European Committee for Homeopathy

MEETING MINUTES

COUNCIL

Meeting name	**Council, by Zoom**		
Date	9 June 2022	**Time**	CET
Attendees	Jean Pierre Jansen (JPJ) – part Natalia Tzima (NT) Ileana Rîndașu (IR) Tiziana Di Giampietro (TDG) – part Edward De Beukelaer (EB) Susann Buchheim (SB) – part Ilse Muchitsch (IM) – part Dora Pachova (DP) Cristal Skaling-Klopstock (CSK) Joan Vidal (JV)	**Absent**	Neli Olah
Minutes	Margaret Wyllie	**Moderator**	Cristal Skaling-Klopstock
Next meeting	**14 July 2022, 18.30-20.30 (CET)**	**Version**	

DISCUSSION OF TOPICS

1	*18.40*	*Welcome; amendments to agenda*	*Cristal*
Some members experienced connection problems and were unable to participate fully in the discussions.			

2	*18.43*	*Approval of Minutes: 06 + 08.05.2022, and Symposium 07.05.2022*	*Cristal*
Discussion summary		The Minutes were approved.	

3	*18.45*	*Expenses for Stakeholders' meetings/events* *(Claim form and guidance papers tabled)*	*Margaret*
Discussion summary		Claim form approved. Expenses Guidance – suggested rate pf 25c per km for car travel (to avoid having to pay tax), ie 1€ per 4 kms or part thereof Members should decide on the best transport options (car, train, plane, etc) for themselves, taking account of environmental factors. Claims should be made monthly.	
Conclusions		Claim form approved with reimbursement of €1 per 4 km for car travel	

Action items	**Person responsible**	**Deadline**
Add €1 per 4 km car allowance to Guidance	MW	Asap
Claims should be submitted monthly to MW	All	Each month

4	*18.50*	*Skills Audit of Council Members (paper tabled)*	*Cristal/Margaret*
Discussion summary		This is really valuable for understanding members' skills and knowing where there may be gaps. The audit should be completed by 8 July to enable the results to be collated before the next Council meeting. Then potential new Council members with these skills can be targeted.	
Conclusions			

Action items	**Person responsible**	**Deadline**
Complete and return forms to MW	All	8 July

5	*18.55*	*EUROCAM version 2 + investment proposal (ppt)*	*Edward*
Discussion summary		EB presented the current situation in EUROCAM. There are presently ad hoc working groups but only the same few people are active. The proposed new structure is for a small Executive Committee with a balanced 2-2-2 membership drawn from the patient, doctor and therapist groups. This has led to much discussion and may not be the best solution. JPJ felt it was unnecessary and demonstrated a basic lack of trust in the regulations, which already prevent any one group from gaining dominance. EB agreed but felt we had to accept this for the present. Joan asked about the possibility of finding a successor (or two sharing the post) for Ton Nicolai. EB explained that once some funding was in place there might be people interested. There were two possible candidates. The cost would be in the region of €80,000 per annum, pro rata.	

	The central problem is money and the need to pay a professional Secretary-General and to run the Secretariat. The most important project is to continue the MEP group. €16,000 is required to pay Miranda Ruchtie, for about 10 months, to find funding. Sufficient organisations need to guarantee an amount and then others will follow. Would ECH be prepared to guarantee the total amount, presuming that we would not have to pay the full sum? (Some money has already been promised and ECH has already offered to pay €2,000+.) CSK suggested we should show goodwill, and that we want EUROCAM to survive, by matching other's contribution, making a maximum of €8,000 for ECH. This should encourage all the organisations to work together. Members agreed that we must keep EUROCAM. Miranda works for other organisations and JPJ proposed that she be employed by ECH for 1 day per week, for a 6-month trial period (part of our contribution could be budgeted for Miranda's work for ECH). NT suggested that she could also give us fund-raising advice. EB pointed out that this would not give ECH any preferential treatment from EUROCAM. CSK asked what Miranda's role would be for ECH. JPJ will meet her on 22 June and has prepared a list of possible tasks, eg the strategic working groups will involve building up a lot of contacts and networks with universities and Pharmacy Chambers.
Conclusions	Agreed to provide matched funding to other EuroCAM members, up to a maximum total of €8,000, to raise the total of €16,000 to allow Miranda to start work to fund-raise for EuroCAM.

Action items	**Person responsible**	**Deadline**
Email everyone about progress	EB	As appropriate

6	*19.40*	*GA preparations*	*Jean Pierre / All*
Discussion summary	Hotel costs (including coffees, teas, lunches + 1 dinner; excluding rooms): 80 people – €16,790; 60 people – €14,700; 40 people – €13,000 The reservation can be cancelled up to one month in advance if corona restrictions are too severe, and rebooked at the same cost for our next meeting on 12-14 May 2023. Suggested programme: Friday – 12.00 Council; 4.00 SCs; evening dinner Saturday – 9.00-1.00 (or may need to be in 2 parts), GA: retirals, election of candidates, presentation of accounts and approval of budget, SC summaries, approval of statutes, approval of strategic projects; 2.30 SCs Sunday – Council + half day for working groups – Friday or Sunday morning? The papers should be sent out 1 month in advance and a Presidents' meeting held 2 weeks in advance to give people time to consider everything beforehand and to encourage them to attend. Joan stressed the need to make it an attractive proposition, eg by inviting an introductory speaker. DP has asked Capra, but he lives in the US and would have to attend on Zoom and it might be difficult to coordinate the timing; also suggested were Bob Leckridge (see his blog: Heroes not Zombies), David Owen, and Iain McGilchrist. EB will contact McGilchrist for 2 hrs on Saturday (or as appropriate).		

	Post-meeting: JPJ felt McGilchrist would be better suited for an ECH Academy event, and David Owen (as a doctor and teacher) or Bob Leckridge (retired doctor and teacher) would be more relevant for the GA and our current strategies.
Conclusions	

Action items	**Person responsible**	**Deadline**
Email questionnaire re weekend timings	JPJ	Asap
Invite David Owen to speak (see note above)	CSK	Asap

7	*20.00*	*Proposal for SCs Agrohomeopathy and Veterinary*	*Ileana / Edward*
Discussion summary		IR will coordinate agrohomeopathy; next meeting is on 2 July. EB will have a meeting with the interested vets to find out what people want. An SC Vets would clash with what IAVH already do. EB would prefer a working group, and recognition that vets participate in work of ECH. NT agreed that a working group is a better first step, and is not comfortable with giving agrohomeopaths a vote. The One Health initiative allows agrohomeopaths to work separately in their own domain. Agrohomeopathy is an exciting development and it is important that ECH is part of it. Agrohomeopathy and veterinary homeopathy have particular importance for research, and for the acceptance of homeopathy. TDG felt there should be SCs because of their importance for AMR research, for reducing environmental toxicity and because their demonstrated effectiveness could help to change public opinion. However, the majority agreed that working groups were a good beginning and members could be invited to join SC Research. Joan suggested we need to ask the groups three questions: How can we help you? What do you need from us? How can we support you?	
Conclusions			

Action items	**Person responsible**	**Deadline**
EB & IR to report back on discussions in respective groups	IR & EB	ongoing

8	*20.15*	*GIRI*	*Jean Pierre*
Discussion summary		JPJ's connection had failed	
Conclusions			

Action items	**Person responsible**	**Deadline**
Send report on GIRI to everyone	JPJ	asap

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9	*20.15*	*Approval of €500 spending limit*	*Margaret*
Discussion summary	The Daily Business Group, in collaboration with Finance Group, asks to be allowed to spend up to a maximum of €500 without formal Council approval. TDG suggested there should be a maximum number of times this could be done per year. EB pointed out that members can be informed by email. CSK reminded members that they see the financial statements regularly and it makes it more complicated to try to introduce an overall annual limit. The sums are generally small, eg flowers for Hetty.		
Conclusions	The request was approved.		
Action items		**Person responsible**	**Deadline**

11	*20.20*	*AOB*	*Ileana / Edward*
Discussion summary	1 CEN – IR reported that Austria had been about to vote against the standard but Thomas Peinbauer had persuaded the objector(s) to abstain. All participants should be approached for information in each country. NT agreed to do this. 2 EPHA – IR proposed that NT take her place along with EB to represent ECH in EPHA. NT agreed. It is important for ECH to maintain good contact here. 3. People's Declaration on TCIH – this goes live on 14 June. CSK is a member of the steering committee. Members should spread the idea as widely as possible and encourage university organisations in particular to sign. It is very important to obtain as many signatories as possible. 4 Joan had made a successful contact with the Clificol group.		
Conclusions	3 Agreed that NT would represent ECH at EPHA along with EB. IR would no longer attend EPHA meetings.		
Action Items		**Person responsible**	**Deadline**
1 CEN – Follow up with countries involved about voting in their country		NT	ASAP
3 TCIH – Encourage signatories for the People's Declaration		All	After 14 June

12	*20.30*	*Closure of meeting*	*Cristal*