

## **EMU General Assembly part II - 21 May - Linz, Austria Conference 'EMU in Future'**

*General Introduction Open Space Working Groups by dr Gerd Eicker  
(president EMU)*

When we think about 'EMU in Future' it would be wise to have a look on our objectives in the statutes

1. To promote music education and music practice.
2. To cooperate by exchanging information on all questions concerning music schools.
3. To promote exchanges of student delegations, teachers, pupils, orchestras, choirs, other music groups and the like.
4. To raise the interest of competent authorities and the public on questions of music education in general and to encourage amateur music and music studies.
5. To help creating and developing nation-wide federations of music schools/
6. To keep up systematic contacts with interested international institutions such as UNESCO, IMC and its international organizations

Are these objectives still valid? – We think Yes

Are these objectives already fulfilled? – We think No

So there are some questions

- How shall we pursue these objectives?
- Who can help us in realizing?
- How can we increase our capacity?

One answer on the last questions is our decision from yesterday concerning the relocation of EMU's official seat to be able to apply for EU funding.

But we have many challenges, from the global economical crisis to the regional problems. And EMU is not in a position to help one single school.

What can EMU do in future?

First of all:

EMU brings music schools in Europe in a broader international context like”

- . UNESCO human rights
- . UNESCO children rights
- . UNESCO Road Map for arts education
- . EMU Weimar Declaration
- . EU Program Diversity of Culture

But the members of EMU “must” use these documents whenever music education is threatened because of political or economical reasons.

And what we can do in the future to stabilize and develop music education in Europe – that will be organizing seminars, working groups like today to stimulate new projects, new ideas and promote them in future by working out own projects.

The open-space-working groups ay open your minds for new ideas, for new target groups, for new projects and maybe also for new additions to the working plan of EMU in future.

Thank you for your attention.