

## **INFO-BULLETIN based on the minutes of the 5th Meeting of the EMU Presidium**

Vaduz, Liechtenstein, 3 and 4 October 2008

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

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

Opening and welcome by the president, Gerd Eicker. He thanked the Liechtensteinische Musikschule and especially the new president Christa Eberle and general manager Klaus Beck for their hospitality and for arranging the meeting. The president announced that after the first part of the presidium meeting, the presidium will meet the minister of education, Hugo Quaderer, and the president Hector Herzig, and general manager Ruth Hochuli of the Verband Musikschulen Schweiz. The presidium will meet in the evening the Swiss National Councillor Susanne Leutenegger Oberholzer.

The Liechtensteinische Musikschule is a member of the Verband Musikschulen Schweiz.

*The agenda was adopted.*

### **2. European Youth Music Festival 2009 in Austria**

EMU was informed at the end of June that festival manager Wolfgang Reifeneder had given up his job as festival manager. Walter Rescheneder, the main responsible person for the festival, had been invited to the meeting but he was unable to participate. Walter Rescheneder informed Gerd by email on 22 September that the continuation of the festival was assured.

*Two presidium members (Katalin and Viktor) will visit Austria in October or November to be updated about the present situation.*

### **3. Draft minutes and action list presidium meeting in Brussels in April 2008**

*The minutes (appendix 1) were approved.*

Referring to the motions enclosed in the minutes and the action list and not mentioned in the agenda: . The presidium is welcome by Poland and Croatia but a final date has not yet been set. Gerrie will ask Poland if they might be interested in hosting the presidium in October 2009, if it is possible to move the visit to Essen to December 2009.

### **4. Evaluation General Assembly and Conference 'Music Education in Middle European Countries' in Brussels 2008**

No comments on the text of the minutes of the General Assembly (appendix 2) have been received and the minutes are considered as approved and published on the EMU website together with all presentations.

Timo apologized for his remarks on the re-design of the meeting point during the meeting.

The presidium received several positive reactions during and after the meeting. Especially the Belgium Flanders guests were impressed with the interesting international atmosphere.

Gerd has been in contact with Dirk Rombaut about the membership possibilities for Flanders.

The presidium concluded that EMU can look back on a very interesting meeting, and one to be proud of. It was very well and pleasantly organised by the Belgian host. The keynote speech by Ms Leonor Wiesner, Directorate General 'Education and Culture' European Union, was very inspiring and also the presentations by the Belgium Ministry, AEC, IMC and IMS were very interesting and may improve the contacts with those organisations.

The results of the open space working groups on EU policies and funding were a positive start for the directors' seminar in Livorno in October 2008. The reactions to the conference 'Music education in

Middle European Countries' were diverse. Following the next conference in Austria, the results of all conferences will be published in a special booklet.

The compilation handed out during the meeting on the activities of the associations in the last year resulted in a very interesting document. It was positive that the General Assembly accepted the presidium proposal that, in future, all countries should send their report to the secretariat in time, so that it can be sent to all countries beforehand and the results can be discussed during the meeting.

#### **5. EMU Seminar for music school directors 'Music makes Europe' in Livorno 14 - 17 October 2008** (*appendix 3a, 3b and 32c*)

The preparatory meeting with Gerrit Walstra, Haute Europe, Gerd, Marion and Gerrie at the start of September resulted in an interesting programme for the seminar. Thirty directors from 14 countries will participate.

Gerrie mentioned a pleasant cooperation with the Italian co-organisers of the meeting, Andrea Pellegrini and Paolo Ponzecchi, during the preparations of the seminar.

Timo reported that the European Parliament recently gave its support to a European Commission proposal to designate 2009 as the "European Year of Creativity and Innovation". The proposal is focused on industry and EMC suggested to the EU in writing to make it broader and to also include culture in this programme.

#### **6. EMU in future** (*appendix 4a and 4b*)

*After an intensive discussion, the presidium decided that the future of EMU will be discussed in working groups during the General Assembly in Austria.*

Possible themes for the 5 working groups are:

- . European funding in project-based working
- . music education in regular schools and music schools
- . different styles of music education
- . political contacts: national and European
- . music education and art education
- . EMU regional groups
- . analysis of the future of the EU: financial situation; responsibility
- . quality
- . cooperation with AEC
- . programmes for children with special needs
- . new target groups in music education

The presidium will decide about the final themes in the December meeting in Latvia.

To be able to prepare the session properly, EMU will survey the present situation of music and culture schools in its member countries. Timo will make a draft questionnaire, which will be sent to all EMU members.

The working group sessions will be introduced by 4 presentations by:

- . the EMU presidium
- . a country with an association for music and art schools
- . a country with an association for only music schools
- . an organisation for only art schools

#### **7. General Assembly and Conference 'Music Education in Southern European Countries' in 2009** (*appendix 5*)

The draft outline of the programme for the meeting has been sent to the Austrian association for comments and for suggestions regarding a keynote speaker to inaugurate the conference. If possible, a person from the Austrian ministry who should focus on the importance of music education in Austria. The president of the Swiss association, Hector Herzig, who just gave a presentation to the presidium on an interesting initiative by the Swiss association (together with the Swiss Council of Music and numerous other Swiss music associations, requiring 100,000 signatures in Switzerland), aimed at improving music education at the federal and cantonal levels for children and young people, will be invited to present this initiative at the conference.

Paolo will prepare the general presentations by the South European Countries (Austria, France, Italy, Liechtenstein, Spain and Switzerland). Countries will be invited to a preparatory meeting in Spain.

## **8. Latest news on other EMU activities**

### **. EU funding**

Haute Europe has been asked to assist EMU in an application for financial support for EMU through the Culture Programme 2007-2013. The deadline for the application is the 1st of November.

EMU has been informed by Haute Europe that organisations wishing to apply for EU funding must have their registered office based in one of the eligible countries of the European Union. This means that - because the official seat of EMU is located in Switzerland - EMU is unable to apply for an annual operating grant. The presidium therefore decided to convene an extra General Assembly to change the statutes, to enable the relocation of EMU's official seat to one of the eligible countries of the European Union. Unfortunately, it seems that the law in eligible countries of the European Union doesn't accept only a move of the official seat, but requires that EMU found a new organisation. *However, it's still not clear and Gerd will research the matter further. If it is not possible to move the official seat, the extra General Assembly will be cancelled and the situation will be discussed further at the next meeting.*

The presidium realised that the present situation – only one day per week for the secretary general - doesn't cover the work of the office. It results in an overload of work for the general secretary and the president. To operate as a professional organisation – also in the eyes of the European Union – EMU should arrange for the financing of a professional office. The matter will be discussed in the presidium later on.

### **. EMU concert in EU parliament**

Timo has been in contact with European parliamentarian Hannu Takkula who suggested postponing the concert to 2009. Timo offered the help of one of his staff members - Satu Ylönen - to further develop and organise the concert, together with Pierre Kolp from Belgium. The idea is to send an open invitation to all members and to finally choose 4 groups that will each give a 15 minute concert. Timo will prepare a draft letter for the presidium meeting in Latvia.

The presidium thanked Timo and Pierre for their willingness to organise the festival.

### **. Re-design meeting point**

On 2 October in Zurich, EMU invited three persons (Andreas Brodbeck/Switzerland (who will also develop the meeting point), Claudia Wanner/Germany (former chair of the webgroup) and Arni Sigurbjarnarson/Iceland), to discuss the re-design of the meeting point. Also Gerd and Gerrie participated in this very constructive meeting.

The conclusions and proposal of the working group were handed out during the presidium meeting.

*The presidium agreed with this proposal, which has the following outline:*

*Goals and benefits:* - To make the European field of music education accessible to all teachers in European music schools. - To facilitate international exchange. - To offer the possibility of participating in the development of music education in Europe. - To present themselves (teacher, music school) and to promote their own work. – To gather knowledge

Boxes on the meeting point:

1. School/Teacher-profile box. A platform for music schools to present themselves.

A place to publish "best practices" (e.g. about fund raising). Interlinkage between music schools ("partnerships")

2. (Teacher/Students-)course box or general "event-box" (including congresses)

3. Open discussion box (forum, board, groups): example: "Good practices for lessons"

4. New-editions box (feed from the publishing houses)

5. Private music material exchange box

Marketing: via the national associations, national magazines and related websites

Timing: - Further development with feedback from core-group (us, "EMU small webgroup"); pilot project with pilot group ("Club of Livorno" = 30 directors); closed presentation at 19 May 2009 (GA); go-live date set for mid-2009.

*The presidium agreed to the proposal of the working group to change the name of the meeting point in: **emu4you***

#### **. Small statistics**

EMU received from 10 countries an update of the statistics 2006. Gerrie will send a reminder to the other 16 countries.

#### **. European Youth Music Festival in 2011 and 2012**

The Finnish association had a special meeting in Turku (capital of culture in 2011), but the city is unfortunately unable to find the needed finances.

Italy will start researching the possibilities of organising the festival in Italy. Other countries that might be interested in a festival could be Latvia, Slovakia and Czech Republic.

The presidium realised that organising such a big event is increasingly difficult for the member countries. Suggestions have been made to organise a smaller festival and/or to focus on a special theme. Another option is that EMU participates as a partner in the festival with EU funding. The theme will be discussed further.

#### **9. Management meeting in Italy from 30 September to 3 October 2009**

The presidium again thanked the Italian Association for their cooperation in the management meeting in 2009. Paolo announced that the meeting might take place in Milan.

First ideas for the meeting themes:

- . The role of the board of the associations
- . Discussions between managers of combined organisations
- . Exchanging experiences/ best practices between associations on the same level.
- . Building up a network and partnership

#### **10. EMU news: news from presidium members and news from EMU members**

\* Katalin reported that the quality process in Hungary, initiated by the government eight months ago, has been completed. The report of the process will be published in December.

\* Timo reported that in Finland: - The Finnish music school association and the association for the fine arts founded a Finnish Art School Union. The union will focus on political and pedagogical issues.

- 2009 will be the year of early childhood education. - A new project 'teachers as an artist' has started.  
- The transatlantic cooperation group on how to export Finnish music to the United States may expand their focus to include music education.

\* Paolo reported on a huge cooperation between music and regular schools in Italy.

The Italian association started a new lobby promoting music education with the help of EMU's Weimar declaration and the Manifesto.

\* Gerd mentioned a new manifesto in Germany called the 'Limburger Declaration', a request to the politicians in Germany to work out the conditions for an open music education (music for all) in a good quality.

\* Kunstconnectie in the Netherlands has elected a new president: Ms Anke Weeda.

\* The board of the Spanish association UEMYD (Union de Escuelas de Musica y Danza) has changed. They elected Marie Jose Ribate as new president.

\* Jens Bloch informed the presidium that he has become director of the Kolding Music School – the biggest music school in Denmark. Poul Gunnar Thunbo has been appointed as the new secretary general of DAMUSA.

\* Gerd received a phone call from a music school in Greece that was interested in EMU membership.

Gerrie sent some information but so far no response.

\* Jan van Muilekom has been appointed as one of the delegates on behalf of the Netherlands in the EU working group culture and education. In order to implement its three strategic objectives (promotion of cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue; promotion of culture as catalyst for creativity in the framework of the Lisbon Strategy; and promotion of culture as a vital element in EU external relations), the European Agenda for culture introduces new cooperation methods with various stakeholders: a structured dialogue with the cultural sector ; a reinforced mainstreaming of culture in all EU programmes and policies through enhanced synergies between the departments of the European Commission, as well as a more structured system of cooperation between the Member States and the EU institutions . In order for Member States to move ahead in these priority areas and deliver concrete results by the end of 2010, four experts' working groups have been set up: - Conditions of mobility of artists and other professionals in the cultural field; - Potential of cultural and creative industries; - Mobility of collections and activities of museums; - Synergies between culture and education. These working groups are expected to feed into the political reflection at EU level and make a concrete contribution through identifying, sharing and validating best practices, preparing recommendations for specific measures for their implementation, making proposals for cooperation initiatives between Member States or at EC level and for elements of methodology to evaluate progress, as well as formulating policy recommendations. More information: [http://ec.europa.eu/culture/our-policy-development/doc1565\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/culture/our-policy-development/doc1565_en.htm)

#### **11. Next Presidium meetings: General Assembly and Festival 2009 / Management meeting 2009**

. 12 - 14 December: Latvia

#### **2009**

. 27 February - 1 March: Austria

. 17 – 24 May: Austria

. 16 - 18 October: Poland? or Serbia?

. 11 - 13 December: Germany

#### **The schedule for the GA/Festival in Linz, Austria**

. Sunday 17 May: arrival presidium

. Monday 18 May: presidium meeting in the morning / arrival participants GA in the afternoon

. Tuesday 19 May: GA

. Wednesday 20 May: GA

. Thursday 21 May: departure or transfer to Linz for EMU members attending the opening and the festival

. Friday 22 May: Festival

. Saturday 23 May: Festival and closing in the evening

. Sunday 24: Departure

Note: it means that EMU members attending the opening of the festival can either attend the opening and leave after, or can stay extra nights at their own expense in Linz (hotel costs 50 Euro per night).

**Management meeting:** Wednesday 30 September – Saturday 3 October 2009 in Italy

#### **12. Miscellaneous and Closing**

. Katalin invited Gerd to the 100 years' celebration of the Bartok Bela music school on 9 May in Hungary.

. Katalin mentioned the opening of a new office in Brussels: the European Music Office, which could be an interesting partner for EMU in Brussels.

. Timo remarked that Per Sjoberg from Sweden will attend a Polifonia meeting in Stockholm on behalf of EMU

. EMU has been invited to the EMC Conference "Music on Troubled Soils" in Jerusalem, Israel, 23 - 26 October 2008. Timo (president EMC) will participate, also on behalf of EMU. The president thanked the presidium members for their contribution and closed the meeting.

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