

	Meeting of EEF Board
Date	22 March 2011
Time	10.00 h to 17.30 h
Location	Haras du Plessis – Chamant (FRA)
Chair	Hanfried Haring
Minutes	Hanfried Haring / Ingmar de Vos

Participants	Title	NF
✓ Hanfried Haring	EEF President	GER
✓ Christian Paillot	EEF Vice President	FRA
✓ Ulf Helgstrand	EEF Vice President	DEN
✓ Andrew Finding	EEF Board Member	GBR
✓ Ingmar de Vos	EEF Secretary General	BEL
✓ Keith Taylor	President	GBR
✓ Jacky Buchmann	President	BEL
✓ Bo Helander	President	SWE
✓ Theo Ploegmakers	President	NED
✓ Siim Nommoja	Secretary General	EST
✓ Soenke Lauterbach	Secretary General	GER
✓ Eleonora Ottaviani	Secretary General	MON
✓ Venancio Garcia	Secretary General	ESP
✓ Claude Nordmann	Board Member	SUI
✓ Frank Spadinger	Director	AUT
✓ David Holmes	Director	ITA
✓ Frederick Cottier	Delegate	FRA
✓ Anne Le Lannic	Delegate	FRA
✓ Anne De Sainte Marie	Delegate	FRA

Agenda			
Pt.	Topic	Speaker	Annex
Annex: X=attached; * = In your possession; **=to be emailed by [dd.mm.yyyy]			
1	Introduction	H. Haring	
2	Presentation about role and responsibility of Continental Groups	A. Finding	
3	Definition of role and responsibility of EEF	All	
4	Extraordinary General Assembly Lausanne	All	
5	General Conclusions	All	

1. Introduction by the President

Hanfried Haring welcomes the delegates. He expresses his gratitude to Christian Paillot. The atmosphere and the hospitality are an excellent basis for fruitful discussions and positive decisions.

The attendees commemorate the situation in Japan and ask the President to express deepest sympathy to the Japanese Federation and to offer the help of the member NFs of the EEF.

Hanfried Haring gives an extensive introduction. He particularly points out to the following facts:

- The development of the EEF since its foundation one and a half years ago;
- The credo of the EEF to always work for the sport and never against institutions, partners, persons etc.;
- The reasons for restructuring the FEI / the statutory changes and the reasons why it failed at the FEI General Assembly in Copenhagen 2009;
- The main point of the proposed new Statutes, namely the continental grouping in accordance with the IOC division and the consequent action to abolish the Bureau in favour of a smaller Board;
- The main differences between the old and the new Statutes;
- The reasons why North and South America rejected the proposed continental structure;
- The reason why Europe rejects this structure;
- The Bureau decision to adjourn the vote on a new structure on the occasion of the Extraordinary General Assembly;
- The necessity to grant the regional/continental divisions more independence and thus a relevant scope of decisions.

The complete wording of his introduction is attached in **ANNEX 1**.

In the subsequent discussion, the delegates unanimously confirm the statements Hanfried Haring made in his introduction about the position of the EEF as the continental representation of the European NFs.

2. Presentation about the Role and Responsibilities of a Continental Group (by Andrew Finding)

Andrew Finding holds the presentation which the Board had asked him to prepare. The presentation presented a concept that could apply to all continents as well as a more developed EEF as an effective continental group. The presentation is summarised:

- He points out to the necessity of the development and implementation of a strategic plan;
- He emphasizes the necessity of such an organization as an independent organization in partnership with, but not directed by, the FEI;
- He asks for a close cooperation among all stakeholders;

- He asks to establish a continental office appropriate to the role of a continental group;
- He emphasizes the necessity of a close collaboration with the FEI;
- He makes a proposal for a progressive modernization.

The full text of his presentation is attached in **ANNEX 2**.

On request of the President, Theo Ploegmakers reports from a meeting the two of them had and adds some points:

- Our goal is the development of the sport in Europe;
- The composition of a Board has to be done on the basis of competence;
- Because of the enormous differences between continents, Europe should not at all adapt its standards;
- We need a clear definition of the needs to develop the equestrian sport;
- We cannot find ourselves in the proposed FEI structure;
- If the needs of the European sport cannot be fulfilled by the FEI, the EEF needs to develop the sport in Europe in its own way.

- In the subsequent discussion all delegates intensely participate in, the main items are
 - Status of regional/continental organizations;
 - Duties which can or must be performed centrally or remotely;
 - Olympic Games;
 - Clean Sport / MCP;
 - Structural questions.

As a result it is to be laid down that the attendees ask for an independence of the EEF (governing body / control and development), but at the same time wish to work closely and in friendship with the FEI. Any ideas of separation are clearly rejected.

3. Definition of the Role and Responsibilities of the EEF

After a long and intense discussion, it is unanimously confirmed that the attendant EEF / Groups I & II members wish that the EEF becomes a body that controls and develops the sport in Europe, depending on a clear definition of the roles and responsibilities.

The proposal of the EEF NFs / NFs of Groups I & II for the new Statutes therefore aims at granting the regional (continental) representations a status that gives them a strong responsibility for the sport in their region.

For Europe this is defined as follows:



Open Board Meeting 22 March 2011, Paris (FRA)

We want the European equestrian sport to be controlled and developed in the way EEF wants. This means for example:

- European & Regional Championships & Series
 - Allocation
 - Organisation
 - Format
 - Ownership of Rights
- EEF Strategic Plans
- Effective Communications & Public Relations
- Financial Sustainability
- Develop the Sport and NFs in Europe
 - Coordination of European Calendar
 - Lower level competitions

These decisions of the EEF members need to be jointly agreed upon again. Subsequently a plan must be developed to realise them. In the course of this, articles 1.1, 1.7, 2.2 and 2.4 of the FEI Statutes need to be revised.

4. Extraordinary General Assembly, Lausanne

The members unanimously decide to support the articles regarding the proposal about Development/ Solidarity.

The thoughts about the proposed statutory changes, laid down in **ANNEX 3**, are discussed. The EEF members will be informed. If they do not object, the outlined points of discussion will be presented at the FEI Extraordinary General Assembly as the opinion of all member NFs.

The British Federation offered an alternative compromise structure for the FEI. One where the Bureau continues as it is, representing the interests of groups and TCs, but with responsibility for the FEI's strategic direction, budget and for electing a board of competency based directors in place of the Executive Board. The concept was considered but thought to be too expensive in not reducing the number of people involved.

5. General Conclusions

The following procedure will be followed as previously agreed by the EEF members: The President will inform the EEF members about the conclusions of the meeting in order to give them the possibility to object or to give comments. NFs that do not respond within the deadline will be considered as agreeing to the conclusions of the



**Open Board Meeting
22 March 2011, Paris (FRA)**

meeting. The FEI will be informed about the items under point 4 to be discussed at Lausanne or at Rio de Janeiro.

Hanfried Haring
President

Ingmar de Vos
Secretary General