



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Friday 10 October 2014 in Budapest, Hungary

Present: See Annex 1.

Minutes: Richard Dowling (Secretary)

Apologies for absence: See Annex 1.

(1) Opening Remarks

Mr Barnabás Sik, the Hungarian representative, welcomed the delegates along with Mr Arpád Varga, Vice-President for External Relations of the National Tax and Customs Administration (NTCA) of Hungary.

Mr Varga opened the meeting by welcoming the delegates to the Annual General Meeting, saying that it was an honour to host the event. Mr Varga gave a short presentation on the history, organisation, activities and successes of both the NTCA and the Customs Sports Association, in connection with the latter mentioning the National Sports Day, the International Financial Tournament and ECSA activities.

The President thanked Mr Varga for his kind remarks, also thanking Mr Jozsef Nagy, Vice-President of the Hungarian Customs Sports Association and all those who had helped with the organisation of the meeting. He said that the Association was very happy to be in Budapest and noted the high turnout of Member States, eighteen countries, for which he thanked the administrations of those countries attending.

The President noted the apologies and also new representatives from Turkey (Mutlu Akman), Latvia (Agate Mellere) and Austria (Andreas Lerchner).

(2) Approval of the Agenda

The meeting approved the agenda.

(3) Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)

Annual General Meeting 2013

Once some spelling mistakes had been corrected, the minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 11 October 2013 were agreed as a true and fair record.

Executive Committee Meeting 31 January 2014

The minutes of this meeting were noted.

It was confirmed that EU membership is not a pre-requisite for ECSA membership.

Executive Committee Meeting 30 May 2014

The minutes of this meeting were noted.

The new contact for Cyprus Customs was noted, as was the fact that Cyprus is currently unable to participate in events due to budgetary constraints.

(4) Matters Arising

Action Point 01/14

It was agreed that it was important to have an agreed framework and necessary information well in advance in order to host events such as the sniffer dog competition. The President said that he had considered sponsorship for the sniffer dog competition when talking with the World Customs Organisation

(WCO) but they had been against the idea. In the discussion that followed, OLAF and Europol were suggested as possible funding sources.

Action Point 01/15: JH to approach Isobel Maltby of TAXUD for help identifying possible sources of funding for the sniffer dog competition.

See Annex 2 for an update on all action points.

(5) Treasurer's Report & Annual Accounts 2013 - 2014

The Treasurer presented the accounts for 2013 - 2014, copies of which had been issued to delegates beforehand; see Annex 3. He talked briefly about the accounts and it was confirmed that the auditors had approved the accounts. The meeting formally approved the accounts.

The Treasurer presented the budget for 2014 - 2015, advising on how subscriptions can be paid. It was agreed that subscription invoices should quote a payment due date of 01 February. The Vice-President advised that the website hosting costs were more likely to be €100 than €70 so the budget was adjusted to take this into account. See Annex 4 for the budget.

(6) Shooting Competition

Theo de Goeijen gave a Powerpoint presentation on the history and organisation of the shooting competition, emphasising the efforts made over the years to standardise the rules and activities of the event. He also emphasised the importance of early despatch of invitations, sorting out border formalities for the weapons, transportation arrangements for participants and weapons, timely publication of event arrangements and instructors (at least the Chief Instructor) giving their instructions in English. In closing, Theo referred to the direct link between the competition and the work of most Member State administrations, to the possibility of combining the event with other workshops e.g. on self-defence and to the opportunities for event participants to exchange knowledge and skills.

In the discussion that followed, it was suggested that a standard set of rules for the competition should be prepared.

Action Point 02/15: TdG to produce a set of standard rules for the shooting competition, in consultation with AR and AK and in time for the next EC meeting.

(7) Communications

The Vice-President updated the meeting on the current position with the website. He urged those present to send him any ideas for improving the site and asked all delegates to check their country's pages and submit any necessary updates to Janne Kallio, copied to the Vice-President. He also asked Member States to send results, photographs and (short) event reports as soon as possible after events had concluded.

In the discussion that followed it was suggested that organisers of events could approach Janne to get a link for uploading photographs of events onto the website on a real-time basis.

It was agreed that it would be desirable for Janne to provide a short report before each meeting outlining what he thinks needs attention on the website.

Action Point 03/15: Janne Kallio to send the EC a short report before each meeting outlining what he thinks needs attention on the website.

The meeting thanked Janne for his work on the website.

It was noted that in order for the Association to have a YouTube channel, we would need an official ECSA E-mail address. We would then be able to control what went onto the YouTube account.

(8) New Leaflet

The new leaflet was presented to the meeting.

The President said that Czech Customs might be able to produce the leaflet for free.

Action Point 04/15: JH to establish whether Czech Customs can produce the new leaflet for free.

The meeting agreed that anybody having any suggestions for varying the layout of the leaflet should send these to Marco Paladino. The meeting also expressed its grateful thanks to Marco for producing such a good leaflet.

(9) Reports from Member States

Belgium

There may be a new Director-General in 2015.

Luxembourg

Daniel Koener outlined cost-saving measures being taken by the new government and advised that he had a new work telephone number.

Italy

Italy may be able to host a go-karting tournament in the future.

Sweden

Member States were urged to always reply to event invitations as soon as possible, even if it was only to decline them.

Austria

Andreas Lerchner outlined his country's participation in events and confirmed that Austria's website details were up to date.

Hungary

Brief comments were made on the written report.

Netherlands

Brief comments were made on the written report. The meeting was advised that the Netherlands DG details and the representative's address would shortly be updated.

Norway

Brief comments were made on the written report.

Latvia

Agate Mellere said that Latvia hoped to attend more events in the future.

Poland

Brief comments were made on the written report. Anetta Janda also said that Poland wished to host the AGM in 2016 and would be sending a team to the Hungarian basketball event.

Slovakia

Brief comments were made on the written report. Nora Kačániová said that Slovakia hoped to host the shooting competition in 2017.

Finland

Brief comments were made on the written report. It was also noted that the Customs Sports Club would be meeting the following week to decide on participation in events in 2015.

Czech Republic

Jan Hlinka commended Sweden on the organisation of the football tournament and commented favourably on participation levels at the Czech running event. He also said that the new Customs DG was sports-minded so he hoped that Czech participation in ECSA events would remain at its current level.

Denmark

Brief comments were made on the organisation of the golf event, on which Denmark was commended.

United Kingdom

Andrea Scott-Lewis commended the organisation of the football tournament in Sweden, whilst reporting that the victorious UK ladies team had wished that there had been medals for the event.

Germany

Brief comments were made on the written report. Andreas Krueckeberg also asked people to be sure to always use his correct E-mail address when writing to him (as per his written report and the German page on the website), as E-mails sent to his old address do not reach him.

France

Vincent Caru noted that he had only just been appointed as French representative.

The meeting was reminded of the policy that invitations to events must be sent out at least six months in advance, to allow for booking of cheap flights and maximisation of participation.

Action Point 05/15: RD to send copies of all written reports to LL for inclusion on the website.

(10) Calendar

2015

Events and meetings were agreed for 2015; see Annex 5.

2016

Events and meetings were agreed for 2016; see Annex 6.

Vincent Caru advised that France would be able to take twelve men's teams and six women's teams when it hosts the football tournament.

Andrea Scott-Lewis emphasised the need to ensure that existing events were in good shape before looking at new events.

2017

The possibility of the United Kingdom hosting volleyball, Slovakia hosting shooting and Denmark hosting the AGM were discussed.

(11) Any Other Business

It was noted that 2017 would mark the 25th anniversary of the Association and that we could have a day to celebrate.

The President was asked if he was entirely happy with the functioning of the EC. In reply, he said that things were generally going reasonably well but that there were certain issues that needed attention.

The features of a forthcoming re-organisation of the German Customs administration were outlined.

The President advised that co-option arrangements for the EC would be reviewed at the forthcoming EC meeting.

The President closed the meeting, thanking Hungarian Customs for hosting the meeting and for the excellent programme that they had laid on.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 3.53pm.

RICHARD DOWLING
SECRETARY
13 OCTOBER 2014

Annex 1

Persons present and apologies received

Country	Name	Role	Present/Apologies
Austria	Andreas Lerchner		Present
Belgium	Katrien de Wachter		Present
	Rita de Wolf		Present
Czech Republic	Jan Hlinka	President	Present
Cyprus	Aleka Palekythritou		Apologies
Denmark	Svend-Mandel Hansen	Treasurer	Present
Finland	Lasse Lehtokangas	Vice-President	Present
France	Vincent Caru		Present
Germany	Andreas Krueckeberg	EC member	Present
Hungary	Barnabás Sik		Present
Ireland	Mick O'Hanlon		Apologies
Italy	Marco Paldino	EC member	Present
Latvia	Agate Mellere		Present
Lithuania	Alonas Ritvas		Present
Luxembourg	Daniel Koener	Co-opted EC	Present
Malta	Eamon Bugeja	EC member	Apologies
Netherlands	Theo de Goeijen		Present
Norway	Bjørn Granli		Present
Poland	Anetta Janda		Present
Slovakia	Nora Kačániová		Present
Sweden	Palle Lundborg		Present
Turkey	Mutlu Akman		Apologies
United Kingdom	Andrea Scott-Lewis		Present
	Richard Dowling	Secretary	Present
TAXUD	Isobel Maltby	Observer	Absent

Annex 2

Update on Action Points Taken Forward from Previous Meeting(s)

AP	BY	ACTION POINT
		From Annual General Meeting of 01 October 2010
09/11	ALL	Representatives having information about how ECSA contacts have benefitted member state administrations to send this to JH.
36/13	JH	JH to write to the World Customs Organisation giving information about the Association.
		<i>Discharged, JH met Sergio Mujica, WCO Deputy Secretary-General and will be seeing him again.</i>
		From Annual General Meeting of 11 October 2013
01/14	AK	AK to explore the possibility of a solo German or a joint German-Dutch sniffer dog competition.
		<i>Ongoing, AK checking with his DG about a joint event.</i>
09/14	RD	RD to explore the possibility of the United Kingdom hosting the tenpin bowling tournament.
		<i>Discharged, it may be possible, looking at a venue near London Heathrow Airport.</i>
10/14	BS	BS to explore the possibility of Hungary hosting the volleyball tournament.
		<i>Discharged, Hungary will host in 2015.</i>
11/14	AK	AK to get a quote for ECSA lanyards.
		<i>Ongoing and MP will get a quote as well.</i>
		From Executive Committee meeting of 31 January 2014
16/14	TdG	TdG to get a quote for 200 lapel pins and 500 more pens (old-style but with new logo).
		<i>Discharged, 500 pens obtained, pins are being considered.</i>
21/14	TdG	TdG to prepare a standard format for the shooting competition, this to be presented at the AGM.
		<i>Discharged, presented at meeting.</i>
25/14	DK	DK to contact France to establish the exact date(s) of the French running event(s).
		<i>Discharged, dealt with at meeting, see calendar.</i>
26/14	TdG	TdG to get a quote for the purchase of 3 large flags.
		<i>Discharged, additional colour in flags would make them quite expensive and there is no immediate need for more flags.</i>

From Executive Committee meeting of 30 May 2014		
27/14	MP	MP to produce a draft PDF leaflet by 31 July 2014 and to then circulate for comments, the final version to be agreed by 12 September 2014.
		<i>Discharged, presented at meeting.</i>
28/14	ALL	All to try making contact with Cyprus Customs.
		<i>Discharged, a new contact has been found.</i>
29/14	LL	LL to let JH know as soon as possible whether Janne Kallio can attend the AGM.
		<i>Discharged, Janne can only attend one meeting per year and he was at Bournemouth in January 2014. He should be at the 2015 AGM.</i>
30/14	JH	JH to contact Austria to confirm the Customs Fit Check dates and whether Austria could simultaneously host the spring 2015 EC meeting.
		<i>Ongoing.</i>
31/14	JH	JH to establish which country might be able to host the 2015 AGM, particularly the Netherlands, Norway or France.
		<i>Discharged, the Netherlands hopes to host the meeting.</i>

Annex 3

Annual Accounts 2013 - 2014

Income	€	€
Subscriptions		3,450.00
Expenditure		
WPFG reception	500.00	
Pens	938.78	
Bank costs	<u>45.54</u>	
		<u>(1,484.32)</u>
Surplus		1,965.68
Bank balance 01/10/2013		13,504.51
Surplus		<u>1,965.68</u>
Bank balance 30/09/2014		15,470.19

Notes to the accounts

- (1) ECSA leaflets were ordered at a price of €150. The invoice has not yet been received.
- (2) ECSA has 22 member countries. Lithuania paid the missing payment for 2013 in May 2014.

01/10/2014

09/10/2014

09/10/2014

Svend Mandel

Barnabás Sik

Palle Lundborg

Treasurer, ECSA

Auditor

Auditor

Annex 4

Budget for 2014 - 2015

Income	€	€
Subscriptions		3,300.00
Expenditure		
Website (hosting)	100.00	
Bank costs	50.00	
Leaflets	150.00	
Promotional items	1,000.00	
Subventions	1,500.00	
Miscellaneous	300.00	
Polo shirts	<u>2,500.00</u>	
		<u>(5,600.00)</u>
Estimated balance Sept 2015		(2,300.00)

Svend Mandel
Treasurer, ECSA

Annex 5

Events & Meetings in 2015

Activity	Date	Member State	Comments
EC meeting	06 February	Ireland	Dublin
Skiing	01 - 08 March	Italy	Nr Trento
Table Tennis	Mid-May	Poland	Swider
Running	31 May	Belgium	Brussels
EC meeting	May/June	<i>UK or Norway</i>	<i>Oslo or B'mouth</i>
Shooting	Late June/early July	Lithuania	Vilnius
Walking	21 - 25 July	Netherlands	Nijmegen
Running	04 - 06 September	Czech Republic	10K & 1 mile
Cycling	September	United Kingdom	
Tenpin bowling	<i>18 September</i>	United Kingdom	London
AGM	<i>02 October</i>	<i>Netherlands</i>	<i>Amsterdam</i>
<i>Marathon</i>	03 - 04 October	Kosice	Slovakia
Running	16 October	France	Cisoin
Volleyball	Late Oct/early Nov	Hungary	Budapest

Note

Activities in *italics* are not yet confirmed.

Annex 6

Events & Meetings in 2016

Activity	Date	Member State	Comments
<i>EC meeting</i>	<i>January</i>	<i>Austria</i>	<i>Vienna</i>
<i>Skiing</i>	<i>February or March</i>	<i>Italy</i>	
<i>Running</i>	<i>April</i>	<i>Germany</i>	<i>Bonn</i>
<i>Golf</i>	<i>April</i>	<i>Italy</i>	
Football	May	France	Rheims
Table Tennis	Mid-May	Poland	Swider
Running	29 May	Belgium	Brussels
EC meeting	May/June	Denmark	Copenhagen
Shooting	June	Hungary	Budapest
Walking	19 - 22 July	Netherlands	Nijmegen
Running	Early September	Czech Republic	10K & 1 mile
Cycling	September	United Kingdom	
AGM	Early October	Poland	Krakow
Marathon	Early October	Budapest	Hungary
Running	October	France	La Sauldre

Note

Activities in *italics* are not yet confirmed.

Annex 7

Record of Action Points taken forward

AP	BY	ACTION POINT
		From Annual General Meeting of 01 October 2010
09/11	ALL	Representatives having information about how ECSA contacts have benefitted member state administrations to send this to TdG.
		From Annual General Meeting of 11 October 2013
01/14	AK	AK to explore the possibility of a solo German or a joint German-Dutch sniffer dog competition.
11/14	AK	AK and MP to get quotes for ECSA lanyards.
		From Executive Committee meeting of 30 May 2014
30/14	JH	JH to contact Austria to confirm the Customs Fit Check dates and whether Austria could simultaneously host the spring 2015 EC meeting.
		From Annual General Meeting of 10 October 2014
01/15		JH to approach Isobel Maltby of TAXUD for help identifying possible sources of funding for the sniffer dog competition.
02/15		TdG to produce a set of standard rules for the shooting competition, in consultation with AR and AK and in time for the next EC meeting.
03/15		Janne Kallio to send the EC a short report before each meeting outlining what he thinks needs attention on the website.
04/15		JH to establish whether Czech Customs can produce the new leaflet for free.
05/15		RD to send copies of all written reports to LL for inclusion on the website.