

UNIEP General Assembly 2011 in Amsterdam

May 28, 2011

Participants: C. Walford, N. Washington, J. Mousel, A. Kутten, M. Freda, P. Baeriswyl, A.P. Kaufmann, F.S. Huemer, E. Wieland, H. Schulz, M. Straube, J.A. Brey Ferreiro, E. Kruiderink, P. Raasveld, O. Draborg, G. Larsen, Ms S. Seddon, S. Seddon, N. Hans, M. Brindley, T.O'Malley, J. McNulty, J. van der Worp, G. van der Weide, R. Veraart, G. Donelli, V. Trivella, G. Desiderato.

Guest: G. Barends

- Translation was provided from and into English, German, Italian and Spanish.
- FOSAG hosted this meeting and there was no fee for delegates to pay.
- These minutes are available at UNIEP's web site.

1. UNIEP's President, Mr. Erik Kruiderink.

Mr Kruiderink opened the General Assembly of UNIEP (Union Internationale des Entrepreneurs e Peinture) on Saturday, 28 May 2011. His address is available on UNIEP's web site at <http://www.uniep.org>

2. Review of the minutes of the GA 2010

The minutes were approved.

3. UNIEP 2011 Painting Skills *Legacy* project

Mr. Seddon explained about the new project, *Legacy*, which will run from 30th May to the 1st June 2011, organized by UNIEP and partly sponsored by Akzo Nobel . Ten teams from UNIEP member associations were brought together to understand the latest developments in painting skills and materials. They also planned to paint parts of the interior of the Batavia School in Amsterdam as a 'make over'.

Photo's are available on www.flickr.com/gp/skillslegacy/397191 and www.flickr.com/gp/paintingskillslegacy/P1LQ27.

4. UNIEP Painting Skills Online Tool project

Members agree that this project has been very successful and that a continuation in whatever form will be much welcomed. Mr. Draborg confirms that the board will discuss a possible continuation.

Mr. Draborg's address is available on UNIEP's web site at <http://www.uniep.org>

5. Presentation and discussion on the European ChemXChange project

Mr. Seddon reported that this project had met with severe problems beyond UNIEP's control. Only three out of seven parts have been implemented in the database on time. The steering committee of the project had (in which UNIEP has a seat) therefore decided to dismiss the IT-company and find a new company.

Mr. Seddon's address is available on UNIEP's web site at <http://www.uniep.org>

6. Gerard Barends

Mr Barends spoke about the interesting developments for UNIEPs European members in the market for painting and maintenance in the Netherlands.

Mr. Barend's address is available on UNIEP's web site at <http://www.uniep.org>

7. Financial report of 2010

All questions to Mr. Kутten, the auditor of the financial report of 2010 were satisfactory answered and he approved the financial report of 2010. Mr. Kутten wanted to know what happened with the € 12.500 in Activa which remained after the Painting Skills Online Tool project. The answer was that at present there is no link between the UNIEP-budget and the bookkeeping of the EU-sponsored projects, such as the Painting Skills Online Tool project. The board confirmed that it will discuss in future how to link these two financial elements. It was suggested and agreed that for each EU-sponsored project a budget and balance be drawn up and presented to the UNIEP GA.

Mr. Kruiderink proposed that in 2012 not only the 2012 budget but also the 2013 budget will be established by the GA. It is expected that UNIEP's contribution to UEAPME will be reduced for 2011 since no use has been made of the secretarial services.

Appointment was agreed for the financial audit and Mr. Schulz accepted the appointment to check the financial budget and balance for 2011.

The General Assembly concluded that the financial contributions of the Painting & Decorating Contractors of America (PDCA) and the Szobafestőmázoló-tapétázó Országos Ipartestület of Hungary will be deleted from the accounts due to default.

The General Assembly concluded that the audit report showed no irregularities and was satisfactory.

The budget 2011 was approved unanimously.

8. Establishing the membership fee UNIEP 2011

The GA confirmed that the membership fee was left unchanged for 2011. Two members have requested a temporary cut of their financial contribution to UNIEP for 2011. The GA mandated, as proposed by the representatives Mr. Kутten and Mr. Schulz, that the board to work out the details and that the request be approved.

9. Election of the board

The present board members Geir Alte Mjeldheim , Jose Angel Brey Ferreiro, Ole Draborg, Stuart Seddon and Markus Straube were re-elected unanimously and Paul Raasveld as a new board member for the next year.

Words of thanks were delivered to Erik Kruiderink who explained that he was stepping down as President and end his board membership.

The GA elected Stuart Seddon unanimously as president.

UNIEP's newly elected president, Stuart Seddon, continued the chairmanship of the General Assembly. He thanked on behalf of all present, Mr. Kruiderink and announced that the board had decided to confer the prestigious Honorary Membership of UNIEP to Mr. Kruiderink for his dedication and service to the organisation over the past three years as President. Mr Kruiderink accepted the Honorary Membership and thanked everyone.

10. Contributions from UNIEP's member associations

Round table reports (max 5 minutes each). UNIEP members reported on the national:-

- economical situation of the branch
- employment situation of the branch
- tax situation of the branch
- activities of the association
- visions of the branch in their country

Some representatives of UNIEP's member associations reported about a bad economic situation related to the financial and economical crisis (ES, UK, IR, I). Luxembourg, Switzerland and the Netherlands reported that the VAT-level was being discussed again. Austria reported that "REACH" drifted away from the practice of the painters. Germany started an image campaign after the example of Switzerland, minimum wages had been established also for Polish workers but it was hard to control; Germany also saw too few trainees in the painting schools. Spain still suffered a 20% unemployment rate, too many painters started their own company with falling prices as a result.

In the Netherlands, FOSAG gained 300 new members due to a temporary free membership. 90% continued its membership once contributions had to be paid. Denmark showed a positive growth, but the wages were too high with still some 17% of the painters unemployed. After the example of Sweden, the Danish government wanted to give a tax reduction for expenditures for house repairs and maintenance. The UK economy was stagnant, there was an increase of black work, 220 million pounds for education 2011-2013. The Irish economy dropped with a dramatic 22%. In Italy, the ANVIDES-representatives felt a strong need for a certification scheme for individual painters to oppose black market work. Documents on the business situation of the branch were presented by

- Fédération des Patrons Peintres et Vitriers du Grand-Duché de Luxembourg

- Danske Malermestre

- ANVIDES Italia