



European Society of Aerospace Medicine

Executive Committee & Advisory Board Committee of ESAM meeting 14th 15th December 2023

(Observers welcome)

Time: Thursday 13:30 - 18:00 CET

Friday 09:00 – 13:00 CET

Venue: EUROCONTROL, Belgium.

AGENDA

Thursday 13:30 - 18:00 CET

1. **Welcome by the President**

Declan opened the meeting in the Inisboffin Room at Eurocontrol. This was a hybrid meeting with three joining by virtual link. Support from Goran, the Eurocontrol Medical Centre Staff and IT was appreciated.

Attendees:

In person: Decan Maher, Roland Vermeiren, Ries Simons, Claudia Stern, Elena Cataman, François Bernard, Anthony Wagstaff, Vincent Feuillie, Marija Osinga.

Virtual attendees: Norbert Guittler, Paco, Felix Strollo and Deiderick de Roy.

Observer: Cristian Pannait (EASA)

Apologies were received from Felix, Manuel and Dominique.

New attendees introduced themselves.

Declan agreed to take the minutes for the meeting.

2. **Adoption of agenda**

The Agenda was adopted but with minor changes to facilitate inclusion of the ABC meeting.

3. **Draft minutes from the EC meeting in Lisbon.**

The minutes were not available to hand at the meeting, but were to be reviewed by the EC. If there are comments/changes to be made, these should be submitted by the end of the month.

4. **Overview / actions of previous EC meetings**

Nil.

5. **GA 2023.**

a. Report

6. **Nominations Committee**

- a. EC Elections 2024. We should consider who will stand again for the EC in the 2024 elections. This is also a good time to seek people who might be willing to go for a position in the EC.

7. **ESAM Academy – update**

Claudia gave a summary of recent activity and the proposal of course for 2024.

- a. basic course. Two courses are planned for 2024 in Lithuania and Belgium. There continues to be a large demand for courses across Europe. The rate limiting factor appears to be the availability of practical training locations

- b. advanced course. One course in Belgium is planned for 2024.

There has been excellent feedback from course attendees and a very large interest in the numbers who are seeing Basic Courses. Limiting the participants to 20 appears to be the most effective with the development of bonds between the attendees. These seem to last well after the courses.

- c. Combined Syllabus.

We need to hear about the situation at EASA regarding the development of the new combined text of the rules.

8. **AsMA meeting and collaboration.**

- a. Chicago May 2023 Plans
 - i. Wednesday Lunchtime meeting

A provisional programme was discussed:

- Future Trends in Human Performance. (Paco)
- Reduced Crew Operations (Pro and Con) (Ries/Declan)
- Pilot Peer Support Programmes (Dave Fielding)
- ?Physiology Questionnaire

Four Presentations, seek support from Francois and Manu regarding a poster for the meeting and have the meeting highlighted to the general attendees. We need a title and logo.

- ii. AsMA ESAM Exec Lunch Thursday Payment?

Not ESAM, this year.

- iii. EC Meeting? None planned. (8 hope to attend AsMA)

- b. Representation.

No formal applications have been made this year to AsMA. In future years, applications will need to be made to the 11 Constituent Members or the five Past Presidents.

The issue of ESAM becoming a Constituent Member was raised for discussion. It is an area that will be addressed again.

- c. Annual Report 2023.

Felix has completed and presented the 2023 ESAM Annual Report to be forwarded to AsMA.

9. **EASA**

- a. MEG #23 Meeting Report
 - i. RCO

The presentation from EASA regarding RCO was discussed. The members had highlighted the need to consider the impact on risk assessment of Flight Crew. There is a need to consider the medical implications for the implementation of RCO activities.

- ii. Art. 74

EASA presented on the development of the Article 74 Medical Repository. They spoke of the plans to tie into the National data systems to populate the database. Questions regarding the involvement of medical experts who use the current repositories including the EAMR were raised. We look forward to being consulted regarding the project. It appears that the regulatory pathway is being developed in advance research and the provision of evidence.

iii. ARA.GEN.360

Concerns were expressed regarding the potential anomaly between the Implementing Rule and the Guidance Material that might carry with it an increased risk of medical tourism.

iv. EAMR implementation status.

It appears that there is a plan to have the EAMR to continue in parallel with the development of the Article 74 medical repository.

b. SAB Report SAB :

ESAM has provided recommendations for members of the new Steering Committee Groups at EASA. The EPAS was shared by Roland with reference to a number of areas that have a Medical component or potential impact, including changes in disinfection processes. Discussion regarding the Rule Making Tasks: Mental Health, Cardiovascular risk and Diabetes management with anticipated reports from 2024 to 2026. Topics that are considered having a light impact on risk may be dealt with by rule change within EASA including the use of external resources. Unfortunately, moving rules from the Implementing Rule to Acceptable Means of Compliance is unlikely to happen in the foreseeable future.

c. Research Projects: News.

Claudia felt that she is in a position to take on the challenge of the Colour Vision Research.

10. **Advisory Board Report**

- a. Current Status and short-term plans
- b. CoE group on Training and Physiology

AGENDA

Friday 09:00-13:00

11. **Report from Moldova Mental Health Working Group Meeting**

Elena spoke of the very successful Working Group meeting held in Chisinau in September where four from ESAM attended and presented on elements of Mental Health including recent news from the MESAFE project, long with David Fielding on Peer Support for Pilots. The meeting took place over three days and had over 60 attendees including representatives from industry and from 8 States. Elena spoke of her plans to follow up with a meeting in 2024 to advance the gains made at this meeting.

12. **ICAO**

a. Air Navigation Committee

Four representatives were present and active at the ANC meeting at the end of August. Anthony was moderator on a panel addressing Mental Health in Flight Crews, Ries on a panel considering the upper age limit for Class 1 pilots and me on the Medical Certification panel looking at the proposal for the Class 2-R medical Certificate.

b. Medical Specialists Working Groups

There was a meeting of the MPSG over two days looking at these measures and areas including Aeromedical Risk Assessment and the development of new models to look beyond the "1% rule". CAPSCA was spoken of as was the need for work in the realm of Colour Vision and an update of the Manual of Civil Aviation.

At the end of the meeting it was agreed that there is merit in the work of the MPSG and that future meetings should be arranged.

c. Liaison Officer.

I will take the role of ESAM Liaison Officer to ICAO following Martin's retirement.

13. **Officer Reports:**

a. Comms Director

i. ESAM website Domain address renewal.

Goran brought us up to date on the situation regarding the website domain licence. It is due for renewal in 2024Q1 and he is happy that the process can be completed.

14. **ICAM 2024**

a. Organising Committee.

Vincent provided an update on the most recent news from the planning for ICAM 2024 in Lisbon. The contracts are in place and the project is on target. Thankfully, the registration fees will be the same as in Paris in 2022. The breakeven point is over three hundred full registrations and with moves made by both the Portuguese and Spanish societies offering incentives to attend, there is a real expectation that the minima will be exceeded. Some elements are still in development, but the overall picture is one of successful stewardship from all four organisations involved. Roland also spoke of developments.

b. Scientific Committee

Ries and Vincent spoke of the current situation for the scientific programme. In order to comply with the requirements of the EUAAC the closing date for abstracts remains June as we will need at least three months to allow for consideration of CME points. Some of the broad elements are in place and

there was a healthy discussion in the ABC regarding AME Refresher Training and its slot in the programme.

c. Next steps

The next meeting of the OC and the SC is planned for January 2024.

15. **Executive Committee**

a. Officers – Statutes and tasks

b. Visibility to Member Associations.

In 2024, I attended six regional/national AME meetings and had the opportunity to present on ESAM and its activities.

c. Providing AME Refresher Training and National Meetings.

Plans are at an early stage of producing a regional ECAM where local AMEs will attend for Refresher training and ESAM will provide an element of training open to all those who attend. This could be an exciting adjuvant to the current use of the ICAM whilst reviving the smaller regional ECAM that worked in the past.

16. **ESAM Business Plan Meeting**

- a. Follow up from Dublin Meeting. It was recommended that looking at the output of the Dublin Meeting should provide point of action where these activities can be merged with the duties and actions of the EC Officers. I agreed to look at both documents, i.e. the Business Plan and the EC Officers' Roles according the Statutes.

b. Other elements

17. **EAMAC Report**

The first full meeting of the EAMAC since the pandemic took place in Bonn in September. It was fitting that it took place in the location of the last meeting before the pandemic! Work was taken on the re-igniting of the different Working Groups that had been dormant in recent years. An update of the list of EU Medical Assessors took place. The next meeting is planned for April in Split, Croatia.

18. **IAASM Report**

A report of the recent Abu Dhabi meeting was presented. A lot of interest was expressed in the presentations that addressed aeromedical risk and Cardiovascular risk assessment. The excellent organization and the beauty of the location was remarked upon. Paco remains as Vice President and will take the reigns in 2024.

19. **AOB**

a. Future meetings

Koln Monday April 22nd. At EASA HQ. Kindly offered by Cristian.

Goran offered the possibility to have future meetings in Maastricht, Brussels or even Brittany. We will be happy to explore these options. For now, we need to have a meeting in advance of the AsMA meeting.

b. Promotion Material

20. **Next meeting of the EC**

April 22nd Cologne ahead of the MESAFE meeting and CAPSCA Meeting.

Declan Maher
ESAM President