

Minutes of the ESAM Executive Committee meeting in Birmingham on 5/6 June 2009

Place: **Fawsley Hall** Hotel – Daventry - Northamptonshire - UK

Time: 5 June 17:00 -19:20 – 6 June 09:30 – 17:15

Persons present: Roland Vermeiren, Elena Cataman, Lilla Ungvary, Paolo Tosco, Kevin Herbert, Uwe Stueben, Declan Maher, Martin Chalk.

The meeting was opened by the President.

1. Approval of the agenda

The agenda was approved.

2. Attendance – Quorum needed

In light of circumstances, both personal, due to the tragic loss of family members to the President and the Vice President requiring early return home and due to the requirement that members remain in their native land for the EU elections, an altered sequence to the agenda was proposed by the President and accepted by the Executive Committee present. It was agreed that those present met the requirement for a quorum.

All present gave a summary introduction of themselves and of their representation.

Apologies were presented and accepted for Ioannis Diamantopoulos, Ries Simon and Hans-Werner Teichmeuller.

There was a consensus from the group that four or more members of the Executive Committee are required. Allowances must be made for special circumstances.

3. Approval of the minutes of the EC meeting in Duesseldorf on 22-23/01/09

There was an exploration of the mechanism involved in the presenting the minutes of the previous meeting. Several steps were employed that made the process both lengthy and cumbersome. It was proposed that Declan would act as a scribe during the Executive Committee meeting, allowing the EC members to discuss matters without the encumbrance of detailed record keeping. The draft minutes would be forwarded to the Secretary, who in turn, would forward the resultant minutes to the President and the Information Officer for final proofing. The final proof has been forwarded to Lars for publication on the ESAM website.

The minutes of the Duesseldorf meeting were approved. Roland pointed out that the minutes should be forwarded to Cologne for registration of the new Executive Committee. The minutes were signed by the President and handed to Paolo for safe-keeping on behalf of Hans Werner

4. Membership status

The President welcomed the interaction between the European Cockpit Association and ESAM. There was common agreement about the need for expert governance in the area of Air Ops and not simply the employment of a political stance.

Georgia and IFALPA have made a formal application for membership of ESAM. Paolo gave a summary of both Association. Georgia and IFALPA application was accepted unanimously according to our Statutes, Article F.3. and will receive by Paolo formal acceptance mail.

A broad discussion followed regarding the status if the Cypriot Association and that of the Swiss, UNEL and the Association of European Airlines. Members of the Executive Committee will explore the applications over the summer months with a plan to have concrete proposals in place by the next Executive Committee meeting.

Austria has been unanimously accepted as a regular member and received the pertinent communication according to our Statutes, Article F.3. Paolo pointed out that the Excel Membership Tables are regularly updated. Interest has been expressed by China and India in joining as associated members. It was agreed that they be invited to attend the General Assembly in Milan.

5. Budget

A request for expenses was submitted by Hans Pongratz to cover the costs of his travel to the ASMA meeting. The proposal was accepted.

A discussion followed regarding the invoicing of member associations. The discussion evolved into a brain-storming session dealing with many possible revenue collection systems. Various models were explored. It was accepted that ESAM requires some €65,000 p.a. to function effectively. Kevin agreed to develop a number of models of subscription along with preliminary impact assessments for each model. It was proposed that Paolo would forward these models and impact assessments to each member association in advance of the 2009 GA. Responses would be welcomed and considered. The resultant subscription proposals will then be voted upon at the General Assembly. The fees for membership of ESAM for 2009 will continue to be based in the 2008 subscriptions. Hans-Werner will communicate to Lars Deutsche Bank account details, for publishing on ESAM website. Fees are payable by the 1st July 2009. Roland wished Hans Werner a speedy and full recovery. Paolo agreed to assist Hans Werner in areas where he requests pro temps.

6. ESSI Participation

Uwe presented his report on his recent attendance at the ESSI meeting. He expressed reservations about the value of his participation in ESSI. There followed a brief discussion regarding the role of the ESSI and the pros and cons of ESAM's participation. Concerns were expressed at the absence of ESAM at the SSSC. Members present felt that ESAM can represent the professional medical viewpoint. It is hoped that with the backing of pilots and the observation of ESAM's involvement at the ESSI would assist in ESAM's successful application to the SSSC. Uwe said that he would continue to attend the ESSI for the remainder of 2009. He offered the position to Uwe Beiderwellen thereafter. The president said that he will discuss the position of the ESSI status with Anthony and Lars

7. EASA: NPA review

Roland presented a broad outline regarding the time line and the modus operandi of the EASA Review Group.

A discussion followed about the concerns and the limitations of the provisions allocated to the Review Group, highlighting the limited time allocated i.e. the process being limited by the Basic Regulation which governs the operation of EASA. The absence of translation facilities was another area of concern. JAA had established the basic requirements and it was expressed that modernisation and modification of the existing JAR was what was required rather than a "re-invention of the wheel".

Despite the fact that the LPL already exists by virtue of the Basic Regulation and will be enacted, it was felt that a combination of the JAR and Best Practice represented the basis for rules and standards that would be consistent with the goals of ICAO and the JAA.

Data about recent event and accident rates for Class A and Exempt Aircraft was discussed.

The position of EASA within the rule-making process was pressaged by the President and Vice President. Kevin suggested that ESAM lobby the newly elected MEP's highlighting the concerns of ESAM regarding the potential safety issues associated with the NPA's.

Some concerns were expressed about the position of ESAM in the review process of the EASA NPA's. The fear that ESAM would appear as a supporter of any final CRD statement issued, or indeed the overall results. It was agreed, however, that despite the limitations perceived, ESAM would continue within the review process. If there was a point of contention, ESAM would remain in the position to issue any formal disagreement to proposals being put forward in the future.

Roland presented a brief review of the status of the NPA Review Group's modus operandi along with a description of the current status. The CRD critical response document will be forwarded to Uwe for consideration by the experts groups that operated in Wiesbaden August 2008. It is hoped that expert opinion would be relayed to Roland affording him the ability to offer an expert opinion coloured by the expert group. A detailed discussion followed regarding the possible options that might be proposed for the LPL. Again, concerns were expressed at the latitude of the proposed LPL privileges.

8. CMO Forum

The President read a letter from Dr. Sally Evans proposing harmonisation of the accreditation of training and a request for closer communication between the CMO's and ESAM. The letter was presented to Paolo for archiving.

9. ICAO

Dr. Tony Evans' letter was read to the meeting and entered into the archive. It included consideration of ESAM's application to have an active role in ICAO. Perhaps future communication between the Advisory Board of ESAM and the regulatory committees by agreement would be of value.

Proposals by Ioannis detailed in his email (dated 23rd March 2009) were read and entered into the archive.

A further report of the ASMA congress was presented. Co-operation was agreed on the topic of medical training. It is planned that dedicated block in future congresses would be created for medical training.

10. Congresses

Roland communicates that Nama Congress in next August has been deleted by the promoter Society.

Lilla gave a detailed account of the costs involved in the production of ECAM-1. ECAM-2 will be under the control of the Organising Committee as set in Duesseldorf.

ESAM has promised involvement at the ASMA 2010 meeting to be held in Austria.

A discussion followed regarding the possible formats of the future meetings including ECAM-2 and ASMA's European meeting. ASMA has offered a panel in their journal for contributions from ESAM. ESAM would reciprocate by offering space on our website. Uwe pointed out that a European congress would require a minimum of three hundred delegates to make it viable and attractive. The costs of congress were considered. The budgets, financial risks, requirements and the diversity of delegates were teased out. Uwe proposed a formula for a future scientific congress. A number of options were suggested. The development of ECAM-2 will require a lot of planning. ESAM starts from a strong base having Wiesbaden and ECAM-1, both of which were extremely successful.

A broad timeline and exploration of venues was carried out. It was proposed that ECAM-2 would be provisionally set for 11th to 13th November 2010. Care would need to be taken to avoid the duplication of material and content. Suggestions regarding a permanent location, plus or minus a sponsor, were considered, along with a proposal that the congress could be run in tandem with the European FAA Refresher Course.

Roland agreed to attend the German meeting, with Elena attending the Cypriot meeting. Unfortunately, no one was in a position to attend the Ukraine meeting.

The President presented a summary of the recent ESAM involvement at the ASMA meeting in Los Angeles, USA. He spoke of the four presentations made on behalf of ESAM and the comments forwarded by the eighty to one hundred American attendees. Prof. Bagshaw had spoken to the meeting regarding the British experience on the introduction of the NPPL.

ASMA has committed to working with ESAM in the sharing of information, e.g. the formation of a section or space within the "Blue Journal" and a reciprocal arrangement for the presentation of AMSA issues on the ESAM website. It was also agreed that ESAM and ASMA would be a part of each other's conferences. To that end, ESAM has invited ASMA to the next ECAM conference.

The NAMA conference proposed for late August 2009 has been cancelled due to the submission of insufficient abstracts. Some of the logistics of co-ordinating AMSA, ICASM and ECAM were considered and teased out.

Paolo outlined the general itinerary of the AGM of ESAM in Milan on the 6th and 7th November 2009. Uwe suggested that the outline of the proceedings required for the Advisory Board Committee meeting, the election of a new Advisory Board Committee and discussion by the Advisory Board of an agenda including the NPA review, report of ESAM and to generate a response.

Uwe, Roland and Elena teased out some potential formats for the upcoming Advisory Board and Executive Committee meetings. Topics such as AME training; pan-European accreditation consistency; the need for a holistic approach to the examination of the AME and; a response to the NPA on Ops. The need for a medical review of medical kits carried on airliners and the provision of training for industry managers in Personal Factors and the limitations of piloting to avoid bad rostering and increase awareness of the social aspects of the working conditions.

11. Training in Aviation Medicine

Reference was made by Elena to the status of training harmonisation. It is hoped that ESAM will make a proposal at ICASM in September 2009. based on results of the "ad hoc" ESAM WG.

12. Website

The Abstracts from ECAM-1 will be put on the ESAM website. It is hoped that links to affiliated websites and those of member associations will be created on the site. Kevin agreed to contact Lards in connection with the development of the website and the generation of a Google Group.

13. Priorities for the EC

The need for a sponsor was raised again. A number of options were agreed upon for further exploration. Roland said that he would produce a newsflash regarding the ASMA meeting for the website. He wondered if there might be a role for the Advisory Board in the Google Group.

14. Planning of the General Assembly 2009 and AB Meeting in Milan 6/7 November 2009

Paolo revised yesterday's discussion about the upcoming General Assembly. The timetable and the format of the meeting, topics for discussion and presentation were considered. The chosen site, proposed by Italy, is Milan, Comando 1^a Regione Aerea, Piazza Ermete Novelli, 1. Location is no cost. General expenses should be in charge to AIMAS.

The General Assembly will meet on Day 2 to vote for the Auditors, Uwe will present a report on the activities of the Advisory Board, votes for the subscription system to be adopted will be taken and an outline of ECAM-2 will be shown. Prior registration will be required. Tentative Agenda was settled as follows:

- **Friday 6 November 2009:**

- h 11. 00 – 14. 00 ESAM Executive Committee and Advisory Board Meeting (at the same time, in different rooms)

- h. 15. 00 – 18. 00 Scientific Session, including four lectures (20 minutes each one):

 - Major Incident Medical Management on Linate Airport: general principles and case report (ITAF AMC Milan)

 - Cardiovascular physiopathology during human flight (ITAF Aerospace Medicine Department Pratica di Mare AFB)

 - Spreading of Infectious diseases by Air Transportation (IBERIA Chief Medical officer)

 - Evolutions in the set up of Aircrew Medical Standard (EASA Chief Medical Officer)

- h. 20. 30 Gala Dinner (ITAF Club, close to Linate Airport)

- **Saturday 7 November 2009:**

- h 10.00 – 13.00 ESAM General Assembly.

15. Task list/working group

Covered earlier.

16. Other business

Consideration was given to the lobbying of the newly elected MEPs. The members of the Executive Committee and the Advisory Board committee could ask the national representatives of the Advisory Board to write to their MEPs, highlighting ESAM's concerns. Passenger health might be considered by the Advisory Board in a pro-active manner. A request from an opinion from ESAM has been sought about the Aerotoxic Syndrome. Reference and acknowledgement was made to the work carried out by Prof. Bagshaw.

Furthering the links with ASMA and ICAO

ESAM has invited military societies to become associated or full members.

Consideration of the role of EASA in the Rule-making Directorate and the Standardisation Directorate.

Roland will review the first MEST meeting at EASA at the end of June 2009. This represents a new development in EASA. He also said that he will be at Eurocontrol when new rules will be drawn up for ATC.

17. Next meeting

The next meeting of the Executive Committee is planned to be at Milan, on Friday 6 November 2009 (please see above).

Roland ended the meeting by thanking all the members and auditors of the present EC for their outstanding work.

Paolo Tosco
Secretary General