



**DRAFT**

# **M i n u t e s**

**of the extraordinary G E N E R A L A S S E M B L Y**

**held in Frankfurt am Main, Germany, on 3 February 2014**

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# MINUTES

**of the extraordinary General Assembly held in  
Frankfurt am Main, Germany, on Monday, 3 February 2014**

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**Venue:** DECHEMA e.V.  
Franz-Patat-Room  
Theodor-Heuss-Allee 25  
60486 Frankfurt am Main  
Germany

**Chairman:** Professor Rafiqul Gani

**Duration:** 11:00 –15:30 h

**Minutes Secretaries:** Professor W. Meier  
I. Honndorf

**Persons Present:** see list of participants

These minutes summarize the major results of the discussions, which were based on detailed working papers. The working papers complement the minutes.

Lyngby, August 2014

Frankfurt am Main, August 2014

(Prof. R. Gani)

(Prof. W. Meier)

# Agenda

Opening of the meeting and adoption of the minutes of the previous General Assembly  
(The Hague, The Netherlands, 21 April 2013)

*(Prof. Gani)*

## **A INTRODUCTION**

- 1 Introduction, Welcome & Meeting objectives: EFCE President  
*(Prof. Gani)*
- 2 Introduction: EFCE Executive Vice-President  
*(Prof. Considine)*
- 3 Introduction: EFCE Scientific Vice-President  
*(Prof. Le Lann)*

## **B ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS & NEWS**

- 4 Draft new constitution for EFCE (as the EFCE needs to be a Charitable Incorporated Organisation - CIO)  
*(Dr. Brown)*
- 5 Next steps  
*(Prof. Gani)*
- 6 EFCE membership fee and EFCE services (status of membership fee)  
*(Prof. Considine & Prof. Gani)*
- 7 Participation policy for main EFCE events
  - 7.1 ECCE10-ECAB3, Nice, F, 27 September – 1 October 2015  
*(Mr. Dal Pont, Prof. Le Lann, Prof. Gani)*
  - 7.2 WCCE10-ECCE11-ECAB4, Barcelona, E, 1-5 October 2017  
*(Prof. Negro, Prof. Le Lann, Prof. Gani)*

## **C ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION: FUTURE EFCE PLANS AND ACTIVITIES**

(How to improve EFCE visibility; how to serve better the Chem Eng community; EFCE member society relation; EFCE position on important issues; attract new members, students; dialogue with industrial members; future of Chem Eng; .....)

## **D MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS**

- 8 Date and place of the next General Assembly
- 9 Any other business  
*(to be notified to the Frankfurt Secretariat at least 7 days before the Assembly)*

## **List of participants:**

### Representatives of the Member Societies:

#### **Belgium:**

Ir. E. de RADEMAEKER - ie-net

#### **Czech Republic:**

Prof. J. DRAHOS - Czech Society of Chemical Engineering

#### **Denmark:**

Prof. R. GANI - Ingeniørforeningen i Danmark - IDA, Kemiingeniørgruppen

#### **France:**

Mr. J.-P. DAL PONT - Société Française de Génie des Procédés - SFGP

#### **Germany:**

Prof. W. MEIER - DECHEMA e.V.

#### **Italy:**

Assist. Prof. F. MANENTI - Associazione Italiana di Ingegneria Chimica - AIDIC

#### **The Netherlands:**

Dr. W. BAKKER - Koninklijke Nederlandse Chemische Vereniging - KNCV and Koninklijk Instituut van Ingenieurs - Kivi-NIRIA incl. Nederlandse Process Technologen - NPT

#### **Poland:**

Prof. B. KAWALEC-PIETRENKO - Polish Association of Chemical Engineers

#### **Slovak Republic:**

Prof. V. BALES - Slovak Society of Chemical Engineers - SSCHI

#### **Slovenia:**

Prof. V. KAUCIC - Slovenian Chemical Society

#### **Spain:**

Prof. C. NEGRO ALVAREZ - Asociacion Nacional de Quimicos de Espana - ANQUE

Dr. J. SOLEY - Sociedad Espanola de Quimica Industrial e Ingegneria Quimica - SEQUI

#### **Switzerland:**

Dr.-Ing. K. LEIMBACHER - Schweizerische Gesellschaft für Verfahrens- und Chemieingenieurtechnik - SGVC

**Turkey:**

Mr. B. ATAMER - Turkish Chamber of Chemical Engineers

**United Kingdom:**

Dr. D. BROWN - The Institution of Chemical Engineers - IChemE

Executive Board members:

Mr. B. ATAMER, A.Ovecler – Ankara/TR

Dr. W. BAKKER, Amersfoort/NL

Prof. V. BÁLES, Bratislava/SK

Dr. D. BROWN, Rugby/UK (*General Secretary*)

Prof. M. CONSIDINE, West Byfleet/UK (*Executive Vice-President*)

Mr. J.-P. DAL PONT, Paris/F (*General Secretary*)

Prof. R. DARTON, Oxford/UK (*Past President*)

Prof. J. DRAHOS, Praha/CZ

Dr. H.J. FEISE, Ludwigshafen/D

Prof. R. GANI, Lyngby/DK (*President*)

Prof. A. IRABIEN, Santander/E

Prof. B. KAWALEC-PIETRENKO, Gdansk/PL

Prof. J.-M. LE LANN, Toulouse/F (*Scientific Vice-President*)

Prof. Dr. W. MEIER, Frankfurt am Main/D (*General Secretary*)

Dr. E. SORENSEN, London/UK

Prof. P. TANGUY, Berlin/D

Working Party and Section Chairs:

Prof. J. BALDYGA, Warszawa/PL - Working Party on Mixing

Dr. B. BISCANS, Toulouse/F - Working Party on Crystallization

Prof. U. BRÖCKEL, Birkenfeld/D - Section on Product Design and Engineering

Prof. E. BRUNAZZI, Pisa/I - Working Party on Fluid Separations

Prof. M. BUSCH, Darmstadt/D - Working Party on Polymer Reaction Engineering

Prof. J.-C. DE HEMPTINNE, Rueil Malmaison/F - Working Party on Thermodynamics and Transport Properties

Prof. T. VAN GERVEN, Leuven/B - Working Party on Process Intensification

Prof. J. KLEMES, Veszprem/HU - Working Party on Computer Aided Process Engineering

Prof. D. KNORR, Berlin/D - Section on Food

Prof. Dr. M. PITT, Sheffield/UK - Working Party on Education

Ir. E. de RADEMAEKER, Schilde/B - Working Party on Loss Prevention and Safety Promotion

Prof. A. RAMIREZ GOMEZ, Madrid/E - Working Party on Mechanics of Particulate Solids

Prof. E. SCHLÜCKER, Erlangen/E - Working Party on High Pressure Technology

Prof. A. SOLDATO, Udine/I - Working Party on Multiphase Fluid Flow

Representatives of the offices of the General Secretariat:

Ms. C. FLAVELL-WHILE, Rugby/UK  
Mr. A. FURLONG, Rugby/UK  
Ms. I. HONNDORF, Frankfurt am Main/D  
Dr. M. POUX, Toulouse/F

Excused:

Prof. I. BERTA, Budapest/HU, Working Party on Static Electricity in Industry  
Ms. T. DUDUKOVIC, Association of Chemical Engineers  
Prof. I. FARKAS, Gödöllő/HU, Working Party on Drying  
Dipl.-Ing. K. KREMALIS, Athens/GR  
Prof. G. MARIN, Gent/B, Working Party on Chemical Reaction Engineering  
Prof. M. A. RODRIGO RODRIGO, Ciudad Real/E, Working Party on Electrochemical  
Engineering  
Dr. A. SCHREINER, Basel/CH  
Prof. V. TOMASIC, Croatian Society of Chemical Engineers

The President of the Federation, Prof. Gani, opened the meeting and welcomed the participants. The participants briefly introduced themselves.

No requests for amendments being tabled, the minutes of the previous General Assembly, held in The Hague, The Netherlands, on 21 April 2013, were approved and adopted as a correct record of proceedings.

## **A INTRODUCTION**

The introduction started with the presentation of Prof. Considine followed by the presentations of Prof. Le Lann and Prof. Gani.

### **1 Introduction, Welcome & Meeting objectives: EFCE President**

Prof. Gani presented his professional development, positions he had held, including his research experience and involvement with EFCE. His research interests focussed on modelling, process design and analysis including process intensification, computer-aided product design, etc., by applying a model-based system approach (for details, see his presentation slides in [Appendix 1](#)). Prof. Gani added that he had been a Danish citizen since 1990. His term of office as EFCE President started on 1 January 2014.

### **2 Introduction: EFCE Executive Vice-President**

Prof. Considine introduced himself by briefly presenting his professional background. He reported that, for 22 years, he had worked with BP in a senior corporate role. His key skills included experience in process safety and loss prevention in various industrial sectors. He was the founder and had been the director of ChemRisk Ltd, providing process safety consultancy services. Clients included international oil and energy companies. At present, he also held the position of Professor of Process Safety and Loss Prevention at Sheffield University, UK. He had been a long-time UK delegate of the EFCE Working Party on Loss Prevention and Safety Promotion and its secretary since 1998. He also briefly discussed the questions of how EFCE could do better to achieve the aims given in its mission statement. For further details, see his presentation slides in [Appendix 2](#).

### **3 Introduction: EFCE Scientific Vice-President**

Prof. Le Lann introduced himself by presenting his professional background and his vision for the position of Scientific Vice-President. His presentation slides are given in [Appendix 3](#).

## **B ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS & NEWS**

### **4 Draft new constitution for EFCE (as the EFCE needs to be a Charitable Incorporated Organisation - CIO)**

Mr. Brown presented the reasons and process for EFCE to adopt a formal legal status in order to protect the Executive Board members from liability and for IChemE to administer a separate bank account for EFCE and manage EFCE's finances. The new status of EFCE would be that of a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), which was the least bureaucratic and expensive form of charity. Registration under UK law was chosen for reasons of convenience: legal document in English; account already in the UK.

This change required setting up a Constitution in a prescribed legal format. The draft version corresponded to the legal requirements of the UK.

The current Executive Board members would become the first trustees of the CIO with clear responsibilities outlined in the Constitution.

The presentation slides presented by Mr. Brown are attached as [Appendix 4](#).

The participants briefly discussed the first draft of the Constitution.

- The participants expressed the view that the General Assembly should have more responsibilities. According to the current EFCE Statutes the General Assembly acted as a court of appeal, which was not reflected in the Constitution.  
A set of rules should be developed to give more power to the General Assembly.
- A paragraph about how to refuse and exchange a trustee should be added.

In addition, Mr. Brown stressed the following points:

- The Constitution has no impact on the day-to-day work of the Federation and its Working Parties and Sections. The Guidelines for Working Parties and the Guidelines for Sections remain unchanged (*identical?*).
- Details about working procedures of the various committees and groups of EFCE and other issues addressed in the current EFCE Statutes will be covered by new Bye-Laws/Rules which will be set up under the Constitution.

Mr. Brown also referred to the next steps in the approval process, see Item 5.

## **5 Next steps**

Prof. Gani presented the next steps in the approval process of the Constitution (see [Appendix 5](#)).

The participants noted and approved the next steps as follows:

- The General Assembly will receive the proposed new Constitution by e-mail shortly and is asked to send questions and comments to Prof. Gani by 7 March;
- Any comments received will be discussed by the Management Committee. An updated version of the Constitution will be discussed and approved by the Executive Board;
- The final version of the Constitution will be circulated in July/August 2014. Vote on the Constitution, including the first trustees of the CIO, by the General Assembly in August 2014 in Prague;
- 'New EFCE' is officially registered;
- The existing Executive Board and EFCE assets are transferred to the new EFCE.

In parallel, based on the current EFCE Statutes, new Bye-laws/Rules would be drafted.

## **6 EFCE membership fee and EFCE services (status of membership fee)**

Mr. Considine presented EFCE's finances situation and statement of financial activities as at 31 December 2013 (see [Appendix 6](#)). He stated that currently the total annual income was around 30,000 euros.



For 2013, costs associated with the celebration of EFCE's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary and the EFCE Information officer's position resulted in a deficit of almost 40,000 euros and subsequently a reduction of EFCE's reserve position to 100,000 euros.

In the future, EFCE wished to fulfil its mission and objectives summarised in its mission statement even better and to enhance its activities by supporting its Member Societies and developing extra services for them, by strengthening EFCE's scientific activities including those of the Working Parties and Sections, and by increasing its visibility and communication of activities, among other things.

In order to do so, Prof. Considine proposed increasing the EFCE membership fee by 50% with effect from 2015. He argued that the membership fee had not been increased since at least the mid-1990s.

On request, it was confirmed that the annual full membership fee for an EFCE Member Society would be set at €1500. Small societies should be permitted to pay a reduced subscription of €750 per year and very small societies a heavily reduced subscription of €350 per year.

The majority of participants supported the proposed increase of 50%, which was found to be still a relatively small amount compared to the services and benefits of EFCE membership.

However, participants raised the following arguments:

- Mr. de Rademaeker stressed the point that in recent years fewer engineers had become members of societies, which resulted in less fees for the societies. A substantial increase in the EFCE membership fee might result in a loss of Member Societies, especially the smaller ones, for whom the fee increase might be an issue.  
-> It was found important that EFCE foster contact connect with the smaller societies, especially those having no permanent office. EFCE should be sensitive to the differences in size and facilities.
- Prof. Knorr explained the model of EFFoST (European Federation on Food Science & Technology) for its international conference which raised a guaranteed income for the organisation. This could possibly be introduced at EFCE as well.  
Dr. Brown and Prof. Knorr agreed to discuss this model in more detail.

The question of "*What can EFCE do for its Working Parties and Sections?*" was discussed. The following issues were raised:

- The travel grant of 300 euros to support participation in WP/Section meetings should be maintained, although not all WPs/Sections had made regular use of this.
- Sponsoring of WP/Section workshops would be desirable but was not affordable by the Federation.
- Communication among the WPS/Sections and with the CE community.  
To do so, reports on activities of each WP/Section should be a fixed part of the agenda of the annual meeting of the WP/Section Chairs.  
Furthermore, WPS/Sections should be assisted in the promotion of their activities and events. At this point it was stated that the position of EFCE Information officer would be filled again this year. The action mentioned would be one of his/her tasks. The WP/Section websites and other media (EFCE news in ChERD, e-newsletter, EFCE LinkedIn group) should be better used to communicate the scientific activities.

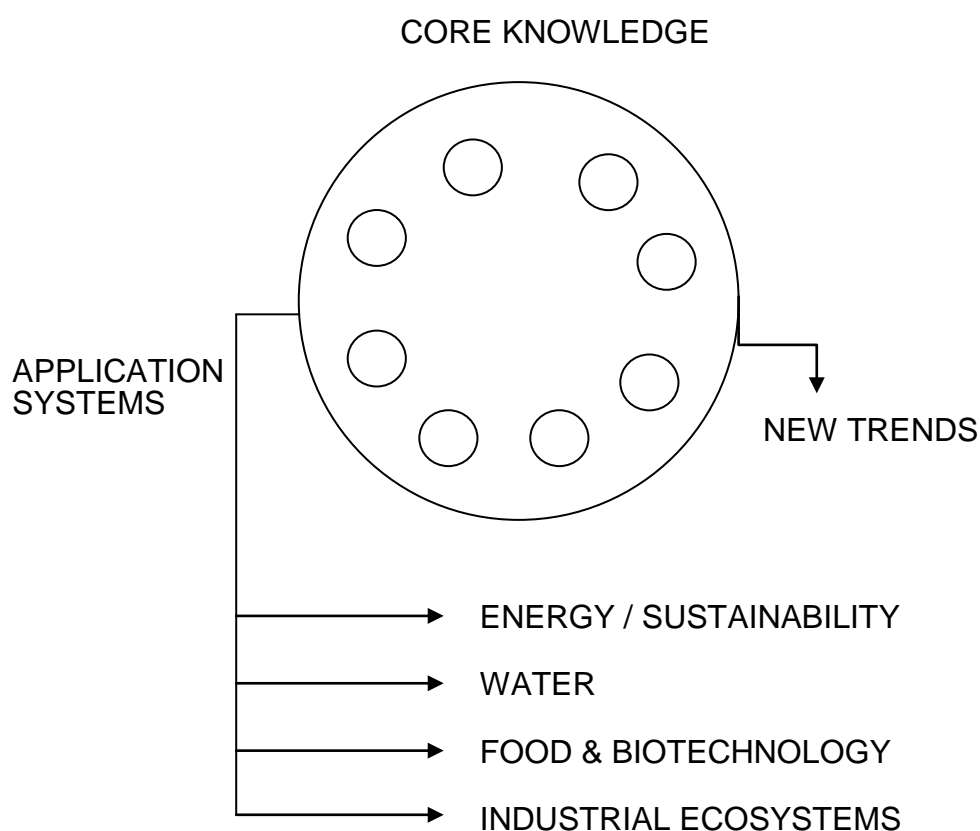
- It would be desirable to establish a strategy for Brussels and become more influential and successful with respect to the EU Framework Programmes.

## 7 Participation policy for main EFCE events

### 7.1 ECCE10- ECAB3, Nice, F, 27 September – 1 October 2015

Prof. Le Lann and Ms. Poux and presented the organisational structure, proposed time schedule and the state of activities of ECCE10/ECAB3. The presentation slides and the Progress Report No. 3 are given in Appendices 7 and 8.

Prof. Le Lann explained the idea behind the four topics:



The core chemical engineering and biochemical engineering topics were intended to be proposed and coordinated by the EFCE Working Parties and Sections, the ESBES Sections and the SFGP working groups. Prof. Le Lann and Ms. Poux explained that, for this purpose, they had listed the corresponding French SFGP section and EFCE/ESBES WP(s)/Section(s). The aim was to suggest, for each topic, the form of presentation (e.g. session, symposium, workshop), the topic managers (from SFGP and EFCE/ESBES) and members of the scientific committee as well as the keywords.

They were advised by member of the General Assembly on the following:

- In addition to the 4 main topics, the basic chemical engineering topics covered in “core chemical engineering and biochemical engineering topics” should also be presented in more detail on the Conference website at <http://www.ecce2015.eu/>.

It would be desirable for the basic Chem Eng topics to correlate with the names of the EFCE Working Parties, if appropriate.

- A continuous flow of information on developments and request for input/involvement in the scientific programme would be helpful. Dialogue should be initiated by the local organiser.
- WP/Section Chairs should be invited to suggest innovative themes for sessions/workshops and keywords for the sessions;
- ECCE10/ECAB3 clashes with the conference of the Asian-Pacific Confederation of Chemical Engineering in Melbourne, so presumably fewer people from this area would be able to participate in ECCE10/ECAB3.
- Time and effort should be invested in attracting participation from the American continent. The partner organisations in the World Council of Chemical Engineering could be asked for assistance.
- The European Academy on Food Engineering was successfully introduced at ECCE9 in The Hague. For ECCE10, provision for a presentation slot for the Academy would be very welcome (contact: Prof. Knorr).
- It was again suggested to hold the next Symposium on Product Design and Engineering in conjunction with ECCE10.

ECCE Series in general:

- The ECCE series should develop its unique feature. Participants needed to be able to rely on organisational standards and quality of scientific programme, fixed parts, etc.
- All WPs and Sections should aim to have a session, workshop or other activity at every ECCE, even if they organise a specialised event the same year. The ECCE should become THE event of the Federation which includes ALL areas of EFCE's scientific activities.

However, if a specialised conference/symposium series of a WP/Section falls in the same year, the respective WP/Section should be free to decide whether to integrate it in ECCE or organise it separately, with a reasonable interval to ECCE.

## 7.2 WCCE10-ECCE11-ECAB4, Barcelona, E, 1-5 October 2017

Prof. Negro presented the organisational and congress structure and initial planning for WCCE10/ECCE11 including promotion of the Congress worldwide and international collaboration. He asked the participants to note that the dates for WCCE10/ECCE11 had been brought forward by one day to **1-5 October 2017**. The WCCE10/ECCE11 website, <http://www.wcce10.org>, included a film and an invitation to subscribe to the Congress newsletter. The full version would be available in 2015 after ECCE10.

His presentation slides are attached as Appendix 9.

## **C ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION: FUTURE EFCE PLANS AND ACTIVITIES**

(How to improve EFCE visibility; how to serve better the Chem Eng community; EFCE member society relation; EFCE position on important issues; attract new members, students; dialogue with industrial members; future of Chem Eng; .....)

Prof. Gani opened the Round Table Discussion by presenting some core questions and proposed initiatives for his term of office 2014-2015 (see [Appendix 10](#)). He explicitly asked the participants express their views on the ideas.

The General Assembly fully supported and approved the establishment of the three suggested committees

### 1. Scientific Panel

The Scientific Panel aims at writing a discussion paper on the development of chemical engineering science in Europe and its role in meeting today's challenges in the areas of water, energy, food, raw materials, among other things, in Europe and globally. This document will be available to the entire chemical engineering community.

### 1. EFCE Student Committee

Aim: Evaluate the potential establishment of Internet platform for students/young scientists; career development

Members (initial): E. Sorensen (Chair), V. Bales, A. Irabien

### 2. EFCE Public Relations & Communications Group

Aims: Develop EFCE's visibility and coordinate its PR and communications activities; advise the Information Officer

Members (initial): M. Considine (Chair), Information Officer, members of General Secretariats)

Comments on the Scientific Panel:

- "Paradigm shift": Important to recognise the situation but not easy to predict the development;
- Developments in chemical engineering need to be considered in the curriculum; build credibility of the chemical engineering curriculum; define the core topics of chemical engineering curricula;
- Emphasis on new opportunities for wealth creation;
- Get young people involved, give them a mandate and encourage them to build their own future;
- Membership:
  - Still open for members, also from outside EFCE;
  - Representation of WP/Section members to be considered: use their expertise and experience;
  - EFCE Officers should be part of the Panel to provide resources.
- Issue of re-industrialisation of Europe to be considered  
=> Scientific Panel to focus on scientific issues; separate group to be considered, focusing on industrial aspects of chemical engineering and related development in the process industries, including re-industrialisation, process management, etc.

Comments on the Student Panel:

- Consider the wishes of the young generation for its involvement in EFCE.

Mr. Gani thanked the participants for the constructive discussion and stated that the development of the committees would be regularly reported to the General Assembly, next time presumably at the General Assembly in Prague.

## **D MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS**

### **8 Date and place of the next General Assembly**

Those present agreed that the next regular General Assembly would be held on the occasion of ECCE10/ECAB3 in Nice, France in September 2015.

The invitation and the working papers would be distributed in due time.

If necessary, a further extraordinary General Assembly would be held in August 2014 in Prague, Czech Republic in conjunction with CHISA 2014.

### **9 Any other business**

Mr. Atamer stated that it would be good to know more about other EFCE Member Societies, how they are structured and operate and what can be done to strengthen cooperation among them. Therefore, he suggested that short presentations of the activities of the EFCE Member Societies (10-15 min) be included in the agenda for the General Assemblies. The initiative was welcomed and should be followed up.

No further points being raised, the President closed the meeting at 15.30 h.