Meeting	**General Assembly**		
Venue	**Hotel Wimberger, Vienna**		
Date	15 October 2023	**Time**	09.30 – 12:00 CET
Attendees	25 associations have voting rights, of which 15 voted. In-person: ÄKH, ÖGHM, AHPB, DZVhÄ, HAHMC, FIAMO, AVIG, Societatea Romana de Homeopathie, SVHA, IAVH, and EFHPA. Online: HCHDA, SNMHF, Slovensko Homeopatsko Drustvo, and SSH. 128 votes in total. If everyone voted, we would have received 212 votes: 128/212 = 60.37% voted. ECH Council members: S. Buchheim-Schmidt, E. de Beukelaer, T. Di Giampietro, JP. Jansen, D. Pachova, I Rîndașu, C. Skaling-Klopstock, N. Tzima, J. Vidal-Jové, M. Wyllie,	**Apologies**	n/a

DISCUSSION OF TOPICS

1	*09:30*	*Opening of the GA*	*Jean Pierre Jansen*
		There was a vote of thanks to Ileana Rîndașu for her work as General Secretary and to Reinhard Flick and ÖGHM for hosting the weekend.	

2	*09:35*	*Financial report*	*Tiziana Di Giampietro*
		See Appendix 1	

3	*09:45*	*My Association approves the 2023 accounts* See Appendix 2 *My Association approves the 2024 budget* See Appendix 3	*Cristal Skaling-Klopstock*
		CSK presented the financial statement for year ending September 2023 and a draft budget for 2024. It was noted that payments from SSH and SNMHF (France) had been received since the GA documents were finalised. A question was raised about the financial details of the ECH weekends (Mainz and Utrecht) and the amounts under Miscellaneous. The costs of the venues, speaker, and dinner were explained. The Council's expenses are kept as low as possible. It was explained that money had also been transferred to the bank in the Netherlands. Members agreed with Council's suggestion to hold Spring meetings in person and Autumn meetings online. A suggestion from the floor was to reduce the number of Subcommittees, which would minimise the amount of work and number of meeting rooms, and might also create more focus on specific topics. Other costs included donations to EUROCAM and Michael Frass. Future requests for donations will be more carefully considered. ECH has been officially based in Belgium and is moving to the Netherlands. Currently ECH has an accountant in Belgium and a new accountant will be needed once the move is completed. Wim Menkveld (Treasurer EFHPA and EUROCAM) is assisting ECH with the transfer. **Vote** *Approval of the 2023 accounts:* yes – 96%, no – 0%, abstentions – 4%; 100% **Vote** *Approval of the 2024 budget:* yes – 96%, no – 0%, abstentions – 4%; 100%	

		Elections	*Ileana Rîndaşu*
		For ECH to leave Belgium with a transparent record in the Gazette Belge, the following step needs be taken: elections by the G.A. that should have taken place but were not, have to be performed retro-actively. The legitimation for that is based on minutes of the respective subcommittee of the coordinator, and on the evident acceptance of the coordinator performing that function, as seen in reports. The following elections have to be confirmed by the G.A. on Sunday 15 October, 2023 during the G.A. in Vienna: There is a new candidate council member to be elected, Jaume Costa, who agreed to become General Secretary of ECH, when elected to become council member. The ECH council is pleased to welcome him back.	

	4. Election of Jaume Costa as council member. He agreed to be council member and be available to be elected by the council as General Secretary of the ECH. He held that office earlier between 2016 and 2020. Council members Margaret Wyllie and Daniela Hacke have divided their responsibilities in Subcommittee Documentation. This was de facto arranged in 2020. 5. Election of Margaret Wyllie: since November 2020 she has been in office as the successor of Caroline Vandeschoor, together as joint coordinator with Daniela Hacke. The council propose to confirm retro-actively her election since 2020. 6. Election of Daniela Hacke: since November 2020 she has been in office as successor of Caroline Vandeschoor, together as joint coordinator with Margaret Wyllie. The council propose to confirm retro-actively her election since 2020. This means that they can apply for re-election at the G.A. in November 2024. 7. Election of Cristal Skaling-Klopstock: She has been in office since November 2016. She should have been re-elected in November 2020. The council will propose to confirm retro-actively her election since 2020. Council members Joan Vidal and Tiziana Di Giampietro have divided their responsibilities in Subcommittee Research. This was de facto arranged earlier in 2023. 8. The council proposes to approve this construction as joint coordinators. There is no need to elect them as council members, because that was already approved during a previous General Assembly. Ileana Rîndașu will step back as ECH's General Secretary and, as council member, will represent in the council all activities of the new Agrohomeopathy Working Group in ECH.

4	*09:50*	*My Association agrees to elect Dr Jaume Costa to the ECH Council*	*Ileana Rîndașu*
Vote		yes – 100%, no – 0%, abstentions – 0%; 100%	

5		*My Association agrees to elect Margaret Wyllie as joint Coordinator of the ECH Documentation Subcommittee*	*Ileana Rîndașu*
Vote		yes – 96%, no – 4%, abstentions – 0; 100%	

6		*My Association agrees to elect Daniela Hacke as joint Coordinator of the ECH Documentation Subcommittee*	*Ileana Rîndașu*
Vote		yes – 100%, no – 0%, abstentions – 0%; 100%	

7		*My Association agrees to elect Cristal Skaling-Klopstock as coordinator of the ECH Patients Subcommittee*	*Ileana Rîndașu*
Vote		yes – 100%, no – 0%, abstentions – 0%; 100%	

8		*My Association agrees to elect Dr Joan Vidal-Jové as joint coordinator of the ECH Research Subcommittee*	*Ileana Rîndașu*
Vote		yes – 100%, no – 0%, abstentions – 0%; 100%	

9	*10:05*	*President's address: One for all and all for one*	*Jean Pierre Jansen*
Summary		Challenges for ECH: – decreased annual income – lack of workforce, sometimes with specific skills – ageing members: however, experience, skills, and wisdom increase ECH's internal organisation has gradually become more robust. The strategic Working Groups are carrying out many projects. The concept to extend our network has begun with the Academy, WHO, TCIM, research and other colleague organisations. Meetings with global homeopathy stakeholders began this year and continue with the Avogadro project. The Systems View of Life (Fritjof Capra) has been adopted to embed homeopathic knowledge. A workshop will be organised in Spring 2024. The aim for inclusion in WHO programmes is collaboration with homeopathic stakeholders on global issues which began in June 2023. As homeopathy is the only medicine without WHO benchmarks, special attention will be paid to this subject. Any differences between stakeholders are acceptable in order to make homeopathy available worldwide. The first global online congress on Agrohomeopathy will take place 4 and 5 December, co-organised by ECH and AHBAMA. Grateful patients initiative: leaflets will be distributed to members to share more information about EFPHA. The term 'homeopathic water' is not correct and nobody is familiar with this. The PR & Comms WG will suggest better terminology.	

10	*10:20*	*Close of meeting*	*Cristal Skaling-Klopstock*
Summary		Cristal Skaling-Klopstock closed the meeting.	

Appendix 1: **Finance Report – Tiziana Di Giampietro,**

There are several challenges to resolve to ensure our finances are in a healthy state for the future. There are 3 main issues:

Belfius Bank

The first challenge, as most of you will be aware, is with the Belfius Bank. We still have an investment account, a deposit account and a current account with them. However, despite our complying fully with all the required paperwork, it has proved impossible to gain access to anything other than the current account, which only MediCongress are authorised to operate.

We, and Jean Pierre in particular, have spent a great deal of time on physical meetings, telephone calls and lengthy emails with various employees of Belfius, including their Complaints Department, and we are continually promised that everything will be sorted 'next week'. We have now employed a lawyer. We have also opened an account with an international bank in The Netherlands and are gradually transferring funds there from the Belfius current account.

Investment Account

The second challenge concerns the investment account. In 2012, ECH had a current account with Belfius and also 4 deposit accounts, including 3 which contained approximately €50,000 each. In 2013, the European Central Bank reduced interest rates to a record low in order to stimulate the economy. That same year, ECH closed 3 of the deposit accounts and transferred €150,000 to an investment account. However, there is no record of any discussion about this in the Council or GA Minutes.

As the economic situation has worsened, this investment account has gradually diminished and in November 2020 was worth only around €80,000. (This is the last date when we could access this account and for which we have information). It may be worth even less now. As soon as we are able, we plan to close this account and the deposit account and transfer the remaining funds to the Dutch bank.

Reduced income

Out third challenge is that, since 2013, our Member Associations have experienced a drop in their own membership numbers – quite substantially in some cases – with a consequent reduction in membership fees paid to ECH. In 2013, we had 23 Member Associations, with 4532 members, and received over €100,000 in fee payments; in 2023, we have 24 Member Associations who have paid their fees, with 2214 members, and have received only a little over €50,000. We have not increased the fees during the time and so they have not kept pace with inflation.

At the moment, our expenditure is not keeping pace with our income, and we need to look carefully at this. Cristal will present our current figures and proposed budget shortly. We must reduce our annual running costs so that they can be covered by our reduced income. This is difficult in present circumstance where costs in general have risen substantially, and we want to continue developing ECH into an organisation which is seen as the voice of homeopathy in Europe.

But Council is confident of the support of our members, many of whom are now more directly involved through the Subcommittees and particularly through the various Working Groups. Together, we can find solutions to these challenges and build on our firm foundation to take ECH forward as an even stronger organisation.

Appendix 2: **Statement for year ending Sept 2023 – Cristal Skaling-Klopstock**
Attachment 1

Appendix 3: **Draft Budget 2024 – Cristal Skaling-Klopstock**

ECH Budget 2024			
Income	**Jan- June 2024**	**July - Dec 2024**	**Annual Budget 2024**
Membership	38.000 €	16.000 €	54.000 €
Associate	3.500 €	1.500 €	5.000 €
Individual member	70 €	105 €	175 €
Diploma	600 €	240 €	840 €
Accreditation	500 €	250 €	750 €
Spring meeting	2.500 €	0 €	2.500 €
Autumn meeting	0 €	2.500 €	2.500 €
Events	0 €	0 €	0 €
Sponsorship	0 €	0 €	0 €
Investment dividends	500 €	300 €	800 €
Miscellaneous	100 €	100 €	200 €
Total income	**45.770 €**	**20.995 €**	**66.765 €**

Expenses	**Jan- June 2024**	**July - Dec 2024**	**Annual Budget 2024**
Subscriptions/Donations	3.000 €	7.000 €	10.000 €
Council	2.500 €	2.500 €	5.000 €
Spring meeting	0 €	25.000 €	25.000 €
Autumn meeting	20.000 €	0 €	20.000 €
IT support	2.050 €	2.050 €	4.100 €
Website development/support	8.000 €	2.000 €	10.000 €
Communications/social media	6.000 €	6.000 €	12.000 €
Administrative support	17.500 €	17.500 €	35.000 €
Financial support	400 €	400 €	800 €
Legal/notary/statutory fees	1.000 €	1.000 €	2.000 €
Bank charges	75 €	75 €	150 €
Miscellaneous	2.500 €	2.500 €	5.000 €
Total expenditure	**63.025 €**	**66.025 €**	**129.050 €**

2024 year-end position	**-62.285 €**