

## **INFO-BULLETIN based on the 10th Meeting of the EMU Presidium on 11 and 12 December 2009 in Essen, Germany**

**Present were:** Gerd Eicker (president), Paolo Ponzecchi (vice-president), Katalin Asztai, Marion van der Hoeven, Timo Klemettinen, Helena Maffli, Viktor Zadnik, Matthias Pannes (general manager VdM), Gerrie Koops (secretary general, report).

### **1. Opening and adoption of the agenda**

Opening and welcome by the president, Gerd Eicker. He thanked the Verband deutscher Musikschulen e.V. (VdM) and the Landesverband der Musikschulen in Nordrhein-Westfalen for their hospitality and for arranging the meeting. The president referred to the meeting with the (co-)hosts of the presidium and the General Assembly 2010, Volker Gerland, president Landesverband der Musikschulen in NRW and Dr. Christian de Witt, director of Folkwang Musikschule of the city of Essen. Matthias Pannes, general manager VdM will join the presidium meeting during agenda point 3 – General Assembly and Conference in Essen in May 2010 and point 8 - EMU Hymn.

*The agenda was adopted.*

### **2. Draft minutes and action list presidium meeting in Novi Sad, Serbia in October 2009 (appendix 1)**

Point 12 - EMU member news: Helena noted that 'a national agency for special funding.....' should be changed to: 'a national agency for European Culture Programmes will open in 2011'.

*The minutes were approved.*

Referring to the motions enclosed in the minutes and the action list and not mentioned in the agenda:

. The working group 'Benefits of cooperation between music schools and other arts' decided in Linz to continue as a special working group within EMU, but EMU hasn't yet received any information about a follow-up.

The presidium stressed the importance of the continuation of the working group and added this task to the 2010 working programme. The presidium also decided - as proposed by the working group in Linz - to participate in the working group 'Co-operation between music schools and the other arts' in the person of board member Timo Klemettinen. Gerrie will inform Harry Rishaug. The working group will be asked to inform the General Assembly in Essen - during the household matters - with a small report on the activities of the working group.

. Evaluation European Youth Music Festival: Gerd received an evaluation from the German groups via the VdM which overall is very positive.

. Road Map for Arts Education: has been published on EMU's website in Dutch, English, French, German, Icelandic, Norwegian, Spanish and Swedish.

. EU working group on synergy with education, especially arts education / open method of coordination: Gerd sent a letter to the German expert in this working group to offer EMU's experience in the matter. Marion visited a special 'Europe day 2009', which was organized by the SICA Culture Contact point in the Netherlands. The Dutch delegation presented the report of this EU working group but the results concentrated on regular education. It was stated during that conference that organizations in Europe should have the same rights. In the Netherlands music- and art education is not a part of the regular education and such institutes therefore lack a BRIN number (*Basis Registratie Instellingen*, basic registration of institutes), which is required when applying for EU funding. There may be more EMU members in a similar situation.

. EMU concert in parliament: Timo explained that after some investigation, he unfortunately must conclude that so far no audience could be ensured during a possible concert in the parliament building. The presidium decided to drop the idea for a concert in parliament this year. Timo will provide an explanation to the General Assembly in May.

### **3. EMU's General Assembly and Conference 'Music Education in Europe – Music For All', Essen, Germany 13 - 16 May 2009**

Matthias Pannes reported on the latest activities for the GA and Conference. He informed the presidium that, in addition to the usual translation of the meeting in English/German/French on the first day of the conference, also

the morning of the second day might be translated in three languages. Matthias will inform EMU as soon as possible.

Anne Bamford and AEC president Johannes Johansson accepted EMU's invitation to speak during the conference, as well as ISME president-elect, Graham Welch, on the activities of ISME in Europe and with music schools in Europe. Helena met Anne Bamford during the very interesting Conference 'Innovation and Creativity in the hands of the young' in Iceland in December. Bamford informed Helena that she just completed a widespread evaluation of music education in the UK. She will bring that perspective also to the presentation in May. The presidium decided that each presentation will be followed by a plenary discussion. To ensure an interesting discussion the presidium will prepare some questions beforehand. Timo will start the 15<sup>th</sup> of May with a 5-minute introduction on the EMC working group for music education and training.

Grassroots-level practices / models in Europe (presentation of existing programmes, accomplished in partnership between regular elementary schools and music schools): JeKi, JeKisSti (Germany) will be asked to give a live performance of the projects on Friday early afternoon.

Other projects (10-minute video presentation); Leerorkest (Muziekschool Zuid-Oost, Amsterdam, the Netherlands), MusicaER (Emilia Romagna, Italy).

Gerrie will contact England (Making Every Child Music's Matter) and Spain (project in the music school of Ignasi Gomez).

Helena will lead the plenary discussion afterwards. The project leaders/presenters will be asked to join the open space working groups.

Open space working groups should focus on: target groups; structure; responsibility; new tasks teachers, teachers training.

Challenges and problems. Formulating headlines beforehand; appointing the leaders for the working groups will follow in the March meeting.

Timo will send an overview of a research in Finland on the future of music education in Finland, which might be an interesting example for or start to the discussion in the working groups.

#### **8. EMU Hymn (appendix 5a, 5b, 5c)**

EMU received a proposal for an EMU Hymn written by Andrea Pellegrini, Italy.

The presidium thanked Andrea for his work and decided that the song will be performed by one of the board members (Timo) as start of the Household Matters during our General Assembly in Essen, 2010. Paolo will produce the notes and the text in a more readable form so that the members will be able to sing the song together with Timo. Gerrie will inform Andrea.

#### **4. Seminar for music school directors 'European Leadership Training' in Sindelfingen in October 2010 and proposal for a follow-up in the coming years (appendix 3a and 3b)**

*Marion tried to find a person from England for the introductory speech on 'The value of music in society', but so far without result.*

Gerd explained that the working group made a (draft) project outline for a duration of 2 years with 6 – 10 partners. The working title has been changed to EMU-TRAIN: European Network for Music School Management Training. The project address to the 'Lifelong Learning Programme'. It will focus on the specific action 'Comenius Multilateral Networks, Strategic Priority and School Leadership'. The deadline for application is the end of January and should be signed by at least 6 partners. Gerd asked presidium members to join – on behalf of their music school – as partner in the project. The necessary documents/information to be provided by each partner will be sent to the partners by Ms Schlosser, European Affairs Stadtverwaltung Sindelfingen.

Gerd stressed that the headlines of the subjects are just proposals needed for the application for funding and should be discussed and fixed by the presidium later on. It is the intention to organize each seminar in another country. Italy (Livorno) and Hungary might be interested. England will be asked.

The presidium adopted the project outline and the proposal for a follow-up to the 'European Leadership Training' in 2011 and 2012.

## 5. EMU4YOU

Andreas Brodbeck reported in October that the system is in a mature state but that he needs more interaction from the working group. The presidium therefore decided in the October meeting to involve, besides directors from Switzerland and Iceland, also 5 music school directors from Germany in the project, and appointed Viktor Zadnik as project leader.

Viktor has had no contact with Andreas and other people involved in the project so far. Arni Sigurbjarnarson from Iceland informed Helena in December that he did not have time over the past months to be involved in the project. The question arises how to reach the (teachers of the) music schools when we launch the website: via the associations, or should we approach them directly?

*The presidium is worried about the development of EMU4YOU and stressed the importance of contact between Viktor and Andreas. Katalin will inform Andreas that 5 music school directors from Hungary will also get involved in the project. Concrete results should be presented at the next presidium meeting in Slovenia in March 2010.*

*Agenda point next meeting: Marketing EMU4YOU.*

## 6. European Youth Music Festival 2012

John Witchell from England informed EMU that he has not made much progress in the proposal to hold the festival in England. He will keep trying and will let us know if there are any developments.

Viktor reported that Slovenia (Maribor + 6 small cities) might be interested in organizing a small festival in 2012. The Slovenian association needs an official invitation letter from EMU.

*The presidium agreed with the organization of a small festival (at least 2500 participants) but stated that – as mentioned in the minimum requirements – 25% of the participants should come from the host country.*

Paolo remarked that organizing a small festival might also be possible for Italy in 2012.

*The presidium decided that the first official application, with letters from the local and national governments showing their general interest and declaring their willingness to subsidize the festival, will be accepted.*

*The future of the festivals will be discussed further in 2010.*

## 7. Proposal Working programme 2010 (appendix 4a) and Proposal budget 2010 (appendix 4b)

*The presidium accepted the working plan and the budget 2010.*

*Timo and Marion will prepare a paper on the research into applying for annual EU operating grants per 2011.*

Special ideas for the future: broadcasting on own website; board meetings during a national General Assembly or inviting a presidium delegation to the General Assembly: *will be proposed to the members in May 2010.*

## 9. EMU news /news from presidium members

. Katalin reported on: 1) a big event in Budapest in 2010 which offers major possibilities for music education; new possibilities have been created in Hungary for teachers training, with funding by the EU; 2) large (music) education events have been planned for a 3-year European project: the 'Danube Strategy'. The Danube Strategy has its origins in German river expansion projects. The project focuses on opening up the region along the Danube. The German federal state Baden Württemberg and the city of Ulm, on the banks of the Danube, are in charge of the project.

. Paolo will send the presidium an outline of an EU project taking place in Milan on ICT training that focuses on music, audio and multimedia. They are looking for partners.

. Timo reported that: 1) the music schools budget in Finland will grow by 9% in 2010 (5.8 million Euro) ; 2) new folk and pop schools will be founded in 2010; 3) the Finnish music- and arts school union received € 330,000 for Arts Education Development projects. 4) in Finland, 2011 will be the year of Theory and Solfège, focusing on ICT, pedagogy etc. Perhaps an interesting theme for an EMU GA?

. Gerd presented: 1) the headlines of the new structure plan for German music schools; 2) the new programme of Schloss Kapfenburg, which is dedicated to music, health and prevention. The music school academy is collaborating with a special health center. The courses will be paid by health insurances. [www.schloss-kapfenburg.de](http://www.schloss-kapfenburg.de).

## 10. Next Presidium meetings: General Assembly and Conference / Directors Seminar

### 2010

- . 5 - 7 March in Velenje, Slovenia (**arrival 5 March before 13.00 h at the airport / departure on 7 March after 12.00h**). Slovenia will provide for the transfer from and to the airport.
- . 13 May in Essen, Germany (arrival 12 May; General Assembly 13 to 16 May)
- . 8 - 10 October in Luxembourg
- . 10 - 12 December (*Paolo asked France*)

**Seminar 'European Leadership Training' for music school directors:** 20 – 23 October 2010 in Sindelfingen, Germany

### 2011

May 2011 – General Assembly in Estonia.

Estonia informed EMU that because of the economic recession, they haven't been able to attract the needed funding yet (approx. € 40,000).

A meeting without translation in German and French might solve the problems.

*The presidium stated that – although they understand the financial problems very well – they are unable to change the minimum requirements, which have been appointed by the General Assembly.*

*Helena remarked that the Swiss association found an affordable solution for translation during their general meetings. Gerrie will inform Estonia and will ask them to inform EMU before 1 March 2010 if they are able to finance the meeting in 2011.*

## 11. Miscellaneous and closing

. Helena reported on a meeting with the cultural attaché from Venezuela. He was interested to meet EMU to speak about El Sistema, a world famous publicly financed voluntary sector music education programme in Venezuela. Gerd sent an official invitation to the Embassy of Venezuela, but received no reply so far.

. Gerd presented the first text for the publication on 'Music education in European Countries'. The idea is that the publication offers a nice profile of each country based on presentations during the EMU conferences and country reports. The text is written by a German journalist and will be translated into English.

After that the president thanked the presidium members for their contributions and closed the meeting.