

MINUTES OF THE AEC GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2016

GOTHENBURG, SWEDEN

12 November 2016

Pascale De Groote, AEC President, welcomes the AEC members, opens the AEC General Assembly and establishes that the statutory and legal provisions required for this assembly and the topics to be discussed have been complied with by the board.

1. Minutes of the 2015 General Assembly in Glasgow

- ✓ The Minutes are unanimously approved by the members present

2. President's Report on Activities: Annual Report 2015 and activities to November 2016

More details for the year 2015 can be found in the AEC Annual Report 2015 (available online in English, French and German), including a summary of the 2015 Annual Accounts. In her presentation, Pascale De Groote addresses the following issues:

- **Membership:** At the end of 2015, the AEC had 297 members (260 Active and 37 Associate Members)
- **AEC Council** (members and roles): At the end of 2015, one new Council member was elected: Ingeborg Radok-Žádná. Membership of Council from November 2015 to November 2016 was therefore as follows:
 - President: **Pascale De Groote**, Antwerpen, Belgium
 - Vice-Presidents: **Georg Schulz**, Graz, Austria, **Eirik Birkeland**, Oslo, Norway
 - Secretary General: **Jörg Linowitzki**, Lübeck, Germany
- Council Members: **Kaarlo Hildén**, Helsinki, Finland; **Deborah Kelleher**, Dublin, Ireland; **Grzegorz Kurzyński**, Wrocław, Poland; **Jacques Moreau**, Lyon, France; **Ingeborg Radok-Žádná**, Prague, Czech Republic; **Evis Sammoutis**, Nicosia, Cyprus; **Claire Mera-Nelson**, London, UK; **Harrie Van Den Elsen**, Groningen, Netherlands.
- Co-opted member representing Associate members: **Don McLean**, Toronto, Canada
- **AEC Council Meetings:** AEC Council met three times in 2015-2016. In addition, two Executive Committee meetings took place between these Council meetings. Both Council and ExCom worked on the following issues during the year:
 - Reviewing the last year of the 5-year strategic plan 2011-2015 and approving the final list of actions for 2015, as well as fine-tuning and implementing the AEC Strategic Plan for 2016-20;
 - Preparing the events and platforms and monitoring their success.
 - Council and ExCom were preparing the 2016 Congress and those in future years as well as the General Assembly 2016, ensuring that appropriate arrangements have been put in place for the election of new AEC Council members.
 - During 2016, Council and ExCom also evaluated and monitored the various projects AEC is involved in, and monitored external relations. Membership matters were discussed (as well as the election rules), and the AEC's finances were examined closely.
- **Personnel changes within the AEC Office:**
 - Stefan Gies, has been appointed as new AEC CEO since October 1st 2015 and has successfully completed his first year as the new CEO.
 - Linda Messas continued her functions within the review body MusiQuE and the AEC and is back from maternity leave since March.
 - Sara Primiterra, Nerea Lopez de Vicuna, and Angela Dominguez have continued their function as usual and this will remain so at least until the end of the FULL SCORE project next summer.

- Jef Cox continues to work as project coordinator. Jef shares his time between MusiQuE and AEC (FULL SCORE project).
- Finally, several student interns have joined the staff during 2016.
- **Overview of 2016 Projects:**
 - AEC is now running the third and last year of its FULL SCORE project and the office members are in the middle of preparing for the next application round of Creative Europe's network programmes.
 - In addition, AEC is also partner in 4 Strategic Partnerships that were selected for funding by the European Commission in 2014 and 2015:
 - *The Music Master for New Audiences and Innovative Practice (NAIP)*, a two year strategic partnership aiming at the modernisation of curricula, and teaching and learning approaches in higher music education.
 - *VOXearlyMUS*: an ERASMUS + collaborative project focusing on cross-border cooperation in the field of vocal Early Music teaching as a tool to strengthen the quality of Higher Music Education.
 - *The European Chamber Music Academy (ECMA) - Next Step* is a collaborative Erasmus + project that focuses in cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices in the field of Chamber Music.
 - Finally, '*Modernising European Higher Music Education through Improvisation - METRIC*', is a cooperative project between several European conservatoires and the AEC which focuses on curriculum development and intensive cooperation in the field of improvisation, with the aim of creating a European Master course for improvisation.
 - For these projects, AEC's role is limited to promotion and dissemination, and to the appointment of an external evaluator.
 - AEC is also a partner in 2 other projects funded by the Creative Europe programme of the European Commission:
 - *The EUBO Mobile Baroque Academy (EMBA)* - EUBO stands for European Union Baroque Orchestra - is the result of a partnership formed between 10 prominent arts organizations across Europe. This project addresses Europe's heritage of baroque music, and promotes the education of emerging talent, by bringing baroque music to new audiences in innovative ways across Europe. AEC is involved through the delivery of its European Early Music platform.
 - *NE©XT Accelerator* is coordinated by ELIA. It involves 20 partners with relevant expertise from higher arts education institutes, incubator initiatives and cultural providers. It aims to support emerging artists to initiate successful international careers and to improve their capacity to make a living from their artistic production.
 - Finally, The PHExcel project has run out since last year, and one new project was acquired: The Erasmus+ project RENEW - promoting entrepreneurship in the digital era.
- **AEC Regular Activities 2016**
 - Pop & Jazz Platform, Rotterdam (February)
 - EPARM Forum, Vicenza (April)
 - Annual Meeting for International Relations Coordinators, Kraków (September)
 - Annual Congress, Gothenburg (November)
- **Upcoming events in 2017**
 - Pop & Jazz Platform, London (17-18 February)
 - Early Music Platform Forum, The Hague (23-24 March)
 - EPARM Conference, Antwerp (23-25 April)
 - IRC Meeting, Tbilisi, (21-24 September)
 - AEC Annual Congress, Zagreb (9-11 November)
- **AEC Advocacy:**
 - Activities in Brussels:
 - Hearings of the European Commission
 - Regular meetings with representatives of EACEA -The Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency at the European Commission's Department for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport.

- Contacts to members of parliament.
 - Participation in the 2016 European Culture Forum and similar events organised by the Commission in Brussels.
 - Regular contact with the European University Association.
 - Contacts with organisations at national level, such as the French association ANESCAS, the Italian Rectors' Conference, the German Academic Exchange Service. Leading AEC representatives will also attend still within this month the Congress of the Spanish Higher Music Education Institutions in San Sebastian and the US National Association of Schools of Music's annual meeting in Houston/Texas (NASM).
 - Through the FULL SCORE activities, formal cooperation has been developed and strengthened with:
 - The European Music Council (EMC)
 - The European Music Schools Union (EMU)
 - The European Association for Music in Schools (EAS)
 - The International Association of Schools of Jazz (IASJ)
 - The European Jazz Network (EJN)
 - AEC has also been in regular contact with:
 - Pearle* - the Performing Arts Employers' Associations League Europe
 - Culture Action Europe
 - ELIA - The European League of Institutes of the Arts
 - Cumulus - The International Association of Universities and Colleges of Art, Design and Media
 - Cilect - The International Association of Film and Television Schools Opera Europa
- **AEC Strategic Plan 2016-2020. Targets and Progress by October 2016:**
- Content of the document: Stefan Gies presents the main modifications in the document in comparison with the version that was presented to the members during the former General Assembly:
 - Under Aim 1 - Support and Information for Members:
 - Two targets have been added: to "communicate funding opportunities at European level to the AEC members" (1a) and "to gather and disseminate the outcomes of projects of partner organisations on the topic of refugees and diversity"(2a).
 - AEC promised also to "create a sub-website with useful links related to the above mentioned topic done" (2a) which in the meantime is done.
 - Under Aim 2 - Events and Networking:
 - A new target has been implemented, which is "to set up of a social media strategy" (4a)
 - Under Aim 3 (external links):
 - The Council decided to state to "intensify the work on Quality issues and to continue contributing to a joint education strategy together with EMU and EAS" (5a) due to the positive experiences made under the first two FULL SCORE years, to "intensify contacts with the European University Association (EUA), in particular in the field of advocacy, artistic research, inclusion by joint strategies, mutual involvement in events, mutual support" (6a) and to "gather information on European and international developments on the issue of Audience Engagement" (6b)
 - Under Aim 4 (advocacy):
 - The only small modification was to include "AEC's governance on the agenda of this General Assembly". In concrete terms, this was to consider the revision of the election rules.
 - Comments on the Revised Action Plan for 2016 (very right column of the Strategic Plan 2016-2020):
 - As the perspectives to get back into a system of project-independent operational funding from EU grants have degraded in the last time, AEC will intensify its efforts for renewing funding within the next round of the Creative Europe program. The AEC office is working hard to prepare a good and concise Creative Europe application in November 2017 (1a).
 - The concept of Artistic Patrons is no more considered to be first of all a fundraising tool, but more as an image campaign (1a).

- A new website was launched in March. The AEC's visibility on the web has since been considerably improved by implementing new online communication tools and services (1b).
- Measures have been taken to create a balanced geographical representation in working groups and platforms and when appointing experts. First successful steps are made (2a).
- The process of building up a database on Artistic Research together with SAR, ELIA and other partners is progressing (2a).
- A large number of various project ideas feeds the shape of a new application within the Creative Europe programme (2a).
- The revision of the Terms of Reference of all Platforms and Working Groups is ongoing and slightly progressing (2d).
- The U-Multirank pilot project has finalised its task in time with about 20 geographically balanced participants (2e).
- The plans to establish a Learning & Teaching platform is answering to the reproach addressed by some members, who believe that AEC would neglect to deal with its "core business" (classical music) (3b).
- The use of social media is now officially embedded in the AEC strategy (4a).
- The European Online Application System ("EASY") has become operational and might even be the starting point for envisaging a "Music HEI specific Campus Management system" (4b).
- The work of the Student WG has professionalized. Representatives are regularly involved in all major AEC activities. The long-term goal is the establishment of an independent student representation for Music HEI students at European level (4c).

3. Elections to the Executive Committee

- ✓ The General Assembly unanimously approves the appointment of Henk van der Meulen, Royal Conservatoire of The Hague, and Miren Iñarga, Musikene (Higher School of Music of The Basque Country, as Election Officers.
- There are 3 vacant seats available
 - AEC President: current member, Pascale De Groote (Belgium) - NOT eligible to stand for re-election, has completed her second term.
 - AEC Secretary General: current member, Jörg Linowitzki (Germany) - NOT eligible to stand for re-election, has completed his second term.
 - 1 Vice-President: current member, Eirik Birkeland (Norway) - NOT standing for re-election as Vice-President (he is applying for Presidency).
- Candidates for Executive Committee (ExCom):
 - Candidate for AEC President: Eirik Birkeland, Norwegian Academy of Music, Oslo, Norway;
 - Candidate for Secretary General: Harrie van den Elsen, Prince Claus Conservatoire, Groningen, The Netherlands;
 - Candidate for Vice-Presidency: Deborah Kelleher, Royal Irish Academy of Music, Dublin, Ireland.
- Results are presented at point 9 of the General Assembly.

4. Proposal for new Council election rules from 2017 onwards

- During the past year it has become clear that a part of the AEC membership is feeling uncomfortable about the AEC Council's composition and requested the adjustment of the AEC internal regulations in order to ensure a more balanced regional geographic representation at Council.
- As an answer to these demands, the AEC Council has discussed various alternatives to the current election rules, in full respect of the AEC Statutes in line with article 5.4.
 - *5.4 Members of Council including the Executive Committee are elected from among the representatives of active member institutions by the General Assembly (see Article 7). No country may be represented in the Council by more than one member*

at any given time. A regional and geographic balance of the membership of the Council is recommended.

- Long discussions and the weighing-up of different models ended up by the Council's decision to submit the following 2 options to the General Assembly to be voted:
 - To continue with the current AEC election rules
 - To vote for the new proposal (change of rules), which would be applied from November 2017 onwards. For further details about the new proposal, please refer to the document "Elections rules and principles for Council elections".

- Several comments were made by members:
 - The AEC Council was thanked for the efforts made, but it was remarked that the proposal for new election rules might not be in accordance with the article 5.4 of the AEC statutes, where is stated that "Members of Council including the Executive Committee are elected from among the representatives of active member institutions by the General Assembly", since this sentence could imply that the GA AS A WHOLE would elect ALL Council members. It is suggested to postpone the decision to next year.
 - The success of the AEC Council is not based on the origin of the Council members, but in their quality and skills. It is suggested to postpone the voting till the next General Assembly.
 - Council members currently need the financial support of their institution for travel costs, which means that members who have no support cannot apply for Council positions. The AEC Council is asked to reflect on the funding policy for travel costs of Council members.

- Given the comments above, it is decided to make a preliminary vote, to decide whether the General Assembly wants to proceed with the voting on the Rules for Council elections or prefers to postpone the voting to next year (GA 2017).
 - Members who wish to vote today are asked to raise the green card.
 - Members who wish to postpone the voting are asked to raise the red card.

- ✓ Results: 15 members raise the green card and the rest of the members raise the red card. The voting will therefore be postponed to next year.

5. Vote on phase 3 of AEC U-Multirank

- Georg Schulz explains the project plan of the AEC U-Multirank WG:
 - **Phase 1** 2014-2015: The Working Group developed a proposal of indicators;
 - **Phase 2** 2015-2016: 17 participating member-institutions representing the diversity of higher music education in Europe to test the validity and feasibility of the dimension & indicators and to revise the documents;
 - **Phase 3** from 2016 onwards: Collection of data from participating institutions and present them online through the tool of U-Multirank.

- The Motivation of the AEC WG is:
 - To be in control of the issue by developing indicators on our own;
 - To help institutions that are already participating at the level of the whole university in institutional U-Multirank;
 - To help institutions in countries where the government has decided to ask or oblige institutions for participation in U-Multirank;
 - To stay visible as the higher music education sector on European level.

- During the parallel session on Friday the following observations were made:
 - Participants unanimously assessed that the indicators provide an informed picture about an institution;
 - This exercise can support the strategy of quality enhancement within the institution;
 - It also provides the possibility of "bench-learning" from similar institutions because relevant data is available in a standardised way;
 - As well as the possibility to get the student's voice heard on institutional and on European level through the student questionnaire;
 - It is important to remark that students will not use this data to decide where to study;
 - It was remarked that finding a proper definition that fit all institutions is very difficult (high diversity in our sector). The scope is to find a balanced compromise;
 - it is a lot of work to provide data especially the first time;

- UMR allows to omit individual indicators, as it does not generate an average outcome (summing up all the indicators);
- If the existing definitions will work can only be proved through the experience of collecting data during some years;
- Some years of operation will show how the field is developing and therefore if new indicators have to be added.
- During the dialogue with the UMR team, the Working Group and UMR agreed in the following points:
 - No institution will be included in the field-based ranking for HME without the institution's explicit consent
 - It is possible for an institution to withdraw from participation after each year of operation.
 - If a field-based ranking for HME institutions is established, UMR is ready to form a joint committee with the AEC to monitor the evaluation process.
 - AEC and UMR will jointly perform a comprehensive review after four years.
- Finally, it is noted that, if supported by AEC's General Assembly, the establishment of a field-based ranking system in music within UMR, does not mean that the AEC will require or even encourage AEC member institutions to adopt the system. It will be up to the individual institution to decide whether the institution will participate or not.
- ✓ The General Assembly voted in favour the inclusion of Higher Music Education in the U-Multirank system based on the existing indicators and questionnaires (3 against/13 abstentions/ rest green).

6. Short presentation of the European Research projects database

- A Call for Participation was made during the Congress for the AEC Database for Students Projects on Artistic Research in Music. The Deadline is 16th January 2017.
- This database was created under the framework of the AEC project 'Polifonia' in 2014. It is accessible through the SAR Research Catalogue and the AEC Website. It already provides some data about artistic research projects conducted by 2nd and 3rd cycle students in some HME institution across Europe.
- Through the database:
 - The students can identify whether a proposed project subject has already been undertaken;
 - They can also make contact with other students working in similar areas;
 - Institutions can scan the list of supervisors and, by noting the subjects they are supervising, identify potentially suitable individuals to approach for external examining and/or peer review activities;
 - Students and supervisors can establish their own profiles on the RC, using it as a platform for the dissemination of outputs.

The AEC would like to expand the usage and usefulness of the portal by encouraging all its member institutions to share their data and make it available for all the AEC members and the wider research community in the portal.

7. AEC Financial report of the Secretary General

- Jörg Linowitzki, AEC Secretary General, explains 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 2015. A copy of the forecast outturn for 2016 and first provisional budget for 2017 has been distributed beforehand. The complete Annual Accounts (in English only) are available on request. The full text of the financial report is also available to the members upon request.
- Report on AEC Accounts 2015:
 - Both the overall income and the overall expenditure have risen in 2015 compared to 2014, leading to a small surplus of €579.
 - On the income side, the raise is mostly due to the increase of fees from events and of subsidies and to the higher amount of the funding for FULL SCORE (supported under the strand 'Support to European Networks' of the new 'Creative Europe' programme).
 - This funding also supports costs related to AEC core activities and brings a certain degree of stability given that the framework partnership agreement signed with the European Commission ensures such funding until August 2017.

- On the expenditure side, staff costs have increased due to various changes in the AEC Office Team, while goods and service costs have decreased. In addition, MusiQuE has drawn upon the financial management, human and other resources of AEC this year, and in particular AEC covered the costs of the external review of MusiQuE. The news that MusiQuE's application to be listed on the European Quality Assurance Register has been successful tend to confirm the validity of this investment. From 2016, MusiQuE has been set up to be financially self-sustaining.
 - To conclude: The accounts for 2015 show again a healthy picture and one that confirms that AEC is now stabilized and firmly consolidated in Brussels.
 - An online voting of the accounts was carried out by the office in June 2016:
 - 111 active members responded to the online voting notification. Of these, 109 approved the accounts and 2 abstained. There were no votes against approval of the accounts.
 - The Secretary General thanks the external auditors Jan Rademakers (Maastricht Academy of Music) and Paolo Troncon (Conservatorio Di Musica Di Castelfranco Veneto A. Steffani) for carrying out this function for AEC for 2015. He informs the GA that they both recommended approval of the 2015 Accounts.
- Vote on the proposed membership fees for 2017:
 - During the 2013 General Assembly in Palermo, It was decided that, every three years, the membership fees would be recalculated according to fresh Gross National Product (GNP) data. As decided in 2013, in the intervening years (second and third years = 2014 and 2015), the membership fees based on that particular GNP calculation were corrected in line with the Belgian indexation rate.
 - Therefore, last year's membership fee structure for active members was based on the GNI (Gross National Income) per capita of 2011. The new membership fees proposed for 2017 are based on the GNI (Gross National Income) per capita of 2015 (latest data available), in order to reflect the recent changes in the general economic situation.
 - The AEC Council proposes to continue with the same membership fee structure from 2013: The countries have been assembled in a specific category depending on their GNI, with a total of 7 different categories. Due to the variations in the GNI data, some countries have automatically moved to a different category compared to the ones of 2013. Please note that the new data reflect an anticipated 1% indexation rise.
- ✓ The General Assembly unanimously approves the new membership fee levels.
- The forecast outturn for 2016 and the proposed budget for 2017:
 - The income from events fees should be lower than last year (partly due to the fact that there was no Early Music Platform in 2016).
 - There are 2 new types of incomes: First, the members' contribution to the EASY Pilot Project (AEC has commissioned a company to develop a European Online Application System for mobility of students and staff). Secondly there are costs reimbursed to AEC by MusiQuE (the external review body for music), both for overhead costs and for staff costs
 - The amount of subsidies is lower in 2016 (the PHExcel project is finished and a high amount of the FULL SCORE grant is transferred to 2017 as funding is only secured until 31/08/2017).
 - On the expenditure side: Expenses are generally lower than in 2015. An important investment has been done in the setting up of a European Online Application System EASY, amounting to 40'000 euros.
 - As a result, the forecast shows a negative result of about 10'000 euros.
- ✓ The General Assembly unanimously approves the proposed budget for 2017.
- Appointment of auditors for the 2016 Accounts:
- ✓ The General Assembly approves the appointment of Paolo Troncon (Conservatorio Di Musica Di Castelfranco Veneto Agostino Steffani) and Peter Dejans (Orpheus Institute Gent).

8. Matters related to MusiQuE, the European subject-specific quality enhancement body for music

- The Chair of the MusiQuE Board, Martin Prchal, to shortly present the latest news concerning MusiQuE. The complete presentation is also available on request.
- After MusiQuE's presentation the General Assembly proceeds to the endorsement of AEC Council recommendation to the MusiQuE Board in relation to the selection for a new MusiQuE Board member.
 - MusiQuE Board members are nominated for 3 years. However, a rolling system was agreed by the three appointed members so that new board members from AEC membership could progressively be involved. One of the Board members appointed by AEC in 2014 will therefore step down this year.
 - An open call for applications was launched in June by MusiQuE to recruit a new board member.
 - At its September meeting, AEC Council considered the applications and prepared a recommendation to the MusiQuE Board. It is in any case the MusiQuE Board which selects new Board members, but taking into consideration the recommendation from AEC Council, endorsed by AEC General Assembly.
 - Following the open call, 4 applications were received by the MusiQuE staff, which were all found to be eligible.
 - Council considered all applications carefully and, feeling that two candidates were very experienced with quality assurance and very competent, Council has nominated two of them ex aequo:
 - Ettore Borri, Conservatorio di Musica "Giuseppe Verdi" di Milano, Italy
 - Bernd Clausen, Hochschule für Musik Würzburg, Germany
- ✓ The General Assembly endorses this recommendation to the MusiQuE Board
- MusiQuE Standards Revision
 - Each year an open call is issued to collect suggestions for revisions. This was the case in 2015, with a deadline set to 31st January 2016. All the comments received on the MusiQuE standards by that date have been considered by the MusiQuE Board in May 2016. The MusiQuE Board then prepared a proposal for the revision of the MusiQuE standards, which was considered by the AEC Council during its September meeting.
 - This proposal was then shared with the AEC members for consultation. An email was sent to all the members on 19th October to give you the opportunity to comment on the changes proposed to the MusiQuE Standards. No further comments were received and the Council would therefore like to ask you to approve the proposal. The MusiQuE Board will then consider the approved proposal for a revised version of the standards at its next meeting.
- ✓ The General Assembly approves the Proposal for a revised version of the MusiQuE Standards.
- Standing member of the Appeals Committee
 - MusiQuE uses a small Appeals Committee, formed of one standing member and one individual appointed in response to each specific appeal. Appeals arise when institutions disagree with the results of one of MusiQuE's procedures.
 - The standing member of the Appeals Committee is appointed by the General Assembly of AEC on the recommendation of the MusiQuE Board for a fixed term of three years. Ester Tomasi-Fumics, standing member of the Appeals Committee since 2014, has decided to step down as she wishes to participate in MusiQuE in a different capacity.
 - The MusiQuE Board therefore suggests a new Standing member of the Appeals Committee: Dr. Dawn Edwards, Head of Quality Assurance and Enhancement, Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester
- ✓ The General Assembly approves the proposal to appoint Dr. Dawn Edwards as Standing Member of the MusiQuE Appeals Committee.

9. Announcement of the Executive committee election results and elections to the Council

- **Announcement of the ExCom election results:**

- ✓ Eirik Birkeland is elected as president, Deborah Kelleher is elected as Vice-President and Harrie van den Elsen is elected as Secretary General
 - Eirik Birkeland: 130 votes
 - Deborah Kelleher: 132 votes
 - Harrie van den Elsen: 129 votes

- **Elections to the Council:**

There are 5 vacant seats:

 - Seeking election for second term:
 - Kaarlo Hildén, Sibelius Academy, Helsinki, Finland
 - Jacques Moreau, CEFEDM Rhône-Alpes, Lyon, France
 - Seeking election (and having elected) for Executive Committee positions, thereby making their seat available:
 - Harrie van den Elsen, Principal Prince Claus Conservatoire, Groningen, The Netherlands
 - Deborah Kelleher, Royal Irish Academy of Music, Dublin, Ireland

 - Candidates for the vacant Council seats are:
 - Lucia Di Cecca, Conservatorio di Musica "L. Refice", Frosinone, Italy
 - Elisabeth Gutjahr, Hochschule für Musik Trossingen, Germany
 - Kaarlo Hildén, Sibelius Academy, Helsinki, Finland
 - Zdzisław Łapiński, Academy of Music Krakow, Poland
 - Ranko Marcovic, Zürich University of the Arts, Switzerland
 - Jacques Moreau, CEFEDM Rhône-Alpes, Lyon, France
 - Peter Swinnen, Koninklijk Conservatorium Brussel, Belgium

- ✓ **Results:**
 - Kaarlo Hildén and Jacques Moreau are elected for a second term;
 - Lucia Di Cecca, Elisabeth Gutjahr were elected for a first term;
 - An ex aequo result was reached for the 5th position in the Council between Zdzisław Łapiński and Ranko Marcovic. A second round of elections was held before the Closing Session of the Congress.
 - Jacques Moreau: 102 votes
 - Elisabeth Gutjahr: 99 votes
 - Kaarlo Hildén: 98 votes
 - Lucia Di Cecca: 77 votes
 - Zdzisław Łapiński: 59 votes
 - Ranko Marcovic: 59 votes
 - Peter Swinnen: 52 votes

Result of the second round: Zdzisław Łapiński was elected for a first term:

- Zdzisław Łapiński: 45 votes
- Ranko Marcovic: 38 votes

10. Confirmation of new members, withdrawals and exclusions

- The following institutions have been accepted as Active Members in 2016:
 - Centro Superior Katarina Gurska, Madrid, Spain
 - Kharkiv I.P. Kotlyarevsky National University of Arts, Kharkiv, Ukraine
 - Hochschule für Musik und Theater Rostock, Germany
 - Hochschule für Musik und Theater "Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy" Leipzig
 - Taller de Músics Escola Superior d'estudis Musicals, Barcelona, Spain
 - Linnaeus University, Department of Music and Art, Växjö, Sweden
- The following institutions have been accepted as Associate Members in 2016:
 - Music and Drama Association "Athens Conservatoire - 1871", Athens, Greece
 - Heino Eller Tartu Music College, Tartu, Estonia
 - PIANETA ARTE (AIMART - Accademia Internazionale di Musica e Arte), Rome, Italy
 - University of Southern California, Thornton School of Music, Los Angeles, USA
 - JAM MUSIC LAB Conservatory for Jazz and Popular Music Vienna, Austria

- Association Chinese Culture Music & Art in the Netherlands
- The following members have withdrawn during 2016:
 - Turku Conservatory, Finland
 - Pole Sup 93, Aubervilliers, France
 - Conservatorio Superior de Música de Castilla La Mancha, Albacete, Spain
 - Fondation Royaumont, Asnieres sur Oise, France
 - Universitatea de Vest din Timisoara - faculty of music, Timisoara, Romania
 - Conservatorio Superior de Música de Alicante "Oscar Esplà", Alicante, Spain
- Every year, during the General Assembly, and based on the AEC statutes, all memberships with more than 2 years of non -payment of the membership fee are expired. The following membership are therefore expired:
 - Conservatorio di Musica "Domenico Cimarosa", Avellino, Italy
 - Schnittke State Music Institute, Moscow, Russia
 - Hochschule für Musik, Saarbrücken, Germany
 - St Petersburg State Conservatory, Russia

The AEC has now 298 members.

11. Future congresses

- The next Congress will take place at the University of Zagreb (Croatia), November 9-11 2017.
- The 2018 Congress will take place at the University of Music and Performing Arts, Graz, November 8-10.

Brussels, 1. December 2016

Eirik Birkeland, AEC President

