

General Assembly Meeting 02/10/1999 Lisbon (P)

start of meeting: 2pm

List of presences: delegates

Andy Eavis (GB), Orlando Cordeiro (P), Jean-Claude Thies (L), Bernard Krauthausen (D)
Jean-Marc Mattlet (B), S. Magnussen (S), Olivier Vidal (F), Juan Carlos Lopes (E), David Duncan (IRL)
Gianluca Ferrini (I)

visitors

Pavel Bosak (CZ), F. Martinez (E), G. D. de la Vega (E), Nick Williams (GB), J. Martinez (P), Jean-Pierre Bartholeyns (B), Romeo Perlik (RU)

2 procurations have been sent in: Belgium represents NL, Germany represents A

Andy Eavis (president) welcomes everybody for being present and excuses the Secretary General George Theodorou from Greece who has serious private problems due to the last earthquake. A.E. also apologises that there are no minutes of the last meetings present, this to the fact that they are hidden in Georges house which has prohibited access for the moment as it is severely damaged.

It's a pleasure to welcome so many delegates and visitors.

The following meetings took place during the last period: One bureau meeting in Castleton (GB) during the 3rd European Caving Expedition Symposium. Another meeting was in Lisbon in February this year, with the aim of preparing the current Conference and GAM. Contacts have been made to other organisations.

He informs the GAM that for this meeting, Jean-Claude Thies (L), George Theodorou (GR) and Orlando Cordeiro (P) are retiring from their post. Any delegate is invited to present as a candidate.

Jean-Claude Thies (treasurer) presents the accounts for the last 2 year term. He especially reminds that there are a lot of non paid subscriptions. Nevertheless our financial situation is quiet good. The treasurer gets the approval from the GAM for his work.

Olivier Vidal (F) would like to know in which country the FSCE statutes are deposited.

Bernard Krauthausen (D) In accordance to the European Commission, the statutes are deposited in Brussels at the DG 10 and in no other country.

A.E. appeals to get ideas for projects from member countries, as we never have been ready for presentation as deadline dates are always very short.

O.V. One of the reasons could be a big lack of information. There are a lot of projects in caving based on European level. The FSCE should communicate more with European cavers. This should be a priority of the FSCE.

J-P. Bartholeyns (B) The statutes could be published in the EU official journal before being approved as a European association.

Juan Carlos Lopez (E) has the idea to publish a kind of "Bulletin of the FSCE" as a hardcopy in English, French and Spanish. There should be ways to find money to finance such a project.

Several reactions came out of the meeting: Who will get such a copy? And how many do you expect to print? How to distribute them? How often will it be released?

B.K. as the idea is a gift from the Spanish colleagues, we should leave these organisational questions to them.

O.V. explains a similar study during the last French meeting in Mandeure (F) about producing a Newsletter which could be distributed only to countries, departments or institutions.

The French Federation could well be involved in financial details for such a bulletin.

Opening of the FSCE, to non EU countries.

A.E. remembers the discussion in the "Public Meeting" this morning.

JM.M. Considering the statutes, we should not lose time with the idea but first we should solve our current problems and projects.

B.K. We should really leave the structure as it is for the moment. There are already non EU countries present and they even might speak when they want, and we do not take very important decisions from which these countries should be excluded.

European Insurance

A.E. The French Federation has offered a very good Insurance policy to the FSCE member countries. Some countries have already signed a convention with them: IRL, L, I, E, some clubs in Belgium and there will be more countries who want to sign, ie. Britain is currently negotiating with the FFS.

Address List JCT distributes the latest list for checking its validity.

Future meetings

The meeting makes the proposal to organise a meeting during the 4th European Caving Expedition Symposium in Belgium 29/4-1/5/2000.

Another possible date could be the UIS GAM in Brazil 2001.

Internet Homepage

Nick Williams (GB) has been asked to work on an internet-site. The possible domain name and costs have still to be negotiated.

Projects

1) The Belgian federation asks the FSCE to host a coverage of their "Explo 2000"- 4th European Caving Expedition Symposium in April 2000.

The GAM agrees to cover this event!

2) JMM has prepared a questionnaire concerning cave rescue. the question now: shall we limit this query to EU countries or should we extend the distribution to other countries? How should the results be published later, leaflet, booklet? Possible countries to include in the query would be Algeria, Tunisia, Turkey....

P.B. It is very difficult to get information from northern African countries!

3) Brazil 2001 JMM suggests that the FSCE applies for a charter flight from Europe to Brazil to help European cavers to join this happening.

A.E. The problem with charter flights is always that the dates for the candidates may differ too much.

P.B. VAREC has a package offer, airfare plus accommodation at different companies inside the group.

S.M. (S) There are nearly no charter flights from northern Europe after April 1st.

Elections

outgoing members of the bureau are: Orlando Cordeiro (P) vice-president
George Theodorou (GR) secretary
Jean-Claude Thies (L) treasurer

calling for interested members!

Juan Carlos Lopez Casas (E)	as vice-president	proposed by J-C Thies	seconded by O Vidal
Olivier Vidal (F)	as secretary	proposed by A Eavis	seconded by O Cordeiro
Jean-Claude Thies (L)	as treasurer	proposed by O Cordeiro	seconded by JM Mattlet

Olivier Vidal explains his motivations to work for the FSCE. For him the communication is the most important to realise in the near future. The FSCE needs technical commissions which are very important in the EU. Also supporting good contact relations with the EU direction générale and access to other departments like science or environment. He also likes to promote the “associated country” project in the future.

ALL CANDIDATES ARE ELECTED FOR THE RESPECTIVE POSTS.

Matters arising

O.V. Is there an official representation of the FSCE at the cave rescue symposium in Germany in November? We should contact them to get more information and a program.

Romeo Perlik (RO) The Rumanian Caving school for topography is launching a project for a “topo meeting” in Rumania to be held at the “Emil Racoviza” institute. An international meeting about caving topography could be organised as well.

JCT What has happened with the reports of all the meetings which took place in all these years? Topographic meeting in La-Chaux -de Fonds, or the cave education meeting in Spain?

JCLC The reports of the Spanish education meetings will be produced in four languages (EN,FR,SP,PT) and then distributed.

no other discussions!

Andy Eavis closes the meeting at 16:30

report setup by Jean-Claude Thies (L)