

**Unconfirmed minutes of the EFNDT General Assembly
held at 9am on Saturday 12th November 2005 in Vienna, Austria.**

1. Opening of the meeting.

The EFNDT General Assembly was opened at 09:00 by the President, Dr. J M Farley, who welcomed all present to the meeting, remarking that this was the most splendid venue he had ever spoken in.

G Aufricht welcomed all on behalf of the Austrian Society, remarking that the venue for the meeting had recently passed its 100th anniversary. Mr. Aufricht, on behalf of Dr. Salcher (president, OGfZP), wished for a successful meeting. The President of the Wein Chamber of Commerce had hoped to welcome the General Assembly, but was unable to be present and had conveyed greetings through Mr. Aufricht.

Dr. Farley sadly recalled the sad loss during the past 12 months of Prof. J Obraz (Czech Republic) and Dr. G Oates (ex president of BINDT and ECNDT). Both would be sadly missed but fondly remembered.

The General Assembly was attended by:

Aufricht, G (OGfZP – Austria)
Farley, JM, Chairman (EFNDT President)
Eriksson, Claes (Sweden)
Eugenia, S (Romanian Association)
Gabriska, P (Slovak Society)
Gallagher, M (BINDT – Secretary)
Grum, J (Slovenian Society)
Haritidis, K (Hellenic Society)
Hennaut, G (BANT - Belgium)
Jofronic, G (Serbian Society)
Kecskes, P (Hungarian Society)
Kleiber, R (Swiss Society)
Klyuev, V (RSNTTD – Russia)
Kristiansen, R (Norwegian Society)
Krstelj, V (CrSNDT)
Link, R (DGZfP – Germany)
Lund, T (Danish Society)
Lypolt, A (CrSNDT)
Mazal, P (Czech Society)
Milne, Holly (EFNDT secretariat)
Nicolescu, G (Romanian Association)
Poudrai, M (Cofrend - France)
Prevorovsky, Z (Czech Society)
Prendergast, M (Ireland)
Pushkina, I (RSNTTD – Russia)
Romero, E (AEND) – held proxy from Belarus
Stanciu, A (Romanian Association)
Stanciu, I (Romanian Association)
Thompson, JR, (EFNDT secretariat)
Trampus, P (Hungarian Society)
Wooldridge, A (BINDT)

Each member introduced themselves and confirmed their voting rights (23 voting members and 3 proxies).

An **Extraordinary General Meeting** was opened at this point in order to approve changes to the articles of association made necessary to comply with Belgian law. The opportunity to make further changes to the articles was to be taken. Dr Farley outlined the proposed changes:

- i) Clause 10: Composition of BoD: presently 8 including President and Vice President – this was considered too restrictive, and the BoD wish to make the composition of BoD 10 plus President and Vice President, with the ability to co-opt up to 2 additional members in appropriate circumstances; cooption valid until next formal elections.
- ii) To make sure that the aims of the constitution to cover all present activities, two amendments were proposed to cover
 - (1) projects in area of R&D (clause 3 amendment) and
 - (2) development and distribution of question banks and other materials such as training and examinations (sub-clause to clause 3).

There was a question concerning the required notice for meetings: it was confirmed that it is not necessary to give usual 45 days notice – if the meeting is an *extraordinary* general meeting.

- iii) Specific detailed amendments were necessary to meet a new Belgian law. Presently have text only in French. Translations will be made and circulated later. G Hennaut presented details of proposed changes, orally translating from French. A Non-profit company required the following detailed changes:
 - (1) reference to new Belgian law;
 - (2). Change of address of the Federation.
 - (3). Changes from scope to 'aims'; (more specific regarding aims and objectives).
 - (4). Changes regarding associated members.
 - (5) Regarding BoD – one of changes required the GA to vote to take responsibility for the budget and delegate responsibility to the BoD.
 - (6). Location for GA also requires change, not the BoD that makes the GA call, it is the Chairman of the BoD.
 - (7). The arrangements for calling a GA must be described in the constitution, as well as the timing of the notice.
 - (8). To avoid taxes, what happens if the GA decides to dissolve the Federation, the constitution must describe what has to be done with remaining funds.

No other major changes are necessary in this area. A question was raised: Do we need to consider the approval of finances in context of accounting periods? The answer was yes.

- iv) Dr. Farley reiterated the proposed changes, and asked the GA to approve recommendations en bloc, and to delegate responsibility to the BoD to make changes necessary to meet Belgian law. The President undertook to present the final version at next General Assembly, allowing further opportunity for change at that time. He asked if this was agreeable to all present, and there were no dissenters.
- v) R Link formally proposed the resolution and E Romero seconded. On a show of hands, the resolution was carried unanimously.
- vi) The EGA was closed at this point and the meeting returned to the ordinary agenda

2. Approval of Agenda ([GA/05 – 01](#)). R Link queried whether Awards needed to be added. Farley confirmed that this should be added. With this change, the agenda was approved.

3. Approval of Minutes of last GA meeting ([GA/04-05](#))

The minutes of the General Assembly held on 5th November 2004 in Manchester had been circulated in advance by email. Additional copies were handed out. The President asked if there were any comments or corrections? Proposed to accept: R Link, seconded M Poudrai. All in favour.

4. Review of Actions not covered by the Agenda (all had been completed – details as follows)
 - a) Website information on EFNDT WG2 had been added.
 - b) Secretary to add agenda item for GA for fees increases – completed
 - c) Payment of fees. A list of those fees outstanding had been addressed.
 - d) Correct hyperlinks from BINDT to EFNDT website had been implemented.
5. Report from the Board of Directors
 - a) The official report of the BoD was handed out to delegates. JM Farley pointed out that this has to be approved by the General Assembly, which should then delegate implementation of recommendations to the BoD. The President read the report to the meeting.
 - i) Correction: 4 members of the Board retired in 2005: Messrs. Deliege, Nardoni, Roche and Lund. All were thanked for their excellent service.
 - ii) SAINT joined as Associate member.
 - iii) Website contains links to 2 new services: information and standards – free to members societies.
 - iv) CEC had a busy year, implementation of three new activities: Question Bank; approval of CBs; and management of the MRA.
 - v) WG1 re-titled EFNDT Forum on qualification, certification and accreditation.
 - vi) A survey by EFNDT had established that PED guidelines for RTPO had been implemented widely.
 - vii) WG5 scope broadened to public security and safety in NDT technology.
 - viii) 9th ECNDT arrangements.
 - ix) ICNDT Journal supported by BINDT, and improved website supported by DGZfP;
 - x) ICNDT to be incorporated as non profit org in Austria.
 - xi) EFNDT contribution for Eurolab and IAF activities.
 - xii) EFNDT collaboration with Leonardo and Long Range UT projects. Discussions to strengthen EFNDT administration, and liaison with commission: possible representative in Brussels at economical cost to EFNDT.
 - xiii) EFNDT represented widely abroad by president and many members of the Board – pleased to be present at members' national events.
 - xiv) EFNDT represented at ICNDT meeting by Romero and Krstelj.
 - xv) Acknowledged support of BINDT, DGZfP and Cofrend, as well as all member societies.
 - b) A resolution to approve report and continue delegation of General Assembly responsibilities to BoD was proposed by G Aufricht seconded V Krstelj, all were in favour.
6. Reports from Working Groups.
 - a) WG1 - Qualification and Certification. JR Thompson reported that WG1 had existed since 1992 and had developed the first regional MRA, and had in addition provided a forum for general discussion of a huge range of topics by its enthusiastic membership. However, its present role had diminished with the handing over of responsibility for the MRA to the CEC. Thompson and the President had reviewed the terms of reference for WG1, and agreed that its areas of interest be expanded to include a whole range of topics appropriate to its new title. A revised constitutional document had been tabled at the BoD meeting and approved without amendment. It was intended to consider a meeting of WG1 under its new constitution at the 9th ECNDT. All existing members of WG1 would be invited to become members of the newly franchised group.
 - b) WG2 - Radiation Protection and ADR - presented by Link on behalf of Salzer (Chair). He spoke of a questionnaire on outside workers, an a 30 page report – which can be obtained by email from DGZfP. Dr. Link spoke of a forthcoming seminar in Luxembourg where report will be

presented at end of November 2005. All EFNDT members were invited to attend. He then turned to the EU project on ALARA: WG2 will not participate as a sub-contractor, but will continue to provide input.

c) WG5 - Anti-Personnel Landmine Detection - Prof. Krstelj presented a report: After six years of activity, the name of the WG had been changed (Public Security and Safety NDT Technology) to reflect the increase in scope of activities of the WG. Wide participation in the work, and had tried to help with the disaster represented by the 80M land mines around the world. Problem: still more landmines. New threats: others are working in similar areas – synergy – NDT methods powerful in this area. Terrorism: Nuclear Biological and Chemical (NBC) was a reality. NDT and diagnostic methods are effective in detection and neutralisation. Open forum created; will be prominent at 9th ECNDT. All can participate in this forum. 20 copies of report tabled. Next WG5 meeting will be on 5th April 2006, and all EFNDT members can participate.

7. Finances - Approval of accounts for the financial years 2003 and 2004.

a) Treasurer completed term of office and retired: not present. In future at each General Assembly will be presented with a financial report for current year and asked to approve accounts for previous years, with approval of budget and fees for subsequent year – all these to be formal agenda items for future meetings.

b) A list of societies that had paid fees was projected (those that had not were omitted). Societies that had not paid were asked to discuss with the Secretary today the mechanisms for remitting fees to the EFNDT secretariat.

c) The President outlined the present financial status: if all fees are paid it will result in ~€8,000 income to EFNDT.

d) Expenditure item: New brochure proposed to publicise EFNDT.

e) Mr Gallagher pointed out that the list that members have is valid up to 24th October only. Some societies have remitted fees direct to BINDT, and these do not yet show in the accounts.

f) The BoD proposes no increase in fees for 2006, will give income of €8160 and expenditure of €8160. The budget and fees were approved unanimously.

8. EFNDT Strategy developments

a) TG1 – Link leading task group on internet opportunities

b) TG2 – Roche is leading task group looking at organisations having interest in NDT

c) TG3 – Aufricht leading task group on quality in NDT

d) TG4 – Krstelj leading task group promotion of NDT. Announced a competition amongst societies on promotion of their society. The competition will be judged at 9th ECNDT, and an award presented to the winner. Further details and the voting rules will be circulated.

9. Forthcoming events

a) ECNDT 2006: Dr. R Link thanked the President for the opportunity to inform the GA on the present state of organisation of 9th ECNDT. Berlin easily accessible by road, rail and air. Conference hotel close to centre of the city has >1,000 rooms. Thanked sponsors (main: Xylon and RTD. Others: Helling, RD Tech, Karl Deutsch, Sonatest, GE Inspection Technologies and Kodak. All information can be seen on website. Deadline for submission of papers closed 20th October 2005. There will be 8 parallel sessions per day with 488 oral presentation, 163 poster presentations, 39 posters with oral presentation, and 19 presentations with similar submissions resulting in amalgamation of the presentation. There will be one free registration for each NDT society. Link concluded with the statement that he hoped that the final programme will be ready in March 2006. Farley: looks very exciting;

b) Meetings at 9th ECNDT announced:

- i) ICNDT EC Saturday 23rd September 2006;
- ii) ICNDT full meeting Sunday 24th September;
- iii) EFNDT General Assembly Friday 29th September (p.m.);
- iv) NANDTB Forum Fri 29th September (p.m.);
- v) EFNDT WG1 Saturday 30th September (a.m.).

c) EFNDT Awards (new item added)

Three individuals are nominated to receive the EFNDT Award. They are:

- Roger Roche for his outstanding contribution in NDT standards work
- Giuseppe Nardoni for twenty three years significant contribution to European and international NDT affairs.
- John Thompson for his contribution to NDT personnel certification in Europe and worldwide.

These nominations were approved unanimously and arrangements will now be made for presentation of the awards at the 9th ECNDT in Berlin, September 2006.

d) Election to host ECNDT 2010:

- i) Presentation by the president of Czech Society. CNDT started in 1932, now has >500 individual members, and is very active in all fields concerned with NDT. It is proposed to stage the 10th ECNDT in Prague over 8 days at the end September 2010. Prague is at the very heart of Europe – good accessibility – historic city. Excellent new conference centre that can accommodate 3,000 delegates. The Euro will be the conference currency. Prague is well known for tourism, excellent facilities and good connections. Freedom of movement for citizens within the EU. Friendly city, safe and economical. CNDT is well experienced at organising major events and has support of Czech government and university. Good sponsorship available from companies. Good plentiful and cheap accommodation, both modern and historical. Good exhibition facilities. Total expenses and conference fees were estimated – no more expensive (probably cheaper) than 9th ECNDT. This was the third time of applying to hold the ECNDT - commended Prague as the venue for 10th ECNDT 2010.
- ii) Russian presentation by V Klyuev and I Pushkina (RSNTTD). RSNTTD has enough resources to hold the 10th ECNDT. PowerPoint presentation. >3,000 members. Well qualified to hold conferences and exhibitions. World Trade Centre. Good social programme. Museums and historic architecture. Any questions? Voting members have very difficult task. If selected, RSNTTD will provide all possible support.
- iii) Dr. Farley congratulated both on excellent presentations and proposals. No winner or loser: already have two winners with societies that are second to none. Had privilege of attending well organised conferences in Russia and Czech Republic. Will now break for coffee and return to vote. Tellers will be P Trampus (Hungary) and R Kristianssen (Norway).
- iv) A secret ballot was conducted and returns were gathered and counted by the appointed tellers with the following result:
 - Czech Society: 5 votes.
 - Russian Society: 17 votes
 - Abstentions: 1

Dr. Farley expressed sadness for Prague and congratulations for Moscow.

e) Look ahead to ECNDT 2014

- i) The Hungarian Society announced its intention to apply to stage the 11th ECNDT.

10. Election of BOD members

- a) President. Only one nomination: J M Farley was re-appointed, and announced his pleasure at being able to serve for a further term of office.
- b) Vice President. Only one nomination: G Aufricht was appointed.
- c) The following Members of the Board of Directors were elected:
 - i) C Eriksson

- ii) G Hennaut
- iii) R Link
- iv) E Romero
- v) V Krstelj
- vi) M Poudrai
- vii) E Zeelenberg
- viii) I Pushkina

d) Auditor. Runa Kristianssen (Proposed by GA and seconded by TB all in favour of appointment).

11. Any other business

a) Dr. Farley stated that he had been very impressed by the work conducted for EFNDT over the past year, and looked forward to continuing to work for the new Board. He considered that the General Assembly ought to be given more importance – especially when members travel so far – and he intended to have future General Assemblies in two parts:

- i) 1. a normal meeting, and
- ii) 2. a workshop where members can show off their work and share best practice.

This will be an agenda item for the next GA after the 9th ECNDT.

b) The BoD will meet in Budapest, and would like to invite neighbouring NDT societies (Hungary, Croatia, Slovenia, Austria ...) to attend a workshop on best practice. This received the enthusiastic support of those present.

12. Place and date of next meeting(s)

a) Next General Assembly will be in Berlin on Friday 29th September 2006 in the afternoon following the closing ceremony

b) Next Board meeting will be in Glasgow on 27th January, and the next after that in Budapest on 22nd May 2006.

c) The Czech Society announced an invitation to Prague in September 2007 for the Czech NDT Society conference, and proposed a GA meeting at that time.

d) Thanks to all present from the President, Dr J M Farley, who closed the meeting at 12:05.