

# ***European Underwater Federation***

## **Minutes of the EUF meeting, Vienna, 30/11/13**

### **Delegates**

Jean-Louis Blanchard	J-LB	CMAS EU
Gerd Brüheim	GB	PDA
Mark Caney	MC	PADI EMEA
Martin Denison	MD	RSTC
Deric Ellerby	DE	BSAC
Patrik Falk	PF	SSDF
Michael Frenzel	MF	CMAS EU
John Geurts	JG	NOB
Teppo Lallukka	TL	FDF
Jack Lavanchy	JL	RSTC
Wolfgang Mehl	WM	FIAS
Oliver Mielke	OM	RSTC
Merika Moldau	MM	NDL Nord
Tago Moldau	TM	NDL Nord
Sari Nuotio	SN	FDF
Gerard Oijnhausen	GO	WOSD/IAHD
Kristian Peders	KP	SSDF
Jean Rondia	JRa	FEBRAS
Steffen Scholz	SS	VDST
Trond Skaare	TS	PADI EMEA
Mary Tetley	MT	BSAC

### **Associates**

Alexandre Belskyi	AB	NDL Russia
Liubov Erskova	LE	NDL Russia
Klaus Krützfeld	KK	Actinia
Boaz Mayzel	BM	TIDF
Don McGlinchey	DM	Actinia
Robert Van Dem Berg	RV	DAN EU

### **Observers**

Zeyad M El Bassel	ZE	CDWS Egypt
Peter Jonas	PJ	AS+/EUF Cert

### **Apologies**

Pascal Dietrich	PD	PADI EMEA
Kimmo Lahtinen	KL	ADA International
Jesper Rislov	JR	DSF
Guy Thomas	GT	DAN EU
Flemming Thyge	FT	DDI
Guido Wätzig	GW	SSI EU
Daniel Zuidema	DZ	DDI

## Minutes

1. The President welcomed delegates.
2. **Previous minutes** – approved with no corrections or matters arising not covered on the meeting agenda.
3. **President's report** – WM stated he had no report items not covered in the agenda.
4. **RSTC EU** – OM reported RSTC's main work since the last meeting was centred on pushing for a solution to the Spanish situation. This remains unresolved with a meeting planned for December and some optimism for progress in Q1 2014.
5. **CMAS EU** – J-LB explained CMAS and CMAS EU have had some problems and part of this is the membership of CMAS being restricted to one organisation per country. He further underlined the interests and involvement of CMAS EU in sporting activities. J-LB highlighted that CMAS EU did not and constitutionally could not represent the full range of EU diving organisations. He expected a new President to be elected at the CMAS EU General Assembly planned mid-December and hoped the relationship with EUF would continue to grow. As current CMAS EU delegate MF stated his hope that the changes in CMAS and CMAS EU management were positive signs for the future.
6. **Finance / membership** – MD reported a healthy financial situation. Presenting the accounts he asked that the meeting appoint auditors to perform the annual inspection. He reported rather spasmodic communications with ABRE regarding EUF's offer of financial support and stated the 5k€ had not yet been transferred as he still awaits documentation from ABRE. This sum will show as a debtor in the annual return together with payments to cover web site registration and hosting. Following audit, the accounts were subsequently recommended for approval and adoption by JG and SN, carried nemcon.
7. **EUF Certification International** – PJ reported that the six recently revised ISO diving standards were now in FDIS stage and he expected approval and publication in Q1 2014. The revision of the Service Provider standard is a current work item that will hopefully be completed at the next WG meeting. This revision has highlighted certain inconsistencies between the revised DL standard and the Introductory Diving standard, so the latter has also been opened for consequential revision. The Belgian Federation has successfully completed re-certification, a re-inspection is due for ANDI EU and a new audit is planned for GUE. ZE reported the current situation in the Egyptian dive market where the political situation has removed funding for the CDWS inspection and certification scheme. Sadly the downward trend in accident and complaint figures has been reversed in a very difficult market. Even with a relaxing of security there is a lack of flights and tourists, tempting too many operators to try and cut corners in an attempt to reduce costs. Following discussion it was agreed that EUF would write to the Minister of Tourism expressing our concerns and offering support to re-establish an audit programme (DE).

8. **EUF Website** – DE reported all the translations he had received were now published on the website. Members are reminded to provide links to [www.euf.eu](http://www.euf.eu) on their websites and to ensure their contact details were up to date on our site. Offers to translate static EUF documentation/text on the site would be welcomed.
9. **Membership** – DE had no outstanding membership business to report.
10. **Spanish certification recognition** – see RSTC report.
11. **IFSUA** – SN reported on a presentation by IFSUA during a recent Finnish event. As a result an approach had been made to EUF requesting support at EU political level on concerns affecting diving in protected marine zones. The meeting re-confirmed EUF's intention not to duplicate or contradict CMAS EU's interests in competitive and sports areas and re-iterated our support for underwater conservation. DE was requested to respond directing IFSUA to our Articles of Association, at the same time explaining we were happy for any alerts on threats to areas of diving we shared. The discussion on EUF's approach to competitive areas of diving and conservation also covered NDL's agenda item.
12. **Underwater hunting and Competitions** – this point was subsumed into agenda item 12.
13. **AOB** – MC reported on a progressive centralisation of PADI EMEA administrative operations to Bristol. DM reported on Actinia's acceptance as cover writers at Lloyds and consequent ability to provide tailored specialist cover within the diving market. DE described BSAC's data capture and analysis that resulted in its annual Diving Incident Report (previously circulated). Following considerable discussion on the possibility of a European wide system it was agreed that any such project would need credible background data on the size of the European diving population and their activities.
14. **Next meeting** – it was agreed the next meeting will be held 14/06/14 in Frankfurt to be hosted by VDST. The following meeting is planned for 29/11/14 in Vienna and will again be hosted by AS+.
15. **AS+, PJ and MD** were formally thanked for both organising and providing hospitality for the meeting.