

**Minutes of the AEC General Assembly 2012**  
**St Petersburg State Conservatoire "N.A. Rimski-Korsakov"**  
**St Petersburg - Russia**  
**10 November 2012**

Pascale De Groote, AEC President, welcomes the AEC members and opens the AEC General Assembly

### 1. Minutes of the 2011 General Assembly in Valencia

The Minutes are unanimously approved by the members present.

### 2. President's Report on the AEC activities: Annual Report 2011 (and Activities 2012)

More details for the year 2011 can be found in the AEC Annual Report 2011 (available in English, French and German), including a summary of the 2011 Annual Accounts. In her presentation, Pascale De Groote addresses the following issues:

- Membership: in 2011, the AEC had 269 members (235 Active and 34 Associate Members)
- AEC Council (members and roles): at the end of 2011, a new Vice-President and two Council members were elected:
  - **Vice-President:** Hubert Eiholzer (Conservatorio della Svizzera Italiana, Lugano, Switzerland)
  - **Council members:** Bruno Carioti (Conservatoire "A. Casella" in L'Aquila, Italy, returning for a second term) and Harrie van den Elsen (School of Performing Arts - Prince Claus Conservatoire and Dance Academy Lucia Marthas Amsterdam/Groningen of the Hanze University of Applied Sciences Groningen, The Netherlands).
- AEC Council Meetings: Council met three times in 2012. In addition, two Executive Committee meetings took place between these Council meetings. Both Council and ExCom worked on following:
  - Reviewing the progress made during 2011 in implementing the actions planned in the Strategic Plan 2011-15 and agreeing on the targets for 2012
  - Establishing student representation in 1 Council meeting per year
  - Preparing and evaluating AEC meetings and platforms in 2012
  - Preparing the 2012 Congress and General Assembly
  - Agreeing the AEC Office move to Brussels and the revised Statutes proposed for this
  - For the Executive Committee, acting as Nominations Committee to prepare the Council Elections.
- Personnel changes within the AEC Office: from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2012:
  - Julia Wack (appointed as Office Manager in November 2011) was replaced by Lotte Dieleman, who was appointed as Office Coordinator in January 2012
  - Lotte Dieleman was replaced by Maarten Aarse in July 2012.
- Policy Development: actions were undertaken in 2012 to implement the AEC Strategic Plan 2011-2015, adopted at the 2010 General Assembly. These 2012 actions are to be evaluated by the Council Meeting in March 2013, and the results published in the Annual Report 2012. For the performance against targets for 2011 see the Annual Report 2011.
- AEC Regular Activities (see Annual Report 2011).
- Quality Enhancement and Accreditation Activities:
  - 2 quality enhancement processes were organised: in Brisbane, Australia and Reykjavik, Iceland
  - 2 joint collaborative reviews were organised: in Russia with the National Centre of Quality Assurance, and in The Netherlands within the Dutch Accreditation Organisation's framework.
- Projects in which the AEC played an active role during 2011/12 were:
  - ERASMUS Network for Music 'Polifonia' [2011-2014]
  - AEC Project on Ranking Indicators for Musical Outputs (PRIMO)

- TEMPUS Project: 'Introducing Interdisciplinarity in Music Studies in the Western Balkans in Line with European Perspective' (InMusWB).
- Representation and Advocacy (see Annual Report 2011)
- Partnerships with other organisations (see Annual Report 2011)
- AEC Websites 2012-2013: Progress has been made on developing a new website for the AEC. It will encompass all the existing separate websites, and is scheduled to be launched early in 2013.
- Activities 2013
  - Pop & Jazz Platform meeting, Mannheim, 15-16 February 2013
  - European Platform for Artistic Research in Music (EPARM), Lyon, 18-20 April 2013
  - Early Music Platform Forum, Utrecht, 30-31 August 2013
  - Meeting for International Relations Coordinators, Antwerp, 13-14 September 2013
  - Annual Congress 2013, Palermo, 7-9 November 2013.

In September 2012, in the light of a change in circumstances in Utrecht, Council approved the move of the AEC Office to Brussels with effect from January 2013.

### 3. Financial Report of the Secretary General (Jörg Linowitzki)

Jörg Linowitzki, AEC Secretary General, draws the attention of the General Assembly to the overall financial position of the Association. He shows slides of the summary overview of the accounts, which can also be found in the AEC Annual Report 2011 that has been given to the participants, together with a copy of the forecast outturn for 2012 and first provisional budget for 2013.

The complete annual accounts are available to the members upon request. The full text of the financial report is also available to the members upon request.

The Secretary General thanks the external auditors Claire Michon ((Centre d'Etudes Supérieures de Musique et de Danse de Poitou-Charentes - CESMD) and Henk van der Meulen (Royal Conservatoire, The Hague) for their work. He informs the General Assembly that they both recommend to the General Assembly the acceptance of the 2011 accounts.

- The General Assembly unanimously approves the 2011 Accounts
- The General Assembly unanimously approves the Forecast Outturn 2012
- The General Assembly unanimously approves the Budget proposal 2013.

Finally, the Secretary General asks for the approval to the appointment of Martin Ullrich (Hochschule für Musik Nürnberg) and Staffan Storm (Malmö Academy of Music) as external auditors for the 2012 budget.

- The General Assembly approves their appointment.

Proposed new membership fee structure:

Discussions with ELIA about a coordinated fee structure are on-going, but have proven to be a long-term process. To cover for inflation since 2007 and additional costs related to the Office moving to Brussels, a new fee system is proposed. This system had a greater number of fee bands to differentiate better between countries' Gross National Income.

- The General Assembly approves the new fee structure
- The General assembly also approves of the proposed fees for 2013.

### 4. Elections to the Council

The General Assembly unanimously approves the appointment of Rineke Smilde (Prince Claus Conservatoire, Groningen) and Dan Dediu (Universitatea Nationala de Muzica Bucuresti) as Election Officers.

- Council seats:
  - Antonio Narejos Bernabeu is at the end of his first term and is standing for re-election
  - Andras Batta is at the end of his first term and has decided to step down
  - Mist Thorkelsdottir has completed the maximum of two terms.

The President thanks the leaving members for their work.

Candidates for the vacant Council seats are:

- Antonio Narejos Bernabéu, Superior Conservatory of Music of Murcia
- Deborah Kelleher, Royal Irish Academy of Music
- Georg Schulz, University of Music and Performing Arts Graz (KUG).

- RESULTS:

The results of the Council members' election are announced after lunch: Antonio Narejos Bernabéu, is elected for a second term; Deborah Kelleher and Georg Schulz are elected for a first term.

## 5. Revised Proposal on Honorary Awards

Following the 2011 General Assembly in Valencia, the Council has revised the proposal (the revised document has been circulated to members).

- The General Assembly unanimously approves the Revised Proposal on Honorary Awards.

## 6. AEC Office move to Brussels

AEC is to be established as an International Non-profit Organisation (INPA) in Belgium. Changes to the statutes are needed according to Belgian law (see Document *Revisions to statutes required for the creation of a Belgian Association* handed out before the General Assembly and available upon request).

- The General Assembly approves these changes unanimously, including the additional suggestion received about 5.8 final sentence.
- Signed statements will be required from all members to confirm their membership to the new Belgian Association.
- The General Assembly mandates AEC Council to authorise any further legal and related actions that might prove necessary to ensure the successful transition of AEC from a Dutch to a Belgian Association, provided that these do not directly contradict anything that has so far been seen and agreed

## 7. Confirmation of new members, withdrawals and exclusions

- The following institutions have been accepted as Active Members in 2012:
  - Yerevan State Komitas Conservatory, Yerevan, Armenia
  - Rostov State S.V. Rachmaninov Conservatoire, Rostov, Russia
  - University College of Opera Stockholm, Stockholm, Sweden
  - Conservatorio Di Musica Di Castelfranco Veneto "A. Steffani", Castelfranco Veneto, Italy
  - Municipal Conservatoire of Thermi, Thermi, Greece
  - Conservatorio di Musica "Umberto Giordano", Foggia, Italy
  - 'Transilvania' University of Brasov, Brasov, Romania
  - Moscow A. Schnittke State Music Institute, Moscow, Russia
  - Victor Popov Academy of Choral Arts, Moscow, Russia
  - University of Applied Sciences – Faculty of Arts, Vilnius, Lithuania
  - Conservatorio di Musica "Domenico Cimarosa" di Avellino, Avellino, Italy
  - Istanbul Technical University, Turkish Music State Conservatory, Istanbul, Turkey
  - Conservatorio di Musica "Giovanni Battista Martini", Bologna, Italy
  - Saint Louis College of Music, Rome, Italy
  - Lebanese Higher Conservatory of Music, Beirut, Lebanon.
- The following institutions has been accepted as Associate Members in 2012:
  - Musica Impulscentrum voor Muziek, Neerpelt, Belgium
  - Fondation Royaumont, Asnières-sur-Oise, France
  - Cappella Musicale Pontificia "Sistina", Rome, Italy
  - Music Department of the Mason Gross School of the Arts, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, New Brunswick, USA

- The Banff Centre Music Department, Banff, Alberta – Canada.
- There have been no withdrawals in 2012.
- The following institutions have been excluded from the Association for failing to pay fees in 2010 and 2011:
  - Johann Joseph Fux Konservatorium, Graz, Austria
  - University of Nicosia – Department of Music, Nicosia, Cyprus
  - University of Macedonia – Department of Music, Thessaloniki, Greece
  - Music in the Middle East, Bergen, Netherlands
  - Anadolu University – School of Music and Drama, Eskisehir, Turkey.
- The AEC has now 286 members.

## 8. Future congresses

- The next Congress will take place at the Conservatorio di Musica ‘Vincenzo Bellini’, Palermo, Italy on 7-9 November 2013
- The 2014 Congress will take place on 6-8 November 2014 at the Franz Liszt Academy of Music, Budapest, Hungary (***N.B. these dates have subsequently been revised to 13-15 November***)
- The 2015 Congress will take place on 5-7 November 2015 at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, Glasgow, UK (***N.B. these dates have subsequently been revised to 12-14 November***)

## 9. Commemoration of Johannes Johansson’s Life and Achievements

The General Assembly remembers AEC Honorary President Johannes Johansson’s passing earlier in 2012. As an enduring memorial to Johannes the Johannes Johansson Travel Bursaries are announced, to be used by students as well as staff to travel to the AEC Congress.

## 10. Any other business

There are no issues to be discussed under this heading.