

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY HELD ON
OCTOBER 17TH 2008 IN
KURESSAARE, ESTONIA**

Present:

COUNTRY / PAYS	CODE	ORGANISM / ORGANISME	TOWN / LOCALITE	FORENAME / PRENOM	SURNAME / NOM
AUSTRIA / AUTRICHE	A01	TOURISMUSCHULEN SALZKAMMERGUT / BAD ISCHL	BAD ISCHL	Klaus	ENENGL
AUSTRIA / AUTRICHE	A04	TOURISMUSCHULEN BAD LEONFELDEN	BAD LEONFELDEN	Franz	HUEMER
AUSTRIA / AUTRICHE	A10	HÖHERE BUNDESLEHRANSTALT FÜR TOURISMUS - HLT RETZ	RETZ	Ulrike	JAKSCH
AUSTRIA / AUTRICHE	A07	BLT - TOURISM SCHOOL SEMMERING	SEMMERING	Jürgen	KÜRNER
AUSTRIA / AUTRICHE	HON-10	MEMBRE HONORAIRE DE L'AEHT / AEHT HONORARY MEMBER	ST GEORGEN/GUSEN	Adolf	STEINDL
AUSTRIA / AUTRICHE	A02	TOURISMUSCHULEN AM WILDEN KAISER	ST. JOHANN IN TIROL	Claudia	LANSER
AUSTRIA / AUTRICHE	A03	ZILLERTALER TOURISMUSCHULEN	ZELL AM ZILLER	Alfred Ursula	MÜLLER BRUGGER (trad.)
BELGIUM / BELGIQUE	B01	COLOMAplus – secundair onderwijs	MECHELEN	Hilde	WILDIERS
COLOMBIA / COLOMBIE	CO01	SENA - Servicio Nacional de Aprendizaje	BOGOTA DC	Sébastien	LONGHURST
CROATIA / CROATIE	CR02	SREDNJA SKOLA DARUVAR	DARUVAR	Dinka	IVANOVIC
CROATIA / CROATIE	CR12	TURISTICKA I UGOSTITELJSKA SKOLA DUBROVNIK	DUBROVNIK	Antun	PERUSINA
CROATIA / CROATIE	CR04	HOTELIJERSKO-TURISTICKA SKOLA	OPATIJA	Ksenija	BELJAN
CROATIA / CROATIE	CR06	TURISTICKO UGOSTITELJSKA SKOLA "ANTONA STIFANICA"	POREC	Vesna	BARANASIC
CROATIA / CROATIE	CR10	SKOLA ZA TURIZAM, UGOSTITELJSTVO I TRGOVINU PULA	PULA KANDLEROVA	Ljiljana	RADOS
CROATIA / CROATIE	CR17	STRUKOVNA SKOLA EUGENA KUMICICA	ROVINJ	Radenko	MATJASEC
CROATIA / CROATIE	CR16	TURISTICKO-UGOSTITELJSKA SKOLA	SIBENIK	Senka	DODIG
CROATIA / CROATIE	CR01	TOURISTICKO - UGOSTITELJSKA SKOLA	SPLIT	Anica	KASUM
CYPRUS / CHYPRE	CY01	TECHNICAL SCHOOL MAKARIOS III	NICOSIA	Costas	PISTOS
DENMARK / DANEMARK	DK01	AALBORG TEKNISKE SKOLE	AALBORG	Dennis	KINDBERG
DENMARK / DANEMARK	DK02	COPENHAGEN HOSPITALITY COLLEGE	KOBENHAVN K	Christian	BECK
ESTONIA / ESTONIE	EE01	KURESSAARE AMETIKOOL	KURESSAARE	Neeme	RAND
ESTONIA / ESTONIE	EE02	TALLINN SCHOOL OF SERVICE	TALLINN	Kaldma	MEELI
ESTONIA / ESTONIE	EE04	ESTONIAN SCHOOL OF HOTEL & TOURISM MANAGEMENT	TALLINN	Sirje	REKKOR
ESTONIA / ESTONIE	EE03	TARTU VOCATIONAL EDUCATION CENTRE	TARTU	Liivi	PAUDSEPP
ESTONIA / ESTONIE	Observatur	OLUSTVERE TMK	VILJANDIMAA	Aino Malle	SAAVASTE PETERSON
FRANCE	F23	LP HOTELIER FRANÇOIS BISE	BONNEVILLE CEDEX	Annie	COLLINET
FRANCE	F03	LYCEE D'HÔTELLERIE ET DE TOURISME SAINT QUENTIN EN YVELINES	GUYANCOURT CEDEX	Bernard	TROY

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FRANCE	F998-IND	HOTEL DES REMPARTS	KAYSERSBERG	Christiane	KELLER
FRANCE	HON-02	MEMBRE HONORAIRE DE L'AEHT / AEHT HONORARY MEMBER	LE COUDRAY- MONTCEAUX	Gilles	HONEGGER
FRANCE	AEHT-02	AEHT HEAD OFFICE	MUNSTER	Jo	LAENGY
FRANCE	F20	LYCEE POLYVALENT SAINTE-ANNE	SAINT-NAZAIRE	Joseph	LE GAL
GREECE/ GRECE	GR01	ORGANISATION OF TOURISM EDUCATION AND TRAINING	ATHENS	Stellios	MOSCHONAS
ICELAND/ ISLANDE	ISL01	KOPAVOGUR INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION	KOPAVOGUR	Helene H.	PEDERSEN
IRELAND/ IRLANDE	IRL03	FAILTE IRELAND	DUBLIN 1	Aidan	PENDER
ITALY/ ITALIE	I133	IISS "MICHELE DE NORA"	ALTAMURA (BA)	Rosangela	COLUCCI
ITALY/ ITALIE	I25	IPSSAR "E. RUFFINI"	ARMA DI TAGGIA (IM)	Umidia	NARDONE
ITALY/ ITALIE	I48	IPSSAR "BARTOLOMEO SCAPPI"	CASTEL SAN PIETRO TERME (BO)	Giuliana	ROSETTI
ITALY/ ITALIE	I72	IPSSAR	CASTELLANA GROTTE (BA)	Francesco	TARTAGLIA
ITALY/ ITALIE	I12	IPSSART "G. VARNELLI" BALCONE DELLE MARCHE	CINGOLI (MC)	Daniela	MORBIDONI
ITALY/ ITALIE	HON-05	MEMBRE HONORAIRE DE L'AEHT / AEHT HONORARY MEMBER	SENIGALLIA	Alfonso	BENVENUTO
ITALY/ ITALIE	I53	ISTITUTO D'ISTRUZIONE SUPERIORE "P. ARTUSI"	FORLIMPOPOLI (FC)	Maria Benedetta	BORINI
ITALY/ ITALIE	I06	IPSSAR "ANGELO CELLETTI"	FORMIA (LT)		ORANIERI
ITALY/ ITALIE	I135	IPC "GIOVANNI FALCONE"	GALLARATE (VA)	Silvano	GOMARASCHI
ITALY/ ITALIE	I114	I.P.S.S.C.T. "L. DI POPPA" - SEDE ASS. DI GIULIANOVA	GIULIANOVA (TE)	Luigi	VALENTINI
ITALY/ ITALIE	I38	IPSSARCT "ELENA CORNARO"	JESOLO LIDO (VE)	Ilario	IERACE
ITALY/ ITALIE	I18	IPSSAR "D. DOLOMIEU"	LONGARONE (BL)	Ferruccio	VASCELLARI
ITALY/ ITALIE	I21	IIS "EINSTEIN" - ALBERGHIERO	LORETO (AN)	Gabriele	TORQUATI
ITALY/ ITALIE	I66	IPSSAR "TENENTE R. RIGHETTI"	MELFI (PZ)	Michele	CORBO
ITALY/ ITALIE	I87	IPSSAR "ANTONELLO"	MESSINA (ME)	Elvira	D'ORAZIO
ITALY/ ITALIE	I131	IPSAA "DON DEODATO MELONI"	NURAXINIEDDU ORISTANO	Nella	MANCA
ITALY/ ITALIE	I143	IISS "A. AGHERBINO"	PUTIGNANO (BA)	Luigi	ALBANESE
ITALY/ ITALIE	I132	IPAA IPSSAR "F. TODARO"	RENDE (CS)	Giuseppina	RAINERI
ITALY/ ITALIE	I51	IPSSAR "P. ARTUSI"	RIOLO TERME (RA)	Paola	MAMBELLI
ITALY/ ITALIE	I88	IPSSAR "PELLEGRINO ARTUSI"	ROMA (RM)	Perla	PUGLIESE
ITALY/ ITALIE	I02	IPSSARCT " A. PANZINI"	SENIGALLIA (AN)	M. Rosella	BITTI
ITALY/ ITALIE	I76	IPSSAR "G. PASTORE"	VARALLO (VC)	Alessandro	ORSI
ITALY/ ITALIE	I20	IPSSAR "E. MATTEI"	VIESTE (FG)	Andrea	CARIGLIA
LATVIA/ LETTONIE	LV01	RIGA FOOD PRODUCERS' VOCATIONAL SCHOOL	RIGA	Silva	OZOLINA
LATVIA/ LETTONIE	LV03	RIGA PURVCIEMA TRADE SCHOOL	RIGA	Anita	VOICA

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LATVIA/ LETTONIE	LV04	KULDIGA VOCATIONAL SCHOOL Nr. 78	KULDIGA	Dace	CINE
LITHUANIA/ LITUANIE	LT02	SIAULIAI VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING CENTRE	SIAULIAI	Saulius	DARGUZAS
LITHUANIA/ LITUANIE	LT01	VILNIUS TOURISM AND COMMERCE SCHOOL	VILNIUS	Birute	STASIUNIENE
LUXEMBOURG	L01	LYCEE TECHNIQUE HOTELIER "ALEXIS HECK"	DIEKIRCH	Louis	ROBERT
LUXEMBOURG	AEHT-03	AEHT HEAD OFFICE	DIEKIRCH	Nadine	SCHINTGEN
MACEDONIA/ MACEDOINE	MK01	PUBLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL FOR CATERING, TOURISM AND HOTEL SERVICES "LAZAR TANEV"	SKOPJE	Zoran	NIKOLOVSKI
MACEDONIA/ MACEDOINE	MK05	PUBLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL 'MOSA PIJADE'	TETOVO	Abdurahmani	SHERIF
POLAND/ POLOGNE	PL02	WYZSZA SZKOLA HOTELARSTWA I GASTRONOMII W POZNANIU	POZNAN	Anna Elibieta	WOZNIAK NIEDZIELSKA
POLAND/ POLOGNE	PL01	SZKOLA POLICEALNA NR 13	VARSOVIE	Boguslawa	PIENKOWSKA
PORTUGAL	P05	ESCOLA DE HOTELARIA E TURISMO DE COIMBRA	COIMBRA	Ana Paula	PAIS
PORTUGAL	P06	ESCOLA PROFISSIONAL DE HOTELARIA E TURISMO DA MADEIRA	FUNCHAL / MADEIRA	Maria Tomasia	ALVES
PORTUGAL	P07	ESCOLA DE FORMACAO TURISTICA E HOTELEIRA	PONTA DELGADA / ACORES	Filipe	ROCHA
PORTUGAL	P08	ESCOLA PROFISSIONAL DA PRAIA DA VITORIA	PRAIA DA VITORIA	Borges	DOMINGOS
ROMANIA/ ROUMANIE	RO01	TOURISM, HOTEL AND RESTAURANT - CONSULTING GROUP (THR-CG)	BUCAREST	Crina Alexandra	CHIRIAC
RUSSIA/ RUSSIE	RUS01	PETROVSKY COLLEGE	ST PETERSBOURG	Irina	KAGAKINA
SERBIA/ SERBIE	SRB02	THE COLLEGE OF HOTEL MANAGEMENT	BELGRADE	Natalija	PAVLOVA
SLOVAKIA/ SLOVAQUIE	SK01	THE HOTEL ACADEMY	PRESOV	Jozef	SENKO
SLOVAKIA/ SLOVAQUIE	SK04	HOTELACADEMY - ZDRUZENA STREDNA SKOLA HOTELOVYCH SLUZIEB A OBCHODU	SPISSKÁ NOVÁ VES	Milan	KUDRIK
SLOVENIA/ SLOVENIE	SLO01	VOCATIONAL COLLEGE FOR CATERING AND TOURISM BLED	BLLED	Janez Jana	SOLAR SPEC (trad.)
SLOVENIA/ SLOVENIE	SLO02	VOCATIONAL COLLEGE FOR CATERING AND TOURISM MARIBOR	MARIBOR	Gorazd	HALIC
SWEDEN/ SUEDE	S55	JENNY NYSTROMSSKOLAN	KALMAR	Ånders	LINDGREN
SWEDEN/ SUEDE	S33	ULLVIGYMNASJET	KÖPING	Arne	LARSSON
SWEDEN/ SUEDE	S49	PALMCRANTZSKOLAN	ÖSTERSUND	Britta	HÖGLUND
SWITZERLAND /SUISSE	CH04	SCUOLA SUPERIORE ALBERGHIERA E DEL TURISMO	BELLINZONA	P.	WALLISER
TURKEY/ TURQUIE	TR01	ISTANBUL ANADOLU OTELCILIK VE TURIZM MESLEK LISESI	ETILER-BESIKTAS / ISTANBUL	Aydin	CELIKTAS
TURKEY/ TURQUIE	TR08	OSMANGAZI ANADOLU OTELCILIK VE TURIZM MESLEK LISESI	MURADIYE / OSMANGAZI - BURSA	Alaattin	SARI
TURKEY/ TURQUIE	TR17	CANKAYA IMKB ANADOLU OTELCILIK VE TURIZM MESLEK LISESI	ÖVEGLER-CANKAYA / ANKARA	Arif	EKINCI
UKRAINE	UKR02	SIMFEROPOL HIGH VOCATIONAL CATERING AND TOURISM SCHOOL	SIMFEROPOL, CRIMEA	Anna	VOLKOVA
UNITED KINGDOM/ ROYAUME-UNI	AEHT-01	AEHT HEAD OFFICE	LONDON NW4 4BT	John	REES SMITH

Welcome address

The President Louis Robert cordially thanked Neeme Rand and all of his team for their warm welcome and for their brilliant organisation of this Conference.

1. Adoption of the agenda

The meeting unanimously adopted the agenda.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting (Jesolo Lido, October 18th 2007)

The minutes of the above meeting were unanimously approved as a true record of the proceedings.

3. President's Annual Report and Report on Fixed Events (Louis Robert, LR)

A. Election of a new Vice-President

Louis Robert announced that the Executive Board had proceeded to the election of a new vice-president following the retirement of Alfonso Benvenuto as stipulated in the statutes. Annie Collinet, director of the Bonneville school, was now his replacement in his role as vice-president in charge of Higher Education and Continuing Professional Development. Rosella Bitti, the new director of the A. Panzini IPSSARCT in Senigallia, automatically became the new AEHT national representative for Italy.

Andrea Cariglia (AEHT member I20) contested this decision, saying that Italy ought to have retained a representative within the Presidium. Louis Robert referred to article 12 of the statutes which states explicitly that *the Executive Board elects a Presidium which consists of 1 President and 5 Vice-Presidents* and that *the President and the 5 Vice-Presidents must be elected from among the members of the Executive Board*. Mr Cariglia openly expressed his dissatisfaction at this decision, even though the decision had been taken in accordance with the statutes

B. Visit to the SENA's Training Centres in Colombia

LR went on to speak about the study visit to Colombia, during which the Presidium had been the guests of the SENA (Servicio Nacional de Aprendizaje) in Bogotá, which had since the visit been an AEHT member. Contacts between the AEHT and the SENA had been made through the Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines Hotel and Tourism School in Guyancourt which had been working with the SENA since 2006 as part of an international cooperation agreement.

LR emphasised that the vice-presidents had paid their own travel costs and that all the costs of their stay in Colombia had been covered by the SENA. Sébastien Longhurst, from the SENA's international relations department, gave a short Powerpoint presentation of his organisation.

The SENA is a public training body with branches throughout Colombia, offering free vocational training in all technical branches, with the objective of improving the competitiveness of Colombian companies as well as increasing Colombia's social capital. Courses are available 24 hours a day. Up to 2007 the SENA had already trained five million people (for 2007 alone: 15,964 people in initial vocational training and 193,268 people in continuing professional development). Investment in new information and communication technology and its use have become one of the SENA's priorities. The SENA also contributes to co-financing companies set up by its graduates. It works with training bodies in several countries and has also opened training centres abroad to train expatriate Colombians (for example in Valencia, Spain).

- *The visit to Colombia resulted in several opportunities for cooperation:*

a. SENA's participation in the AEHT Annual Conference

- 1) Participation of four SENA students (culinary arts, pastry, restaurant service and bar) in the Kuressaare conference;
- 2) SENA's search for new partners while at the same time providing information about its key role as a major provider of vocational training in Latin America;
- 3) A Colombian exhibition stand in Kuressaare including displays by tourism promotion bodies and several companies.

b. Student placements

1) Placements for Colombians in Europe

The eight-week placement for SENA students in Saint-Quentin in autumn 2008 would be extended in mid-November by a week's period of observation spent in five European schools which are AEHT members, namely: Coimbra (P), Copenhagen (DK), Diekirch (L), Prague (CZ) and Senigallia (I) in order to provide a European dimension to the placement and to open new cooperation opportunities.

2) Placements for Europeans in Colombia

The visits made by the Presidium to several hotels have opened the possibility of organising professional placements in Colombia for AEHT students. In this context the SENA would provide help with organising the placements and with supporting the young trainees.

C. Restolingua

At the end of the General Assembly the Presidium would sign an agreement with a new professional partner, Restolingua, the developer of a system for translating, editing and printing menus in eight languages including Japanese. The Chinese version is currently under development. The menus can be produced not only in several languages but also using several national currencies. Once translated the menus are saved on the Restolingua server, making them accessible from anywhere in the world. Paul R.A.J. Van den Heuvel and his wife Arike Vermazen gave a demonstration to the meeting of their website www.restolingua.com.

Access to the website would be free of charge until the end of the year, and would then require payment from 2009. For AEHT member schools the charge would be only €500 per year per school (as against €615 for other subscribers). However this charge could be covered by one or more local sponsors, whose logo would appear every time a student or teacher from the school in question logged on to the website. For each new subscriber brought by a school, the school as well as the AEHT would receive a 15% commission on the subscription fee. Member schools were requested to warn their students and teachers that any person who revealed their identification key to a third party would be prosecuted. A summary of the agreement signed with Restolingua would be published shortly on the AEHT's website at www.aeht.eu.

D. Elections in 2009

According to the statutes, national representatives and members of the Presidium are currently elected for a period of three years. Louis Robert found that the election procedure involved too much work and that, given the amount of work attached to the roles, these mandates were too short to obtain concrete results. The Executive Board meeting held in Kuressaare had been informed of the problem and had voted in favour of an extension of the mandates to a period of four years. However, only an extraordinary general assembly was empowered to decide on a modification to the statutes. Such an assembly would be called in 2009, and would also make a decision on the possible transfer of the administrative office to another location or even to another country, though without moving the registered head office. This possibility was allowed for under Luxembourg law.

4. Report from the Vice-President for Professional Placements (Bogusława Pienkowska, BP)

Bogusława Pienkowska reviewed the statistics relating to the observation periods spent in units of the ACCOR group in 2008. Only seven of the 27 places offered by hotels of the group had been taken up. This disappointing figure is largely the result of a job change in mid-year by the placement organiser. Bogusława Pienkowska expressed her regret at the inconvenience this had caused. To avoid a similar situation next year, those involved would begin the organisation of the placements several months earlier than had been the case in 2008.

Gilles Honegger, the former ACCOR group representative, said in a short speech, 'Both sides are running out of steam. After fifteen years we are now in a crucial period'. Behind his words was the message that we needed to pull our socks up in order to avoid an irreversible decline. BP repeated that it was essential to encourage teachers to take advantage of these placements, which are spread over four months from June to September; a list of the participating hotels would be published early in 2009 on the AEHT's website.

5. Report of the Vice-President Responsible for Higher Education (Alfonso Benvenuto, AB)

In this his last report Alfonso Benvenuto, Vice-President responsible for higher education, stated that he would work with his successor Annie Collinet in setting up new initiatives in his area of responsibility, as well as in the area of continuing professional development; in particular he would work on harmonising the lists he had received giving information about schools offering higher education programmes in the relevant area, as well as on a European project of use to everyone, which would have no cost implications for the AEHT: its objective was the creation of a European standard and a model for management and organisation in the areas of quality, food safety, environment and health and safety at work.

6. Report from the Vice-President Responsible for Seminars and Occasional Events, and the Publication of Information on National Training Systems and for EU Educational Programmes (Ana Paula Pais, APP)

a) Events in 2008

Ana Paula PAIS used a Powerpoint presentation to review the events organised in 2008 under the aegis of the AEHT. A detailed account of the events is published in the AEHT Annual Report available on the website.

The following events in the 2008 programme were still to take place:

- Seminar on ICT (Information and Communication Technologies) to take place on November 12th – 16th in Waterford, Ireland;
- EURO CUP 2009 – the young bartender competition – to take place on November 18th-20th in Prešov, Slovakia. Contestants may register up to the beginning of November.
- The table decoration competition to take place on November 29th 2008 at the 'Pelligrino Artusi' hotel school in Forlimpopoli (I) (see <http://www.iisforlimpopoli.it>).

b) Call for proposals for 2009

APP asked for proposals and requested organisers to make a short presentation of events offered in their respective countries. The 2009 calendar of events is as follows:

FEBRUARY

February 21st – 22nd Golden Trophy of Brescian Gastronomy, Colorno, Italy

MARCH

March 10th Francoli Cup 2009, probably in Stresa, Lake Maggiore.
March 12th – 15th International Festival of Gastronomy: Sports and Health (Topic: Motor sports), Faro, Portugal
March 22nd – 25th 5th International 'Antonio Nebbia' Hot Dishes Competition, Cingoli, Italy
March 25th -29th Atlantic Tea Festival, Ponta Delgada, São Miguel Island, Azores, Portugal

APRIL

April 1 st	G&T Cup Bartenders' competition, Bled, Slovenia
April 21 st – 24 th	'Bartolomeo Scappi' International Competition 2009, Castel San Pietro Terme, Italy
End of April	'Dining with the ancient Romans', their gastronomy, culture, history, art and music, Oristano, Sardinia, Italy

MAY

1 st week of May	'Gioacchino Rossini Gourmet' Culinary competition, Loreto, Italy
Beginning of May	'GASTRO 2009' Gastronomy Competition, Komiža Island, Croatia
May 7 th – 10 th	5 th competition for Hotel Receptionists and 3 rd City tourism competition (Topic: mountains), Giulianova, Italy

JUNE

June 17 th -21 st	Mediterranean Cuisine with summer flavour, Funchal, Madeira, Portugal
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OCTOBER

October	Baltic Sea Gastronomy Seminar, Warsaw, Poland
October	Seminar on 'Mushrooms in traditional Polish cuisine', Swidnica, Poland
October - November	Eurocup 2009 - Junior bartenders competition (16 th ed.), Prešov, Slovakia

NOVEMBER

November 17 th – 23 rd	22 nd AEHT Annual Conference, Dubrovnik, Croatia
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DECEMBER

December 2 nd – 7 th	18 th Christmas in Europe, Poznan, Poland
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Luigi Frati from the 'Einstein-Nebbia' Istituto d'Istruzione Superiore in Loreto (Ancona, Italy) gave a brief presentation of his institution's year-long postgraduate masters degree in gastronomy, delivered in collaboration with famous chefs, as well as of the culinary arts competition which they plan to arrange in March or April 2009.

The 5th International 'Antonio Nebbia' Hot Dishes Competition, organised in collaboration with the Macerata Provincial Association of Chefs, would take place on March 22nd-25th 2009 in Cingoli, Italy. Further details would be available in due course at <http://www.ipssartcingoli.it/> and at <http://www.assocuochimacerata.it> .

As for the 11th 'Bartolomeo Scappi' International Competition 2009, scheduled for April 21st-24th in Castel San Pietro Terme, Italy, a maximum of 20 schools may register and accommodation would be free for all participants.

The 5th Competition for Hotel Reception Employees would take place on May 3rd-10th in Giulianova, and would have as one its themes 'mountain tourism'. Board

and lodging would be free of charge for students; participating schools would need to pay only the travelling expenses. Only students aged between 17 and 19 would be eligible to take part.

Attention was drawn to the 16th Christmas in Europe in Château-Chinon on December 5th-10th 2008 and to the 12th edition on December 2nd-7th 2009 in Poznan (the second time for this venue, the first time having been in 2001). 24 schools would be invited to Poznan. The programme and other information would be published early in 2009 at www.aeht.eu. Christiane Keller took the floor briefly to announce that for the 2008 event 15 schools were registered but that one or two more schools from southern Europe were required and she asked for offers. She used the opportunity to remind the meeting of the fundamental principles of Christmas in Europe: the objective is to 'build bridges' and to enable the participants to share the 'wealth of differences' by for example presenting their countries' ancient Christmas traditions.

The calendar for Christmas in Europe for the next few years was as follows:

- 2007: Semmering, Austria
- 2008: Château-Chinon, France
- 2009: Poznan, Poland
- 2010: Ponta Delgada, Azores, Portugal
- 2011: Tampere, Finland (to be confirmed)
- 2012: Marseilles, France (to be confirmed)

All organisers of events scheduled for 2009 were requested to send as soon as possible to the AEHT head office all details of the events announced above, as well as all the relevant documents in both English and French which would be published on the AEHT website.

6. Report from the Vice-President Responsible for Promotion and for the AEHT Website (Neeme Rand, NR)

Neeme Rand reminded the meeting of the importance of working e-mail addresses to enable good communication, and he requested those present not only to empty their full e-mail in-boxes, but also to visit the AEHT website and to send him any suggestions for improvement. He paid tribute to the remarkable work carried out by our webmaster Ahti Paju, in setting up the system for online registration at the conference. This new system represents a considerable improvement and will greatly simplify the task of future organisers.

7. Financial Report from the Treasurer (Klaus Enengl, KE)

Rather than spending time over the figures given in the financial statement, Klaus Enengl gave some information about the situation regarding subscriptions: 80 schools had not paid their subscription, and of these 25 had paid nothing for two years or more, thereby risking exclusion. The subscription rate remains at €270.00. The bank transfer charges, which ought to be paid by the member schools, were sometimes deducted from the subscription payable, representing a loss of around €4000 per year for the AEHT. Schools were requested to ensure that they pay these bank charges.

Klaus Enengl then presented the profit and loss table. In 2008 the Luxembourg government had paid its subsidy of €20,000, and would do so again in 2009. The 2008 outgoings were explained by contributions to various events, by salaries and overheads, as well as by travelling expenses and administrative costs. On September 16th 2008 the auditors Danièle Snauwaert and Jürgen Clausen had undertaken a check of the accounts and subsequently reported, in a document read out by Klaus Enengl, that the accounts up to December 31st 2007 were in perfect order; despite their absence the auditors had agreed to renew their remit for the 2008 financial year, with the approval of the meeting. By acclamation the assembly granted discharge to the treasurer and the Presidium for the 2007 financial year.

Before concluding his presentation Klaus Enengl made a point of thanking the accountant Norbert Richartz, who had taken early retirement from the LTHAH in Diekirch, but who would continue to carry out his accountancy work for the AEHT; he also thanked General Secretary Nadine Schintgen for her conscientious management of the finances.

KE then moved on to read out the lists of new members, exclusions and resignations:

A) Exclusions:

The following schools were excluded for having failed to pay their subscription for two or more years and for failing to respond to payment requests which had been sent to them up to four times. The list was longer than usual because no exclusions had been pronounced at the Jesolo Lido General Assembly in order to give the National Representatives time to make contact with those who had not paid.

The excluded schools are as follows:

1. BG06 Silistra
2. E02 Madrid
3. E15 Valencia
4. GB09 Ulster
5. I91 Carignano
6. MK03 Gevgelia
7. RO03 Bucharest
8. RO05 Bucharest
9. S01 Johanneshov
10. S17 Grythyttan
11. I123 Villa S. Maria
12. RUS07 Nizhny Tagil
13. TR21 Mugla
14. BG04 Haskovo
15. F26 Talence
16. F81 Le Gosier
17. GB14 London
18. I33 Palermo
19. MEX01 Puebla
20. S39 Lulea
21. USA01 Jackson
22. I111 Locri
23. I100 Siracusa

24. VN01 Ho Chi Minh City
25. VN02 Hanoi
26. VN03 Hue City

B) Resignations: none

C) New members:

1. CO01 Bogotá
2. B21 Wemmel
3. NL27 The Hague
4. SK07 Piestany
5. B20 Brugge
6. I148 Cutro
7. I147 Alghero
8. TUN01 Hammam/Sousse
9. SRB03 Leskovac
10. F88 Montpellier
11. PL20 Warsaw
12. CR19 Virovitica
13. TR28 Erzurum
14. TR29 Ankara
15. NL29 Eindhoven
16. P11 Lamego
17. F89 Biarritz
18. MK05 Tetovo
19. IRL13 Dublin
20. CR20 Vis

The meeting approved by acclamation these new membership applications.

Several membership applications from France, Italy, Russia, etc were still being processed.

9. Approval of newly nominated honorary members

The assembly approved the appointment of Alfonso Benvenuto, outgoing director of the A. Panzini IPSSARCT in Senigallia, Italy, as honorary AEHT member, vice-president and president. Louis Robert repeated to Alfonso Benvenuto his best wishes for a happy retirement, and expressed the hope that he would join the work of the Council of Elders.

10. Council of Elders

Adolf Steindl, an honorary AEHT vice-president and a member of the Council of Elders, explained that the Council of Elders had been founded on March 15th 2008 in Kuressaare, and that it consisted of former AEHT Presidium members (presidents, vice-presidents, treasurers) who had already been made 'honorary members'. All applications for membership of the Council must be accepted by a relative majority of

the existing members of the Council and must be approved by the Presidium. At present the Council has five members:

- Jürgen Clausen
- Michel Gaillot
- Hans Russegger
- Roy Van Sassen
- Adolf Steindl.
-

Two further applications for membership had just been submitted to the Council of Elders.

The purpose of the Council of Elders was to provide to the AEHT and to its partners such services as:

- Strengthening the AEHT's activities in the area of higher education;
- Helping to identify sponsors;
- Helping to organise and evaluate seminars;
- Representing the Association at certain events in case Presidium members were unable to attend;
- Preparing documents for the publication of a 'commemorative brochure to celebrate the AEHT's 25th anniversary, etc.

The Council of Elders would carry out this work without any remuneration. In their quest for funding, the Council of Elders also planned to be self-financing within three years. In addition their travelling expenses were expected to be as modest as possible.

The General Assembly approved by acclamation the setting up of this Council of Elders.

11. The Annual Conference and the 2009 Conference in Dubrovnik, Croatia

- *Conference in Kuressaare*

Apparently problems had been reported in connection with the culinary arts competition which had taken place in Kuressaare. LR said that in order to be taken into account, any complaints should be sent in writing to the AEHT Head Office.

- *22nd Annual Conference in Dubrovnik*

The 22nd Annual Conference would take place between November 17th and 21st 2009 in Dubrovnik, a town located at the southern end of the Dalmatian coast, close to the border with Bosnia-Herzegovina and Montenegro. Antun Perušina, the director of the organising school, aided by one of his students in regional dress and by a video presentation, spoke of the charms of our next destination and of Dubrovnik's range of hotels. The participants would probably be accommodated in the Valamar Hotels & Resort. Andrea Cariglia, director of the Vieste school in Italy, expressed the wish to keep the conference in October. Antun Perušina explained that this was not possible because of the Croatian tourist season which lasts until the end of October; thus we had to wait until the low season in order to obtain rooms and advantageous rates. Moreover our schools may wish to attend other conferences (EUHOFA, etc) which take place in

October. In order to resolve this issue LR requested the Assembly to take a vote. The dates proposed – November 17th-21st 2009 – were agreed by an absolute majority. In conclusion Antun Perušina extended a warm invitation to all those attending the meeting to come to Dubrovnik in 2009.

- *The calendar* of forthcoming Annual Conferences is as follows:
2009: Dubrovnik, Croatia
2010: Poznan, Poland
2011: Lisbon, Portugal
2012: Ohrid, Macedonia
2013: Paris, France
2014: Belgrade, Serbia

11. Other Business

LR warmly thanked our professional partners for their support:

- la Casa della Divisa, a professional uniform company, whose website is accessible via www.aeht.eu;
- ACCOR, without whom we could not send our teachers on professional placements;
- Grand Marnier, whose excellent products were exhibited on a stand in the Kuressaare Sports Centre;
- Villeroy&Boch, who supply the souvenir dishes for young participants at the Conference.

12. Date of the next General Assembly (Dubrovnik)

The next General Assembly would take place on November 19th 2009 during the Annual Conference to be held in Dubrovnik (HR).



Louis Robert,
President



Nadine Schintgen,
General Secretary