



Association of European Migration Institutions

Minutes of the General Assembly 2011

The Minutes of the General Assembly of AEMI (Association of European Migration Institutions) 1. October 2011, at the Danish Emigration Archives Aalborg, Denmark.

The General Assembly 2011 was called to order Saturday 1. October 2011 at 10.00 am. by the Chairman Brian Lambkin.

1. Attendance Register and Apologies

Chairman Brian Lambkin conveyed apologies from Snjezana Gregurovic, Institute for Migration and Ethnic Studies, Zagreb, Croatia and Carlo Stiaccini and Fabio Capocaccia, CISEI, Genoa, Italy.

It was noted that the following representatives of 19 member institutions were present:

- Génériques, Paris, France, represented by Ms. Sarah Clément
- The Centre for Documentation of Human Migration (CDMH), Dudelange, Luxembourg, represented by Mr. Dario Cieol
- LWL Industrial Museum Hannover Colliery – Westphalian State Museum of Industrial Heritage and Culture, Bochum, Germany, represented by Dr. Dietmar Osses
- The Center for Intercultural Studies, Johannes Gutenberg-Universität, Mainz, Germany, represented by Ms. Heike Sabri
- The Directorate for Relations with Basque Communities Abroad, Basque Country, represented by Mr. Benan Oregi Inurrieta
- The Åland Islands Emigrant Institute, Mariehamn, Åland, represented by Ms. Eva Meyer
- The Norwegian-American collection, National Library of Norway, Oslo, represented by Ms. Dina Tølfesby
- The Norwegian Emigration Center, Stavanger, represented by Mr. Hans Storhaug
- The Swedish American Center, Karlstad, Sweden, represented by Mr. Mathias Nilsson and Mr. Erik Gustavson
- The Dunbrody and Ros Tapestry Project, Dunbrody Famine Ship, New Ross, Ireland, represented by Mr. Sean Reidy
- The Slovenian Migration Institute, Ljubljana, Slovenia, represented by Janja Zitnik Serafin and Metka Lokar

- The Center of Migration Studies and Intercultural Relations Universidade Aberta, Portugal, represented by Prof. Maria Beatriz Rocha -Trindade,
- Altreitalia Center on Italian Migrations, Turin, Italy represented by Prof. Maddalena Tirabassi
- The North Frisian Emigrant Archive, represented by Dr. Paul-Heinz Pauseback.
- The Institute of Diaspora and Ethnic Studies, Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland, represented by Prof. Adam Walaszek
- The Danish Emigration Archives, Aalborg, Denmark, represented by Mr. Jens Topholm and Mr. Torben Tvorup Christensen
- The Danish Immigration Museum, Denmark, represented by Ms. Cathrine Kyø Hermansen and Ms. Susanne Krogh Jensen
- The Centre for Migration Studies at The Ulster-American Folk Park, Omagh, Northern Ireland, represented by Dr. Brian Lambkin
- The Migration, Ethnicity, Refugees and Citizenship Research Unit, Curtin University, Perth, Australia, represented by Dr. Nonja Peters

The Chairman then moved that Professor Adam Walaszek be elected Presiding Officer of the General Assembly. The motion was agreed and Professor Walaszek took the chair.

2. Minutes of Annual General Assembly of AEMI 2. October 2010 at Euskalduna Congress Palace, Bilbao, Basque Country, Spain

The Minutes of the General Assembly at Euskalduna Congress Palace, Bilbao, Basque Country, Spain 2. October 2010 were approved as accurate records.

<http://www.aemi.dk/publications/Minutes%20of%20the%20AEMI%20annual%20meeting%202010.pdf>

3. Chairman's Report, 2010-2011

Referring to the full text at the AEMI website

<http://www.aemi.dk/publications/Chairmans%20Report%202010%202011%20Final.pdf>

the Chairman noted that it was a long report, due to the fact that he was stepping down and wanted to give a historical resume. In his presentation Brian Lambkin focused on four major issues:

- 1) The initiation of the AEMI Journal in Stavanger 2002 to keep and promote the records and presentations of the Annual Meetings. This was followed by a special thanks to Hans Storhaug.
- 2) The need to upgrade and reconstruct the AEMI website
- 3) The idea of creating portals like Migrapedia and Migraport
- 4) The project Migrations Heritage Routes, including thanks to Antoinette Reuter and a general focus on international networking and collaboration with Unesco and other associations on the theme migration.

Brian Lambkin concluded that the AEMI annual meetings all had played a strong role and held high standards. He also noted that there is still a lot to be done and new challenges

relating to the major four issues he had focused on. The Chairman thanked all the Board members for their work during the years in benefit of AEMI.

The Presiding Officer thanked the Chairman for his presentation and moved the adoption of the report. The meeting adopted the motion.

4. Secretary's Report, 2010-2011

Secretary Jens Topholm noted that AEMI's secretary in 2010-11 had communicated messages to and from members and research institutions on the topic of Migration. He could also confirm that AEMI has received no new membership applications.

Regarding AEMI website the secretary has communicated with the company that developed the website. The clear advice was to create a complete new platform. The secretary could add that facebook, twitter etc. are social media that has to be part of AEMI plans for new ways of communication.

At the AEMI board meeting April 2011 in Aalborg Jens Topholm stated that he will retire as secretary this year. Due to that it seemed sensible that the ongoing work with the construction of new communicative platforms will be part of the new secretary's job. The AEMI website.dk will be archived as PDF files, so that the many documents can be preserved for further use and historical research on the work of AEMI.

The Presiding Officer thanked the Secretary for his report and moved the adoption of the report. The meeting adopted the motion.

5. Treasurer's Report: Financial statement and accounts, 2010

Treasurer Eva Meyer introduced the AEMI subscriptions paid and the accounts 2010 <http://www.aemi.dk/publications/Account%202010%20and%20Budget%202012.pdf>. The Auditor Erik Gustavson confirmed that he was satisfied with the Accounts for 2010 and had signed them. There were no further comments and questions.

The Presiding Officer thanked the Treasurer for her presentation and moved the adoption of the Treasurer's Report. The meeting adopted the motion.

6. Appointment of Auditor for 2011-2012

Mr. Erik Gustavson was proposed as Auditor of AEMI 2011-2012. The appointment was adopted unanimously. The Chairman Brian Lambkin thanked Erik Gustavson for his work in the year past.

7. Proposed Budget 2012 (Treasurer)

Treasurer Eva Meyer proposed a budget for 2012 <http://www.aemi.dk/publications/Account%202010%20and%20Budget%202012.pdf>

There were questions to the web-page cost and the amount to create a new website. It was noted that is very difficult to be completely precise.

There were several suggestions from the assembly to make new incomes like raising the annual subscription, pay for AEMI Journals, and introduce a fee for participation in the annual conference.

With these remarks to be considered by the new board the Presiding Officer moved the adoption of the Treasurer's Proposed Budget 2012. The meeting adopted the Budget.

8. Journal Editor's Report, 2010-2011

Hans Storhaug, Editor of the AEMI Journal, presented the new journal 2010 and noted that 7 presentations out of 15 in Bilbao were in the journal. It would be possible to have more presentations from the Aalborg meeting in the journal, and Hans Storhaug had also talked with the American Ambassador Laurie S. Fulton about giving a paper.

The call for papers for the next year's Journal is no later than 15. December 2011.

The Presiding Officer thanked the Editor for his presentation and moved the adoption of the Editor's report. The meeting adopted the motion.

9. Admission of New Members

There had been no new official applications for membership.

Sarah Clément mentioned new possibilities in Berlin and Benan Oregi Inurrieta in Spain. Heike Sabri noted an institute in Beirut and Adam Walaszek a new museum in Poland – all possible new members.

10. Election of new Board 2011-2014

Hans Storhaug was elected as new chairman, Maddalena Tirabassi as new vice-chairman and Sarah Clément as new secretary.

Eva Meyer and Hans Storhaug continue as treasurer and editor and Jens Topholm will be board member 2011-12 as host of the 2011 Annual Meeting.

All elections were unanimously accepted and applauded by the members.

The new chairman Hans Storhaug gave a short speech where he confirmed that he as one of the founding fathers would secure continuity. He also advocated new ideas, focus on a broader European perspective and more digital communication between board and members.

11. Members projects

Member projects had been discussed at the first day of the Annual Meeting in the member's workshops and plenum at the Danish Emigration Archives.

12. Review of Annual Meeting 2011

There was general satisfaction with 2011 meeting, the organization, facilities, the program, the combination of the Utzon Center and the Danish Emigration Archives – and the weather! The members supported the new idea of workshops and there were suggestion to upgrade member workshops and also consider the possibility of a preconference on specific topics.

13. Venue, Date and Agenda of Annual Meeting 2012

Regarding the AEMI Conference 2012 Chairman Brian Lambkin reported that The Institute of Diaspora and Ethnic Studies, Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland represented by Prof. Adam Walaszek had made an invitation to hold AEMI's Annual Meeting 2012 in Krakow. The invitation was unanimously accepted.

It was also noted that Wolfgang Grams had made a special invitation to AEMI members to join the Queen Mary 2 from Hamburg to New York and Brian Lambkin recommended the members to consider this fine offer from Routes to the Roots.

<http://www.aemi.dk/publications/QM2%20Info%20AEMI.pdf>

14. Any Other Business

Sarah Clément suggested that next year's annual meeting should be filmed and presented at the internet and Benan Oregi Inurrieta suggested that AEMI should work for new funding. These were the last businesses announced. Janja Zitnik Serafin expressed the members thanks to Brian Lambkin for his a work as chairman, and Brian Lambkin thanked all the AEMI colleagues and the Danish Emigration Archives staff for this year's Annual Meeting, which was concluded at 11.30 am.