



MINUTES

Fertility Europe Council meeting

Monday 4th July, 2016

Venue: Messukeskus Expo and Convention Centre

Helsinki, Messuaukio 1

00521 Helsinki, Finland

9:00am Opening by **Elin Einarsdottir**, **Chair.**

Participants: 25 participants from 18 organisations from 18 countries

Name	Organization	Country
Marijke Merckx (MM)	De Verdwaalde Ooievaar	Belgium
Irina Popova (IP)	Zachatie	Bulgaria
Hana Konecna (HK)	ADAM	Czech Republic
Klaudija Kordic (KK)	RODA	Croatia
Afroditi Alexopoulou (AA)	Kiveli	Greece
Kosmas Kouris (KoK)	Kiveli	Greece
Johanna Repo (JR)	Simpukka	Finland
Satu Rautakallio-Hokkanen (SRH)	Simpukka	Finland
Rebecca Nielbien (RN)	MAIA	France
Elin Einarsdottir (EE)	Tilvera	Iceland
Berglind Osk Birgisdottir (BOB)	Tilvera	Iceland
Hildur Dis Kristjansdottir (HDK)	Tilvera	Iceland
Hanna Best (HB)	Chen	Israel
Ofra Balaban Kasztelanski (OB)	Chen	Israel
Donia Scicluna (DS)	Wanting and Waiting	Malta
Marjan Masic (MM)	Nas San	Montenegro
José Knijnenburg (JK)	Freya	Netherlands
Karianne Bye (KB)	Onskebarn	Norway
Anna Krawczak (AK)	Nasz Bocian	Poland
Ana Galhardo (AG)	APF	Portugal
Jean-Pierre Brunel (JPB)	SOS Infertilitatea	Romania

Nicoleta Cristea-Brunel (NB)	SOS Infertilitatea	Romania
Denisa Priadková (DP)	Občianske združenie Bocian	Slovakia
Peter Priadka (PP)	Občianske združenie Bocian	Slovakia
Susan Seenan (SS)	Infertility Network UK	UK

Elin Einarsdóttir (EE), Chair of Fertility Europe, opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

The 8th Council Meeting

Executive Committee (ExCo) structure in 2016

Elin Einarsdóttir, Chair
 Nicoleta Cristea Brunel, Vice chair
 Afrodite Alexopoulou, Treasurer
 Isabelle Chandler - ExCo member
 Ofra Balaban- ExCo member
 Kalina Nedelcheva, Office Manager

1. **Approval of the minutes of the previous Council Meeting – Lisbon 2015-** presented by Elin Einarsdóttir and approved unanimously
2. **Approval of the Annual Report of the Executive Committee under Art. 9 of the Statutes** - presented by Elin Einarsdóttir and approved, 1 abstain
3. **Approval of the 2015 Accounts under Art.9 of the Statutes** – presented by Treasurer Afroditi Alexopoulou. Presentation was for the period January- December 2016. According to Statutes, financial year ends in March. Approval of the Accounts to be postponed.
 - **Questions raised regarding ESHRE's support.** FE hasn't asked for money since 2014 so the only direct financial contribution from them has been from the Fun Run at the Annual Meeting. They have however supported our Spring Meetings with 1 extra day for the last 2 years, i.e. flight, accommodation, dinner; Council Meetings and access to the ESHRE Congress.
 - **Financial policy and Policy on expenditure** has to be discussed and approved, including a policy on Calls for Tenders. Neither ESHRE nor EPF have a policy on the matter. The main issue is to have a policy/procedure for spending. We have the money on the FE account, but we don't spend it.
 - **Question raised will the ExCo be asking ESHRE for money this year** (for example for the European Fertility Week or for next year). If we have good projects, then we can ask for

money but it has to be well reasoned, we need justification. It is usually discussed during the Liaison meeting in November. We also need to look to other sponsors. We need the help of the membership, more participants in the Working groups or help from individual members. Currently we have approx. 80 000 Euro in the bank and we spend about 20 000 Euro per year, so we cannot justify a financial request for the time being.

4. The approval and dismissal of Members under Art. 5 and 8 of the Statutes:

- a. Approval of candidate-member to become an Effective member:
 - **Nas San- Montenegro** applied for membership during the Spring meeting in Sofia, Bulgaria in March 2016. Approved unanimously.
- b. No terminations of memberships

5. Approval of the 2016 budget (January-March) under Art. 9 of the Statutes - there is no budget to be presented officially due to other ongoing issues recently

6. Approval of the 2016-2017 budget (April 2016-March 2017) under Art. 9 of the Statutes— there is no budget to be presented officially due to other ongoing issues recently

7. Approval of the 2016 plan- there is no plan to be presented officially due to other ongoing issues recently

8. Appointment and discharge of the Members of the Executive Committee, under Art. 9 and 13 of the Statutes – election of Deputy ExCo members

i. Presentations of the 4 candidates for Deputy ExCo members

- Anita Fincham from Nasz Bocian, Poland (letter read by Anna Krawczak)
- Satu Rautakallio-Hokkanen from Simpukka, Finland
- Klaudija Kordic from RODA, Croatia
- Irina Popova from Zachatie, Bulgaria

Members can vote anonymously for maximum 2 candidates from the list.

ii. Elections & Results- order according to number of received votes

- Klaudija Kordic from RODA, Croatia
- Satu Rautakallio-Hokkanen from Simpukka, Finland
- Irina Popova from Zachatie, Bulgaria
- Anita Fincham from Nasz Bocian, Poland

Based on members' votes, Klaudija Kordic and Satu Rautakallio-Hokkanen are the two new deputies to the ExCo.

Question: Do deputies replace ExCo members in meetings, do they have the right to vote in meetings?

Reply: it was established in the past year, the first year of having a deputy, that deputies have a voice but not a vote at ExCo meetings. A deputy steps up to a full ExCo member if a ExCo member steps

down for any reason - not if the ExCo member is just absent from the meeting.

9. Approval of the new statutes amendments

Many changes were proposed by Statutes Working Group, but due to limited time in Sofia and a lot of amendments to be discussed, only one change is proposed to be voted on – Article 9, point 4, 5, 6 allowing electronic voting (for flexibility and in order to avoid Proxy's) - approved unanimously. There are different providers for electronic votes, it costs approx. 200 Euro per election process. Members have until 4th September to comment on the document proposing changes, shared also in Forum. The work has taken too long and is going too slow (comments from members).

10. Achievements to be mentioned

- Hosting: Website update, Facebook Like Page Specialfamiliescampaign.eu domain, Forum
- Cooperation with Merck Serono (European Policy Audit on Fertility- EPAF)
- Statutes amendments

- FE Policy and Ethics statements

Elín Einarsdóttir chair