

Reports from European Masters Athletics Association to the General Assembly, Aarhus, Denmark on 30 July 2017

Report of European Masters Athletics President, Kurt Kaschke

Since we met in Izmir in 2014, it has been a particularly busy but very successful period for the Masters in Europe.

We are indebted to Poland and the City of Torun for hosting a wonderful Indoor Championships in March 2015; to Grosseto, Italy and FIDAL 2015 and Vila Real de Santo Antonio, Portugal 2016 for hosting thoroughly enjoyable Non Stadia Championships, the latter at short notice. We returned to Italy again, this time to Ancona for the 2016 Indoor Championships where again we had a huge entry of more than 3000 competitors. Mountain Running is another discipline that we participate in and I attended the Championships in Montcada, Spain in April this year.

We took the decision to remove the Marathon from our Track & Field Championships and to incorporate our race with an existing big City Marathon as potential bidders found it difficult to find a suitable course and meeting the cost of road closure etc. We had talks with the City of Wroclaw Marathon organisers who are happy to work with us. Thank you to the City of Wroclaw and other race organisers for well organised marathons. I am now asking all Affiliates to support this race in this lovely Polish city by ensuring your runners get the information as soon as possible. This year the marathon will be held on 10 September.

Europe is World Masters Athletics most important region, we constitute the largest entry and we are the only region to hold Masters Championships in Stadia, Non-Stadia, Indoor and Mountain Running.

Such a heavy schedule could not be undertaken without the hard work, dedication and commitment of the whole Council and I wish to pay tribute to all my fellow Officers, particularly our General Secretary Helena mAria Pires de Carvalho who is, as you are all aware, not only your hard working Secretary, but also a leading WMA Official at international Championships.

When working under pressure all the time in a Region with 51 Affiliates and 23 officially recognised languages, invariably a few mistakes do sometimes occur and many of you will have read critical comments about us on Social Media.

At the 2014 General Assembly in Izmir delegates voted in favour of changing the word "Veterans" to "Masters" and our title to European Masters Athletics. This involved a constitution change. We are most grateful to former IAAF General Secretary, Pierre Weiss, for re-drafting our Constitution and bringing it into line with the WMA Constitution. The draft Constitution was circulated to all Affiliates and an Extraordinary General Assembly called to accept the new Constitution. This took place during our Indoor Championships in Ancona in March 2016 where the draft Constitution was voted on and accepted. The Registration of the Constitution was legalized by the Court of Canton de Vaud (Switzerland) on December 20th 2016.

EMA postal address is still the same address as EA Office in Lausanne:

**European Masters Athletics (EMA)
Avenue Louis-Ruchonnet 18
CH-1003 Lausanne**

EMA Council after Ancona

Kurt Kaschke	GER	President
Jerzy Krauze	POL	Vice-President
Jean Thomas	FRA	Treasurer
Martin Roald Arboel	DEN	Appointed Technical Director
Helena Maria Pires de Carvalho	POR	General Secretary

Technical Board of Managers

The Board is still consisting of the following persons:

Martin Roald Arboel	DEN	EMACS
Helena Maria Pires De Carvalho	POR	EMACI
Dr. Vesna Repic Cujic	SRB	EMACNS
Josep M. Antentas	ESP	EMMRC/EMMC
Marian Bigocki	GER/POL	EMMC Marathon advisor
Kalle Glomsaker	NOR	Coaches and Athletes
Valentina Krepkina	UKR	Team Leaders
Emanuela Baggiolini	ITA	EMA Academy & Women Representative
Dr.Sorin Valeanu	GER	Safety Officer
Dr.Martine Prévost	FRA	Anti-Doping and Advisor

Martin Roald Arboel came on to Council as Acting Technical Director following the unexpected resignation of Tony Listoel due to the demands of his career. Again that put extra pressure on the Council. We are most grateful to Martin.

Statistician and Record Working Group

Ivar Söderlind	SWE
Giusy Lacava	ITA
Fernando Marquina	ESP

Internet, website and e-mail

In 2016 we informed the delegates at the Extraordinary General Assembly that we have a new Partner for our internet and computer business: Chilimedia GmbH in Switzerland.

www.european-masters-athletics.org is now the hosting address. At the end of the year the old website (www.evaa.ch) will be deleted.

There were some difficulties with the transfer of all the data base to our new host address. Chilimedia is working on this issue permanently together with Hans-Peter Skala (EMA Internet Advisor). The layout will have to change in the next months to make sure the website can be opened correctly on smartphones and tablets.

Organizing Partner

EMA is still cooperating with SIGMA System to have the latest best processing system in data base, online registration – including PayPal system, championship procedure and technical information.

This co-operation will be renewed in 2017 for the next four years because of the Contracts with the next EMAC Organizers.

From EMA Council's point of view and many competitors, this up-to-date System serves the Master Athletes and the organizers well.

European Athletics

Working relations with European Athletics have been hugely successful.

During the Presidency of former EA President Hans-Jörg Wirz, EVAA worked closer together with our EA partner. After Svein Arne Hansen became EA President, their two Vice-Presidents, Jean Gracia (France) and Alfio Giomi (Italy) who is also President of FIDAL, took on the responsibility of liaising and cooperating with EMA Council. Since the EA Convention in Lausanne 2015 both Vice-Presidents and two Delegates of EMA have met regularly to discuss closer co-ordination. This is a major step forward for us.

One of the targets of the committee is to put EA Championships and EMA Championships together. Until now EMA Council is working with EA to have the Masters integrated in Mountain Running, 10k Road, ½ Marathon, Cross-Country and Marathon.

A second target is the integration of the Masters into their National Governing Body. Until now we have affiliates who are autonomous of their National Federation of Athletics. This often causes more problems than benefits. EA will support the Masters to have a closer relationship to their National Body. IAAF as well is working on "Governance of Sport" together with the regions - EA is part of it. This project will be of great importance during the coming years.

I would like to record our thank to Svein Arne Hansen, Jean Gracia, Alfio Giomi and Pierre Weiss for your enormous support that we, and all Masters Athletes, can only benefit from.

Relations with WMA

As European Representative in WMA Council, I attended the WMACS in Perth together with Vice-President Jerzy Krauze. Three days of meetings before the Championship started was not enough to discuss all future matters in World Masters.

Some questions are still not solved. One of the most important is WMA/EMA relationship towards International Masters Games (IMGA) and European Masters Games (EMG). The Game Organizers still do not co-operate. We conform to WMA/IAAF Rules of Competition, Russian Masters are currently not able to enter our Championships, but their entries were accepted and they were allowed to compete at the recent IMGA Games in New Zealand. This is frustrating. We are still able to create great Championships for our athletes. Now IAAF Masters' Committee together with WMA will encourage IAAF President Lord Sebastian Coe and Vice-President Sergey Bubka to find a solution for this dilemma.

After the WMA's new Constitution was passed during their General Assembly in Lyon, Perth General Assembly had to elect new Council members for offices in 2016. Europe has the following people on WMA Council, Vice-President Margit Jungmann, Germany; Jean Thomas, France is WMA Treasurer and Selma Turkkal, Turkey, Women's Representative.

After Ancona, EMA Council Members met with WMA President Stan Perkins in Frankfurt to talk about the future projects of EMA and the collaboration together with WMA.

The last EMA Council Meeting in 2016 was located in EA Office in Lausanne.

On 6 May EMA Council, Jean Gracia (EA) and Pierre Weiss (IAAF) met again in Lausanne for the last meeting before the General Assembly here. We invited the European Best Male and Best Female Masters Athletes, Tatjana Schilling from

Germany, Manuel Alonso, Spain and TCFP winner, Arne S  ther from Norway to this weekend to receive and honoured them during a special Ceremony.

Affiliates are kept informed by e-mail on all decisions of the Council Meetings.

As your President I have had meetings with WMA, championships organisers and potential bidders and other athletic associations.

Other meetings and visits by EMA Council Members were:

20. – 22. May 2016	EMACNS Vila Real de Santo Ant��nio, Portugal
03. June 2016	Strasbourg (France)
18. – 19. June 2016	Wroclaw (Poland)
09. – 10. July 2016	Amsterdam (EACS)
03. September 2016	WMA – EMA Meeting in Frankfurt (Germany)
10. – 11. September 2016	Wroclaw (Poland)
17. September 2016	Sarregemund (France)
24. - 25. September 2016	Novi Sad (Serbia)
01. -03. October 2016	Aarhus (Denmark)
14. – 16. October 2016	Funchal (Portugal)
26. October – 06. November	Perth (Australia)
03. November 2016	Lausanne (Switzerland)
05. – 06. November 2016	Montcada (Spain)
02. – 04. December 2016	Lausanne (Switzerland)
18. – 26. January 2017	Daegu (South Korea)
04. April 2017	Frankfurt (Germany)
13. April 2017	Lisbon (Portugal)
20. April 2017	Madrid (Spain)
29. – 30. April 2017	Montcada (Spain)
05. – 07. May 2017	Lausanne (Switzerland)

12. – 13. June 2017 Paris (France)
15. – 17. June 2017 Jesolo (Italy)

In conclusion, I feel we have made great progress particularly in our close relationships with European Athletics and our other partners; the new Constitution, holding our first Championships in Turkey in 2014 and our other very successful Championships.

Future Championships

2017

10 September Marathon Championships, Wroclaw, Poland

2018

19-24 March EMA Indoor, Madrid, Spain

18-20 May EMA Non-Stadia, Alicante, Spain

5-16 September WMA Track & Field Championships, Malaga, Spain

2019

5-15 September EMA Stadia, Venice, Italy

24-30 March WMA Indoor Championship, Torun, Poland

For the future EMA and WMA need officers who are able to handle the business of our organisations. We have to motivate candidates to run for an office and to support them. "Learning by doing" is the normal way to improve one's skills and to become professional. Let us support the new elected members of EMA Council to do a good job.

Kurt Kaschke
EMA President

INTERSESSION Report of European Masters Athletics Vice President, Jerzy Krauze

In 2017 during the EMA General Assembly in Aarhus my term as EMA Vice President ends, it means that under the rules of EMA Constitution this is my last report. Therefore in this occasion I will allow with quick flashback of my activities on this position.

I have started my work as Vice President after successful election during the EVAA General Assembly which took place in July 20th, 2010 in Nyíregyháza (HUN). After effective four years work, together with Polish Masters Athletics, I decided to run for reelection of the EMA Vice President position. My candidacy was unanimously accepted by acclamation during the EMA General Assembly, hold in 26th August 2014 in Izmir (TUR).

Within 7 years I had the opportunity to work together with many cooperative persons. Firstly with the EVAA Council on the head with President - Dieter Massin (2010-2014) and also the EMA Council Members (2014-2017). This work could not be done without support of EMA Technical Board Managers. Therefore at this point, I would like to thank everyone who cooperated with me and advised me constructively during my two terms of office.

I would like to emphasize that within seven years, I gained a lot of knowledge relating to managing Masters Athletics and preparations different EVAA/EMA championships.

A great asset in my experience was that several times I represented the EMA Council at the world and European meetings. During these meetings I had the opportunity to speak with athletics national governing bodies, where every time I argued them to organization championships and developing masters movement. Surely my big advantage is that on behalf of the EMA Council, I had also the opportunity to lead the WMA Regional Meetings in Lyon - 2014 and in Perth - 2016. Moreover during my post, several times I represented the EMA Council in different conventions and seminars, organised by the European Athletics Association. I am also pleased to be able to represent the EVAA/EMA Councils, where I could support the European affiliates in organization different championships, which I should include:

- World Masters Championships Indoor – Torun 2019 (POL)
- EMA Marathon Championships – Wroclaw 2017 (POL)
- Interstate Match – Čejkovice 2016 (CZE)
- European Masters Championships Indoor – Torun 2015 (POL)
- Interstate Match – Salzburg 2015 (AUT)
- European Masters Mountain Running - MMRC Nowa Ruda 2014 (POL)
- Balkan Championships – Bucharest 2014 (ROU)
- European Non-Stadia Championships - EVACNS-2013 – Úpice (CZE)
- Nordic Championships – Moss 2013 (NOR)
- Balkan Championships – Zagreb 2013 (CRO)
- European Mountain Running Championships - EMMRC Bludenz 2012 (AUT)
- European Championships 2012, Stadia in Zittau (GER) Bogatynia/Zgorzelec (POL)/ Hradec (CZE)

Other important activities and responsibilities for the official ceremonies:

- Closing ceremony - 11th European Masters Championships Indoor – Ancona 2016
- Opening and closing ceremony - Interstate Match – Čejkovice 2016 (CZE)
- Opening ceremony - 10th European Masters Championships Indoor – Torun 2015 (POL)
- Opening and closing ceremony - Interstate Match – Salzburg 2015 (AUT)
- Opening and closing ceremony - Balkan Championships – Bucharest 2014 (ROU)
- Opening and closing ceremony - European Non-Stadia Championships 2013 – Úpice (CZE)
- Opening and closing ceremony - Balkan Championships – Zagreb 2013 (CRO)
- Opening and closing ceremony - Nordic Championships – Moss 2013 (NOR)
- Opening and closing ceremony - European Mountain Running Championships - EMMRC Bludenz 2012 (AUT)

For the first time in the history of EMA our reports are being prepared within one year. The main reason for this is that in 2016 in Ancona (ITA) was held the EMA Extraordinary General Assembly.

Therefore since 2016, till July 2017 my activities were as follows:

1. EMA Bidding and technical visit for EMA Marathon 2017 in Wroclaw (POL) June 18-19, 2016

The visit have been taken on the invitation Local Organizing Committee in Wroclaw in Poland on the occasion of organization the 4th Night-Half Marathon. In the visit EMA was represented

by President - Kurt Kaschke, Vice President - Jerzy Krauze, Josep Maria Antentas – EMA Mountain & Ultra Manager and Marian Bigocki - EMA Marathon Advisor.

The purpose of the EMA visit was to check technical and organizational capabilities of the LOC Wroclaw. It is necessary to inform that the same organizers will be responsible for organization of Wroclaw Marathon. In the 4th Night-Half Marathon participated 9592 runners from whole Europe, including Kenya and Ethiopia runners.

It should be emphasized that for the first time the EMA Marathon Championships will be organized in the big marathon city in Wroclaw, located in the South of Silesia region in Poland. The 35th Marathon in Wroclaw was planned on September 10, 2017 and together with Polish organizers we will make the possibility to running together in the mass run, both with professional marathon runners and masters athletes.

2. Visit the 5th Interstate International Athletic Match in Čejkovice in Czech Republic July 8-10, 2016

This athletics event was organized second time in the same place, first one was held in 2012. The EMA Council was represented by Vice President - Jerzy Krauze. I was responsible for the opening and closing ceremonies and also victories ceremonies, which were organized in wine cellars in village of Mutěnice. In the mentioned Match competed following countries: Czech Republic – Austria – Croatia – Hungary – Slovenia – Swiss.

On the end of ceremonies, I invited also on stage the key people from the organizing committee. On behalf of EMA and in appreciation to his input in development of masters athletics in Czech Republic, I awarded the “EMA Pin” the following persons:

- Gejza Valent President of CzVAA
- Karel Matzner Honorary President CzVAA
- Agnes Hříbová Deputy Mayor of Čejkovice
- Petr Damborský - Competition Director
- Jana Čapková - Secretary of CzVAA
- Jiří Kubíček – Head of Judges
- Petr Gybas - Results and statistics
- Petr Damborský – President Athletic Club Čejkovice

3. Technical visit EMA Championships Stadia 2019 in Venice (ITA) - August 2-3, 2016

The EMA Council members, Jerzy Krauze – Vice President and Jean Thomas – Treasurer were invited by Alfo Giomi - President of Italian Athletics Federation (FIDAL) on technical visit in connection to preparations of the European Masters Athletics Championships Stadia 2019 in Jesolo, Eraclea and Caorle, which are located in the district of Venice metropolis.

In the meetings were attended cities Mayors: Jesolo - Valerio Zoggia, Eraclea – Grazzia Teso and Caorle - Luciano Striuli. In two days has been checked technical facilities and conditions at 4 proposed stadiums, in which will be organized athletics championships.

The Local Organizing Committee foresee that in EMACS 2019, planned on September 5-15, 2019, that will participate approx. 7000 athletes. This cities are situated in Adriatic Sea lagoon shore and belonging to the one of the most popular tourists destinations in Europe. Cities authorities and FIDAL comes with great care to this event, because at that time will be organized of the Mediterranean Championship U-23, and two weeks later EMACS 2019. For this purpose as well as EMA technical visit the LOC organized special press conference.

4. WMA & EMA Councils Meeting – Darmstadt/n. Frankfurt (GER) – September 3, 2016

WMA President - Stan Perkins call the WMA/EMA Council Meeting before the World Championship in Perth. The meeting took place next to Frankfurt in Darmstadt in the DLV Headquarter of German Athletic Federation.

The meeting concerned IAAF statement about the situation of the Russian masters athletes. Until the IAAF will find a solution all athletes and officers are not allowed to attend Masters' Championships. WMA President pointed out also the leading role of EMA for other regions in the world. For this reason EMA should in close relationship among the other regions and exchange of projects and ideas.

Other subjects were discussed with EMA Council i.e. EMA is not in favour to open its regional championship to athletes from other regions.

At the meeting were discussed the principles of working Safety Officers among the key persons in WMA and EMA and unifications SO rules.

At the meeting attended:

- Stan Perkins – WMA President
- Margit Jungmann – WMA Vice President

- *Winston Thomas – WMA Secretary*
- *Pierre Weiss – IAAF Masters Commission*
- *Kurt Kaschke – EMA President*
- *Jerzy Krauze – EMA Vice President*
- *Helena Carvalho – EMA Secretary*
- *Jean Thomas – EMA Treasury*

5. European Athletics Convention in Funchal-Madeira (POR), October 13 -15, 2016.

During the European Athletics Convention in Funchal took place several workshops. First one concerned Member Federations Governance and more than 50 delegates from European Athletics Federations took part. This workshop was offered to give an overview of the background and the latest developments presented by an expert on good governance in sport organizations. The main expert was a person who is working for CAS. The workshop was focusing also on presentation practical tools (tools were taken from Erasmus EU program) for national govern bodies, including own federation, clubs and all organizers of sport under the umbrella of IAAF.

The other benefit for EMA Council was attending in the Member Federation Leaders Forum. During three days Federations had a chance to exchange information's, speak about possibilities of organizing championships in 2017 and other future projects concern professional athletics and masters athletics.

I had a chance to speak with Fernando Parreira – Deputy Mayor of the city Pombal in Portugal. After withdrawing organization EMACI 2018 in Aapeldoorn (NED) the EMA Council hurriedly started to seek the new bidders.

The city of Pombal confirm readiness and together with Portugal Athletics Association sent to EMA official bid for EMACI 2018.

At the EAA Convention attended:

- *Kurt Kaschke – EMA President*
- *Jerzy Krauze – EMA Vice President*
- *Helena Carvalho – EMA Secretary*
- *Jean Thomas – EMA Treasury*
- *Kalle Glomsaker – EMA Athletes & Coaches Group*

6. WMACS Perth – the EMA Regional Meeting, November 3, 2016 (AUS)

In Perth, on behalf of the EMA Council I was responsible for conducting the Regional Meeting for European affiliates.

On the beginning of the meeting was welcomed Stan Perkins - WMA President and also the new elected WMA Council members. At the meeting attending also Winston Thomas and Serge Beckers who ends his WMA office.

The mentioned people took the floor and spoke their speeches and they were: Stan Perkins - WMA President, Maria Alfaro-Casán – WMA Secretary, Margit Jungmann - WMA Vice President, Selma Turkkal – WMA Women's Representative. Winston Thomas and Serge Beckers thanked also for cooperation during his posts in WMA and also before in Europe (EVAA).

In the WMA Regional Meeting following subjects were discussed:

1. Welcome from EMA Vice President
2. EMAC 2017 - 2019
3. New EMA Constitution
4. EMA Elections 2017 in Aarhus
5. Report of
 - Ancona 2016
 - Vila Real de Santo Antonio 2016
6. Presentation next championships:
 - EMACS Aarhus 2017
 - EMA Marathon Wroclaw 2017
 - EMMC – Montcada 2017

The most important topic of that meeting was focused on subject of the new EMA Constitution. I informed the participants of the meeting that the EMA Statutes have been approved in EMA General Assembly in Ancona 31.03.2016 and registered the in Canton de Vaud in Switzerland. However, representatives of European affiliates have questioned the new EMA Constitution.

In particular, the allegations were related to preparations and submission the Minutes from EOGA in Ancona to EMA affiliates.

Doubts were concern the Minutes from EOGA in Ancona and have been raised by Dr. Matthias Reick (GER), Vesa Lappalainen (FIN), Bridget Cushen (GBR), Valeriu Rosentic (ROM), Serge Beckers (BEL). All speakers come to conclusion that under the rules of EMA Constitution (Article 14.7.6), responsible persons for preparation the mentioned official document (EMA President and EMA Secretary) were not fulfilled his duties on time and have made many formal mistakes.

Furthermore during next months in 2016 and several clarifications we learned that Minutes was produced illegally and without acceptance appointed delegates by EOGA in Ancona, which were: Colette Ruineau (FRA) and Fennie van Osch (NED). Mentioned persons were responsible for checking and certification the Minutes. Moreover the Minutes from the EOGA - prior, has been posted on EMA website without acceptance official signature of Colette Ruineau and Fennie van Osch and also not sent to EMA affiliates for his comments.

EMA Constitution, paragraph 14.12:

The minutes have to be finalised within two months after the end of the General Assemblies; checked by the two delegates (see Article 14.7.4), they will be sent to all attending Members who will have 30 days to make any comment. Without any reply, the Minutes will be considered as approved. This will be reported to the next General Assembly (see Article 14.7.6)

7. WMA COUNCIL MEETING, Perth, November 7-8, 2016

In Attendance:

Stan Perkins, President, Margit Jungmann, Executive Vice President, Brian Keaveney, VP Competition, Selma Turkkal, Women's Representative, Jean Thomas, Treasurer, Pierre Weiss, IAAF Representative, Maria Alfaro-Casan, Secretary Sandy Pashkin, NCCWMA Representative, Lynne Schickert, Oceania Representative, Richard Amigo, South America Representative, Siva Sivapragasam, Asia Representative, Leonie Etong, Africa Representative, Jerzy Krauze, European Representative. Serge Beckers and Winston Thomas

Agenda of the WMA Council Meeting contained several dozen points but the key points were consists:

1. Summary old and new WMA Council elections in Perth.
2. Summary organization WMACS 2016 in Perth.
3. WMA Regions reports
4. WMA past and future official meetings
5. Secretary Reports
6. Treasury Reports
7. Executive Vice President Report
8. Vice President Competition
9. Law and Legislation Committee
10. Records Committee
11. Women Committee
12. Anti-Doping and Medical Committee
13. IAAF / Masters Commission, chair by Pierre Weiss
14. Election of WMA member to the Masters Commission Council (13 members) voted as follows:

Winston Thomas – 7 votes; Brian Keaveney – 6 votes

Winston Thomas is the new member of IAAF Masters Commission.

15. New Age Grading Update
16. WMA Website
17. Best Master Award 2017
18. WMA Development

Europe – EMA report the main content:

In autumn 2015 EMA Technical Director Tony Listoel (NOR) resigned from his duties. His task was taken by the Council and the daily work and in January 2016 duty took Martin Roal Arboel (DEN). In March 2016 we had a successful Indoor championship in Ancona, Italy with over 3000 athletes. There were some minor problems but the overall event was good. Non Stadia championship was held in Monte Gordo and Vila Real de Sato Antonio in Portugal, from 20th to 22nd May 2016. With around 1041 participants from 15 countries. The EMA will have a separate Marathon in 2017 to be hosted in Poland. In Arhus (DEN) were scheduled the EMA

General Assembly, where is planned full election for all positions in EMA Council. I also provide information about several European Interstate championships which were held in Germany, France, Belgium and Czech Republic. The EMA received Money through WMA which was used for a two seminars. Emanuela Baggiolini – EMA Academy Manager, presented an ambitious podium with four top athletes who spoke about “Athletics for Life”. A second seminar was held in Vila Real de Santo Antonio during the Non-Stadia championship. Dr. Martine Prevous talked about “Women in Athletics – health and fitness problems”.

Future Championships:

The next EMMRC 2017 will be in Spain on April 30th.

Stadia Championships in Aarhus (DEN) from July 26th up to August 5th 2017.

For the first time EMA provides a separate Marathon in Wroclaw (POL) September 10th, 2017.

EMA Championships Stadia 2019 was planned in Venice Metropolis, in the cities Jesolo, Eraclea and Caorle (ITA).

8. EMA Bidding visit for EMACI 2018, Pombal (POR), Madrid 13, 2017

After resigning from organization EMACI 2018 in Apeldoorn/Netherland in October 2016 the EMA Council start seeking and asked affiliates for organization EMACI 2018.

The EMA Council received two proposals from the city of Madrid and Pombal in Portugal.

In bidding visit EMA was represented by Jerzy Krauze – Vice President and Helena Carvalho – Secretary. The visit was devoted for technical possibilities of organization European Masters Championships Indoor 2018.

The Real Federación Española de Atletismo (RFEA) together with the Mayor of Madrid is standing behind of this project.

In Madrid at the meetings attended:

- Jerzy Krauze, EMA Vice President
- Helena Carvalho, EMA General Secretary
- Raul Chapado Serrano - President RFEA
- José Luis de Carlos - General Secretary RFEA
- Javier Odriozola - General Manager of Sports in Madrid
- Pablo Salazar - General Manager Sports Commune in Madrid
- Isidro Arranz - President Regional Athletics Federation
- Fernando Marquina - Masters Department RFEA
- Margarita Imeno – Director Gallur Sports Center Madrid

9. EMA Bidding visit for EMACI 2018, Pombal (POR), January 20, 2017

Bidding visit EMA Council members have been done by Jerzy Krauze – Vice President and Helena Carvalho – General Secretary, was scheduled in the city of Pombal in Portugal on January 20th, 2017.

Jorge Vieira - President of Portugal Athletics' Federation pointed out that Pombal's bid for EMACI 2018 was a bid of the City of Pombal and of the Portugal Athletics' Federation as well. Both bidders (Pombal and Madrid) guaranteed a high quality organizing EMACI 2018.

At the meeting in Pombal attended:

- Jerzy Krauze, EMA Vice President
- Helena Carvalho, EMA General Secretary
- Diogo Mateus, Mayor of the Municipality of Pombal
- Jorge Vieira, President of the Portugal Athletics Federation
- Luís Jesus, President of the Masters Athletics Federation
- António Reis, Chairman of the Regional Athletics Federation
- Fernando Parreira, Deputy Mayor and director of the LOC
- António Monteiro, LOC
- Jose Paulo Oliveira, LOC

The EMA Council took the final decision in February 2017 and decided that next EMA Indoor Championships 2018 will take place in Madrid in Spain.

10. World Masters Athletics Indoor - DAEGU 2017

In accordance of the decision EMA Council Meeting held in 3rd December 2016 in Lausanne and I was appointed delegate by the EMA Council as Regional Representative in WMA Championships Indoor in Daegu.

In my daily duties was belong attending in 1st LOC Technical Meeting, daily Managers Technical Meeting, visits venues of the championships and support the LOC in the organization. On behalf of EMA Council, I attended several times during medals awarding ceremonies.

Furthermore I helped many times athletes when they had technical problems or general information's about competitions, especially for East of Europe and translations from English to Russian language.

This time in Daegu the WMA Council has not provide its Council Meeting or Regional Meeting, but almost every day the EMA President – Stan Perkins summarized competition days with the Regional Representatives.

In the mean time during my staying in Daegu I wrote two articles titled:

“World Masters Athletics Indoor - DAEGU 2017”, „Goodbye Daegu – Welcome in Torun 2019”, which has been posted on EMA website.

It is necessary to note that on the occasion of my presence in Daegu and being appointed Deputy Chairman of the LOC WMACI Torun 2019, I was asked by the Mayor of Torun and Polish Masters Athletics for doing several representation actions.

On the end of the closing ceremony I took a speech where I thanked the Mayor of Daegu and the LOC for preparation and providing Championships. I also invited athletes and all guests from all over the world to enjoy athletics – WMACI 2019 in Poland as well as I handed over honorary WMA flag for the next organizer of the World Masters Indoor Championships in 2019.

11. EMA development and contact with affiliates

I would like to point out that during my post within 7 years as EMA Vice President I have taken a number of initiatives that have contributed the development Masters athletics, mainly in Europe and worldwide.

Together with Polish Athletics Association and Polish Masters Athletics, I was always standing in the first row in preparations several biddings for championships and local organizing committees.

Until now, there has been no such person in EVAA/EMA Council that would have hosted so many international athletics championships in the country of his origin.

Let me remind myself the initiatives hold in Poland:

- Bidding Bydgoszcz/Torun (POL) for WMACS 2016/17 - Sacramento (USA), 2011
- Support (Polish LOC in Bogatynia/Zgorzelec) – EVAA 2012 – Zittau (GER), Hradec (CZE), Zgorzelec (POL)
- Support LOC - European Masters Mountain Running - MMRC Nowa Ruda 2014 (POL)
- Bidding and organization - Member LOC, 10th European Masters Championships Indoor 2015 Torun (POL)
- Support in organisation LOC - EMA Marathon Championships – Wroclaw 2017 (POL)
- Bidding Torun (POL) – receiving rights for organisation WMACI Torun 2019 (POL) , Perth 2016,
- Deputy Chairman LOC WMACI Torun 2019

Since 2012, I started an initiative with publishing on EVAA/EMA website affiliates indoor and stadia championships calendar.

Thanks of that duty, I had a chance to contact with affiliates representatives and contact persons. Every yearly I exchanged a lot emails between affiliates and collect important information's concern national championships calendar.

That was a perfect tool for confrontations and excellent way for promotion development through EMA affiliates.

At this place my words of appreciation must go to Hans-Peter Skala (GER) – EMA Webmaster, who during my post has been published all information's and important updates on the EVAA and EMA website.

I would like to mention that in 2011, I was responsible for elaboration and updating the draft document (modified 2015) titled: “Report from the European Masters Athletics Championships”, which is used every time by all LOC's during preparation the final report after hold championships, this is posted on EMA-Documents website.

The other great document which I was responsible in 2012 is titled: “Masters' Development Programme”. Mentioned programme was created in 2004 by Dieter Massin (GER) – EMA Honorary Live President and other editors like: Charles Gozzoli (FRA), Lamberto Vacchi (ITA), Winfried Vonstein (GER) and Willi Maurer (GER).

With a great pleasure I worked on this elaboration, where I had an opportunity to upgrade a few chapters to “Masters' Development Programme”. Program is published on EMA-Academy website.

Jerzy Krauze

EMA Vice President

Report of European Masters Athletics General Secretary - Helena Maria Pires de Carvalho

After EOGA Ancona 2016 the work as EMA General Secretary continues to be full-time. During these months I supported all Council Members with all information. My first priority was to update the Website, the addresses of Affiliates Countries, all projects and all documents of EMA.

As General Secretary of EMA as usual I continued to communicate with affiliates, athletes, advertisers and a countless amount of not important e-mails, that I also had to devote my time and attention.

A high percentage of the affiliate emails was mainly directed to the EMA competitions, Montcada – Spain, Aarhus - Denmark and Wroclaw – Poland), organization and bidding of the future EMA Championships (Madrid 2018 – Spain and Alicante 2018 – Spain), entries and records matters and these were treated by me and by the EMA members in teamwork.

EMA website it is not frequently used for communication/information, promotion of initiatives by the large majority of our affiliates, so it is an aim for the future to promote among affiliates the suitable use of the EMA site.

Both EMA and the Affiliates countries should update the EMA website with more news, updates and other items to promote the championships, as well as the correct use of the internet and website for information.

In many regions there is the need also to ensure that EMA Affiliates websites are more regularly updated. Some did not make any change or even updated their information.

Relationships with and among affiliates should be worked on despite having seen an improvement. There is still work to be done and Affiliates still need to be more pro-active in their country too.

The communication between EMA and all Affiliates is very important, the reason that I updated the addresses of all affiliates. Many thanks to Affiliates that have helped to make my life a little easier in the last few months, having e-mail addresses updated but I do need to know when changes are made and details of the new members.

I would like to thank the majority of affiliated members for their cooperation so that I can meet the goals of the EMA, for the sake of its athletes and affiliates.

The EMA meetings during the European Championships with the Affiliates tighten the relations between these two entities.

My goal during the period in which I served as EMA Secretary was EMA ever-continuous development. I work hard during this period and sometime the mistakes appear. When it happened I always tried to fix them and never blame someone else for them.

I renew my thanks to everyone who has made my work profitable and more enjoyable.

Helena Maria Pires de Carvalho
EMA General Secretary

Report of European Masters Athletics appointed Technical Director, Martin Roald-Arbøl

After the elected EMA Technical Director, Tony Liestøl (NOR), stepped down from his position in January 2016, I was appointed by the EMA Council to work in his position until the closing of EMACS 2017 in Aarhus. I was of course very honoured – but to be honest also a little bit scared by the big responsibility and the size of the workload included in this important position.

My main task has been the preparations of **EMACS 2017 in Aarhus**, which I have followed very close from the first day in my job. It has of course been very convenient that the championships are taking place in my own country, Denmark, which has made the communication and contact very easy. But first of all I have to thank the LOC team of Aarhus, chaired by Mikkel Larsen, for their excellent and professional work, which has made my job much easier!

During the one and a half year I have been present at the following events and activities in my capacity as EMA TD:

- EMACI 2016 in Ancona, 29 March – 3 April 2016
- 1st Technical Visit EMACS 2017 in Aarhus, 30 September – 1 October 2016
- EMA Council Meeting in Lausanne, 2 – 4 December 2016
- 2nd Technical Visit EMACS 2017 in Aarhus, 24 February 2017
- EA European Championships in Belgrade, 3 – 5 March 2017
- EMA Council Meeting in Lausanne, 5 – 7 May 2017
- Technical Visit EMACI 2018 in Madrid, 28 – 29 May 2017
- 3rd Technical Visit EMACS 2017 in Aarhus, 27 June 2017

One important thing I have realized during my work until now is the need of a bigger team of EMATO's (European Masters Technical Officials), and if possible a closer co-operation with European Athletics concerning recruitment and education of technical officials for our Masters Championships.

For the future we still have to increase the quality of all our competitions. We need qualified and experienced bidders. And we need more bidders. It is important to bring all the best from one organizer to the next. EMA should be the link to secure that the baton is handed over in the best way!

Martin Roald-Arbøl

EMA appointed Technical Director

Report of European Masters Athletics Treasurer, JEAN THOMAS

General :

Dear friends, dear Affiliates, it is with great pleasure that I present my report, which is the last one, as EMA Treasurer.

Since our last E.O.G.A. in Ancona last year, EMA has pursued its policy in favour of the development of the Master movement in Europe, especially by trying to improve the quality of our European Championships.

You will find in the next pages the Auditor's report and the audited financial statements: the balance sheet, Profit & Loss Account and the budget for 2017-2018. I would like to make some comments:

Balance Sheet:

on the 31st of December 2016, EMA's liquidity position amounted to 135 029 € against 120.668 € on the 31st December 2015, increasing by 14.361 €. This increase is the consequence of the good result of the financial year 2016. It is interesting to notice that our Working Capital (W.C.) is also increasing amounting to 137.966 € at the end of the year 2016 against 119.079 € at the end of the year 2015. This ratio measures the capacity to cover the short term debts. It also shows how we are able to satisfy the upcoming operational expenses. This amount of 137.966 € represents more than one year of operational expenses, that is enough to ensure our financial stability.

Profit & Loss Account:

Income:

During the accounting period 2016 our revenues amounted to 110.164 €. Compared with the previous year (93.068 €) this represents an increase by 18% while our budget for 2016 expected 103.000 €. The reason of this increase is that our revenues from the Championships have gone from 83.626 € to 94.611 € with two European Championships in Ancona and Vila Real de Santo Antonio. During this year we have received 9.052 € as grant from EA and 6.494 € from IAAF through WMA.

Expenses:

The expenses amounted to 91.276 €. They are under the budget (103.000 €) but increasing by 15% compared with the previous year (78.977 €). This differential results from the increases of the expenses concerning our relationship with the international bodies.

As a result:

The accounting period ending December 31, 2016 concluded with a surplus of 18.888 €. The prior accounting period ended with a surplus of 14.091 € while the year 2014 ended with a deficit of 16.573 € (due to the high cost and the low number of athletes in Izmir

Budget 2017:

The expected income for the period 2017/2018 amount to 209.700 € with two main Championships in Aarhus and Madrid. That is a little more than the average of the two previous championships indoor (Ancona) and stadia (Izmir). Regarding the expenses, the estimated amount is also 209.700 €, showing a balanced budget. As a result the coming years should lead EMA to a stable financial situation.

Conclusion :

Coming to the end of my duties as Treasurer after two mandates, I want to thank you very much for your trust and also thank my colleagues Council members for their trust and for their understanding and cooperation in taking care of the EMA finances. I also want to thank European Athletics and IAAF through WMA for their financial support.

Since I have been elected in 2008 I have tried to do my best to manage the finances of EMA and to improve the Working Capital, which is the main ratio of the balance sheet and then the best measure of the financial health of any association or company. This ratio has raised from 79.726 € in 2008 to 137.966 € in 2016. Also, with 135.029 € today at the bank, I let our association in a good financial position to continue to develop the Masters movement in Europe.

Jean Thomas
EMA Treasurer