

# European Delegates Meeting

## Winter EDM Geneva, February 1.-4., 2007

### Attending:

SC Chairperson	Conor H.
SC Vice-Chairperson	Toby G.
SC Treasurer	Nadi G.
SC Secretary	Sigrid B.
FD Committee Chair	Paul
FD Committee Vice-Chair	Miko
ECCNA 24	Marie
Egypt RD	Ahmed
Egypt RD alt	Mohamed
Finland RD	Jussi
France RD	Valentine
France RD alt	Dominique
French Speaking Swiss AD	Jean-Dominique
French Speaking Swiss AD alt	Christine
Germanspeaking Region RD	Christian
Greece RD	Nektarios
Greece RD alt	Pavlos
Hungary RD	Gabi
Ireland RD	Irene
Ireland RD alt	Niall
Israel RD	Inbal
Israel RD alt 1	Yuval
Poland RD	Ewa
Poland RD alt	Karolina
Portugal RD	Joao Penao
Portugal RD alt	Tomas
Spain RD	Inigo
Spain RD alt	Teresa
Sweden RD	Sisko
Sweden RD alt	Veronica
UK RD	Dave
UK RD alt	Nina
WSO Asst. Exec. Director	Becky
World Board	Piet de B.
World Board	Mary B.
Guests	Wolfgang

<b>Thursday February 1<sup>st</sup></b>
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### **9.30 – 10.30 Orientation session**

Starts with the reading of the “just for today” and a short introduction of everyone present.

Toby explains the consensus based decision making process.

Reminder to everyone to speak slowly, as English is not the first language for most of us.

Two members share experience about their first time at EDM (Teresa/Spain) and about being part of EDM with English not their first language (Tomas/Portugal).

Thursday: PI presentation to local professionals in the afternoon. Very little response so far.

Recovery meeting tonight.

Saturday: Three workshops together with local fellowship, EDM participation welcomed. Workshop topics are 11-12.30 Public Image 14.30-16 Leadership in NA, 16.30-17“PI training”. There are other workshops on the agenda by NAWS, which run parallel

Conor – contribution per person for the coffee breaks is 25 SFr, please put in the hat.

### **Short break**

### **10.45 – 13 Opening of meeting**

Mission statement is written on the blackboard.

Meeting booklet given out.

Agenda and minutes approved

### **Steering Committee Report:** (Report in the Booklet)

Conor (Chairperson) – Steering Committee met online several times. There were also two hand-over meetings between the outgoing and treasurer new treasurer and the chairpersons.

- When discussing requests, we quickly discovered that discovered that we have no guidelines on how to deal with requests. To help this process we wrote an EDM Funding Guideline working document, which will be discussed later on.
- ECCNA 24 planning meeting in Wales took place.
- There has been correspondence with absent communities: Bulgaria, Slovenia, Malta, Prague, Romania. Denmark has started communications and might come to Wales.
- There is currently no contact with Italy.
- Signatories for the bank account have been changed over to the new Steering Committee.
- The Steering Committee has two proposals for the Orientation pack, which will be discussed during the weekend: the first is about not holding the Regional Convention when hosting ECCNA, and the second is about making the per diem amount for funded delegates the same as for other funded participants.
- There were about 10 requests for funding (FD and EDM attendance) in the Community reports, and only two donations in the past 6 months.
- Decisions taken in the last 6 months were to fund Hungary and Turkey, but not Ukraine.
- Communications with Malta: a request to fund a speaker to their convention had to be denied, as this doesn't seem part of services EDM can offer. Malta then generated the funds on their own and the Steering Committee then recommended speakers. Wolfgang was invited and will attend their convention.
- The Steering Committee wishes to thank the Swiss host committee for all the hard work they have done.

### **Questions and Comments:**

Nectarios (Greece) – We have no contact with Cyprus, except a phone number. Will try to establish contact.

Pavlos (Greece) - The Italians can be contacted via their website.

Dave (UK) – Name of speaker for the Malta Convention is written here. There was a big controversy about writing names of speakers in a convention programme. We found it better to not write speaker's names.

Some more comments on this.

Clarification: the name is in the Steering Committee report, not in the convention announcement. Point noted that the feeling in the room is to not write names.

**Treasury Report:** (Report in the Booklet)

Opening Balance	24.241,21 Euro
Income:	
Polish donation	82,55 Euro
UK donation	<u>1.019,18 Euro</u>
<b>Actual Money before EDM</b>	<b>25.338,94 Euro</b>
Approved budget / remaining expenses	
SC Geneva expenses	2655,- Euro
FD-Geneva expenses	1265,- Euro
funded delegates	2334,- Euro
facilities expenses	1500,- Euro
10 % of misc. costs	776,- Euro
FD to Hungary	<u>2000,- Euro</u>
Total	10.530,- Euro
<b>Remaining after budget</b>	<b>14.808,94 Euro</b>
Earmarked Money for next EDM	<u>13.000,- Euro</u>
<b>Available for Budget</b>	<b>1.808,94 Euro</b>

Up to now, we have 5 requests for FD visits and 3 requests for attending ECCNA 24 in Wales.

**11.45 – 13 Community reports**

Communities are asked to present the essential points from their reports. Reports were sent out in mailing #3 or handed out before the meeting. Many reports have a number of questions, asking for experiences from other communities. Please decide which questions should be discussed by the EDM body and which can be discussed with individual members, EDM SC/FD or World Services.

Ewa (Poland) – report by email

One-day presentation for professionals in Warsaw in May, takes place every year.

Questions asking for experience

- Service Structure appears to serve itself, not the groups. There are very little groups represented. How can this be improved?

Conor (Chair) – the Ireland Eastern Area is doing an inventory about this. Can offer report.

Christine (Frenchsp. Swiss) – we distribute a short, interesting summary report of the area meetings to the groups, which looks less serious than the minutes.

Dave (UK) – new service pamphlet explains in a very simple way. Also rotate the location of the service meeting. Establish communications with the groups.

- Legal association: Council offers office space for free. Can we accept it?

Sisko (Sweden) – we accept a reduction of rent

Sigrid (Secretary) – in Germany, if the rent is offered for free, we offer a donation in money or in terms of buying a coffee machine or something like that.

- Can someone on methadone program take on a group service?

Sigrid (Secretary) – no

Joao (Portugal) – problem in Portugal too. People sometimes take a long time to get off methadone. They might leave if we deny them the chance to do service. Especially if there are not many people doing service, let the person do a little service too.

Toby (Vice-Chair) – Bulletin 29 “Methadone and other substitution programs” can help the addict understand. There are different kinds of service someone on methadone can do, which are not public

Tomas (Portugal) – consider the group conscience, the people in the group know the member best.

Becky (NAWS) – the issue of medication is a big topic in the fellowship, which needs to be discussed a lot more in the future. The Bulletin 29 was supposed to help groups reach a decision and also say no to an addict on methadone. It is not about discussing with professionals an opinion about methadone programs and telling addicts to stop taking it. There is no easy answer to this.

- How to deal with someone selling drugs at a meeting?

JD (Frenchsp. Swiss) – we are responsible members of society and we do not have to tolerate criminal behaviour in the meetings. Call the police if necessary.

Valentine (France) – report given out before the meeting

Two members have committed to give back stolen money to treasury as amends in their 9<sup>th</sup> step. World Services workshop for the Frenchspeaking community is planned; topics will be “medication”, “treasury” and “violence in groups”. France will make a donation to EDM.

Dave (UK) – we have a pamphlet about violence in groups on the NAWS FTP download site.

Christine (Swiss French) – we have a French translation of that pamphlet, a resumee from it and a report from a workshop on this topic.

Questions asking for experience

- A TV company offered space for a NA video clip, sponsored anonymously by a firm. Is this against the traditions?

Becky (NAWS) – many fellowships typically accept such offers. It’s different from accepting a donation, it is taking advantage of a public service, which is usually offered to all charitable organisations.

Dave (UK) – we had an offer to have a convention venue for free and we accepted it. It’s not money.

- A dead addict’s father wishes to donate 2000 Euro. Is this against the traditions? Can he donate anonymously online to NAWS?

Becky (NAWS) – we don’t accept donations “in the name of” a member. It seems a way how well meaning members try to work around the traditions.

- Guidelines for a forum online? How can we control the links people put?

Conor (Chair) – the new PR Handbook has a chapter about websites

### **Lunch break**

### **14.15 – 17.30 Community reports**

Pavolos (Greece) – report in mailing #3

Translation is going well, we are looking at how to speed up the process. Athens phonline operates for 1 ½ hours a day with a member answering calls, the rest of the time there is an answering machine. Greek PI will now handle all correspondence for regional website, subcommittees have an address, so nobody has to use their personal email address.

Ahmed (Egypt) – report in mailing #3

Approx 900 members

- We are thinking of building a website , we need experiences.

Inigo (Spain) – a subcommittee researched other NA-webpages and took ideas from them

- How much profit should we put on our literature sales?

Christian (Germanspeaking) – 10 years ago, we made profit with literature. This caused big disunity about the money gained. After an inventory process we decided to make no profit at all.

- Our H+I subcommittee is asking about other ways to carry its message beside their H+I meetings in facilities and jails?

Sisko (Sweden) – our H+I committee has started a project to sell bracelets (“bands for basics”) as fundraiser for basic texts to prisons.

Dominique (France) – Meeting lists are distributed e.g. at places where addicts exchange syringes.

Inigo (Spain) – report in mailing #3

We have some areas with strong fellowships and areas with almost no meetings. H+I is done on area levels and the PI committee was adapted as FD subcommittee like EDM. FD committee has its own budget. We do outreach with far away areas and also PI activities with local governments. FD committee is setting up some guidelines and asking for experience. Areas ask for experience when and how to create an area.

Space for regional office is available, options how to open an office are being checked.

Problem with donations, which are not passed on through the service structure.

Dave (UK) – we made a pamphlet, informing why we pass on money through the service structure. It seemed to help.

Tomas (Portugal) – report by email

3 Addicts had been sentenced by a court to donate 1.000 Euros to NA in Portugal. The fellowship has now decided to give back this money. Judges and other facilities have been informed that NA does not accept donations.

Dave (UK) – report in mailing #3

ECCNA 24 planning committee asks if EDM wants to have a crèche (child care) at ECCNA in Wales. New policy that 20 % of donations above prudent reserve are to be passed on to EDM and NAWS. We have an information pamphlet about why and how money needs to be passed on in the service structure. There is also a new simple information pamphlet about the service structure – copies distributed to all. Service pamphlets are on the na.org FTP download site. Malta has asked for help and has received guidelines and other information as “service sponsoring”.

- Treatment centres invite clients to attend conventions. Does it affect the traditions, if the treatment centre pays for their clients?

Jussi (Finland) – we send invitations to the meetings in institutions. They don't have to pay the registrations. Many institutions let their clients go to our events.

Yuval (Israel) – we don't make a distinction if members come from treatment centre. If someone has no money to pay, they don't have to pay.

Inigo (Spain) – some treatment centres pay for their clients and then charge the families of the addicts for that cost.

Becky (NAWS) – money should not come from outside institutions. But registration paid for the clients is not viewed like that.

Jussi (Finland) – report in mailing #3

Regional and area service is developing well. 112 meetings in Finland, number increasing.

Sisko (Sweden) – report given out

The Swedish convention will have service workshops for the first time. Group assembly planned.

Several areas have started using the “Area Planning Tool”, committees are being started.

Danish members came to the Swedish service conference and Swedish members visited the very first Danish Service conference! There have been communications with Murmansk, very close to north of Sweden, asking for EDM experience and FD support for workshops / PI in Murmansk.

- Service office would like experience on having an employee

Dave (UK) – we have a part-time special worker at the UK service office, it works well.

Christine (Frenchspeaking Swiss) – report given out

New helpline has been opened 3 months ago. Works very well, they receive a call about every two days. The helpline servants have a meeting list and phone contacts in the area.

We had a big area workshop on “Inappropriate Behaviour in Meetings”. The UK pamphlet was translated. Very positive experience, solution oriented.

- Helpline asks for experience

Conor (Chair) – the new PR Handbook has a chapter on phonelines.

Dave (UK) – basic information pamphlets are also sent out to the newcomers who call the helpline

Pavlos (Greece) – some phonecalls are from professionals and can't be answered immediately. We refer these to PI committee. Also, we cannot take responsibility for medical or psychological advice some addicts may want (e.g. suicide threats), we refer them to professionals or suicide hotline.

Gabi (Hungary) – report in mailing #3

15 groups and 21 meetings now – number increasing.

25.-27. In May there will be an Area convention in Pesc together with FD workshops planned by EDM.

Prisons have finally opened to NA service, which is building up.

For IP #1 we try to find a Hungarian translation of the name “Narcotics Anonymous”.

Request funding, even partial, for next EDM in Wales.

- Common Needs (special interest) meeting for addicts who work as counsellors. Experiences needed Paul (FD) – I worked as a counsellor and I would have appreciated some help. I resigned from the job to concentrate on NA.

Becky (NAWS) – there are many such meetings, maybe not registered but many unofficial.

Jussi (Finland) – many NA-members work in institutions. The problem is to sit on two chairs, as member of NA and as a counsellor to the addicts. No progress yet on the question. Institutions have a lot of influence on NA. Members working in the institution should be clear about the difference between treatment and NA:

Christian (Germanspeaking) – report given out  
Not much growth, lack of service, lack of money.

- How to get more people involved in service?

Nadi (Treasurer) – we had a very small committee and finally closed it for lack of servants. At the next Regional meeting, suddenly five volunteers for the committee stepped up

Nina (UK) – encourage your sponsees. Start with little service and some sponsees ... it will spread.

Jussi (Finland) – when the service structure folded, we did not hold Regional Convention for a while. People then understood that you have to do something yourself, if you want something to happen.

Paul (FD) – World Board member Bob J. stood up at the World Convention and asked “how many of you would like to stand here where I stand? ... (lots of hands went up) ... then step up for any service you can get”

Yuval (Israel) – report in mailing #3

Areas are not functioning independently, because the region is so strong. Reform of service structure is needed. NAWS participated and held workshops at the last regional convention. Very good experience.

- How we encourage groups to unite into one area? Tel Aviv, the biggest "NA city" in Israel is controlling the region and keeps it working like an area. That makes all the services structure not balanced. What committees should be regional, which ones on area level?

Nectarios (Greece) – in Greece, the EDM FD trip inspired people. Change needs time.

Dave (UK) – our fellowship used to be very London based. London used to be one area, now it is 4. Some main services are still based in London, but e.g. the helpline is now 24 hours and this can be everywhere.

Convention speaker tape committee is also all over the country. The Regional Service Conference rotates to different areas, not only London.

Valentine (France) – we have the same problem in France. At the Regional Conference, different area delegates are asked to moderate parts of the conference. It helps people to feel involved.

Toby (Vice Chair) – one area had several isolated groups. Service changed when these decided to make their own area. They now have an equal voice in service.

Irene (Ireland) – report given out

Russian speaking meetings has started recently, run by Lithuanian members. There are many Eastern Europeans in Ireland.

A psychologist has been approached to be a “friend of NA” person as a non-addict to talk on behalf of NA to the media. This can be helpful in situations where members should not break their anonymity.

Financial situation is good. Resources will be used for FD activities within Ireland, such as supporting the Western Area, which is struggling. Area planning tool and area inventories are the current priority.

Archives Committee is setting up a booklet with all past major decisions made by Region, so that past experience can be benefited from. Minutes are on file since about 1998.

Reports from absent communities had been mailed – Bulgaria, Ukraine, Western Russia, Denmark, Latvia, Lithuania, Slovenia, Norway and Turkey. Questions asking for experience from these reports will be discussed later, if time allows.

<b>Friday February 2<sup>nd</sup></b>
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## **9 – 19.45 Fellowship Development report and discussion**

Meeting starts with reading of Just for Today

Paul and Miko – FD report (Report sent out in mailing # 2))

Prague: Communication with Oxana in Prague, informing about how NA is working there. Further communications about their needs from FD

Malta: World Services also contacted them and have sent them all kinds of literature. They are communicating with World Services translations. Their first convention will take place in February.

Paul and Miko meet online regularly and also with Steering Committee

Please fill in resumes for the FD resource pool.

There have been no trips in the last 6 months, but a lot of new requests:

Hungary – this was approved in Porto. Questionnaire has been filled in, the trip is being planned for May

Prague – request for an FD visit. Questionnaire has been sent to evaluate what can be done

Murmansk (North-Western Russia) – request received from Sweden via Western Russia. Communication is a little difficult.

Tumen (Far-East Russia) – request in the Western Russia report, communications have been started to see what they need.

Several communities are requesting funding for summer EDM. This is also part of FD work

Challenges with these requests: Some are very small and isolated communities. We have to find out, what exactly they want and need from EDM. Communication takes time, because everything has to be translated. There are no precise requests or plans what to do.

Dave (UK) – EDM has a lack of money. Are there any other and cheaper ways to help? Such as sending guidelines by email, visits by neighbouring members ...

Paul (FD) – the workshop in Porto brought some ideas, which can be developed, such as the sponsoring of communities.

Pavlos (Greece) – a good way to communicate is through the website email address.

### **9.45 – 11.15 FD workshop „Following up FD“**

The first workshop is about how to follow up the FD work already done.

Second workshop will look into different ways of doing FD work, such as sponsoring communities.

#### Introduction

How can we use our resources best, so that we don't discuss the same things over and over again?

Instead of just looking at a problem, responding to it and then going away, we need to have a long-term view.

Sometimes what looks like a problem, can be strength if looked at long-term. For example if a community asks for help because they are very small and tightly knit. Maybe this does not have to be changed (as a first impulse solution) but can also be strength for them, if other change is being worked on slowly.

We need more continuity in Service, keep clear records, review what has been done in the past, keep information available for follow-up activities.

The workshop in Porto brought some good ideas and communications with some new communities (such as Malta) – how much of this has actually been followed up? What activities have actually been done?

Paul and Miko give out an information sheet about the workshop, and explained how the workshop will run.

Conor gives some basic explanation about how small group discussions work.

Body breaks up into 6 small groups.

Group discussion topics:

1. What would work best for following-up FD work?
2. How could this be turned into action?
3. How could we show that the action was useful and that the FD work was being followed up?

Feedback of important points are collected from the small groups. These are included in a separate document: FD Workshop Reports.

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**Short break**

### **11.30 – 12.00 ECCNA 23 Porto closing report**

Joao (Portugal) – report was sent out by email and handed out.

It was a great event. The local fellowship was very happy to host EDM and ECCNA. We profited from the convention to resume contact with the Media. There was very positive news coverage of the event.

Portuguese region discussed if it would be possible to give more than the usual 10 % of the convention profit back to the host committee. Reason is that the main source of income for the region is the Regional Convention. This did not take place separately in the year of ECCNA. Will be discussed later.

Big applause and thanks to the Portuguese host committee.

### **12.00 – 12.45 ECCNA 24 Wales report**

Marie gives out a report.

Planning meeting with SC chair Conor has taken place.

The venue has all facilities that a convention needs.

There has been fantastic fundraising from the local area.

Hospitality committee is having many inquiries through the website.

We are aware that ECCNA needs to make profit and are very careful with the budgets. Budget for merchandising has been raised.

Translation equipment does not need a booth (wireless). This requires separate places in the auditorium for the translators to sit. The auditorium is big enough. Cost is 3.200 Pounds (4.500 Euro).

Coach service for the delegates to arrive from Manchester can be arranged cheaply – please give arrival and departure 6 weeks before the event! By train is 1,5 h from Manchester, cost around 30-40 Pounds. There is also a direct train from London to Llandudno.

An email address data base with email contacts all over the world used for ECCNA in Dublin has been sent to the Wales Committee.

EDM workshops plus a workshop from local fellowship is planned

Yuval (Israel) – asks for graphics of the flyer, so that they can print the flyer in Hebrew.

Nadi (Treasurer) – suggestion to pay the merchandise suppliers at the end of the event, if possible.

Dave (UK) – can the EDM decide if there should be a crèche (facility to take care of the children)

Maire (ECCNA) – the host committee does not organize this. We are not qualified. If the UK Parents and Carers committee contacts us, we can arrange for a room. The committee can take care of everything else.

**Consensus around the room to have a Crèche / Kindergarten at ECCNA.** Marie to contact Parents and Carers committee to check the possibilities.

### **Lunch break**

### **14.15 – 16.00 FD workshop “Sponsoring Communities” as a way to do FD work**

This workshop is a small group discussion focussed on finding ideas how to respond to three different scenarios / requests of FD work. See separate FD report.

FD resource pool form is given out.

Feedback to the form: Form is unclear, what exactly it is asking for. It should be more specified, what skills are asked for, like “translation from which language” or spaces to add more relevant service experience. It should also include what people are interested in learning, not only what skills are already there. Postal address is missing to send back the form. People can’t send back the paper, only by email. FD Chair agrees to include feedback into new version of FD Resume.

### **Short break**

### **16.30 – 16.40 ECCNA 24 Wales report (continued)**

Treasury report and draft program given out. No need for discussion.

Treasury will need all receipts for the final report, as legal association requires this.

### **16.40 – 16.50 ECCNA 25 Finland report**

Dates 25.-27. July 2008 in Helsinki. Report is given out.

Negotiation for accommodation has started. We are also checking possibility for free accommodation with sleeping bags. Pre-flyer has been printed, distribution will start in Wales and some at the Swedish

Convention, as agreed with the Steering Committee. Communication with Steering Committee is very good.

All planning is way ahead of time. Preliminary website is already working at [www.eccna25.org](http://www.eccna25.org). Website has email addresses of sub-committees and persons to contact.

Questions and remarks:

NA-Logo on the flyers should have a copyright symbol.

Programming: please remember the EDM workshops.

Budget: The budget has 2460,- € as compensation for speakers, as this seems usual practice in Finland. ECCNA Wales has been told this is not possible, because EDM usually does not fund speakers. Steering Committee will clarify this. Calculation is that profit would be about 15.000 €, which is about average.

Appreciation for the hard work is expressed. Thanks and applause for the Finland committee.

## **16.50 – 17.30 Any matters arising from the meeting that need discussion**

Questions from absent communities - Latvia:

Please share your experience with us about the situation when no one is willing to take a vacant position in service.

- Distribute the UK service pamphlet
- The Steering Committee can take on the responsibility for that service collectively
- Send out information to all groups that this position is vacant.
- Don't do the service so that people feel the lack of this service not done. If it is obvious that the service is needed, someone will step up and do it.
- Lithuania workshop on "how to motivate people to do service" two years ago – use that material

Is it ok when translation committee has only one function – to manage translation process, when the actual translations are done by professionals?

- Ahmed (Egypt) – our H+I guidelines were translated by a professional translator and the committee revised the material if the correct NA-wording was used. We have all translations done by professionals now. It makes the process faster and easier.
- Joao (Portugal)- we used to do translations on our own resources and by willing members. There are lots of language mistakes. So we need professional review of the translation. If translation can be done by professionals, why not. Literature written by professionals always has to be reviewed by members, so the last word is always be NA and the region.
- Ewa (Poland) – a professional translator is translating the Basic Text now, it is faster and easier.
- Becky (NAWS) – some fellowships seem to be reluctant to use professionals and not being able to do it on their own resources. Having numerous reviews of translated material is a long process. If there is lots of material to be translated, this can be very painstaking. The community can try to use professionals to make this easier. If they don't like the way this works, they can always go back to using their own resources.

Question to the World Services – there is online donations page on the World site, and everyone can donate money, even from outside NA. How it correlates with the 7th Tradition?

- Becky (NAWS) – the website is a portal. The donation on the website doesn't tell any more or less than you can see from a cheque or from money dropped in the basket. But somehow it always seems to come out when it is not by a member. We have given back donations if this has happened.

Need for a feedback on following situation: The serenity prayer was translated into Latvian, and there were 3 versions of the translation which were discussed in groups, and groups chose one of them. But after time passed someone discovered some stylistic inconsistencies in the translation and began to insist on changing the prayer. Groups started discussing this issue again, and still have not come to agreement. What is your experience or suggestions to us?

- Nectarios (Greece) – in northern Greece the prayer is said differently than in the south. At Regional Conventions, the serenity prayer is somehow uneven. We live like this and are happy with it.
- Miko (FD) – think of the first tradition: it says "unity, not uniformity". We don't have to use the same prayer. Some groups use the 3<sup>rd</sup> step prayer.
- Wolfgang (Germany) – the serenity prayer is not a mystic NA-prayer that has to be used in just one way. It is translated in so many languages and in different forms. It is not only used in NA or in recovery. We don't have to be afraid to use it in a different form.

### Illness and medication in recovery

Valentine (France) – the fellowship does not have a clear and direct message about medication in recovery. Like interferon and/or anti-depressants, given by the doctor for specific reasons. Sponsors and other addicts sometimes give advice. Feedback is tough sometimes, telling the addict that he/she is not clean. How can we deal with these addicts, so that they don't leave or feel scared off.

Jussi (Finland) – read chapter 10 “more will be revealed” in the Basic Text

Gabi (Hungary) – we have some experience with interferon where members do stay in service

Dominique (France) – some members refuse to take anti-depressants because they think this will end their clean time. They rather stop the medical treatment. People are very rigid! We heard that other regions deal with this differently.

Dave (UK) – every single case is different. I'm not a doctor. But as an addict I still judge. I have seen people get off their medication and end up in a mental hospital. This thing can happen when we involve in this and it is none of our business. There should be some very simple literature about this issue.

Joao (Portugal) – this needs to be discussed on group level. It is a big issue. Being so very rigid about abstinence of all medicines can cause much suffering. Our literature is very clear: we don't have an opinion on medical issues. Some people will need to take medicines until the end of their life. Is this a reason to exclude them from the meetings? Many people have double diagnosis.

Karolina (Poland) – lots of newcomers take pills because their doctors give them medication. In many meetings, people on medication are asked not to speak until the end of the meeting. Maybe ask the addicts to consult another doctor who knows about addiction, and check if they really need the medication.

Toby (Vice Chair) – the problems with addicts who have double diagnosis and mental problems will get worse, because of the kind of drugs people use today. We can try not to judge, be informed and aware.

People who don't have medication problems need to learn to be more tolerant. The Bulletin on methadone gives certain restrictions for service – it is like “if you have a broken leg you can't run”

Irene (Ireland) – people on medication are being told, that they can't share, can't do service, that they should stop all medication if they want to come to NA. This is dangerous. We are here because of problems with drug *abuse*, not drug use. If someone is going to kill themselves, its better that they take the anti-depressant. We are here to live.

## Saturday February 3<sup>rd</sup>

Meeting starts with the reading of the Just for Today

The code for the web site is distributed to laptops around the room for viewing.

### **9 – 9.30 Website report** (Report in the booklet)

Sigrid (Secretary) – the webservant can't be here due to illness. He has designed the basic features of the site. The files have been uploaded to the laptops for everyone to look at. The site contains the texts that were approved as presented by the website working group in Lithuania. The site looks a little bare, we now need to give more information to the webservant for him to add. We have lots of ideas, i.e. mailing list, service forum, the “About Us” page in the different EDM languages. EDM members are asked to do the translations of this page and email to the [edm\\_na@yahoo.com](mailto:edm_na@yahoo.com). We can also have a list of FD activities and history, a list of all ECCNAs that have taken place so far and any other archive materials. Please send us any information that you have. Further ideas for the future might be a gallery for posters and T-shirt designs, or a database for upcoming events. You need to give the information, the webservant's job is not research, only posting for what he is given.

### Questions and feedback:

- Materials like the translated service pamphlet can be posted in a download area to share with other communities.
- Wording on the opening page: this says “EDM serves *and is accountable* for the following communities....”. This is not correct and could be dangerous. Clarification where this comes from: On EDM document it says “we serve as a point of accountability for ECCNA”, apparently this was mistranslated. Will be amended.
- Currently, the Steering Committee checks all information prior to posting it on the Website.
- Translation of the “About us” page to the different language: The different alphabets might cause problems, for example, Hebrew written from right to left. Information from Pavlos that most European alphabets are in Unicode, which should work for the website. Will ask webmaster.

- The text to be translated (about EDM, short history of EDM, what does EDM do) will be emailed out in mailing #1.
- Idea to translate everything on the website seems a good idea in principle but is too complicated for one person to maintain. This is information about EDM, not about the separate communities. It also is a reflection of this body whose language is English. Possibly in future, the website in other languages will be possible. We need to get it up in English first.
- The list of communities is incomplete. "England" should read "UK".
- To contact the webmaster, please use the [edm\\_na@yahoo.com](mailto:edm_na@yahoo.com) email. Service email addresses at edmna.org will be created soon.
- Community's names can be linked to their homepages or to the information in the community's language.
- The information about the number of meetings ("2000 meetings in Europe") needs to be checked.
- Webservant will be with us in Wales.
- Compliments expressed to the webservant for the good work he did.

### **9.40 – 10.20 NAWS report**

- Regions are asked to update the meeting locator / database for meetings. To update the database from an existing regional database, contact [lori@na.org](mailto:lori@na.org), who can give information on how to best transfer database update electronically
- Annual report 2005-2006 was sent out
- Local resource material area (FTP): regions can email material but anyone can send material by email and will be uploads by NAWS. Most material in English and Spanish. To locate the FTP site, go to [http://www.na.org/servicemat/service\\_material.htm](http://www.na.org/servicemat/service_material.htm) and click on the "Locally Developed Resources"
- New material for literature: piece about "Young People in NA", which includes a section with information for parents.
- Deadline for input on Basic Text personal Stories is End of February. Still a lack of material from Europe.
- Discussion Topics "Building Strong Homegroups": information gathered around the world is very similar. A simple one page Group Inventory might help to find solutions to commonly expressed problems.
- Seating at WSC: any new communities who consider to be seated should email to World Board before April 2007 deadline.
- Fellowship Development activities: workshop in Israel was an amazing experience. Seen from outside, a big development has happened there in the last 10 years. Israel has a wonderful fellowship.
- Conferences on Addiction in different countries: it seems a good idea to combine efforts from NAWS with EDM to participate in these events. Next addiction conference is in Istanbul. NAWS can keep the contact and do registration to the conference and co-operate with local members to participate.
- Workshops in Paris and in Cairo planned.
- World Convention 2007 in San Antonio, Texas: It has been decided to have common needs meetings. Will have meetings listed on the program for young people, women's, men's and gay/lesbian. There will also be a gay/lesbian dance and young people's dance. We plan some kind of evaluation how these meetings are received. We might also have topic discussion on HIV and other medical issues, and use of medication. There will be meetings in Spanish. Unity day is on Sunday with international telephone link-ups. We expect well over 20.000 addicts. Please send speaker tapes. Main speakers are funded.
- World Services visit to Iran. The fellowship is so big, over 100,000 members. Relations with the government are getting more difficult, as they are wary of such a large organisation. Almost all mixed men/women meetings have been closed in the last 6 months because NA has had too much attention. Office in Iran – the manager has very good relations with the fellowship and the government. It is very difficult to travel to Iran, the NAWS office cannot provide travel assistance. There are local members who can help.

Toby (Vice-Chair) – contribution for the coffee breaks is 850 SFr, we have up to now collected about 350 SFr. Please put your contribution into the hat.

### **short break**

There are parallel workshops run by the local fellowship. 11-12.30 Public Image 14.30-16 Leadership in NA, 16.30-17"PI training". The last of these workshops is on the EDM agenda, open for everyone.

### **11.00 – 12.45 NAWS workshop**

Body splits up into 3 groups. “Area Planning Tool” handout is distributed. This is designed to help the local community create a plan and how to put a plan into action.

Small groups are asked to discuss the 4 questions on page 3 of the Area Planning Tool, adapted for the EDM:

1. How well has the EDM done to serve the regions and how can it better serve them in the future?
2. How well has the EDM served the larger community?
3. How well has EDM functioned in the past? Do subcommittees and trusted servants understand the work assigned to them?
4. How well has EDM supported and collaborated with NAWS?

Some points are collected from the small groups about “what worked well” and “what could be improved”. Most important issues are:

- Communications
- Training and workshops
- Completing projects (guidelines, website)
- Fellowship Development (funding, sponsoring, NAWS and EDM FD partnerships)

Next step in the workshop is to set up goals for each of these issues. These are also collected in the small groups. When collecting them, we try to distinguish between “goals” and “*how to achieve the goals*”.

Finally, session profiles on how to set up such a workshop at home are handed out. This profile is rather detailed, please feel free to simplify or alter the session, according to what will work for you. Also the Area Planning Tool is designed as a resource, not to be followed slavishly. If you give it out as material before the session, don’t read all of it but explain it in small, understandable “bites”.

Some experiences around using the Area Planning Tool in the regions are shared by delegates.

Sisko (Sweden) – the tool has been translated and distributed in the areas. It is very complex, so we just give introductions what it is about. Two Areas have then requested to have a complete workshop about it. It gives back to the groups and it gets members directly involved.

Toby (Vice Chair) – groups find it too complicated and scary, so we don’t give out the complex description. We try to rather explain it in easy and simple words and then it looks workable.

Dave (UK) – it works well to have a little personal sharing session before starting a workshop. It gets everyone more emotionally involved.

5.

### **Lunch Break**

### **14.15 – 15.15 Steering Committee proposal**

**“To add a paragraph to the Orientation Pack (page 18), that the hosting region of ECCNA should not hold their regional convention in the year of ECCNA”**

Conor (Chair) – short summary of the discussion had in Porto about this proposal.

It was said that ECCNA is usually a big fund raiser for EDM.

In many communities ECCNA is combined with the regional convention.

In others, there have been conflicts within the region about whether to have their regional convention in the year they host ECCNA or not. Feeling is that conflicts can be avoided if we have clear guidelines. Opinions differ if having both conventions would mean more or less competition of attendance at both conventions.

Discussion from Porto has been postponed to the next EDM, asking regions to go back home and get a regional conscience on the question.

Straw poll: 5 of 14 regions have a regional conscience on the issue.

Discussion:

JD (Frenchsp. Swiss) – no conclusion in my area. We think adding this would create a problem. We see a danger of lower attendance if we have both conventions. On the other side, funds from Regional Convention are usually needed. We want to add this paragraph to not create a competition between attendance and then we create a competition between funds.

Conor (Chair) – if it is in the guidelines, communities will know the situation when applying for ECCNA. We as EDM are responsible for the success of ECCNA.

Pavolos (Greece) – group conscience prefers not to hold Regional Convention. But in special circumstances, e.g. matters of unity and need for Regional Convention, then they should be free to have both. They can have the events with a time difference of 4-5 months.

Sisko (Sweden) – for us it is just a matter of wording. Our regional convention is always in winter, but we have a mid-summer convention. If we host ECCNA, this would mean the summer convention would not happen.

Joao (Portugal) – we don't like the wording "should not have", better to say "suggest" or "ask". We don't see any problem, how we decide. There is always a solution, like putting together the regional convention with ECCNA. We focus too much on the possible loss of funds. Regions should be free to choose.

Suggestion to change the wording: "We suggest that the hosting region of ECCNA should not hold their regional convention in the year of ECCNA"

Dave (UK) – our regional convention is a big event and the venue was booked long ahead. We then had to go back and cancel the venue. This caused a lot of disunity. Another experience – when ECCNA was in Manchester, a lot of people did not come because they had already been to the Regional Convention. We need something in the guidelines about this.

Paul (FD) – we have already decided this some years ago. That the bidding community agreed not to hold their regional convention when they hold ECCNA. It was not an order, it was just one of the conditions for bidding. Unfortunately, this decision was never formally adopted.

Gaby (Hungary) – We need an explanation why it should be this way.

Irene (Ireland) – my community voted against the proposal "that we should not hold the regional convention". If we change the wording now, it is a different situation. We don't have a problem with "suggesting", we have a problem with a rigid rule.

Niall (Ireland) – rewording could include "should *consider*"

Proposal changed back to original wording.

Conor (Chair) no– no consensus at this time. Can we focus on the principle behind this. Are we happy to have Regions have their regional conventions in the same year as ECCNA. Or do we want a written paragraph in the guidelines. This proposal reflects the practice as it has been done up to now.

Call for three pro and three against the proposal in the original wording: "**that the hosting region of ECCNA should not hold their regional convention in the year of ECCNA**"

Dave (UK) – pro: our experience is it does not work to have both. Our groups voted on it. Don't be afraid to have a clear wording, this avoids confusion is in favour of unity.

Joao (Portugal) – against: the region voted against. But it can be within the requirements for bidding, that the region agrees.

Yuval (Israel) – pro: the local fellowships' concern is about losing money. But also the EDM and ECCNA is very important for the local fellowship. ECCNA is very important to finance EDM. Communities have a choice not to put the bid. If we do, we can make a break for Regional Convention for one year.

Does anyone have a strong objection against this proposal – no. **Consensus “To add a paragraph to the Orientation Pack (page 18), that the hosting region of ECCNA should not hold their regional convention in the year of ECCNA”**

Joao (Portugal) – We now have two decisions for ECCNA – Wales and Helsinki – that were decided for without this paragraph. Will this decision be imposed onto those communities? Also, Portugal did have had their regional convention last year, it was combined with ECCNA 23.

Conor (Chair) – In principle, yes. In practice, it is not necessary, because both communities have already decided not to have their regional convention.

#### Proposal from the Portuguese region to increase the percentage of ECCNA profits going to the host committee

Joao (Portugal) – Profit of the regional convention is the biggest income for Portugal. Usually our regional convention makes three times as much as the 10 % we got (1500 Euro against usually 5000 Euro). After ECCNA the region saw that the ECCNA profit was more than they expected. We discussed that the percentage should be higher.

Discussion:

JD (Frenchspeaking Swiss) – the convention was great. But it was a contract / agreement that 10 % goes to the host committee. I'm against changing this afterwards.

Other voices agree with this.

Nina (UK) – we don't have any money anyway.

**Consensus to not increase share of ECCNA23 profits to the Portuguese host committee.**

#### Question for feedback from Egypt

- Can we work steps with people in treatment or should we not work the steps with them? In Egypt, we work steps with them and we got the impression that others do not do that.

JD (Frenchspeaking Swiss) – The situation is handled differently in different local communities. There is no unique way of doing this. Trust the process in your community.

Jussi (Finland) – It is different to work the steps in treatment or outside. But if someone in the institution wants to work the program, let him do it.

Joao (Portugal) – in Portugal, people who leave the treatment will get a contact person from NA and then choose to work the steps with them. Better to do just one thing at a time.

Gaby (Hungary) – we had people in treatment work steps and do service. Our experience was it did not work well. Steps and service should be a real life experience.

Valentine (France) – in one treatment, patients work the first 4 steps and share them with an NA sponsor. After treatment, they go back to step one.

Nina (UK) – I sponsor someone in treatment. I won't work the steps with her so that she can concentrate on the program they offer in the treatment. I offer support for her as a sponsor. When she comes out, I will work with her again.

Paul (FD) – many oldtimers work in treatment. What happens in Egypt is probably just what is supposed to happen now. This is what works best for you now. Things will change when time is there.

**Break**

#### **16:00 – 10.00 Updated Treasury Report**

**Actual Money before EDM 25.338,94 Euro**

Approved budget / remaining expenses  
actual expenses EDM -6.014,20 Euro

Income from Donations	
Egypt donation	180,48 Euro
basket money	246,80 Euro
<b>Remaining after budget</b>	<b>19.756,02 Euro</b>
Hungary FD trip	2.000,- Euro
Earmarked Money for next EDM	<u>13.000,- Euro</u>
<b>Available for Budget</b>	<b>4.756,02 Euro</b>

Difference between the expenses calculated in the beginning and the lower actual expenses is because one delegate did not come and because there was an error in calculating the Swiss Francs exchange rate.

### **15.30 – 16.30 ECCNA in 2009 / World Convention**

Conor (EDM) – sum up of the discussion held in Porto:

It is a philosophical question if and how much we as EDM wish to support the World Convention. Consequence is that we would have to fully rely on donations in that year without the income of ECCNA. In Porto, there was one strong objection against the opinion to not hold ECCNA and a suggestion to hold ECCNA in Eastern Europe in 2009. No consensus was reached, communities were asked to take the topic back to their regions and gather a regional conscience. Straw poll: 4 out of 14 communities have brought back a regional conscience on this. Point of information that Ukraine intends to bring a bid for ECCNA in 2009 to Wales.

#### Discussion

Joao (Portugal) – Portuguese region decided ECCNA should be held in 2009.

Christian (Germanspeaking) – no regional conscience yet because the question was taken to the areas.

Irene (Ireland) – I have one personal opinion for and one against this: my experience in 1994 was the World Convention in Paris and ECCNA in Frankfurt were both well attended. But how can we tell regions not to hold their regional convention and then go against this ourselves by holding ECCNA.

Inbal (Israel) – regional conscience was against ECCNA in 2009 at first. But when they understood the same issue with not having the regional convention, they were not so sure.

Gabi (Hungary) – we would have needed more information to reach a decision.

Dave (UK) – UK voted not to have ECCNA in 2009. But what will then happen to EDM? Will we have EDM in summer?

Valentine (France) – can we have EDM at the World Convention? And is it a problem to have ECCNA in a far away country?

Ahmed (Egypt) – does not having ECCNA means not to have EDM?

Toby (Vice-Chair) – I don't understand why this went back to regions. Only one region was against it.

According to our consensus making decision process, it would have been a decision not by consensus but with one against. We should be careful what to take back to the region.

Conor (Chair) – We need to take into account that if we don't have ECCNA, there might not be funds for two EDM meetings. But not having ECCNA does not automatically mean, none of the EDM activities will happen.

Irene (Ireland) – 10 % of ECCNA profits go to the Region hosting ECCNA. Would it be possible to receive a contribution from World Services to fund EDM?

Becky (NAWS) – there are many options to be discussed. World Convention is a great opportunity to come together on a worldwide level. If this causes problems on a local level, we will try to address them as best as we can.

Nina (UK) – EDM is about Fellowship Development and so is the World Convention. That is in 2009! We have over two years to put aside money for EDM.

Pavlos (Greece) – if we don't hold ECCNA and the EDM or any FD actions, because of the World Convention, this sounds wrong. We need to find a way to do our work in Europe no matter what about the World Convention.

Joao (Portugal) – it's dangerous to think that we depend only on ECCNA. Addicts will have to decide if they can afford only one. Some can afford both, many can't afford even one. ECCNA can also be used as an FD action in emerging countries, which won't be able to attend the World Convention anyway.

Inigo (Spain) – we already had consensus in Porto, except for one region. We are mixing two concepts – the EDM and Fellowship development, and the World Convention. There were ECCNAs that were not so successful. We should concentrate on the decision. Not on the money.

Paul (FD) – FD activities won't stop if we don't have much money. We are in the process of finding different ways to do FD as well, even if we do not have FD trips.

Is someone against the proposal "to not hold ECCNA in 2009"? – 2 against.  
Opportunity to have 3 voices for and 3 against

Nina (UK) – pro: World Convention is all about FD. We should support that. Also we should be consistent with the decision we just made that regions should not hold their regional convention. We have enough time for financial planning.

Joao (Portugal) – against: my region voted we should have ECCNA in an Eastern European Country as FD activity. See no conflict of interest.

Sisko (Sweden) – pro: if members have little funds, they would chose the World Convention. It's about unity to support NA as a whole and the World Convention. Possibility to hold EDM meeting in a creative way.

Christian (Germanspeaking) – against: Can't make a decision at this point, too many open points.

Is now someone against the proposal?

Still 2 against.

Next stage is having a straw poll.

- 11 for, 1 abstention, 2 against.

According to the consensus based decision process, this means less than 85 % in favour.

Further process would be: Minority voices can be heard again. Opportunity for another short discussion.

Then will ask for consensus again. If no consensus, the motion will be carried, because of the majority of people in favour of the proposal. Minutes will record the voices against it.

Consensus means: do we feel that our voices have been heard. This does not mean everyone must agree, but decide to not block the decision of the body.

Tomas (Portugal) – wish for information about possible budget implications:

Nadi (Treasurer) – our yearly income is roughly 20.000 from ECCNA and donations

Expenses are roughly 12.000. Rest for FD is about 8.000 average.

If we don't have income from convention in 2009 there would be an average of 45.000 income and 40.000 expenses. This means we would have only 5000 Euro for FD and everything else.

**No consensus to not hold ECCNA in 2009 – one objection by Portugal Region – the proposal is carried to not hold ECCNA in 2009.**

<b>Sunday February 4<sup>th</sup></b>
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Meeting start with reading the 12 concepts and the Just for Today meditation.

### **9 – 10.00 Treasury closing report, Approval of budget**

Nadi (Treasurer) – the remaining budget is partially in Swiss Francs which needs to be changed back to Euros. It is an approximate. Earmarked money contains budgets for Steering Committee and FD travel to the next EDM, Legal association expenses, 1000 Euros for emergency travel. Average funding to EDM for one person is between 700 to 1000. If someone needs a translator, it is double.

<b>Remaining after budget</b>	<b>19.756,- Euro</b>
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Hungary FD trip	2.000,- Euro
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Earmarked Money for next EDM	<u>13.000,- Euro</u>
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<b>Available for Budget</b>	<b>4.756,- Euro</b>
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After discussion about not having ECCNA in 2009, suggestion to set aside a certain amount each EDM for FD activities and possibly towards holding summer EDM 2009. Until 2009 there are 2 conventions which should provide funds for 3 EDM meetings.

Proposal is 20 % = about 1.000 Euro of this budget.

Remaining amount 3.756 Euro for Fellowship Development activities, including funding of delegates to summer EDM.

Goal is to set aside the amount of the earmarked monies (13.000) needed for 2009. 20 % set aside will not be enough. More fundraising will be needed.

Conor (Chair) – We should all take the idea of fundraising back to the communities and have a discussion about this in Wales. The Steering Committee will also write to World Board about the impact of the decision not to hold ECCNA in 2009.

Becky (NAWS) – EDM is the only Zonal Forum that receives no help financially from NAWS. There will be ways.

Wolfgang (former EDM member) – all FD activities started in a time at EDM, when there was absolutely no money. In Manchester we even had to pass a hat for the hotel expenses. We don't need to be afraid. This is a strong moment to go back to the fellowships and explain how important the FD work is!

Dave (UK) – when there is no money, we go out and get it. There are so many possibilities. We have gratitude meetings, a pamphlet about self support... as a result, we pass on 20 % of budget to the next service level. Maybe other regions can consider this.

Christian (Germanspeaking) – suggest to use all the budget and not set aside anything this EDM.

Paul (FD) – would prefer to set aside more than 1000 Euro. It is important to aim at having EDM in 2009. Information: most requests this time are for travel to summer EDM.

Conor (Chair) – reminder that consensus means that we all have a chance to have our say. We don't have to be in complete agreement.

Are there any objections to the proposal to set aside 1000 Euros towards EDM in 2009? – 2 objections.

Further discussion – two for and two against the proposal:

Joao (Portugal) – pro: after endless discussion about money, this body decided to give the Steering Committee the authority to decide about the FD trips. Steering Committee proposes this so I think we should go along with it.

JD (Swiss) – against: this is in 2 ½ years. we can find creative ways in that time. NAWS has signalled willingness to help. There might be free hotel rooms at World Convention for EDM delegates. No need to put aside money now.

Nina (UK) – pro: I would personally put away more. It's ok that NAWS suggests to help. But if we put away only one third of the amount needed for EDM in 2009, this is one third less that we will have to ask for. It keeps us financially prudent. It is only 3 EDMs until then and we don't put money aside in between.

Christian (Germanspeaking) – against: 1000 Euro is too little anyway to put aside, but it is one more delegate to travel to Wales. We can use this half a year now to get more awareness and funds from our regions. After Wales we can see and maybe put aside much more than that.

Still two objections.

JD (Frenchspeaking Swiss) – I don't want to block the body but what means do I have to express my objections?

Conor – we have heard your side of the argument and we absolutely acknowledge it. Consensus can be that we go ahead, knowing your objections, but will not block the body.

Are there any objections to this proposal?

**Consensus to set aside 1000 Euros of the budget toward ECCNA in 2009  
Approve budget for FD activities is 3756 Euros**

Irene (Ireland) – express the desire to set aside a couple of minutes to discuss new proposals with the alternate and to gain language clarity.

Conor (Chair) Agrees to adopt three minutes before each call for consensus to give an opportunity for delegates to discuss with their alternates.

## **10.00 – 11.00**

### **New Proposal**

#### **“to create an ad hoc fundraising committee”**

Inbal (Israel) – proposal to create an ad hoc fundraising committee for the EDM to help raise the funds to hold EDM in 2009.

Dave (UK) – we don't have our regional convention next year so we won't pass on any profit from this next year. The sooner we deal with the financial implications, the better. This must not necessarily be fundraising, but also to inform about the principle of self support.

Joao (Portugal) – this has been discussed already. It is a philosophical question how to raise our funds.

Having a committee at EDM would be like saying to the regions “don't worry, someone else will take care of it”. We should go back to our regions and organise events ourselves to contribute towards EDM.

Inigo (Spain) – agree. Regions should put on an effort too and be creative. Not only fundraising. Also save money of budget and pass on to NAWS and EDM.

Sisko (Sweden) – agree. In the Swedish Region we set aside a percentage to pass on to EDM and NAWS. We will suggest ideas in our region how to support EDM, because EDM has decided to support World Convention and we will support that.

Gaby (Hungary) – I like the idea of “self supporting” more that “fundraising”. We should discuss this in our regions first.

Conor (Chair) – the first fundraising activity in Ireland towards the European Resource Group helped to raise awareness for what happens on the European level.

Inigo (Spain) – we can share our ideas by email in the interim period.

Clarification if this committee will just produce ideas or if it will start actions as well – this depends on what we ask the committee to do. Also financial implication (meetings of the committee, budget needed).

Three minutes time for discussion with alternates.

10 against the proposal. 1 abstention

Further discussion – two for and two against the proposal:

Yuval (Israel) – pro: the idea is to create a committee that will think of ways to solve the money problem. It's not only about printing T-Shirts. The word fundraising is maybe not right. It can also be a pamphlet or other tools.

**Proposal is withdrawn. Delegates are asked to take back to the communities the idea how and why more fundraising will be needed for EDM in 2009 and bring back creative ideas. There will be time for discussion about this in Wales.**

Becky (NAWS) – it is also not only about EDM in 2009. EDM is having discussions about money problems every time. This is an opportunity for general awareness.

Dave (UK) – offers to send the UK pamphlet about self-support.

Steering Committee will include a paragraph in mailing #1, how this can be communicated to the regions and asking for solutions. Please send ideas until a certain deadline. Steering Committee will compile a document on how to go on from there, which can be discussed in Wales.

### **Bids for winter EDM 2008**

No bids at this point. There have been several good ideas of how Winter EDM can be taken as an FD activity. Encourage communities to present bids. Hungary might consider this.

**Break**

### Ideas for fundraising and increasing the awareness for the needs of funds for EDM

Wolfgang (Guest) – there were some good ideas in the Small Group discussion: how to communicate with our regions. Idea to collect all kinds of material from the regions and compile it to a little slideshow/ movie that can be used by delegates to show their communities the work of the EDM.

Becky (NAWS) – we pass the hat for donations at Unity day. This is never done at ECCNA. Suggest to pass the hat for FD at the closing meeting at ECCNA.

### **11.15 – 11.45 EDM Funding Guidelines**

On page 16 of the meeting booklet.

Conor (Chair) – In Vilnius, the responsibility for decision making about funding for FD and EDM travel was mandated to the Steering Committee. We as the new Steering Committee very quickly realized that we had nothing in hand on how to actually make such decisions. We suggest to adopt these guidelines as a working document for the next 6 months and see how they work in practice. Some things will certainly need more discussion. We need your input to see where your priorities are. “Guidelines” is maybe not a good word – it is more about the principles.

#### Questions and input:

Dave (UK) – “to give priority to communities who contribute towards their funding” seems a little exclusive, as some communities are not able to do that.

Becky (NAWS) – do you have discussions about “what is the principles” and “what is the reality”. Example is the suggestion to have funded delegates only to one EDM, but in principle the goal might be to have all delegates at all EDMs

Gabi (Hungary) – We know that one delegate and one translator can be funded. This can present the situation to elect a non-English speaker so that the region can send two people instead of one. I appreciate the idea that a region should also put in something.

Ewa (Poland) – in these guidelines, the small communities are not in the priority to receive funding. They might take more time to emerge that way.

Conor (Chair) – this would be an occasion for “sponsoring communities” and the things we talked about in the workshops.

Christian (Germanspeaking) – amend the wording in the paragraph about accommodation - “will be responsible for half the room expenses” to “will be responsible for the expenses exceeding the price of half a double room”

Suggestions and changes brought up during this discussion will be incorporated to the working document. Also a proposed paragraph about per diem.

#### Steering Committee proposal to change wording in the Orientation pack.

From the Orientation Pack (Page 7)

*A daily allowance of €40 per person per day will be allocated for Steering committee and FD Committee members during the EDM to cover local expenses. (EG. food, phone, etc). Members who have been selected to take part in a FD trip on behalf of the EDM will be provided with a daily allowance of up to €40.00 per person per day.*

*A daily allowance for food per day will be provided if necessary to emerging communities who have been invited to attend the EDM by the body. (The allowance will based on where the EDM is meeting)*

New Wording - *A per diem (daily allowance), up to a maximum of €40 per person will be allocated for Steering Committee and FD Committee members during the EDM to cover local expenses. (food, phone, etc). Members who have been selected to take part in a FD trip on behalf of the EDM will be also provided with a per diem of up to €40.00 per person.*

*If necessary, a per diem will be provided to delegates and translators of developing communities who have been funded to attend the EDM, up to a maximum of €40 per person*

**Agreed by consensus.**

**Consensus to adopt the Funding Guidelines as a working document and report back in Wales .**

### **11.45 – 12.25 Matters arising from meeting to be discussed**

Question: Role of the vice-chair

Dave (UK) – is a vice chair funded as a “chair in training”? I see a contradiction if we train a vice-chair to take over the position and then we allow the chair to take on two service terms. Other views on this?

Mary (World Board) – discussion about leadership. An alternate position is a training ground to see if the person has the ability and the skills to take over. Sometimes it turns out they don't have the skills. Bear this in mind when you consider if the alternate steps up automatically or not.

Sisko (Sweden) – having an alternate also means to not do a service alone. The more people who are trained to do a service, the more will be up for elections for service positions. In Sweden all service positions are up for election, no matter if there is an alternate.

Question: Posting shares as sound files on the website

Ewa (Poland) – experience about having shares as sound files on the website to download? Are there any requirements for that?

Nina (UK) – we are starting to post shares in the forum of the website. Webmaster can give details.

Christian (Germanspeaking) – we don't post sound files yet, but are planning to do so. We ask each speaker to sign a form if they agree to have their share published as tape and/or on the web.

Conor (Chair) – a meeting in Santa Monica posts shares every week at [www.naspeakers.com](http://www.naspeakers.com)

Please to have more discussion about consensus making decision process

Christian (Germanspeaking) – I need some more discussion and awareness about this. Can we have it on the agenda for Wales. Consensus for me is not just “not be strongly against it”. For me it means “can I stand behind the decision”. Also we don't have a possibility to stop the process, when it is obvious that a proposal is not what the majority wants.

Conor (Chair) – When a majority does not want a proposal, the proposing community can take back the proposal. Another option to proceed is to make a friendly amendment to the proposal.

Nectarios (Greece) – there might be room for improvement in this process. I would have liked more discussion but felt there was no room to say so.

Conor (Chair) – A need for more discussion is a reason to be against the consensus. You can always say so.

Valentine (France) – I would find it helpful to be able to include doubts, not only speak “for” or “against” a proposal. There should be more room to gain a more global vision of what the decision will mean. Have a brainstorming session about it.

Conor (Chair) – the first part of the discussion is like that, everyone can express their views. Later when we go ahead, we need to become more focussed on the for and against. Feedback shows that the body would like more time to discuss and reach a decision. We can do that.

Joao (Portugal) – being for or against is also an opportunity to say to the body that we want more discussion.

Christian (Germanspeaking) – many points in yesterday's discussion came up at the second level of discussion. We can use the options more – to take time out, to have small group discussions.

Toby (Vicechair) – we will try to explain more detailed the process and the role of the delegates in this process. It is about not being silent when you felt you need to take something back to the groups.

**12.30 – 13.30 Meeting Sum up & close**Decisions taken during the weekend:

- Minutes of the last meeting approved
- ECCNA 24: Consensus to have a Crèche / Kindergarten. Marie to contact Parents and Carers committee to check the possibilities.
- Decision by consensus to add a paragraph to the Orientation Pack (page 18), that “the hosting region of ECCNA should not hold their regional convention in the year of ECCNA”
- Consensus to not increase share of ECCNA 23 profits to the Portuguese host committee.
- The proposal to not hold ECCNA in 2009 is carried with one objection by Portugal Region.
- Consensus to set aside 1.000 Euros of the budget toward costs of EDM in 2009.
- Approve budget for FD activities is 3.756 Euros
- Delegates are asked to discuss funding issue within their communities and send creative ideas on fundraising for EDM in 2009 to the SC, who will produce a package for discussion about this in Wales.
- Consensus to change the wording in the Orientation Pack (Page 7):  
*A per diem (daily allowance), up to a maximum of €40 per person will be allocated for Steering Committee and FD Committee members during the EDM to cover local expenses. (food, phone, etc). Members who have been selected to take part in a FD trip on behalf of the EDM will be also provided with a per diem of up to €40.00 per person.*

*If necessary, a per diem will be provided to delegates and translators of developing communities who have been funded to attend the EDM, up to a maximum of €40 per person*

- Consensus to adopt the Funding Guidelines as a working document and report back in Wales about them.

Goodbyes from Delegates who end their term at this EDM: Ewa (Poland), Ahmed (Egypt)

Meeting Closed

Requests for funding:

Ukraine to summer EDM RD + translator

Lithuania to summer EDM RD and alt RD

Western russia to summer EDM RD + translator

Turkey to summer EDM one person (carried over from Winter EDM)

Hungary to summer EDM one person or even partial funding

Finland to summer EDM one person 468,-

Turkey for follow-up FD trip

Sweden / Russia for FD visit to Murmansk

Western Russia for FD visit to Tumen in Siberia

Prague for FD visit

Denmark for FD visit / EDM workshop at Copenhagen Convention