

## **INFO-Bulletin based on the 1st Meeting of the EMU Presidium Prato, Italy on 28 and 29 September 2007**

### **Present were:**

Gerd Eicker (president), Paolo Ponzecchi (vice-president), Marion van der Hoeven, Timo Klemettinen, Helena Maffli, Paolo Ponzecchi, Viktor Zadnik, Gerrie Koops (secretary general, report).  
Invited guests: Pierre Kolp, Belgium (agenda item 10), Wolfgang Reifeneder, Austria (agenda item 11)  
Excused were: Katalin Asztai

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

Opening and welcome by the president, Gerd Eicker. He gave a special thanks to the Italian Association AidSM and to Paolo for arranging the presidium meeting and the management meeting which takes place over the next coming days. Items added to agenda point 14 "Miscellaneous": cooperation with AEC and EMC, IMC General Assembly in Beijing, cooperation between American music educators, Nordic EMU group.

*The agenda was adopted.*

### **2. Draft minutes and action list Presidium meeting in Budapest in May 2007**

*The minutes (appendix 1) were approved.*

Referring to the motions enclosed in the minutes and the action list and not mentioned in the agenda:  
. Visit to the festival committee in Austria: Gerd will visit Austria at the end of October.

### **3. Evaluation General Assembly 2007 and Conference Music Education in Eastern Countries in May 2007** (appendix 2a: the minutes of the meeting; appendix 2b: reaction Anton Savnik, Slovenia) EMU hasn't received any objections to the minutes.

*Follow up: EMU will make a special link to the reports of the working groups and to other pages (EU, UNESCO, EMC etc) related to the issue of cultural diversity.*

. Conference: Anton Savnik of Slovenia mentioned in his letter to the presidium and all EMU members that the delegates of the Eastern countries got the feeling that the discussion following the presentation by the Eastern countries was a kind of examination. The presidium underlined the importance of the signal given by Anton Savnik in his letter and stressed that understanding each other should be one of the most important values within EMU. The presidium will thank Anton for his contribution.

Remarks and suggestions: speakers should be checked beforehand; a parallel program for educational and management orientated participants.

*Follow up: the results of all conferences will be published in a special booklet after the last session on this theme in 2009.*

### **4. Evaluation European Youth Music Festival 2007 in Hungary in May 2007**

Katalin has reported that the evaluation results will be presented to the presidium during the next presidium meeting in Iceland. So far the evaluation forms appear not to have been sent out to the national associations.

EMU received letters with comments about the festival in Hungary and suggestions for next festivals from Kunstconnectie, the Netherlands (appendix 3d) and from some German music schools.

The presidium stated that the comments and suggestions in the letter from Kunstconnectie could be useful for the next organiser of the festival in 2009. Therefore it will be forwarded to Wolfgang Reifeneder, manager of the festival in Austria in 2009. Kunstconnectie will be thanked for their contribution.

Remarks/suggestions presidium: interesting and high quality presentation about the Hungarian style of education and folk music but perhaps too much focussed on Hungary?; the festival in the smaller cities seemed to be better organised (perhaps a city such as Budapest is too big?); interesting festival podium in Székesfehérvár; opening and closing ceremony should be organised in a 'stronger' way; groups who met each other during the pre-festival should also perform together during the main festival.

Italy (Rimini or Tuscany) and Germany might be interested in organising the festival in 2011 or 2012.

#### **5. Management meeting in Prato, from 30 September till 3 October 2007 (appendix 4a, 4b, 4c )**

25 people from 14 countries will attend this meeting.

Gerd reported that the preparatory meeting in the Netherlands with Ap de Vries (Kunstconnectie), Matthias Pannes (Germany), Gerrit Walstra (Haute Finance) and Marion was very effective.

*Hand-outs of the management meeting will be published on the EMU website. To reach more countries a follow-up during the General Assembly in Brussels could be interesting, with a publication afterwards.*

#### **6. Brainstorm session on a big international project in 2008**

Gerrit Walstra (Haute Europe) will present an overview of relevant EU funding programmes at the management meeting. In his opinion, EMU should submit a possible funding application for European projects for the Culture Programme 2007-2013 at short notice. His message was also "Think Big". It means apply for projects that start at 5 million euros. However: EMU must subsidize 50% of the funding amount, but that includes the value of the people who will develop the project.

Gerd handed out a proposal for a project "The very early childlike music education in Europe".

Other suggestions by the presidium members:

- . Music education in weak social areas Comparing curricula (a la Bologna)
- . Young and senior age music education
- . Influence of cultural diversity in education
- . New styles of learning
- . Relation with music schools and regular schools
- . Education in pop music

The presidium concluded that EMU needs more information about the feasibility of these projects from Haute Finance. After that it might be worthwhile organising a meeting next year for 50 to 60 music school directors who are interested in European projects. The issue will be discussed further at the next meeting in Iceland.

#### **7. Membership autonomous territories in Europe (appendix 5)**

*The presidium concluded that they will ask Euro Commissioner Mr Figel' for his view on the matter in November. Faroe Islands and Denmark will be informed.*

#### **8. Preparation meeting with Mr Jan Figel' in Bratislava in November (appendix 6)**

The meeting will be hosting Mr Figel' on Friday 9 November from 13.00 - 15.00 h.

*The meeting will be prepared beforehand on Thursday 8 November in an extra presidium meeting and evaluated afterwards on Friday afternoon. Leftover time will be used to talk about EMU's future plans: mission, vision, tasks EMU, working programme 2008 etc.*

*Gerd will inform Mr Figel' in writing on which issues the presidium would like to hear his view:*

#### **9. 'Music schools in Europe'**

A European study by Eleonoor Tchernoff, Pre-College Working Group of the Erasmus Thematic Network for Music 'Polifonia', on the organisation of music schools and the preparation of students for professional music training at higher education level (appendix 7a and 7b). The presidium has been invited to give their comments on the final draft before they publish the study on Internet.

The presidium is satisfied with the results, which could prove very useful. However, there are some countries missing (Slovenia, Croatia and Liechtenstein) and some questions - for instance the question on

the five categories of music schools - seem not to have been understood by the members. The phrase "the EMU questionnaire" should be changed into "a questionnaire sent to EMU members".

*Mrs Tchernoff will be asked to send the whole document to the EMU members for a final check and to include the countries who are missing.*

#### **10. General Assembly and Conference "Music Education in Western Europe Countries" in 2008 in Brussels** (appendix 8).

Pierre Kolp, AEMS (French Community Belgium) has been invited to this issue.

*Thursday 24 April:*

. Would be interesting if we could arrange a 'European Music Day' in EU on 23 or 24 April. Timo will contact Euro parliamentarian Mr. Hannu Takkula (education and culture) with students from Belgium and Finland.

. EMU will invite Euro commissioner Jan Figel'.

. Short speech during opening ceremony: Mr. Thielemans, mayor of Brussels

*Friday 25 April:*

. Keynote speech from 13.30 - 14.30: Pierre will invite Ms Marie Arena, Minister-President of the French Community and Mr. Philippe Vandembroucke, Flemish minister of education. The speeches should focus on 'Cultural diversity in European music education': what is their view on this topic?

. 14.30 - 16.00: Conference **between regions** in Western European countries. At the next presidium meeting it will be decided which regions should be involved during the conference. It might be interesting to focus also on networks that already exist (such as the International Music School Seminar (IMS), an exchange network between directors of music schools in Nordrhein Westfalen and Saarland (Germany), Flanders (Belgium), Wallonia (Belgium), Luxembourg and the Netherlands. These regions take turns in organising an annual three-day exchange to discuss developments and innovations in music education and to demonstrate best practices.

*Saturday 26 April (morning).*

. Presentation on ? by Martin Pchal, AEC (invited by EMU)

. Open space working groups: Theme will be decided in December.

. Infrastructure 'Innovative Pedagogic Music Labels in Belgium (short presentations by speakers and teachers).

After lunch around 14.30: leisure time.

*The final details of the programme will be discussed further during the meeting in December.*

General remarks:

. Location of the meeting: Dexia Bank Brussels Center

. Hotel: Bedford Hotel, located in the heart of Brussels (400 meters from the 'Grote Markt').

. Participation fee for extra participants: ± € 450,- (3 nights double room for single use and meals during the meeting): fee for a second person sharing a room with a delegate: ± € 100,-.

#### **11. European Youth Music Festival 2009/General Assembly 2009**

Wolfgang Reifeneder, festival manager, has been invited to inform the presidium about the latest developments on the festival. He presented the logo for the festival and handed out the headlines for the festival and the budget proposal.

A maximum of 8000 visitors are allowed to Linz; 5 to 6000 visitors from abroad will be invited which might mean a maximum limit of participants for each country. Austria will ask each country to check the quality of participating groups; 20 music schools with teachers will be involved during the festival; pre-festival has not been planned. First announcement will be sent in November/December 2007.

Wolfgang will contact Gerrie about the regular time-schedule for announcements, registrations, number of flyers etc.

Gerd will visit Austria at the end of October and will also talk with Mr Reifeneder and Gutschik about the pre-festival. Reactions to the pre-festival were always very positive and made it more interesting for groups to participate; German participants will be funded by the state when they stay for at least 6 days.

Mr Jan Figel' will be invited to the opening of the festival.

**12. Next presidium meetings**

- . 8 - 10 November: meeting Mr Figel'; extra presidium meeting in Bratislava, Slovakia
- . (6) 7 - 9 December: Reykjavik, Iceland
- . 22 - 24 February: Czech Republic
- . 23 - 27 April: presidium meeting and General Assembly in Brussels, Belgium
- . 3 - 5 October: Liechtenstein
- . 12 - 14 December: Latvia

**13. Miscellaneous and Closing**

- . What should be EMU' s role in the AEC research on the skills and knowledge of teachers we need in our music schools? Agenda item next meeting?
- . The annual EMC meeting in 2009 will be held in Brno, Czech Republic. Main themes will be music diversity and education in relation to professional life.
- . The annual IMC meeting and the second World Forum on Music organised by the IMC will be held from 11-14 October 2007 in Beijing, China. Timo has been nominated as board member IMC.
- . Timo reported on a collaborative venture on music education between Finnish and American music educators. The project will start in Minneapolis in June 2008. It might be interesting for other countries to participate in the project.
- . The Nordic EMU group has built up a kind of Cultural Greenhouse on the similarities and differences between music and cultural schools. Timo will keep the EMU presidium informed. After that, no other remarks were put forward and the president dr Gerd Eicker closed the meeting.

<b>Actions referring to the Presidium meeting in Prato in September 2007</b>	<b>Action</b>
Thank-you letter to Italy	Gerd
EFAH: contact with Piet Hagenaars	Marion
Contact with delegates Czech Republic concerning membership fee	Gerd/Gerrie
Website: special link to websites and reports on cultural diversity	Timo > Gerrie
Festival in Hungary: evaluation festival	Katalin
Management meeting: . hand-outs published on EMU website . follow-up GA Brussels	Gerrie Presidium
Research EU funding for big projects	Gerd > Haute Europe
Membership autonomous territories: . Obtain the view of Mr Figel' . Inform Faroe Islands and Denmark	Presidium Gerrie
Meeting with Mr Figel' on 9 November: . Informing Mr Figel' about presidium issues . Contact with Maria Slaninova . Preparing the themes for the meeting . Preparing agenda	Gerd Gerrie Presidium Gerd/Gerrie
Publication " Music schools in Europe": contact with Mrs Tchernoff about a final check by the member countries; missing countries, title questionnaire	Gerrie
General Assembly 2008: . Contact with Hannu Takkula about European Music Day . Inviting mayor of Brussels, Ms Arena, Mr Vandembroucke . All kinds of other facilities: meeting place, hotel etc etc	Timo Pierre Kolp Pierre Kolp
Festival and General Assembly 2009: . Meeting in Austria . Inviting mr Figel' . Contact with Rolfgang Reifeneder conc. announcements festival, time schedule etc	Gerd Gerd Gerrie
. Minutes Presidium meeting	Gerrie
. Info-Bulletin based on the minutes	Gerrie
. Preparation presidium meeting in Iceland	Gerd/Gerrie