



**European School Heads Association
Europäische Schulleitervereinigung
Association Européenne des Chefs d'Établissements**

**REPORT GENERAL BOARD
Prague 16-18 November 2001**

1. Welcome.

ESHA President J. Gispén welcomes many members in this second conference in Central Europe. He explains GST A. Petrolino's absence due to the death of a relative.

Everybody present introduces himself and his organisation, including Mr. Burkhard Mielke who is in this ESHA meeting as an observer for Germany (Nord RheinWestfalia)

And ESHA is very happy to welcome again 2 representatives from Slovakia, where head teachers associations have now formed an umbrella organisation, which is interested in joining ESHA.

HOUSEKEEPING BUSINESS

Minutes of the General Board 16-18 March 2001 in Luxembourg (annexe 1).

The update of the ESHA folder is now being discussed by EP J. Gispén with a firm in Zeist.

Decision: The concept folder will be e-mailed to GB members for their comment. Minutes are accepted.

2. Financial Affairs:

Budget 2001 and Budget 2002 are handed out during the meeting.

Discussion:

HJ explains in the name of GST Petrolino.

In the GB meeting in March 2002 in Rome a full survey will be given of the year 2001. Now the financial situation is healthy again. 94% of the contributions have been paid and 75% of the SMC subsidy has been received.

HJ will send out declaration forms again with a letter explaining how to declare costs for the SMC project.

Decision:

GB decides to accept the 2002 budget and to add a + and - PM post to the 2002 budget for the Tallinn conference.

4.ESHA and the European Head teachers Development Curriculum

Report of the first meeting with experts, 7-9-01 in Utrecht (annexe 2).

Decision:

GB decides to mandate EB to go on preparing the project proposal. EB has asked Hull University (Prof. John WestBurnham) to take the lead as coordinator of this project. Mr. Paul Desmet and one EB member will be responsible for the ESHA part in this project. GB suggests to use "standards, styles or competencies or capabilities" instead of "curriculum".

5. New members of ESHA:**Discussion:**

EP gives a survey of further activities to renew memberships of ESHA:

Germany: mr B. Mielke has now the observer status for one year till the end of 2002

Portugal: no success has been booked so far

Greece: EP has visited Athens. ESHA has a first contact there now

Primary sector Denmark: A. Cassne has asked them to become members of ESHA. He expects a reaction very soon

Ireland: Ms.Mary Hanley will meet the primary school organisation (IPPN) and advise them to join ESHA.

Iceland: the primary sector are discussing the possibility of joining ESHA in their meeting in January.

Scotland: papers were sent to them. There is no reaction yet.

Slovakia: see Opening.

There are some worries about membership in Southern Europe

Decision:

GB suggests action by EB, perhaps by offering bilateral contact in order to set up an organisation, independent from the state and the trade unions.

School Managers Centre**Discussion:**

European Union Network for educational purposes and SMC .President presents the state of affairs. First meeting of 7 countries and city of Helsinki took place on 2-3-01 in Brussels at EUN office, just before the Luxembourg GB. On 19-9-01 the Steering Committee met again. The main problem now is to make very precise arrangements on how to fill the website.

Decision:

GB suggests a committee outside ESHA

EB should be made responsible for certain tasks.

The chairmen of VVO and AVS NL offer to form a committee to fill the website. EB will discuss financial matters with them within the project.

7. 2002 Conference in Tallinn:**Discussion:**

presentation of the conference by Estonian colleagues Martin Kaasik and Jaan Reinson. They expect 250-300 participants and ask their colleagues to bring many colleagues from their country. EB meeting will be on Wednesday Evening 25 september. GB meeting will be Thursday morning 26-9-01.

Decision:

GB thanks Estonia for their presentation. EB will decide on the speakers with the organisers in Tallinn.

7A: 2004 Conference:**Discussion:**

Erik Hatlem introduces the 2004 conference, excusing his colleague from Stavanger, who has a funeral in his family like A. Petrolino. The conference venue will be Stavanger Forum. The title will be "Pipelines to Europe".

GB is grateful to Norway for their flexibility in offering a conference to ESHA and accepts the offer.

Decision: 2004 Conference will be held in Stavanger Norway.

ESHA POLICY AND EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGE AND DISCUSSION**8. Information on ICT and educational developments in Czechia.****Discussion:**

Representatives of the Czech ministry, of Prague city and colleagues from Czech schools discuss with ESHA members about the different systems of education, the position of Heads in the countries and the role of Inspection in quality evaluation in schools.

Information on EUN and SMC (<http://smc.eun.org/>) by Anne Gilleran.

Decisions:

Schools subscribe to SMC.

Schools send articles, news, photos, calendar and names of persons for discussions.

Every organisation will appoint a webmaster responsible for contacts with SMC

Every organisation will link their organisation to SMC and add an international page in English, German or French.

9. Presentation of developments in the Primary Sector

Discussion:

Mr. Duif, AVS and Mr. McNally, NAHT present 3 themes:

a. Connection and Differences in Primary and Secondary school:

ESHA should promote contacts between the Primary and Secondary sector in order to make an easier transgression from one to the other

b. Exchange programs:

In order to have good exchange programmes ESHA should make a data bank about the the primary schools in Europe

c. ESHA could be a coach in advising beginning head teachers organisations how to set it up a union or association.

10. Corrected version of Action Plan.

11. Discussion on the 1998 ESHA Declaration.

10 and 11 are combined in discussion groups on 10 and 11. The discussion topics are:

What is ESHA's core business?

What is ESHA's added value?

What does this mean for EB, GB?

What does all this mean for the member organisations?

conclusions:

All Three Groups report more or less the same conclusions:

The aims of ESHA are still considered to be valuable. The 3rd aim ("to **support** the various member organisations") and the 4th aim ("to improve the quality of European school leadership") are considered to be the most important aims. The 5th aim scores lowest since "the rest of the world" seems well enough covered by ICP.

The set up of a data bank giving as much as possible information on each member organisation is necessary and could be made in the School Managers Centre.

EB is asked to investigate the possibility of an executive management to create a continuous lobby in Brussels and Strasbourg.

National organisations are asked to make their organisation stronger in order to give support to a European lobby.

In the next GB these discussion groups will be continued and will play a larger role than this time. The same subjects will have to come back to be discussed at greater length.

12. Miscellaneous.

Decisions:

- Mr. Bohnert and EB will invite Ms Reding to the Tallinn conference
- EB will try to change the date of the next GB in Rome in order not to coincide with the SHA conference.
- Minutes and other information will be exchanged by e-mail.

13. Conclusions.

EP repeats the conclusions of the GB taken in this meeting (see above) and adds the following **decisions:**

- Next GB in Rome will have discussion groups in the middle of the programme
- All members will put their information on the ESHA website <http://www.esha.org/>, and J. Filous will have regular contact with A. Gilleran.

EP J. Gispén thanks Mr. J. Filous for his excellent organisation of this GB and closes the session.

H. Janssen, assistant secretary.