MINUTE OF THE EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF EMA
ANCONA (ITA)
31st March 2016, PALAINDOOR

Present:

Jean Garcia	EAA Vice-President
Pierre Weiss	IAAF Master Commission
Giacomo Leone	FIDAL Vice President
Serge Becker	WMA Vice President Stadia
Selma Turkkal	WMA Women's Representative
Kurt Kaschke	EMA President
Jerzy Krauze	EMA Vice-President
Jean Thomas	EMA Treasurer
Martin Arboel	EMA Acting Technical Director and Stadia Manager
Helena Maria Pires de Carvalho	EMA Secretary and Indoor Manager
Delegates of affiliated Countries	

1. OPENING AND FORMALITIES

1.1 Opening of the General Assembly

At 08:00h EMA President Kurt Kaschke welcomed the Vice-President of EA Jean Gracia, Vice President of FIDAL Giacomo Leone, members of the WMA Council, delegates and guests.
A special welcome was addressed to the new Affiliate from Kosovo.
There were welcoming words from Jean Garcia. He first gave a short overview about the situation in IAAF and presented information and details about the integration of Masters Athletics in EA. WMA Serge Beckers sent best regards from President Stan Perkins. He pointed out that EMA has contributed a lot to the Masters' Movement and change of the EVAA Constitution into a new one continues the development in accordance with the WMA Constitution.
EMA received a couple of excuses of members and individuals who could not attend this meeting.
It was asked to all representatives to get up and to share a minute of silence for our friends in sports who passed away.

1.2 General Information

EOGA booklet was sent by email and distributed before this meeting. EMA's old constitution was not clear in its wording, concerning the mandate and the GA because of the changing years of stadia and indoor championships in WMA.
It was present by EMA Council to the Delegates a motion to give EMA Council the support for continuing their mandate as follow:

> The mandate of the Treasurer and the President will continue until the General Assembly (Stadia Championship) in 2017 in Aarhus (Denmark).
> The mandate of the Secretary and Vice-President will end in 2017 in Aarhus as well.
The motion was approved, as follows:
Yes (approval): 59 votes, No (rejecting): 0 votes, Abstention: 1 vote.

1.3Approval of the Agenda - The agenda was approved with no objections.

1.4 Confirmation that EOGA has been properly convened
The General Assembly has been properly convened. The agenda arrived on time, and the invitation letter indicates the date, place and time for the GA. At the same time the booklet was distributes online and sent by mail before the EOGA Ancona 2016.

1.5 Election of two (2) Delegates for the Minutes of Meeting
Proper Minutes of today's meeting (of the discussions as well as the resolutions) shall be held, by two Delegates. The elected persons are Colette Ruineau (France) and Fennie van Osch (Netherlands) that shall be responsible for the certification of the minutes of the meeting.

1.6 Appointment of two (2) Scrutinisers for the Ballots
According to Art. 6.5 the chairman designates two scrutinisers The elected persons were Luisa Casanovas (Spain) and Dr. Matthias Reick (Germany) as the scrutinizers of the present Assembly.

1.7 Proceedings for the Voting and the Election
According to Article 6.5 of the Constitution, elections and resolutions shall take place openly. On request of 2/5 of the members, the EOGA may decide on secret ballot on particular items.

2. RECEIPT OF THE REPORTS

2.1 Report of the President
Kurt Kaschke presented a few remarks concerning the future of EMA and officers who should be elected in 2017 in Aarhus and referred also to the election that will be held in 2016, in Perth, Australia. He added that to run for any position the candidates must support our movement, have time, skills, communicate in English easily and have the support of the National Federation and of the family.
No comments and no questions.

2.2 Report of the Vice-President
Jerzy Krauze informed the audience that the Marathon excluded from EMACS will be integrated into the Marathon in Wroclaw, Poland.
No comments and no questions.

2.3 Report of the Secretary
Nothing to add. No comments and no questions.

2.5 Report of the Treasurer
No comments and no questions.

2.6 Report of the Auditors
Vesa Lappalainen pointed out that EMA Treasurer Jean Thomas did a sufficient job. He regretted that the Auditors had no access to Council meeting minutes.

2.7. Report of Statistics
Ivar Soederlind would be grateful for all the information provided by European Affiliates.

Kurt Kaschke thanked Ivar and his team for their excellent statistical work. All athletes with a new European/World record received an EMA Diploma in honor of their record. It was sent to their Federation. Responsible person for these diplomas is Bernd Rehpenning (GER).

2.8.Report of EMA Academy and Women Representative
Emanuela Baggiolini focused on the seminar "Life Stories in Athletics", open to everyone.

2.9.Report of the Anti-Doping and Advisor
No comments.

3. APPROVAL OF THE REPORTS

3.1 Reports of the Council Members

The Council proposed to the EOGA to approve the reports of the Council Members as they were presented. The reports put on vote were approved, as follows:
Yes (approval): 55 votes, No (rejecting): 0 votes, Abstention: 4 votes.

3.2 Report of the Auditors

The report of the Auditors was approved as follows:
Yes (approval): 59 votes, No (rejecting): 0 votes, Abstention: 0 votes.

There should be the Election of two (2) Auditors and one (1) Deputy in the General Assembly. EMA Council presented the following proposal:
The previous Auditors and the deputy must continue their duties until the next General Assembly in Aarhus 2017. So the following persons have been accepted as Auditors and Deputy by the Assembly, respectively: Nicola Maggio (ITA) and Vesa Lappalainen (FIN) as Auditors.
Zlatan Hrelja (BiH) as Deputy.

4. PROPOSALS

4.1 EMA Council Proposal of a New Constitution

The President gave the floor to Pierre Weiss who as accepted (as he did for the WMA) to act as a legal adviser and to reflect on the changes which had to be made in the EMA legal documents. Indeed, the current Statutes (even amended three times since its creation) has be written in 2004 and the By Laws approved by the 2008 Congress in Ljubljana.

Pierre Weiss explained that to have two documents (Statutes and By Laws) was maybe not the best situation: it creates confusion when someone is looking for a specific clause and does not know where to find it ! Furthermore, it was found out that some clauses of the By Laws were in contradiction with the Statutes itself. The study which was conducted concluded also that some basic topics were neither in the Statutes, nor in the By Laws.

During its meeting in Basel in December 2014, the Council came to the conclusion that a single document would be the best option ! It would be longer of course, but will be far much more clear to understand and more coherent. Several versions were circulated in the last 18 months amongst the EMA Council members, bearing in mind that the new EMA Statutes has to

- take advantage of the experience of the IAAF Statutes,

- be in line with the WMA Statutes approved by the August 2015 WMA Congress in Lyons
- to be in compliance with the Swiss Law (Code Civil Suisse), the EMA Headquarters being located in Lausanne.

In December 2015, EMA had circulated the text to all it National members (with even a slightly amended version on 2nd March 2016).

In fact there were no major changes; the additional clauses were clarifying the issues of

- Membership: affiliation procedure, termination of membership … (section C)
- organisation of the General Assemblies: nomination of the delegates, quorum, requested majorities … (section D)
- vacancies on the Council … EMA dissolution … Dispute … matters

Pierre Weiss also explained to the Congress why the words "Elections and" at the start of the clause 12.12 had to be deleted.

Came then a long debate regarding the "auditors"! It was first agreed to add "including minutes of the EMA Counci Meetingsl" in the clause 24.4.

Then came the question on who should be auditors (clause 24.1): two people nominated by the Congress ? or an "independent professional auditor" ? It was agreed that the use of an independent professional auditor (whose choice was in the hands of the Council – clause 17.2.29) was a real benefit for the association and had the merit to guarantee the accuracy of the EMA Finances on the accounting aspect. But several Delegates took the floor to insist on keeping the "auditors nominated by the Congress within representatives of the Federations" having therefore a possibility to judge if the finances were handled in line with the Congress decision ! The proposal by Vesa Lapalainen (Delegate off Finland) to give to the auditors the right to judge the general administration of EMA was not agreed; another Delegate suggested that EMA should create a "Governance Commission" which would have this authority: to be discussed in the future.

At the end of the discussion, there were two options: only one professional auditor or a combination between this professional auditor and two auditors appointed by the Council. A vote was held and, by 27 to 25, the second option was chosen.

Finally, based on the comments made by Artur Kimber, delegate of Great Britain, the Congress approved that the text of the new Statutes should be revised in order to have a perfect English text, as IAAF does with the clause 4.45 of its own Constitution.

To conclude, Pierre Weiss indicated that the next steps were!

- Approval of the Statutes by the 2016 EMA Congress in Ancona
- Registration by the EMA Council of this text to the "Registre du Commerce du Canton de Vaud" in Lausanne, Switzerland
- Approval of the text by the Swiss authorities

The Congress took the following decisions (all unanimously with one exception detailed above or the clause 24.1)

- to approve the changes discussed during the Council in the clauses 12.12, 24.1 and 24.4 (as well as the consequent changes in other clauses)

- to give mandate to the Council to improve the quality of the English ("editorial amendments") based on the IAAF Statutes clause 4.5
- to approve the amended text
- to give mandate to the Council to register this text in Switzerland
- to agree that this text will come into force as soon as the Swiss Authorities will have accept it
- to consider then, as non valid anymore, the current EMA Statutes and EMA By Laws

Votes for the New Constitution including the updated paragraphs:
Anonously accepted by the EOGA

4.2 Election of the hosting City of EMACS 2019

The representatives of the City of Venice, Jesolo, Caorle and Ereclea presented their bidding and promised excellent Championships.
After a few questions from the Assembly the proposal was approved by acclamation.
Kurt Kaschke congratulated the team of FIDAL and LOC for their motivating preparation and he passed the "Baton of Team Work" to the people who will work together the next years to prepare excellent Masters Athletics Stadia Championship in a beautiful area of the north part of Italy.

5. PRESENTATIONS

5.1 EMACNS 2016 in Vila Real de Santo Antonio

Alexandre Monteiro (Managing Director) presented the Championship and asked the Team Leaders for cooperation during the last weeks of preparation.

5.2 EMACS 2017 in Aarhus (Denmark)

The representatives of Aarhus presented the host city of EMACS 2017 and invited all delegates to be present in Aarhus.

5.3 EMMC 2017 Wroclaw (Poland)

Wroclaw was presented by Jerzy Krauze who invited all delegates to be publish these championship among their athletes and officials.

5.4 EMACI 2018 Apeldoorn (NEL)

Representatives of Apeldoorn could not represent the next Indoor Championship because of some questions concerning the contract.

5.5 EMACNS 2018 London (GB and NI)

EMA cannot accept the bid of the British Masters Athletics Legacy in cooperation with BMAF because it was not sanctioned by the National Governing Body (UKA). At this moment nothing has been signed neither by the Municipality of London nor by UK Athletics
EMA has to find another bidder for the EMACNS 2018. Kurt Kaschke encouraged delegates to contact their National Federation to send EMA Council a letter of interest referring to this championship. It would be nice to pass EMA's flag in Vila Real de Santo Antonio.

6. INVITATION TO EMA GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2017 IN AARHUS

The next Ordinary General Assembly will be held during EMACS 2017 in Aarhus (Denmark) on August 1st at 9.00h.

7. Closing of the Assembly

Kurt Kaschke ended GA thanking for the confidence granted to the Council and thanked the approval to all the today's proposals.
Further thanks went also to Jean Gracia, Alfio Giomi and Pierre Weiss who always have been a partner to EMA and for their support and commitment of Masters Athletics in European Athletics.
May we all enjoy "athletics for life".

Kurt Kaschke
EMA President

Helena Pires de Carvalho
EMA Secretary

Delegates for the certification of the General Assembly minute

Colette Ruineau
France

Fennie van Osch
Netherlands