

INFO-BULLETIN based on the minutes of the 7th Meeting of the EMU Presidium Linz, Austria 27 and 28 February 2009

Present were:

Gerd Eicker (president), Paolo Ponzecchi (vice-president), Katalin Asztai, Marion van der Hoeven, Timo Klemettinen, Helena Maffli, 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 Upper Austrian Regional Music office and the Association of KOMU for their hospitality and for arranging the meeting. He gave a special welcome to Gerhard Gutschick (president KOMU) who has been invited to attend point 2 of the meeting, the General Assembly and Conference in May.

Walter Rescheneder (general manager Youth Music Festival in May) and Christine Winner (office manager Festival) gave an overview of the most important aspects of the Festival before the presidium meeting.

The agenda was adopted.

2. General Assembly and Conference 'Music Education in Southern European Countries'

. Headlines programme (appendix 1):

The president gave the floor to Gerhard Gutschick. Gerhard informed the presidium that the Austrian organisation found a hotel in Linz – Hotel Arcotel Nike – to host all participants during the General Assembly and the Festival, which would be more convenient for the participants to reach and to stay during the main events of the Festival. The Hotel Arcotel Nike is located at walking distance from the Hauptplatz in Linz.

The presidium agreed with the proposal to move the General Assembly and Conference to Linz (instead of Gmunden). The presidium decided that the meeting will start one day later – on Tuesday 19 May – to include the opening of the Festival in the main programme of the meeting.

The first day of the General Assembly and Conference will take place in the Lentos Kunstmuseum, at 5 minutes walking distance from the hotel. The second day will be held in Hotel Arcotel Nike.

EMU members will be informed about the change of date and place of the meeting.

The programme of the meeting will be divided in three parts: 'Household Matters'; 'Music Education in Southern European Countries' and 'EMU in Future'.

Gerhard will inform Gerrie about all the other aspects of the meeting like the speakers from Austria, location for dinners, lunches etc.

. Proposal Household Matters General Assembly (appendix 2):

Paolo will present the Management Seminar in Milan; Helena will present the update of the small statistics.

The presidium approved the agenda proposal.

. Relocation of EMU's official seat:

Gerd has close contacts with a notary in Germany concerning the relocation. If the General Assembly agrees with the relocation, Ruth Hochuli (general manager Swiss association) will act as official 'Liquidatorin mit Sitz in der Schweiz'. The new organisation needs 7 votes. The new statute has been based on the present one and will be sent in three languages to the members. The German version is the official one. Helena will provide for the digital version in French.

The presidium approved the following changes to the new EMU statute, which will be proposed to the General Assembly in May:

- Artikel I.– Name, Sitz, Geschäftsjahr: 1. Die Europäische Musikschul-Union (EMU) ist ein privatrechtlicher Verein nach deutschem Recht (§57 Z.1 BGB) mit Sitz in Bonn, Deutschland. Der Verein soll im Vereinsregister des Amtsgerichts Bonn eingetragen werden.

Artikel VII. – Präsidium: 1. Vorstand im Sinne des §26 BGB sind der Präsident und der Vize Präsident. Das Präsidium besteht aus dem Präsidenten, dem Vizepräsidenten und drei bis fünf weiteren Präsidiumsmitgliedern.

Artikel XI – Inkrafttreten: Die Satzung tritt am 20. Mai 2009 in Kraft.

Mit dieser Satzung wird die am 20. Mai 2009 nach Schweizer Recht aufgelöste Europäische Musikschul-Union fortgesetzt.

Gerd will prepare this issue in writing (to be handed out to the interpreters during the GA beforehand). It must be explained very clearly to the meeting that – because the official seat of EMU is located in Switzerland and Switzerland is not one of the eligible countries of the European Union – EMU is unable to apply for an annual operation grant. The law in the eligible countries of the European Union doesn't accept only a move of the official seat of EMU.

The presidium therefore proposes to dissolve EMU with the official seat in Liestal, Switzerland and to found EMU with the new seat in Bonn, Germany (because the original text of the statute corresponds to German law). The new organisation is a sequel organisation to the organisation founded in 1973. This invitation therefore is also an invitation for a foundation assembly.

. Conference Music Education in Southern European Countries:

Paolo reported that the preparatory meeting will probably take place in Barcelona.

. Working groups on 'The Future of EMU':

During the general introduction, Gerd will focus on the meaning of music, especially in difficult periods like the present economic crisis; the globalisation; declamation for human and for children rights and to the Weimar declaration.

The speakers on the different themes of the working groups should give a short 'discussion stimulating' introduction. With new target groups the presidium means seniors/elderly people; immigrants; minorities; students with special needs; students with social problems; especially talented students.

Leaders working groups:

1) Benefits of cooperation between music schools and other arts: Harry Rishaug and Mechthild Eickhoff (English/German)

2) Benefits of broad talent development/new target groups/working in regional groups:

English: Marion; French: Philippe Dalarun will be asked (together with Helena); German: Gerhard Gutschik will ask Peter Heller.

3. Draft minutes and action list presidium meeting in Latvia in December 2008

Gerd received a nice letter from Aivars Broks, general manager Latvian association.

The minutes (appendix 3) were approved.

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

. Project groups Livorno directors: project group "Education methods and tools", led by Marion – will organise a second meeting in Brussels in March; project group 'Leadership training': in cooperation with one of the German participants in Livorno – Markus Nau – Gerd sent an enquiry to all associations for information about their national activities on this issue and they will develop an enquiry concerning a possible "Leadership training" in 2010.

. Viktor reported that the EMU presidium has been invited to Novisad, Serbia from 16 - 18 October 2008.

. Poland and Croatia welcome a delegation of the presidium. The final date for Poland will be at the end of March. Gerd, Helena and Gerrie will participate. A final date for Croatia has not yet been set.

. Gerrie sent information about EMU membership to Dirk Rombaut and again to the association of directors in Belgium Flanders. Rombaut informed EMU that the Council of Music in Flanders would be

able to take care of the membership fee but the directors must agree about a possible membership. However: so far no final reaction.

4. 10th European Youth Music Festival in Austria in May 2009

Katalin and Viktor reported on their visit to the Festival locations one day before the presidium meeting. As far as they could see everything has been and will be organised well and the festival office stressed that everything in the organisation is under control. The festival office promised that all participants will receive the final confirmation within one week.

5. Working plan and budget 2009

EMU received 6 reactions to the working plan and budget 2009. Three countries sent some remarks about the Working plan.

Referring to the remarks, the presidium decided to add the Conference 'EMU in Future' to the programme. Promoting the music schools system in Brussels will be changed to "Advocacy work on music education" in Brussels for instance: EMU concert in EU parliament; meetings 'Council of Europe'; research 'EMU in Europe. A panorama of EMU and related organisations in European Union' Gerd and Katalin will prepare a first structure of EMU in Europe;

Katalin will try to find out the benefits of the European Music Office (EMO) in Brussels. EMO is an international non-profit association promoting musical diversity and representing the interests of European music professionals at a European and worldwide level. www.EMU.org

6. Financial results 2008 and balance per 31 December 2008

The annual accounts have been closed with a positive balance per 31 December 2008.

The positive results related to the development of the new meeting point, which has been moved to 2009. The budget for this development has been also moved to 2009; delay in gathering the statistics and more banking interest than expected because of the move to another bank account with higher interest.

The presidium is pleased with the positive results and although they concluded that a financial reserve is important, it ultimately doesn't have a negative effect when EMU applies for EU funding.

The presidium approved the financial results 2008 and balance per 31 December 2008.

7. Management meeting in Italy from 30 September to 3 October 2009

Gerd reported on the successful meeting of the preparatory group (Matthias Pannes (Germany), Ap de Vries (Netherlands), Marion, Gerd, Paolo and Gerrie) in February at the EMU office in Utrecht. The results of the meeting can be found in the first draft for the 2nd Seminar for Management Association "MUSICOMMUNICATION" (appendix 6a) and the proposal from Italy concerning the hosting (appendix 6b). The meeting will be interactive; participants will be compelled to be active during the seminar and will be invited to present 5 minutes of success as well as failure stories.

Paolo and Gerd will try to find the first keynote speaker. A person – specialised in communication science - who is able to give an overview of the importance of communication for an organisation and is also able to chair the whole meeting.

The presidium approved the headlines of the proposals and made some remarks on the topics of the meeting.

Minimum participating countries: 13. The invitation will be sent to the members before the General Assembly. Deadline for application 15 June; the final programme will be developed in September in cooperation with participating countries who will be asked for themes that might interest them during the Seminar.

8. Latest news on other EMU activities

. Small statistics: nearly all updates have been received and will be presented during the General Assembly.

. European Youth Music Festival in 2011 or 2012: the possibility of organising the festival in Italy is still being looked into. Gerd had a discussion with Dieter Boden from Saarland (Germany) on organising a small border festival together with the IMS (International Music School Seminar) but hasn't received a reaction so far.

9. Next Presidium meetings: General Assembly and Festival 2009 / Management meeting 2009

. 18 - 24 May: Linz, Austria (presidium meeting; General Assembly and Festival)

. 16 - 18 October: Novi Sad, Serbia (Novi Sad is located 70 km from Belgrade airport).

Therefore: arrival airport Belgrade on 16 October before 12.00 h; departure on 18 October after 12.00 h).

Timo is unable to participate because of the 3rd IMC World Forum on Music in Tunis, from 17 to 22 October

. 11 - 13 December: Essen, Germany

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

2010

. 5 - 7 March

. 13 May in Essen (arrival 12 May; General Assembly 13 to 16 May)

. 8 - 10 October

. 10 - 12 December

Members will be asked during the GA in May 2009 to host a meeting in 2010. Gerrie will ask some countries - who never hosted a meeting - beforehand.

10. Miscellaneous and Closing

. Timo announced that the EMC meeting 'Exchange of traditions' will be held in Athens from 23 to 26 April 2009.

. Katalin reported that: 214 soccer teams from more than 30 countries will combine an event with a choir festival in Hungary from 24 to 28 August; this year the funding of the music schools in Hungary depends on the quality system in the music school. Highly qualified schools are able to ask for extra funding.

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