

LYMEC Bureau Meeting

13th meeting 24 January 2010 Brussels, Belgium

Meeting called by: LYMEC President

Note taker: Secretary-general (SKis)

Attendees: Aloys Rigaut (AR), Alexander Plahr (AP), Sibel Redzheb (SR), Mette Lykke Nielsen (MLN), Majda Zeherovic (MZ), Dries Holvoet (DH) and Olesja Selivanova (OS).

Please read:

Please bring:

---- Agenda Topics ----

| Agenda Topics | | |
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| Agenda items | BM responsible | Background documents |
| 1. Opening by LYMEC President | AR | |
| 2. Technical points | AR | Draft agenda |
| Adoption of the agendaLegality of the meeting | | |
| Follow-up from last meeting | AP | Draft minutes |
| 3. Priorities for the next 3 months | AR | of last meeting |
| 3. Friorities for the flext 3 months | AK | |
| 4. Preparation of LYMEC EC/Congress: | AR/AP/SR | |
| • Logistics • Finances: closing of 2000 accounts, auditing | | |
| Finances: closing of 2009 accounts, auditingStatutory changes | | |
| Political: theme resolution, other | | |
| 5. LYMEC Finances | SR/AP | |
| Grant applications: European Commission, others | | |
| Financial WG and recommendations by auditors: follow-up | | |

- Committee of discipline and arbitrage: update
- Long-term financial planning: 2011 and beyond
- 6. Discussion: cooperation with the ALDE Group
- 7. LYMEC Events and invitations
 - Upcoming LYMEC events:
 - o March 2010: ELF/LYMEC seminar in Poland
 - o 1st quarter 2010: ELDR event with D66/OpenVLD/CDC
 - o May 2010: LYMEC Congress in Bucharest
 - o July 2010: Liverpool seminar
 - o August 2010: Summerschool in Lithuania
 - Invitations, other events
 - o ELDR Council in Rome
 - o Proposal of event in Finland
 - o Other invitations/events: YFJ, IFLRY, ELF, MOs...
- 8. AOB, closing

AR

AR

Minutes

1. Opening by LYMEC President

AR opens the meeting. and mentions that this is an interesting moment in politics following last year's EP elections. There is a new ALDE Group, new Commission...This bureau meeting hence comes at the right time to meet with the Group and discuss priorities for the upcoming period and in what ways we can work together (on policies, campaigns etc.). There will also be opportunity during these days for some discussion on organisational cooperation with the Group's secretariat members. He reminds the Bureau that there is still some time left until the elections of the new Bureau and that the hardworking spirit must continue till the end. The Bureau will have to prepare well all the aspects of the Congress. He comments on the finances saying the Bureau would have to discuss in detail this issue later in the meeting.

2. Technical points

On MLN's proposal, Communication is added as agenda point 6. Agenda point on meeting with ALDE will be detailed and concern every planned individual meeting. Cooperation with IFLRY is introduced as agenda point 8. The amended Agenda is approved.

The meeting is proclaimed to be legally called together

AP goes through the follow-up from the last meeting. Jeroen Benning has not answered on the request to propose a new payment arrangement. The question of cash account equally remains outstanding. It is decided that if by 31st January he hasn't provided us with the requested information as well as an legally binding agreement, LYMEC will start legal proceedings in Belgium and issue JB an invoice

for the outstanding amount of the cash account. Others agree with the proposal in order to have some concrete follow-up to report to the Congress on this issue.

3. Priorities for the next 3 months

AP feels that there are two priorities for the Bureau: a) to clean-up (close all financial reports etc.) in order to leave the organization to the next Bureau in a better state than the current Bureau did find it and b) to prepare the two remaining events in Poland and Romania.

MLN suggests each BM should also prepare a hand-over paper of their portfolio to the new bureau member. Others agree.

SR spoke with internal auditors about possible date for the audit.

SKis will distribute a list of MOs that sent their membership numbers.

OS spoke about a possible LYMEC event in Scandinavia on whose financing she is working. She also discussed with a friend an offer for a LYMEC wiki server. Further info will be coming.

4. Preparation of LYMEC EC/Congress

Logistics

AR reports that the events will be in Sinaia, Romania. SR asks for a copy of contract between the organisers and the hotel. We will prepare a draft organisational contract as soon as the draft budget is available. Special attention will be paid to the issue of transport. AP points out that we need a central person organising transport logistics. MLN points out that transport should be included in the contract to be signed. EC/Congress will start after lunch on Friday. BMs are expected to arrive Thursday night as a preparatory bureau meeting will take place on Friday morning. Saturday night will be gala dinner and the new Bureau will meet on Sunday. AP and MLN will be responsible for the seminar and AR will send them the contact details of the local organizers.

Secretariat will invite Annemie Neyts and Guy Verhofstadt to come on Friday. We shouldn't interrupt bureau elections for organizational purposes once they start. The elections will take place after lunch on Saturday (as the last agenda point, after resolutions).

The Chairs proposed are Roger Albinyana i Saigi, Ellen Trane Norby, Daniel Tanahatoe and Julia Leferman (they should arrive Friday morning and leave on Sunday). It was later noted that Julia Leferman will not be available and instead Ramona Manescu was proposed.

AP proposes that the further proceedings of the left-over resolutions should be decided at the end of each Congress. DH underlines that the separation of EC and Congress is artificial and it should be better to merge the two. AR and AP agrees, but AR mentions we should check the Belgian law on asbl's to see the legal requirements before we make this change. SKis will take care of that. Concerning political theme for the Congress: the Bureau will propose the seminar resolution (AP in charge) and a resolution on body scanners (MLN in charge).

Statutory changes

AP introduces the proposed changes. Discussion ensues on proposal for bureau members' elections – should they be elected individually per portfolio or collectively. The Bureau decided not to make any proposal on this topic.

Discussion ensues on candidates for the Bureau put by IMS. The Bureau decides that a member of the Bureau can be put forward by a full MO or IMS. Other provisions will be amended to make sure that a candidate put forward by an MO or IMS is a member of a LYMEC.

The Bureau supports a statutory change to make Program of Action a two-year program with a set deadline for sending it to members.

The Bureau agrees on changing the provisions concerning the chairing of the EC.

The Bureau decided to add the Secretary-general among persons who can be legal representatives of the organisation.

The Bureau decided to check if it is possible according to Belgian law to substitute the get rid of the differentiation between the EC and the Congress, and if yes, to do so.

Finances

AR expresses satisfaction over the increase of assets although stresses that we paid the price for that in having to restrict our costs and activities in 2009 (massive under-spending and under-incomes). AP mentions that at least for him a claim from December 2009 is missing in the overview. Not only should this be included, SR also is asked by AP to check if other claims by other bureau members / participants might be missing still. CUF/LUF debate: the Committee on Discipline and Arbitrage (CDA) has still not decided on the issue yet, the disputed amounts should be kept on the debtors' list. We should also put EC grant left-over on the debtors' list. The Treasurer will write an introduction letter to the report, which will be shared with the Bureau beforehand.

5. LYMEC Finances

Youth in Action: we will provide information on its deadlines in our mailings. AR will check the possibility of applying for an event in Cyprus.

AR reports on his discussions with ELF regarding possible longer term planning and support to LYMEC events, and underlines the importance of the next ELF GA (which will probably see changes of ELF statutes).

Working Group on Finances: SR replied to some requests for information to the Group. AP reports that a request by the working group to the Bureau regarding the accounting system is forthcoming. The Bureau will encourage the Group to give input to the Congress.

Recommendations by the Auditors: the Bureau went through different recommendations. First recommendation has been followed by the bureau

Second recommendation (checks and controls, regarding visa card statements and bank statements): AR doesn't believe that signing all the bank statements is a good idea and is not realistic in his opinion, as he would have to check in addition all related receipts/claims for that to make any sense. This is the job of the treasurer and auditors. The bureau agrees. Regarding visa statements: AR is checking them. DH asks him to sign checked statements. The bureau agrees.

Third recommendation (changing the time of the elections): AR thinks that the internal auditors dropped this recommendation.

Fourth recommendation (value adjustments): AR states that this is a technical issue. This is also how the external auditors presented the account. We will ask the external auditors for opinion and a possibility to present the report without this line.

The Committee of Discipline and Arbitrage: AP reports that one case (CUF/LUF) was handed in already. The CDA is waiting for input from CUF and LUF. AP will check if CDA will be represented at the Congress. The Bureau discussed whether to put forward the case of Jeroen Benning to CDA. AR speaks in favour as we might for instance face a situation that JB applies for attendance to LYMEC events without having complied with his obligations (participation fees don't cover the full costs of one's participation) + because JB abused LYMEC money and did not respect his commitments declared at the Rome congress. AP does not oppose the idea, but feels that in order to achieve this goal, we don't necessarily need to consult the CDA. AR insists that the CDA is the only body able to take disciplinary measures. Others feel that we should send a message to show that

LYMEC finances cannot be abused without consequences. AR will prepare a document for the Bureau's decision which would be forwarded to CDA.

6. Communications

MLN presents the plan for research of the communication needs for the creation of a new LYMEC website. Each BM will interview 2-3 persons (expert users of our website). MLN will process the answers to the queries. The results will be ready for the autumn EC.

8. IFLRY

DH delivers report on cooperation with IFLRY. AP/DH reported on their attempts to start communication with IFLRY regarding LYMEC MO fee.

IFLRY will work in the current mandate on climate change, freedom of expression, migration and international institutional reform. DH will check what policies on UN we can take from LYMEC policies into IFLRY.

9. Events and invitations

Poland event: DH reports that hotel and food and arranged; budget and contract will be drafted by DH. Youth unemployment event: AR reports that the event will take place on 7 May in the Netherlands Liverpool event: SKis will check with ALDE CoR.

Lithuania event: MLN reports

Finland event: it would be on water reliance and should take place in May, it will be aimed at Baltic and Nordic participants, but open to others as well with partial funding.

ELDR Council – AP attends for LYMEC

ELF GA – SKis will check details about this event (date, venue...)

SRHR event of the YFJ – The newly established WG on International development will be asked to nominate a participant

YFJ event on EU Consumer Summit - SKis will nominate SR

AP was already nominated for YFJ visa event

7. Meeting with ALDE Group

The Bureau discussed preparation for the meeting with ALDE Group for the next two days.

10. AOB

MLN reports on IMS WG which doesn't have much activity recently. MLN will write to the chair of this WG.

The meeting is officially closed.