



EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERING

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 Honorary Members: Nicholas Ambraseys (UK), Drazen Anicic (Croatia), Peter Fajfar (Slovenia), Giuseppe Grandori (Italy), Ali Akbar Moinfar (Iran), Bozidar Pavicevic (Montenegro)
 Audit Committee: Emil Sever Georgescu (Romania), Rudolf Heuer (Austria)

MINUTES OF THE EAE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Number: 14

Date: September 2, 2010

Place: Ohrid, Macedonia

Attendance:	
Delegates of National Members:	Individual Members:
Mohamed Farsi, Algerian Assoc. for Earthquake Engineering	Atilla Ansal
Mikayel Melkumyan, Armenian Assoc. for Earthquake Engineering	Mohamed Belazougui
Rainer Flesch, Austrian Assoc. for EQ Engng. and Structural Dynamics	Rita Bento
Kiril Hadjiyski, Bulgarian National Committee for Earthquake Engineering	Peter Fajfar
Vladimir Sigmund, Croatian Society for Earthquake Engineering	Rainer Flesch
Pierre Labbe, French Assoc. for Earthquake Engineering	Mihail Garevski
Irakli Giorgadze, Georgian National Com of EQ Engng. & Engng. Seis.	Martin Koller
Andreas J Kappos, Hellenic Society for Earthquake Engineering	Zoran Milutinovic
Ahmad Naderzadeh, Iranian Society for Earthquake Engineering	Baki Öztürk
Robert Levy, Israeli Assoc. for Earthquake Engineering	Bozidar Pavicevic
Mauro Dolce, Italian National Assoc. for Earthquake Engineering	Alain Pecker
Zoran Milutinovic, Macedonian Society of Earthquake Engineering	Philippe Renault
Jadranka Mihaljevic, Montenegrin Assoc. for Earthquake Engineering	Carlos Sousa Oliveira
Carlos Sousa Oliveira, Portuguese Society for Earthquake Engineering	Robin Spence
Emil-Sever Georgescu, Romanian Assoc. for Earthquake Engineering	Peter Subadolic
Vladimir Smirnov, Russian National Com for Earthquake Engineering	Miba Tomazevic
Radomir Folic, Serbian Assoc. for Earthquake Engineering	Gökçe Tönük
Peter Fajfar, Slovenian Assoc. for Earthquake Engineering	Elena Vaseva
Rafael Blazquez, Spanish Assoc. for Earthquake Engineering	Helmut Wenzel
Thomas Wenk, Swiss Society for EQ Engng. and Structural Dynamics	Zygmunt Lubkowski
Atilla Ansal, Turkish National Com on Earthquake Engineering	Rudolf Heuer
Robin Spence, The Society for EQ Engng. and Civil Engng. Dyn.UK	Delegate of Corporate Members:
Yuriy Nemchyov, Assoc. for Ukrainian Earthquake Engineering	Rainer Flesch, Austrian Institute of Technology

Prologue

The Fourteenth General Assembly of the European Association for Earthquake Engineering was held in Goritsa Hotel in Ohrid, Macedonia on Thursday evening, September 2, 2010 on the occasion of the 14th European Conference on Earthquake Engineering. The General Assembly started with the welcoming remarks of President Martin Koller at 19:30 pm once the attendance was sufficient in accordance with the list of participating Delegates and Individual members.

The Agenda:

1. Opening
2. Election of Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and Secretary for the General Assembly
3. Approval of the Agenda
4. Activity Reports
 - a. President's Report for 2006-2010
 - b. Vice President's Report about 14th ECEE
 - c. Report of the Central Office Activities for 2006-2010
 - d. Proposed draft activity plan for 2010-2014
5. Budget Reports
 - a. Financial Report for 1.9.2006-1.9.2010
 - b. Audit Committee Report
 - c. Proposed draft budget for 1.9.2010-1.9.2014
6. Election of the Executive Committee
7. Election of the Audit Committee
8. Election of Honorary Members
9. Miscellaneous
10. Closure

Item 2: Martin Koller, Atilla Ansal and Gökçe Tönük were elected as the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and as the Secretary for the General Assembly.

Item 3: The Draft Agenda was approved.

Item 4a: The President, Martin Koller thanked all the Delegates and Individual Members for their participation to the General Assembly, and to the Executive Committee Members, especially to Secretary General for their support in his four-year period of presidency. The President briefly explained the work of the Executive Committee on behalf of the European Association of Earthquake Engineering in this period. Specifically, he informed the General Assembly that during this period a decision was reached at the joint Executive Committee meeting with the European Seismological Commission about the establishment of common work areas and occasions. He asked support of all National and Individual Members for the maintenance of this established cooperation between engineers and seismologists and for finding concrete actions to work together in the forthcoming years.

Item 4b: The Vice President, Mihail Garevski, as the Chairman of the organising committee of 14th ECEE gave a brief report concerning the activities and organisational issues related to the Conference. Vice President summarised the number of participants, the numbers of oral and poster presentations, activities related to construction of big tents to be used as the main conference hall, conference proceedings, social activities, and transfer of the participants to the conference city, Ohrid from different airports. He pointed out the importance of having more oral presentations, and reasons for the nine parallel sessions. He mentioned that in general participation was good in most of the sessions but there were also some absentees in some sessions. General Assembly participants applauded Mihail Garevski on behalf of all Organizing Committee for their successful organization.

Item 4c: The Secretary General presented the Central Office Report for 2006 – 2010 term concerning the activities related to Executive Committee Meetings, Member Associations, Individual Members, Bulletin of Earthquake Engineering, EAEE web pages, Springer Book Series, EAEE Newsletter and pointed out the main events as:

- The Central Office was informed on June 20, 2007 that EAEE is officially registered as an international NGO by the official approval of the Turkish Cabinet of Ministers in their meeting held on April 17, 2007.

- An official bank account was established under the name of European Association for Earthquake Engineering at Garanti Bank at the Boğaziçi University Branch, followed by the installation of the credit card charging equipment in the Central Office.
- EAEE is one of the participants under the Boğaziçi University in the FP7 project “Seismic Engineering Research Infrastructures for European Synergy” (SERIES), the Coordinator is Prof. M. Fardis. The main activity of the EAEE Central Office will be the coordination of work package WP4 named as “European Integration - European and international co-operation of research infrastructures”.
- The official meeting on “The Reduction of Earthquake Risks in Europe” with the EU Directorates took place on 13 March 2008. The participants from EAEE were Atila Ansal, Carlos Oliveira, Mauro Dolce, André Plumier, and Mário Lopez. From the EU Commission the participants were Michel Chapuis DG RTD, Georgios Katalagarianakis DG RTD, Christophe Lesniak DG RTD, Bjorn Vangelsten DG RTD, Fiorella Perotto DG ENV, Matthias Martens DG REGIO, Graca Carvalho BEPA, Mateo Bonifacio BEPA, Michel Geradin JRC, and Frederic Sgard OECD.

Mário Lopes summarised the recent developments in EU related activities. He gave a brief history stating that the first initiatives started in 2005 during “EAEE - EU Workshop on Earthquake Risk Reduction in Europe” held in Lisbon and chaired by Robin Spence. “Executive Summary on Earthquake Risk Reduction Programme” proposed by EAEE summarising the conclusions and recommendations of the Lisbon Workshop was the first document on this topic. Then, a meeting of EAEE Contact Committee with the European Parliamentarians was organised in 2007 in Brussels to present the EAEE proposals on Earthquake Risk Reduction in Europe. And in 2008, the meeting on “The Reduction of Earthquake Risks in Europe” was held on 13 March 2008 in Brussels. There are some positive outcomes such as the recent EU FP7 projects: SERIES, SYNERGY and NERA that most likely were the results of these initiations. Mário Lopes noted that connection with the MPs would be very crucial but without the support of national governments it would be very hard for EAEE to convince Brussels on mitigation actions. He suggested that EAEE National delegates of EU member states should lobby at national level to get in contact with their MPs to carry the EAEE proposals to the European Commission.

- The modifications in the EAEE Statutes were finalized by the Ex.Com and Central Office conducted Postal Balloting for the approval of the changes in the EAEE Statutes. Balloting results were as follows:

Out of 51 voting Individual Members 37 approved, 2 abstained, and 12 not voted. Accordingly, $37/51 = 0.72 >$ the required ratio was 0.67.

Out of 33 National Delegates 25 approved, 3 not approved, 2 abstained, and 3 not voted. Accordingly $25/33 = 0.76 >$ the required ratio was 0.67.

It was noted that since the modifications of the EAEE Statutes were approved, the voting in the General Assembly will be conducted according to the revised EAEE Statutes. Secretary General outlined the major changes in the new Statutes concerning the voting rights of the National, Individual, and Corporate Members and explained the voting scheme that will be applied during the General Assembly.

On behalf of Executive Committee and as the Ex Com Member who had first voiced the concern regarding the equal voting rights given to the individual and national members, Andreas Kappos pointed out the reasons why a rationalization was required of the decision-making and voting process within the EAEE.

- The 21st European Regional Earthquake Engineering Seminar on Seismic Assessment and Retrofit of Bridges was organised in June 2010 in Istanbul.
- The Prof. Nicholas Ambraseys Distinguished Lecture Award was established and the Guidelines for the award were approved by the Ex.Com.
- The Guidelines for EAEE General Assemblies and modification of the Rules for EAEE Task Groups were approved by the Ex.Com.

- The Minutes of the EAEE General Assembly and Association Council held respectively on Sep. 5 and 7, 2006 in Geneva, Switzerland during 1st ECEES were prepared and distributed to all members..
- Organisation and dissemination of the Minutes of the six Executive Committee Meetings held during 2006 – 2010 including the Joint ESC-EAEE meeting on Sep. 7, 2008 in Crete, Greece.
Secretary General summarised briefly the outcomes of the ESC and EAEE joint Executive Committee Meeting.
- Drafting, printing, and dissemination of the EAEE Newsletters for 2007: No.25/1, 25/2, 2008: 26/1, 27/1, 2009: 28/1, 28/2, 2010: 29/1

Item 4d: The Secretary General presented the Proposed Activity Plan for the 2010-2014 term with respect to different items as:

- Regional seminars for young engineers and scientists every year,
- Preparation and submission of a Marie-Curie training course project with ESC to EU,
- Meeting with EU officials to discuss about earthquake mitigation actions,
- Executive Committee Meeting every year with the reserve Executive Committee and Audit Committee Members,
- Improvement of Task Group activities,
- Publication of new Volumes in Bulletin of Earthquake Engineering and new books in Book Series on Geological, Geotechnical, and Earthquake Engineering

Presented activity reports for 2006-2010 term and the proposed activity plan for 2010-2014 was approved by the unanimous vote of the Delegates and Members present in the General Assembly.

Item 5a: The Secretary General briefly presented the income and expenditures for the 2006-2010 period in terms of balances for the four years as given in Table 1.

Table 1. Balance Totals for the years of 2006-2010

PERIOD	INCOMES (EURO)		EXPENDITURES (EURO)	BALANCE
1.1-31.12.2007	31.12.2006 Transferred Cash	2367.59	Springer	3615.00
	Fee Income for the year of 2007	7070.56	Travel Expenditures	842.00
			General administration expenditures	3216.43
			Bank Charges	83.47
	TOTAL	9438.15	TOTAL	7756.90
1.1-31.12.2008	31.12.2007 Transferred Cash	1681.25	Springer	2890.00
	Fee Income for the year of 2008	6890.40	Travel Expenditures	-
			General administration expenditures	3390.00
			Bank Charges	64.23
	TOTAL	8571.65	TOTAL	6344.23
1.1-31.12.2009	31.12.2008 Transferred Cash	2227.42	Springer	2700.00
	Fee Income for the year of 2009	6876.46	Travel Expenditures	-
			General administration expenditures	2019.48
			Bank Charges	138.73
	TOTAL	9103.88	TOTAL	4858.21
1.1-26.08.2010	31.12.2009 Transferred Cash	4245.67	Springer	1560.00
	Fee Income for the year of 2010	9542.47	Travel Expenditures	-
			General administration expenditures	2972.40
			Bank Charges	306.26
	TOTAL	13788.14	TOTAL	4838.66

Bank Balance for September 1 st 2010	€ 8,949.48
Springer Debt (Hardcopy+Electronic 2010)	€ 1,521.00
Total Balance for September 1st 2010	€ 7,428.48

Item 5b: Emil Sever Georgescu was asked previously by the Secretary General for auditing EAEE Budget. He presented the audit report and noted the following:

- Starting from 2007, annual financial reports of EAEE have been audited for each year.
- There are no assets of the Association or an employee at the moment. (Conditions for future employment should be clarified.)
- All documents (invoices & incomes) are kept available.
- All bank statements are kept available.
- Status of payment of membership fees (national, corporate and individual members separately) are listed.
- Membership fees are not always allocated to the year of membership. However, there is a progress in recent years.
- A follow-up of the budget has been organised on a periodic basis.

Item 5c: Proposed Draft Budget for 2010-2014 period was summarised as given in Table 2.

Table 2. Budget Proposal for the years of 2010-2014

YEARLY	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
Balance from 2006-2010 term	€ 7,500	
Membership fees from National Members	€ 4,000	
Corporate members	€ 1,000	
Individual Members – Paper Copy	€ 2,500	
Individual Members – Electronic	€ 2,500	
14 ECEE	€ 2,000	
Support to Ex.Com Members for the workshop in Brussels		€ 2,000
Office expenses		€ 750
Springer-Electronic		€ 750
Springer-Hard Copy		€ 2,500
SUM	€ 19,500	€ 6,000
DIFFERENCE	€ 13,500	

Presented financial reports for 2006-2010 period and proposed draft budget for 2010-2014 was approved by the unanimous vote of Delegates and Members present in the General Assembly.

Item 6: Secretary General announced retiring Executive Committee Members and explained how the list of nominees was prepared. The election of the new EAEE Executive Committee was conducted. In accordance with the EAEE tradition, Mihail Garevski, from the country organizing the conference was nominated for the presidency, Martin Koller, the acting president, was nominated for the first vice-presidency of EAEE. Martin Koller proposed Atilla Ansal as the Secretary General for one more term.

Although Atilla Ansal as the delegate of the country selected for hosting the next conference is traditionally nominated for the second vice-presidency, since he was nominated as the Secretary General he proposed Mauro Dolce as the second vice-presidency. An open balloting was conducted by raising hands for each post after each nomination. All the nominees were elected to the proposed posts for 2010-2014 by the unanimous vote of the Delegates and Members present.

For the election of the additional five active and three reserve Executive Committee members; Andreas Kappos from Greece, Alain Pecker from France, Rainer Flesch from Austria, Carlos Sousa Oliveira from Portugal, Zygmunt Lubkowski from UK, Mohamed Belazougui from Algeria, Mihaela Zamolo from Croatia, Ahmed Naderzadeh from Iran, Kiril Hadjiyski from Bulgaria, Jacob Eisenberg from Russia were nominated for the Executive Committee memberships. After each nominee introduced himself and expressed his motivation for being an Executive Committee member, a secret balloting was conducted for the active five positions. Andreas Kappos received (138), Alain Pecker received (127), Rainer Flesch received (117), Carlos Sousa Oliveira received (104) and Zygmunt Lubkowski received (85) votes and were elected as the new Executive Committee members. Mohamed Belazougui with (59), Mihaela Zamolo with (38) and Ahmed Naderzadeh with (21) votes were elected as the three reserve Executive Committee members according to the EAEE Statutes.

Item 7: For the election of the two active and one reserve Audit Committee members; Emil Sever Georgescu from Romania, Rudolf Heuer from Austria and Robert Levy from Israel were nominated. A secret balloting was conducted and Emil Sever Georgescu received (115) and Rudolf Heuer received (92) votes and were elected as the Audit Committee members. Robert Levy with (78) votes was elected as the reserve Audit Committee Member.

Item 8: Martin Koller proposed Prof. Peter Fajfar and Atilla Ansal proposed Prof. Bozidar Pavicevic for their contributions and devoted efforts in the field of Earthquake Engineering as the new Honorary Members of the European Association for Earthquake Engineering and both were approved as Honorary Members by the unanimous vote of the Delegates and Members present in the General Assembly.

Item 9: All Delegates expressed their appreciation to the members of the past Executive Com and to Mihail Garevski for his devoted efforts for the efficient organisation of the 14thECEE. They congratulated the members of the new Executive Committee and wished them success in their future activities.

The General Assembly ended with the decision to have the next General Assembly in Istanbul or Vienna in 2014 during the 15th ECEE.

Atilla Ansal
Secretary General