



European Society of Aerospace Medicine

Minutes of the ESAM Executive Committee Meeting Milan (Italy) on 5th – 6th November 2009

Place: 5th Nov ITAF AMC “Angelo Mosso” Milan – 6th Nov ITAF Aerotactical Command Milan

Time: 5th Nov 14:00 -17:00 – 6th Nov 09:00 – 14:00

Persons present: Roland Vermeiren, Elena Cataman, Lilla Ungvary, Paolo Tosco, Hans-Werner Teichmüller, Ioannis Diamantopoulos, Kevin Herbert, Uwe Stüben, Declan Maher, Hans Pongratz.

The meeting was opened by the President.

1. Approval of the agenda

The agenda was approved.

2. Approval of the minutes of the EC meeting in Birmingham on 5 & 6 June 2009

The minutes were approved.

3. Approval of the minutes of the informal meeting in Zagreb on 6 September 2009

The minutes were approved.

4. Membership status

The Serbian, Swiss associations and the Bosnia-Herzegovina CAA have made a formal application for membership of ESAM. Paolo gave a summary about them. The Serbian, Swiss and Bosnia-Herzegovina application was accepted unanimously according to our Statutes, Article F.3. and all will receive a formal acceptance e-mail from Paolo . Cyprus may create a Group of AMEs, that will send an application form at a later time: Elena will keep in touch with them. Military EAG is still discussing the opportunity to become an associated member. Portugal hasn't yet an Association, but may become a member via an AMC/AMEs group. No official news both from Denmark and CAMA . IFATCA has been contacted by ESAM

President to apply as Associated Member. Roland will keep in contact with EAG, POR, DEN, IFATCA.

The EC approved acceptance of applications via e-mail in future. An e-mail acceptance will be effective if voted by at least 4 (four) EC members. We welcome applications from Institutions, Institutes, Scientific/Professional/AMEs Societies or other Organizations involved in Aerospace Medicine, and the EC will assess their application for regular or associated membership.

5. Budget

The Treasurer encountered some difficulties in fees collection for 2009. For this reason the EC requests that each National Association respects the time limit for payment (not later than 1st July every year). Associations shall give an updated number of members at the beginning of the year to receive the invoice for the actual number of members ; otherwise an invoice will be sent for the number of the previous year. Furthermore, Associations are requested to communicate to the EC the e-mail of their own Treasurer. The same information request will be added to Application Forms on the website (Lars). Roland had prepared “Certificates of Membership”, those were distributed by Hans Werner to all Associations attending the Milan GA. Unfortunately, a decrease in number of members in some Associations has been observed, possibly related to the European economic crisis which has affected the aviation business. Ries is requested to study the possibility to get EU grants for ESAM. Paolo is required to update the address list. Hans-Werner will contact the relevant German Authority about income-tax exemption. A variety of proposal for a new fees system was proposed:

- Flat-rate increase: a minimum of 10 euros is proposed, on the basis of the known current costs of EC, Advisory Board and GA meetings;
- a flat-rate organisational fee, plus a tiered additional fee for each individual member of that organisation;
- a flat-fee of 50 euros, then 10 euros for the first 100 members, 5 euros for the next 200 and 3 euros for associations with more than 300 members.

This issue will be discussed during the GA. A decision will be taken at the next EC meeting.

6. Advisory Board

On 6th November the AB meeting was held, with nominations and election of Chair, Deputy Chair and Secretary. EC mentioned possible topics: European standardisation of cabin crew certification, ATC certification, medical kits on board, passengers health issues, pandemics (collaboration with ICAO), need for a “Scientific Committee” coordinating ESAM publications in the “Blue Journal” in particular, Aerotoxic Syndrome and participating at the EU Standards Committee (ASD-STAN) (Ries), FTL limitation (Ries), specific “Space Medicine Group” (Paolo), organising a certification of national training courses. The so-called “Mal de débarquement” was discussed as well, but wasn’t considered a relevant issue.

A mailing list of the AB and also for specific working groups within the AB will improve its work as well as a mechanism on the website for quick replies on questionnaires. Rules to take common decisions should be created.

It is necessary to have at least 1 meeting per year for the effective work of the AB. Also there could be 1 day meeting of the AB in connection with the GA

7. EASA

Roland presented a brief review of the status of the NPA Review Group's "modus operandi" along with a description of the current status. Unfortunately, the situation is still the well known one, already described in former EC reports. It could become necessary to send the ESAM Specialist Conference comments directly to the EU Commission. ESAM participation in an upcoming informal EASA expert group is confirmed. The EC supports a second ESAM Specialist Conference at Wiesbaden (Uwe): foreseen date 24th – 28th August 2009. Roland has contacted David Roberts - President of European Air Sports - about a possible common view on the LPL certification.

The EC approved a "compromise policy" about aeromedical certification, summarized as follows:

- Class 1 AME cl 1 examination
- Class 2 AME cl 1 or 2 examination
- LPL with passengers AME cl 1 or 2 examination
- LPL without passengers GMP (if permitted under national regulation) ; no medical questionnaire but a pilot self-declaration counter signed by the GMP who declares to have the complete medical file from the applicant since birth ; abolishment of the medical criteria for LPL

Kevin is requested to write an ESAM proposal for this self-declaration form to be submitted to EASA.

Other issues pertaining to the relationship between EASA and ESAM (Roland) are as follows: new application for the SSCC, work in the EASA Standardisation Directorate/MEST Teams, the EU CI 3 medical certification of ATC (by AMEs and AMC).

The EC recommends every individual member to clarify and support the ESAM position about relevant aeromedical items, such as medical certification, to national members of the European Parliament whenever possible.

8. EASA - ESSI Participation

At the present time ESAM has two representatives on each of three groups (commercial aviation – general aviation – helicopters) within the European Strategic Safety Initiative (ESSI). Their activity was very interesting and effective. EC decided to publish the reports on our ESAM website, for login owners only.

9. CMO Forum

The CMOs' Forum communication to Roland (letter from Dr. S Evans - 03 September 2009 - entered into our Archives), stated their view that it would be inappropriate to officially appoint mutual representatives in our organisations. Common topics could be discussed in combined meetings.

Regarding the issue of harmonisation of accreditation for refresher training, all CMOs' agreed that a National Aviation Authority should give credit for relevant training undertaken outside their own state. However, it was felt that the credit hours granted may differ according to the requirements of the individual state.

Administrative training should remain national.

Harmonisation of accreditation for AMEs training would need discussion when the EASA Medical Requirements are implemented.

Differences in the request of medical reports by national AMS should be discussed by the CMOs and ESAM in a combined meeting.

10. ICAO

Dr. Antony Evans' letter - 20 march 2009 - was entered into the archive too. It included consideration that ICAO collaborates primarily with States and International non-governmental agencies. So, since ESAM is a "regional" organisation, it can only contribute to ICAO goals by informal, technical, scientific, professional reports.

The EC appoints the chair of the ESAM Working Group for harmonisation of aerospace medicine training (Elena) and the representative of the AB (Uwe) , to be the contact persons in case of collaboration with ICAO about initiatives for global AME training.

11. Status Training and Accreditation in Aviation Medicine

Elena presented at the Zagreb ICASM the WG results. The related ESAM leaflet was then distributed, now presented during the EC/AB/GA and will available at all ESAM events. At the present time the WG is constituted as follows: Elena, Uwe, Anthony.

The EC stated to try contacts and cooperation with IAASM in this field to be able to get involved on ICAO level.

12. AsMA

Hans Pongratz will represent ESAM in all AsMA events.

The EC felt it as a great opportunity that AsMA lecturers/members would participate at ECAM/ESAM events, and vice-versa.

Concerning publishing of scientific issues in the AsMA Journal by qualified ESAM fellows, all members are invited to prepare and send such articles (after EC approval).

At the ESAM website a dedicated part will be implemented (Lars).

An ESAM general meeting will be held during the 81st Annual Scientific Meeting of the Aerospace Medical Association - May 9-13, 2010, at the Sheraton Phoenix Downtown Hotel in Phoenix, AZ (Roland, Hans P.). Invitations should be sent to our members for our meeting (panel) and the AsMA reception for international guests.

During the next EC we will discuss further proposals for an ESAM panel or future combination of EU panels, including, for instance, French, German, Spanish, Scandinavian etc.

13. IAASM / ICASM 2009 in Zagreb

On ESAM website there is a report about the meeting. The EC stressed the need to prevent potential conflict of timing between ICASM and ECAM, and was grateful for the IAASM support for ESAM publicity during the event.

14. ECAM

The ESAM President received from Dr. Eleftherios KECHAGIADAKIS, President of the Hellenic Aerospace Medicine Society, a kind official invitation letter – dated 7th October 2009 - (entered into the archive). The aim is to host the next ECAM at the 5th Scientific Meeting of Hellenic Society for Aerospace Medicine (in close cooperation with Hellenic Air Force Directorate for Medicine) in Athens on 10th – 13th November 2010. It was a pleasure for the EC to unanimously accept the invitation. Local and scientific ESAM contact person will be Ioannis. Proposed Lectures for ECAM will be submitted to a Scientific Committee (Lilla, Paolo, Kevin, Hans-Werner and Ries). Andy Bellenkes and Hans Pongratz are requested to contact AsMA concerning their participation.

15. Other presentations at national conference

Members of ESAM EC participated as lecturers/auditors to Interstate Aviation Co (Belarus), Military User Forum (Zagreb), German Society (München), SOFRAMAS (Paris), Austrian Academy (Zürs), AMABEL Meeting (Bruxelles). Paolo advised the EC that the Italian Aerospace Medicine Association Annual National Congress will be held on 20th – 22th May 2010 at the ITAF Academy – Pozzuoli – Naples. Any interested member of ESAM should consult the AIMAS website.

16. Organisational matters for the GA/AB/ conferences in Milan

Attendance and invitations were handled by Paolo and Lars. Roland and Paolo provided requirements and arrangements for scientific presentations. On 6th Nov the AB will vote for its new chair. On 7th Nov the GA will vote for new auditors.

17. Website management

The EC offers its congratulations to Kristoffer Tjensvoll (Lars) for the excellent job done concerning the update of the website and creating a “members only” part that allows contacts via mail fora. Furthermore, the EC asked Kristoffer to establish hyperlinks to national association websites, and vice-versa all national associations are requested to add an ESAM link within each own website. A “newsflashes page” will be inserted on the ESAM website, on which every national association can publish quick information about its activities.

18. Nomination committee

On 7th November the GA will elect a Nomination Committee for the elections of new EC during next GA in Athens, Nov 2010.

19. Statutes

At the present time the EC doesn't feel that an update is needed. Changes in the EC will be notified by Hans-Werner to the proper authority according to German law, by delivering a copy of the ESAM General Assembly 2008 vote in Budapest on 15th November 2008.

20. Task list / Working Groups

The training in Aviation Medicine working group (Elena) is already set up. Issues about conferences and redaction/editing will be carried out by the ECAM Scientific Committee (see above 14.). The GA will elect a Nomination Committee (see above 18.) Contact with EASA will be ensured by the President and the EC. Roland requested that Kevin draft a business plan for ESAM. This and fees for ESAM will be discussed and decided at the next EC meeting, taking into account the discussions at the GA. The Advisory Board can decide to establish a specific "Scientific Committee" within itself, and might send as well to the EC proposals about getting more members actively involved in ESAM work.

21. Other business

Mailing list policy and security will be assured by the Secretary General and by the Webmaster. Lars and Kristoffer are requested to add further changes to the ESAM website:

- Application form: please insert the indication of the Advisory Board member of each national association.
- Prepare a "Gallery", in order to show freely on our website photos taken at meetings and congresses.

A recognition of European Aviation Medicine as a Medical Specialty exists in some countries and may come in others; it can be published on the ESAM website (paper entered into the archive).

22. ESAM material

Training in Aviation Medicine booklet, LPL certification comment booklet, general ESAM leaflet, general ESAM CD-rom and updates, ESAM Member List and Map, were printed at Eurocontrol (Roland) and will be available at every ESAM event. Each EC member received ESAM letters and envelopes. ESAM Membership Certificates will be prepared by Hans-Werner and ESAM pins will be sold. When an ECAM will be arranged, the responsible Organisation should provide Presentation Books and/or CD-roms.

23. Next meeting

The next meeting of the Executive Committee is planned to be at Florence, on Friday 26 and Saturday 27 February 2010 (Paolo).

Roland ended the meetings by thanking all the members and invitees of the two EC sessions for their outstanding work.

Paolo Tosco
Secretary General