



European Society of Aerospace Medicine

Minutes of the ESAM Executive Committee Meeting Bucharest (Romania) on 14th September 2011

Place: National Institute of Aerospace Medicine – Bucharest (Romania)

Time: 08:30 -12:00

Persons present: Roland Vermeiren, Elena Cataman, Kevin Herbert, Paolo Tosco, Uwe Stüben, Declan Maher.

Carla Ledderhos, Lilla Ungváry and Ries Simons sent apologies for inability to attend.

A quorum was established.

The meeting was opened by President Roland Vermeiren.

1. Approval of the agenda

The agenda was accepted without amendment.

2. Approval of the minutes of the EC meeting in Seville on 18 June 2011

The minutes were accepted. The current mechanism of minute recording appears to be working well and it was agreed that this process will continue pro tempore.

3. Budget

Status fees 2011

Paolo made a presentation on behalf of Carla. This was a summary of her report of the current financial status of ESAM, including the societies who did not pay. They are not yet listed. Kevin asked that the list of member associations entitled to vote, be given to Declan who is acting in Locum for Gabor as head of the nomination committee at the GA. We have circa €42,000 on our account. We outlined the position regarding communication with the Auditors. Ramon is in Bucharest, and it is hoped that David will be able to get here. Roland asked Paolo to give the accounts to Ramon for auditing.

4. General Assembly 2011

Practical organisation

Comments changes in Statutes

Vote President-elect

Kevin mentioned the comments supporting the concept of President Elect. Roland said that we must have a quorum at the GA. We will need 50% of the entitled voting members, which translates to 14 members present, and require 75% of their votes. The existing statutes do not mention the position of a "Proxy", but do not ban it. We will need to identify who will vote by proxy. Declan will produce cards to act as voting cards for the members and the "quora", This must be defined prior to the GA. Kevin said that a member state may pay on the day, and should be included for voting. Twenty eight member associations have paid to date, and they have voting rights.

Lars has proposed Anthony Wagstaff as a candidate for President Elect but Gabor had closed the date for nominations prior to this nomination. But it is only after the change in statutes that there would be a closing date. Anthony has expressed a wish to be involved and active again in ESAM. He has an interest and agreed to seek candidature as Vice President next year. We need to keep harmony and positive feeling to bring the group forward.

Kevin contends that the reason for the changes in the statutes is to increase democracy and transparency. Elena suggested that Roland speaks of the need for change and why ESAM is going in this direction. Roland emphasised the need for inclusiveness. This will continue.

Roland ran through the format of the GA: the presidential address, followed by the financial report by Paolo. Ries will give his report on the AB. Kevin will speak of the proposed changes to the statutes and give an update on ECAM 2012 .There will be a report of the nomination committee: there is a need for a vote even in the case of only one candidate. There is also a need to vote for 2 auditors. Ramon agreed to stand as second auditor. Kevin gave a run through his presentation.

5. Advisory Board

General meeting AB after GA

Activities / Position papers: reactions insulin proposal

Scientific ESAM Journal online

Roland spoke of the Proposal Paper on diabetes. He has shown it to EASA and to ICAO. The paper was discussed at the medical group meeting in Cologne. It will be taken into account during the upcoming review of the aero-medical requirements and it appeared to have the support of those present. It will thus be in the rule making process and can be incorporated in the future. Sally Evans' proposal about a follow-up protocol of diabetes was put forward at EASA accepting only type 2 diabetes. This protocol can already be introduced in the LAPL.

Yesterday, Roland spoke to Claude Thibault, (IATA & IAASM) who was very interested that Europe is considering diabetes.

Last week, in Germany, there was a keen interest in developing a new aerospace medicine European journal. It may be a sub group of the AB. Ries has pointed out that there needs to be a business plan. Prof. Jürgen Graff has spoken with Uwe and he is keen, young and has published widely. He could act on the Editorial Board.

6. ECAM 2012

Update ECAM 2012

Kevin presented the draft program for ECAM 3. The UK national association meeting will take place on Friday evening. On Saturday the theme of the conference will be dealing with incapacitation and environmental extremes followed by the Gala dinner (black tie/National dress). There will be packages involving two days, Gala dinner etc. for circa €450, and an accompanying persons' package including a day tour on Saturday to London for €550. These prices exclude accommodation, which is available in the Sheraton, or also locally at the Ibis. There will be a link to the UK national association website on the ESAM website; a scientific committee including Prof. Bagshaw; an organisation committee including Declan. There will be space for 15/16 papers over 2 days. All of the figures are based on 250 delegates present. The panels were discussed. There should be three.

Lilla has suggested that ESAM looks in future itself for a cheap local venue where we can have the ECAM. We should ask the local association to facilitate it, rather than wait for an invitation.

Roland asked that we consider using the ECAM as a location for refresher courses in the European system, like the FAA does at AsMA. Consider it for the ECAM 2014 in Oslo, i.e. in combination it with the national meeting.

Paolo offered Naples for ESAM GA 2013.

7. EASA

Meeting Medical Group

3 ESSI groups

Roland outlined the proposed process of medical certification. AME's will have to send the medical reports to the AMS of the state of issue of the license. All addresses will need to be updated. Uwe was concerned that the burden will be on the AME's and the authorities will just wait for the data and not take an active role in record keeping or collection. These addresses should be provided by EASA.

Kevin cited difficulties that exist, at present, about appropriate report destinations. Uwe feels that it is EASA's responsibility to provide the information allowing the AME to complete the work. Roland considered a position paper by the AB on the process of data transfer and the potential unsafe nature of this. In the context of the future where different EASA licenses will be possible, he explored issues in the following scenario: A pilot has a CLASS 1 in Sweden, his Helicopter license in Italy and his PPL in the UK. Where are the original medical files? At present, only some AMS ask for the complete medical record. We need a database of pilots, their medical files and the location of record storage. Uwe said we must insist that the Authorities provide the information. Kevin posed the question: "Is the possession of a duly issued license, adequate proof that someone is legally allowed to fly? "Where does the legal liability stand?" Elena expressed concern about the manner and dramatic speed of the changes in the regulation process. She spoke of the fear of medical tourism. Roland asked the AB to draft a paper highlighting these problems that will be forwarded to EASA.

Roland spoke of Lars request for a position paper on Human Factors. In commercial operations, the ESSI group should look at the safety issues regarding the medical certification for pilots in different types of operations. Lars is very active and Roland will make contact with Lars.

Dr. Sally Evans has confirmed the formation of a subgroup within the CMO forum to assess accreditation of AME refresher courses and training to offer harmonisation across Europe. Uwe spoke of his concern at the absence of representation by ESAM in the subgroup. He contended that it is usually the training body which assesses the hours to be accredited. He hoped that the forum would accept the presence of a member from ESAM.

Roland explained that accreditation is a legal power that has been granted to the CMO's, not to others. But we can have a group that would suggest the numbers of hours to be accredited, and send this to the CMO forum subgroup. Kevin suggested that we should wait to see how the CMO subgroup responds to the ECAM 2012 accreditation proposal, and respond to that, if required. Roland said that official pan-European mutual recognition does not yet exist for accreditation, the nearest we have now is the position being offered by the CMO Forum.

Elena emphasised that each CMO has the privilege to define the accreditation hours, and that this offer represents a huge leap forward. We have got the CMO's to accept the concept of harmonised accreditation. Uwe, Ries and Elena will assess proposed courses according the content of the ESAM syllabus and then forward it to the CMO subgroup. After some time, it could become standard practice. Paolo asked if ESAM would look for an official accreditation role, but Kevin pointed out that it has been delegated by EASA to the national Authorities. In the EASA Implementing Rules, which are not yet applicable, it will be the

Competent Authority who will have the final say, according to Roland. All agreed that the agreement with the CMO forum is a good starting point and that we should assess how this process develops.

Kevin suggested a board, consisting of Uwe, Ries and Elena, that would review the refresher course and propose the accreditation. Any member association could submit the content of any refresher course/ syllabus/ meeting. ESAM can offer this service, where this board reviews it and send it to the CMO subgroup. The National Authority finally decides upon the accreditation but will in principle follow the CMO subgroup advice.

ESAM will send an email to each of the association offering this service. Roland said that ESAM will gain credibility by doing it seriously. We can offer the ESAM stamp and the CMO approval. It may become the gold standard as how to apply for accreditation. Uwe asked if ESAM will publish their accreditation assessment on the website, along with the process and policy. Roland will circulate the proposal to the EC-AB and then Elena will form a draft for publication on the website.

8. AsMA

ESAM Scientific Meeting during AsMA Congress in Atlanta (USA) May 2012

Publicity in the “Blue Journal” for next year’s ESAM Meeting at AsMA

News joint ESAM-AsMA Meeting 2018 foreseen

Roland gave overview of the planned ESAM meeting at AsMA 2012 on the Wednesday from 12-14:00 in Atlanta. ESAM should pay for advertising in the Blue Journal. We will need speakers on a number of contentious topics, such as the diabetic pilot, SSRI’s and anti-coagulants. Kevin said we need to be ready by then end of the year and that we must have speakers of the calibre that can publish. ESAM should have four presenters. Uwe said he would follow up with Hans Pongratz about the joint meeting with AsMA in Europe.

9. Website

Publication external papers

All EC members agreed with the need of a policy. ESAM can publish articles, but it is not the opinion of ESAM unless clearly stated. Roland asked the French and the Italians to send in papers. Elena said we must be very careful what is published on the site. It is better to have less on the site than more if it is wrongly seen as being the opinion of ESAM. Should we have the EC or the AB to vet articles or papers? Paolo suggested creating a hyperlink to the original location of the paper, rather than publishing the paper on our site, creating a clear distinction between ESAM and the opinion, unless also adopted by ESAM. Roland agreed. Uwe felt that only position papers should be on the website. All other elements can be published in the journal. Kevin offered to draft a paper on website content.

10. Contacts

ECA

Interstate Aviation Committee

Roland, Lilla and Ries had a very constructive meeting with the ECA president and secretary general in Brussels. Regular contacts and mutual information (on pilot fatigue, cabin air quality, and many technical issues) have been agreed, because safety in the air is the main driver for both organisations.

Kevin, Elena and hopefully Ries will attend the IAC in Moscow. Uwe might be able to attend for three days. He pointed out that there will be a visa requirement for invitation. Elena will respond to the invitation and liaise with Sergey of IAC.

An EC member has not attended the two most recent EC meetings, nor has he offered an excuse or apology. The EC member has neither attended nor reported on the ESSI/EGAST meetings to date. Kevin will draft a letter, with reference to the statutes, to be sent to the President of the EC member's association requesting a proxy member as suggested by UWE. This letter will be signed off by Roland.

11. Next meeting

The time of the next EC meeting on the 18th 19th February 2012. in Italy. Paolo will arrange it and communicate location as soon as possible.

The meeting was closed by the President Roland Vermeiren.

Bucharest, 14th September 2011

Declan Maher
AB Secretary

Paolo Tosco
EC Secretary General