate members which explains the drop in overall collected fees from 6345 € to 3524 € there are several members whose status still must be clarified. KC stated that his primary goal during the next months will be to consolidate the membership database with additional membership sheets that were promised to be sent to him from Southampton. Finally, KC presented a geographical breakdown of membership which highlighted the potential incompleteness of the current membership account since it became clear that several countries known for their strong presence in environmental and resource economics were hardly represented in terms of membership.
4. **Financial Accounts:** Since Southampton had not succeeded to transfer the money, KC couldn't give information on the current account (N.B. Meanwhile - by July 2002 - the money has been transferred. Including the current fees for 2002, the actual account

amounts to roughly 35000 €. KC pointed out severe problems with respect to the cashing of membership forms. Currently, EU bank companies do not allow anymore to cash credit cards. On the other hand, the fees for cheques are typically very high (between 10 -15 EURO per cheque) in relation to the annual membership fee (40 EURO). KC promised to try hard in order to find a way out of this dilemma.

5. **Appointment of Auditors:** Sjak Smulders and Jerome Van den Bergh were suggested for auditors and approved without dissenting vote.
6. **Proposed Revisions of Statutes:** KC reported on the proposed revision to articles 12, 14 and 18 that were unanimously approved.
7. **Summer Schools:** As compared to the schedule issued at the last Annual General Meeting, the Summer School for 2002 will be on "Game Theory and the Environment" from September, 2-13, at Lavagna (Genoa). The planned Summer Schools after 2002 are as follows:
 - 2003: "Political Economy of Environmental Policy" (Anthony Heyes)
 - 2004: "Dynamic Models of Growth and the Environment" (Aart de Zeeuw)
 - 2005: "Renewable Resource Management" (Karl Gustaf Löfgren)Further information can be obtained at the EAERE web-site:
<http://www.vwl.uni-mannheim.de/conrad/eaere>
8. **Journal Matters:** KC described various aspects of dissatisfaction with KLUWER on handling the linkage of *Environmental and Resource Economics* (EARE) to EAERE including: (i) appointment of editors, (ii) editorial issues, (iii) subscription rates for EAERE members or institutional rates, and (iv) linkage of the journal to the association (currently "in cooperation" rather than official journal). Continuous efforts by the association during the last years to improve this situation failed due to the unwillingness by KLUWER to meet key claims of the association. Therefore, the Council suggested to contact a new publisher that accommodates the claims of the association and may either buy out the EARE journal from KLUWER or start a new (competing) journal. During the discussion Ian Bateman - the current chief-editor of EARE - strongly recommended to stay with the established EARE journal since quality and recognition of this journal has

strongly improved during the last 2-3 years. He suggested to act as a supporting agent in new negotiations of the President with KLUWER since the new management at KLUWER appears to be more willing to meet the association's claims. In the end the general meeting approved the following strategy: The President should undertake a last trial to see if KLUWER will propose a new letter of agreement on (i) publication (rights, EARE as official journal) , (ii) responsibility of editors, (iii) editorial succession (appointment, duration), (iv) editors and editorial board, (v) frequency of publication, (vi) additional provisions (e.g. guarantee by the association on minimum number of member subscriptions at some reduced price). At the same time, the President is entitled to negotiate with other publishers that might be more willing to meet the association's claims than KLUWER had been in the past.

9. **Future Conferences:** The Twelfth Annual Conference of EAERE in 2003 will take place at Bilbao, Spain. Further information can be obtained at the EAERE web-site at: <http://www.vwl.uni-mannheim.de/conrad/eaere>

Christoph Böhringer, Secretary-General EAERE

15th July 2002