

MINUTES of the 48th MEETING OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL OF CIVIL ENGINEERS

17– 18 October 2008, Larnaka - Famagusta, Cyprus

PARTICIPANTS:

Executive Board (National Delegate = ND):

<i>Surname, First name</i>	<i>ND</i>	<i>Member Organization</i>	<i>Country</i>
Coackley, Richard		President	
Matikainen, Yrjö		Past-President	
Ahrens, Carsten		Senior Vice-President	Germany
Economopoulos, Vassillis P.	ND	Vice-President, Honorary Treasurer	Association of Civil Engineers of Greece Greece
Coleman, Murt	ND	Member	Engineers Ireland Ireland
Ozdemir, Gülay	ND	Member	Turkish Chamber of Civil Engineers Turkey
Plíčka, Jiří	ND	Member	Czech Institution of Structural and Civil Engineers Czech Republic
Zlatnaňská, Diana		Secretary General	Slovakia

National Delegates (NDs) and Other Participants from Member Organizations:

<i>Surname, First name</i>	<i>ND</i>	<i>Member Organization</i>	<i>Country</i>
Dukan, Petar		Croatian Chamber of Architects and Engineers	Croatia
Orešković, Mirko		Croatian Chamber of Architects and Engineers	Croatia
Sever, Zvonimir	ND	Croatian Chamber of Architects and Engineers	Croatia
Akyel, Selcan		Cyprus Council of Civil Engineers	Cyprus
Altan, Simten		Cyprus Council of Civil Engineers	Cyprus
Constantinides, Andreas		Cyprus Council of Civil Engineers	Cyprus
Neocleous, Nicos		Cyprus Council of Civil Engineers	Cyprus
Papamostasiou, Panos		Cyprus Council of Civil Engineers	Cyprus
Siamaris, Christodoulos		Cyprus Council of Civil Engineers	Cyprus
Stylianou, Nicos	ND	Cyprus Council of Civil Engineers	Cyprus
Türker, Umut		Cyprus Council of Civil Engineers	Cyprus
Yetiner, Hüsseyin Ünsal		Cyprus Council of Civil Engineers	Cyprus
Kala, Urmo	ND	Estonian Association of Civil Engineers	Estonia
Haapamäki, Jorma		Finnish Association of Civil Engineers	Finland
Sarja, Asko		Finnish Association of Civil Engineers	Finland
Soimakallio, Helena	ND	Finnish Association of Civil Engineers	Finland
Vehmaskoski, Teemu		Finnish Association of Civil Engineers	Finland
Pilot, Georges	ND	National Council of Engineers and Scientists of France	France
Slopianka, Gert		German Section of ECCE	Germany
Zachmann, Karlheinz		German Section of ECCE	Germany
Charari, Akrivi		Association of Civil Engineers of Greece	Greece
Chatzidakis, Aristodimos		Association of Civil Engineers of Greece	Greece
Karlaftis, Aristides		Association of Civil Engineers of Greece	Greece
Papagiannides, Dimitri		Association of Civil Engineers of Greece	Greece
Zygouris, Nick		Association of Civil Engineers of Greece	Greece
Mecsi, József		Hungarian Chamber of Engineers	Hungary
Szóllóssy, Gábor	ND	Hungarian Chamber of Engineers	Hungary
Gava, Alcide	ND	National Council of Engineers	Italy
Endriksone, Helena		Latvian Association of Civil Engineers	Latvia
Geme, Vija	ND	Latvian Association of Civil Engineers	Latvia
Jurjans, Aivars		Latvian Association of Civil Engineers	Latvia
Naudžuns, Juris R.		Latvian Association of Civil Engineers	Latvia
Sinelobovs, Juris		Latvian Association of Civil Engineers	Latvia
Ketustys, Kurlys		Lithuanian Association of Civil Engineers	Lithuania
Lygnugariene, Grazina		Lithuanian Association of Civil Engineers	Lithuania
Stragys, Vincentas	ND	Lithuanian Association of Civil Engineers	Lithuania
Cassar, Vincent	ND	Chamber of Architects and Civil Engineers of Malta	Malta

Branco, Fernando	ND	Order of Engineers	Portugal
Ispas, Traian-Dumitru	ND	Union of Associations of Civil Engineers of Romania	Romania
Manoliu, Iacint		Union of Associations of Civil Engineers of Romania	Romania
Fischer, Milan	ND	Slovak Chamber of Civil Engineers	Slovakia
Humar, Gorazd	ND	Slovenian Chamber of Engineers	Slovenia
Zadnik, Branco		Slovenian Chamber of Engineers	Slovenia
Sáez Rubio, José Francisco	ND	Colegio de Ingenieros de Caminos, Canales y Puertos	Spain
Dari, Levent		Turkish Chamber of Civil Engineers	Turkey
Helvaci, Ibrahim		Turkish Chamber of Civil Engineers	Turkey
Korkmaz, Metin		Turkish Chamber of Civil Engineers	Turkey
Tankut, Tugrul		Turkish Chamber of Civil Engineers	Turkey
Tokyay, Mustafa		Turkish Chamber of Civil Engineers	Turkey
Pearce, Melissa		Institution of Civil Engineers	United Kingdom

Guests:

<i>Surname, First name</i>	<i>Organization</i>	<i>Country</i>
Chrysaphis, Michalis	Technical Chamber of Cyprus	Cyprus
Sancho, Tomás A.	World Council of Civil Engineers, Colegio de Ingenieros de Caminos, Canales y Puertos	Spain
Tahir, Celik	Eastern Mediterranean University	Cyprus

Apologies:

<i>Member Organization / Surname, First name</i>	<i>Country</i>
Russian Society of Civil Engineers	Russia
Bonazountas, Marc (<i>Chairman of ECCE Standing Committee "Environment & Sustainability"</i>)	Greece

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Minutes of the 48th Meeting of the European Council of Civil Engineers¹

Meeting was opened by Richard Coackley, President of the European Council of Civil Engineers (ECCE) who thanked all the delegates and guests for their participation.

¹ For more information on each point of the agenda, please see the CD "Presentation from the 48th ECCE Meeting"

1. Welcome Speech by Richard Coackley, ECCE President

Richard Coackley welcomed all participants at this meeting and informed the General Assembly the General Assembly about the main activities of the ECCE and its Executive Board since the 47th ECCE meeting. Richard Coackley also highlighted the work of ECCE Standing Committees (SCs) and their Chairmen.

Resolution 48.1:

The Minutes of the 47th ECCE meeting held on May 23-24, 2007 in Riga, Latvia, were unanimously approved by the General Assembly.

2. Welcome Address and Introduction by Representatives of the Cyprus Council of Civil Engineers, Technical Chamber of Cyprus and the Union of Chambers of Cyprus Turkish Engineers and Architects

Representatives of the Cyprus Council of Civil Engineers welcomed all participants and expressed the appreciation for having the opportunity to organize such important ECCE Meeting in Cyprus on two places – Famagusta and Larnaka.

3. Member Introductions

National delegates from each ECCE Member organization presented themselves as well as other participants at the 48th ECCE Meeting.

4. Information on ECCE Executive Board Elections 2008 (nominated candidates, procedures)

Richard Coackley informed the General Assembly on the procedures of the ECCE Elections 2008. In the first part of the elections, election of the new Executive Board Members will take place after the short introduction of all candidates that were nominated in accordance with the ECCE Articles of Association, as well as Resolution No. 47.4 on the procedures of ECCE Elections 2008, approved by the General Assembly at its 47th ECCE Meeting on May 24, 2008 in Riga, Latvia. In the second part of elections, after short introduction of all candidates, elections of new ECCE President and President-Elect will take place.

5. Progress of preparing ECCE Book on “Civil Engineering Heritage in Europe” (Gorazd Humar, Chairman for TF Civil Engineering Heritage)

Gorazd Humar informed the General Assembly that those Member Organizations that have still not yet submitted their projects must do so as soon as possible in order to proceed further with the realization of this project. General Assembly then discussed the issue of financing the book.

6. Standing Committees (SCs) Sessions

ECCE Standing Committees Chairmen shortly introduced the matters to be discussed during their SC session. Then all ECCE Standing Committee Sessions took place in accordance to the agenda of this meeting.

A. SC Professional Recognition & Mobility

Chairman – Fernando Branco, ExBo Rapporteur – Jiří Plíčka

Fernando Branco presented a draft of ECCE Professional Recognition Agreement that was sent to all members for their feedback and comments before the meeting. Based on the outcomes of the 47th ECCE Meeting, some Member Organizations submitted their own “Country Annex to ECCE Civil Engineering Charter”.

Following the discussion held at the 47th ECCE General Meeting in Riga, some Members raised the question of Common Platform. After a broad discussion with many views and positions expressed, it was concluded that official meeting with the representatives of the responsible EU Directorate General must be scheduled in order to obtain precise information about the existing EU legislative framework in the area of Professional Recognition and its perspectives.

B. SC Knowledge & Technology

Chairman – Asko Sarja, ExBo Rapporteur – Gülay Ozdemir

Asko Sarja reported on the activities and outcomes of task forces (TFs) under this standing committee:

- TF Development of Knowledge and Technology in Civil Engineering at European level (Chair: Georges Pilot): Georges Pilot informed the General Assembly on the EU 7th Framework Programme, current activities in the European Council for Construction Research, Development and Innovation and in the European Construction and Technology Platform (ECTP).

- TF Earthquake Engineering (Chair: Tugrul Tankut): This TF is currently focusing on the preparation of the WCCE-ECCE-TCCE Conference "Earthquake & Tsunami - Civil Engineering Disaster Mitigation Activities Implementing Millennium Development Goals" to be held on 22-24 June 2009 in Istanbul, Turkey. Second Circular and Call for Papers were distributed and currently 120 papers are being reviewed.
- TF Energy Efficiency of Buildings in Europe (Chair: Asko Sarja): This Task Force is focusing on the preparation of Euro Infra symposium 2009 that will be organized together with the 50th ECCE Meeting on October 14-15, 2009 in Helsinki, Finland. ECCE Meeting will be organized on October 16 – 17, 2009. Scientific Committee of the symposium includes 34 members from 16 countries, and IALCCE (International Association of Life Cycle Civil Engineering) and CIB (International Council for Research and Innovations in Building and Construction also agreed to sponsor this event.
- TF Condition Survey of European Infrastructure (Chair: Helena Soimakallio): Planning of the co-operation among European ECCE member organisations has been launched.

Tasks for the year 2009 include:

- Monitoring of EU research community will continue, and selected focus areas will be investigated in more detail, and the results will be distributed to ECCE community
- EuroInfra co-operation possibilities will be analysed and the co-operation will be planned in details, including the financing (from EU funding)
- Energy Efficiency of Buildings in Europe: Analysis of European Low Energy Building and Renovation Concepts will be launched
- Continued planning of a Symposium on Low Energy Building and Renovation Concepts in the Conference EUROINFRA 2009, Helsinki, Finland
- Co-operation with SC "Development & Business will be further activated

C. SC Development & Business Environment

Chairman - Karlheinz Zachmann, ExBo Rapporteur – Murt Coleman

Mr. Zachmann informed the General Assembly on the activities within European Construction Forum (ECF) - informal gathering of 10 professional associations directly linked with the Construction sector. Next meeting is scheduled for October 2008. Executive board approved that the one of the upcoming ECF meeting should be hosted by ECCE. Main issues discussed within ECF are: progress on Construction Products Regulation, Housing and urban/territorial policy, Sustainable Production and Consumption Action Plan (ECO design, ECO labelling, Energy efficiency), Upcoming European Parliament elections in 2009, Lobbyist registration and Small Business Act (SBA).

D. SC Education & Training

Chairman –Iacint Manoliu, ExBo Rapporteur – Carsten Ahrens

Panos Papanastasiou, Head of the Department of Civil Engineering at the University of Cyprus and Prof. Hüriye Bilsel, Head of the Department of Civil Engineering at the Eastern Mediterranean University gave a presentation on the civil engineering education & training in Cyprus. Mustafa Tokyay reported on the ECCE Survey on ECCE members' position on accreditation of civil engineering programmes in Europe. Iacint Manoliu presented information on the EUR-ACE Spread project approved by the EC and report on the "European Qualifications Framework" adopted in April 2008, in the view of a future ECCE proposal for a EU-funded project for the implementation of EQF in the field of civil engineering. Nicos Neocleous informed on the joint ECCE - EUCEET activities.

E. SC Environment & Sustainability

Chairman – Prof. Marc Bonazountas, ExBo Rapporteur – Vassilis Economopoulos

During this SC session, chaired by Umut Türker, all participants initiated an approach to understand, to discuss and to compare the different problems raised on water issues at different locations of Europe. This was achieved by answering of pre-prepared questions that could be summarized under the following major topics: climate change, water and infrastructure, integrated water resource management, and innovative solutions for the water problems.

F. TF Civil Engineering Heritage

Chairman – Gorazd Humar, ExBo Rapporteur – Yrjö Matikainen

Gorazd Humar once again stressed the importance to have articles from each ECCE member organization as the book should represent the civil engineering heritage in the Europe.

For more detailed information on the work of each Standing Committee please see the CD "48th ECCE Meeting" that was given to each national delegate at the end of the meeting or contact SC Chairmen or ECCE Secretariat or see the ECCE website www.ecceengineers.eu.

7. Presentation on Health and Safety

In his presentation, Murt Coleman defined the health and safety, responsibility and risk, its current drawbacks in Europe. Health and Safety policy and strategy is built around 4 key steps: Awareness, Competence, Compliance and Excellence.

8. Acceptance of ECCE Business Plan 2009

Richard Coackley informed the General Assembly on the draft of the ECCE Business Plan 2009, prepared by the ECCE Executive Board.

9. ECCE Financial Matters and Acceptance of ECCE Budget 2009

Vassilis Economopoulos, ECCE Vice-President and Treasurer, presented the current situation of paid and unpaid membership fees in the years 2006 – 2008, ECCE Management Accounts until September 2008, the ECCE Budget for the year 2009. Vassilis P. Economopoulos informed the General Assembly on the ECCE membership fees for the year 2009 that were approved at the 47th ECCE Meeting..

10. ECCE Code of Professional Conduct: Discussion and Decision on Further Activity

ECCE Code of Professional Conduct, approved by the General Assembly in May 2000, was discussed at the General Assembly in order to review this document and discuss whether the current Code of Professional Conduct should be reviewed and amended. Richard Coackley informed the General Assembly on the outcomes of ECCE Executive Board Discussion and the Viewpoint of Standing Committee „Development & Business Environment. After a fruitful discussion, General Assembly concluded that ECCE already has existing and approved Code of Professional Conduct, however we must meet new possible needs and trends and be open for possible update and improvement in the future.

11. ECCE Activities since 2005 (Summary of deliverables over the past 3 years)

Richard Coackley informed the General Assembly on the main ECCE activities since the elections of the current ECCE Executive Board at the 42nd ECCE Meeting on November 12, 2005 in Istanbul, Turkey.

12. "WATER - DEMAND AND SUPPLY Water Scarcity, Water Reuse, Grey Water, Water Desalinisation

"WATER - DEMAND AND SUPPLY: Water Scarcity, Water Reuse, Grey Water, Water Desalinisation " was the theme of the 48th ECCE Meeting, announced at the previous 47th ECCE Meeting in May 2008. Participants from ECCE Member Organizations gave the following presentations:

- Christos Ioannou (CCCE, Cyprus): Water Demand and Supply
- Panayiota Hadjigeorgiou (CCCE, Cyprus): Implementation of Water Framework Directive
- Angeliki Larcou Yiannakou (CCCE, Cyprus): Re-use of Treated Effluent
- Evripides Kyriakides (CCCE, Cyprus): Use of Desalinated Water in Cyprus
- Mustafa Sidal (CCCE, Cyprus): Water Supply Projects for Nicosia
- Ramadan Görgü (CCCE, Cyprus): Water Resources and Water Policy in North Cyprus
- France – Georges Pilot (CNISF): WATER QUESTIONS IN FRANCE
- Vincentas Stragys (LBS, Lithuania): WATER DEMAND AND SUPPLY: SITUATION IN LITHUANIA
- Vincent Cassar (KTP, Malta): SUSTAINABILITY OF WATER RESOURCES IN A SEMI-ARID ISLAND: ALTERNATIVE WATER SUPPLY OPTIONS
- Tomás A. Sancho (WCCE, Spain): INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT OF WATER WORLDWIDE AND IN SPAIN
- Melissa Pearce (ICE, United Kingdom): WATER - DEMAND AND SUPPLY: A BRITISH PERSPECTIVE

13. Preparation of the 49th ECCE Meeting

The Slovenian Chamber of Engineers invited all ECCE members and participants at the 49th ECCE Meeting that will take place at the end of May 2009 in Ljubljana, Slovenia. The Theme of the 49th ECCE General Assembly Meeting will be announced electronically to all members by November 30, 2009.

14. ECCE Elections 2008

Elections of Executive Board Members, Announcement of New Executive Board Members Elections of ECCE President and ECCE President-Elect, , Announcement of new ECCE President and ECCE President-Elect

Elections of the new ECCE Executive Board took place in accordance with the ECCE Articles of Association, as well as Resolution No. 47.4 on the procedures of ECCE Elections 2008, approved by the General Assembly at its 47th ECCE Meeting on May 24, 2008 in Riga, Latvia.

Resolution 48.2:

Richard Coackley, Yrjö Matikainen and Nicos Stylianou were unanimously approved by the General Assembly to be members of the ECCE Election Committee.

The following nominated candidates or Elections of ECCE Executive Board (*in alphabetical order*) shortly introduced themselves and addressed the General Assembly as to why they should be elected: Fernando Branco, (Portugal), Vincent Cassar (Malta), Murt Coleman (Ireland), Vassilis P. Economopoulos (Greece), Alcide Gava (Italy), Gorazd Humar (Slovenia), Jiří Plíčka (Czech Republic), José Francisco Sáez Rubio (Spain), Helena Soimakallio (Finland).

The following six candidates were elected as members of new Executive Board (*in alphabetical order*) by secret voting of the National Delegates of the ECCE General Assembly and the ballot was declared by Nicos Stylianou, Chairman of the Election Committee:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ▪ Fernando Branco, (Portugal), | ▪ Gorazd Humar (Slovenia) |
| ▪ Murt Coleman (Ireland) | ▪ Jiří Plíčka (Czech Republic) |
| ▪ Vassilis P. Economopoulos (Greece) | ▪ Helena Soimakallio (Finland) |

In the second part of Elections, Vassilis P. Economopoulos, was introduced as a candidate for the elections of new ECCE President. Vassilis P. Economopoulos was then elected by the voting of the National Delegates of the ECCE General Assembly and declared as the New ECCE President.

Fernando Branco, Gorazd Humar and Jiri Plicka were introduced as candidates for the elections of the ECCE President- Elect. Gorazd Humar was elected as a New ECCE President-Elect by secret voting of the National Delegates of the ECCE General Assembly and the ballot was declared by Nicos Stylianou, Chairman of the Election Committee. New Executive Board elected among themselves Helena Soimakallio to be a new ECCE Vice President / Honorary Treasurer.

Resolution 48.3:

The composition of the new ECCE Executive Board is thereafter composed of the following persons:

Vassilis P. Economopoulos	President
Richard Coackley	Immediate Past President
Gorazd Humar	Vice President / President Elect
Helena Soimakallio	Honorary Treasurer / Vice President
Fernando Branco	Executive Board Member
Murt Coleman	Executive Board Member
Jiří Plíčka	Executive Board Member

Immediately after elections, Vassilis P. Economopoulos as a New ECCE President stressed in his speech to the General Assembly that he will strictly follow and keep all his Propositions for ECCE in his Pre-Electoral Manifesto based on the trust received by Delegates who selected him for ECCE Presidency. He declared that he will try to combine and concentrate all the activities and the powerful image of all our ECCE Member Associations and support essential contribution of all National Delegates in order to strengthen and raise our ECCE profile in the EU and among International Organizations. New ECCE President also stated that apart from the new ExBo members he will closely cooperate also with our three colleagues - José Francisco Sáez Rubio, Alcide Gava and Vincent Cassar – candidates not elected the Executive Board. He also underlined that his first priority will be to concentrate efforts to ensure real and concrete benefits of participating in ECCE for each ECCE Member Organization and their Civil Engineers.

Past ECCE President Richard Coackley and New ECCE President Vassilis P. Economopoulos thanked the host – the Cyprus Council of Civil Engineers and closed the 48th ECCE Meeting on October 24, 2008.

Diana Zlatňanská, October 30, 2008