



EAERE Annual General Assembly of Members
Prague, Czech Republic
30 June 2012

MINUTES

First convocation: June 25th 2012, from 9.00 to 10.30 EAERE Headquarters Isola di San Giorgio Maggiore Venice, Italy	Second convocation: June 30th 2012, from 12.30 to 14.30 University Economics Prague, Czech Republic
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The first convened General Assembly did not reach the requested quorum to validly deliberate. The General Assembly was therefore held in second convocation. Proxies were delivered to the President.

The General Assembly was chaired by the President of the Association, Karine Nyborg. She welcomed EAERE members attending and opened the meeting. The Assembly appointed Monica Eberle as secretary. The General Assembly approved the proposed agenda.

The General Assembly ratified the Council's acceptance of applications for individual and institutional memberships received for calendar year 2012 and calendar years 2012-2013-2014, with no exceptions. The President extended the Association's gratitude for the support of all members, and in particular for the financial support received from institutional members, and encouraged members to attract new institutional members to join the Association.

Karine Nyborg informed that as of June 21st, 2012 the Association had 1108 members and presented the EAERE Membership profile (see enclosed slides presented by the President).

The President presented the EAERE Council 2012:

- Karine Nyborg (president)
- Anil Markandya (president-elect)
- Partha Dasgupta (past-president)
- Catarina Roseta-Palma (council member, vice-president)
- Matti Liski (council member)
- Timo Goeschl (council member)
- Phoebe Koundouri (council member, Newsletter editor)

The Assembly approved the minutes of the General Assembly of Members held in Rome on July 2nd 2011.

The President updated the membership with the Association's institutional awards: The Erik Kempe 2013 Selection Committee members are: Thomas Aronsson (Chair), Christa Brunnschweiler and Michael Hoel. The President encouraged members to send their nominations.

Country Representatives were given time to make a short speech:

- Italy: Laura Castellucci (on behalf of Marzio Galeotti) announced the foundation of the Italian Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (IAERE);
- Australia: Anke Leroux encouraged members to keep their eyes open on Australia since the Emissions Trading Scheme is being discussed at the Australian Parliament;

- Sweden: Thomas Sterner proposed that the Secretariat gives country representatives the list of members that did not renew their membership in order to encourage membership renewals (2-3 months before the annual conference);
- Greece: Phoebe Koundouri encouraged submissions for the EAERE Newsletter
- UK: Ian Bateman provided an update regarding the creation in the UK of the Valuing Nature Network, www.valuing-nature.net.
- Austria: Birgit Bednar-Friedl (on behalf of Karl Steininger) informed about an Austrian Environmental Economists meeting held in 2012, and about the written Austrian assessment report on Climate Change that should be finished by end 2013.

The President presented the list of country representatives for years 2012-2014.

As for the board of auditors, Santiago Rubio and Sjak Smulders (auditors years 2011 and 2012) completed their work regarding year 2011 and resigned for year 2012.

The Assembly agreed to hire professional auditors, Giovanni Luigi Salviato and Luca Stivanello Gussoni at the cost of € 755,04 auditor/year. They were appointed for financial years 2012-2013. FEEM kindly offered to pay for the first year service (audit on 2012 accounts).

The Assembly agreed upon the creation of an internal board of auditors composed of two members, meant to give advice on accounts and on financial decisions. The duration of the mandate is of one year and can be renewed. For financial year 2012 Santiago Rubio and Sjak Smulders were appointed, whilst for financial year 2013 Barbara Buchner and Anne-Sophie Crépin will be in charge of this role.

The President presented the final accounts for calendar year 2011 (see enclosed slides presented by the President). The Board of auditors and the General Assembly approved the accounts.

The Association is in good standing, and is accumulating more assets than needed in order to run the usual business. This is due to a steady increase in the number of members and conferences' participants. The Council proposed to the Assembly to use part of the accumulated assets (approximately Euro 50,000) to fund new activities; funds would be assigned through a call for proposals to be launched in October, after the next Council meeting. The President also highlighted that funds must be allocated on the basis of a safe and sustainable strategy.

Moreover, tackling the same issue, Santiago Rubio and Sjak Smulders suggested the council: (1) to invest a portion of the Association's assets; (2) to establish an upper-bound over the assets of the Association to act as a buffer value but that all the money above this threshold should be reinvested in benefits for the membership. They suggest considering the following options:

- i) A reduction in the levy over the fee for the conference;
- ii) More grants for the Ph.D. students both for those coming to the conference and those attending the summer school.
- iii) More money for the winners of the awards;
- iv) A payment for the faculty of the summer school;

Concerning (1) above, the President informed members that a sum of € 100,000 has already been invested in an interest-bearing bank account.

Concerning (2), the suggestions were discussed during the assembly, and it was decided to accept the Council's proposal, namely to give more grants for PhD students and participants from developing countries and to enquire the possibility of discounting the reduced conference fee further (not possible for EAERE 2013 since fees have been already agreed upon).

The President presented the preliminary budgets for 2012 and 2013 (see enclosed slides by the President), which were approved by the Assembly.

On behalf of the Association, the President expressed her warmest thanks to Kerry Turner who resigned from ERE's editorial board.

Ian Bateman, ERE joint Chief-Director, presented to the Assembly some information on the state of the Journal, which continues to be good, both in terms of Impact Factor and of the sustained increase in submissions.

The 2013 Elections nominating committee is comprised of: Cees Withagen (chair), Partha Dasgupta and Katrin Millock.

The calendar of future events was presented:

- EAERE-FEEM-VIU European Summer School "Management of International Water", coordinator: Ariel Dinar, 1-7 July 2012;
- Belpasso International Summer School "Sustainable Development: Theory and Measurement Methods", coordinators: Fabio Eboli and Giovanni Signorello, 2-8 September 2012;
- EAERE 20th Annual Conference, 26-29 July 2013, Toulouse, France;
- EAERE-FEEM-VIU European Summer School "Modeling Uncertain Technological Change", coordinators: Valentina Bosetti and Erin Baker, 30 June-6 July 2013.

There were no other issues to be discussed. The President adjourned the meeting.

Karine Nyborg, President

Monica Eberle, Secretary General