



EUROPEAN NURSERYSTOCK ASSOCIATION

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Minutes of the ENA Secretaries Meeting held on-line on 26th November 2015.

Due to a security alarm in Brussels, the face to face meeting was cancelled and moved to an online meeting, scheduled in two sessions.

Morning session.

Present: Tim Edwards (UK – President), Marc Van Hulle (EU Legislation WG chairman), Mina Tsonkova (BG), Nele Lauwers (BE), Edoardo Sciutti (IT), Luis Martin (ES), Markus Guhl (DE), and Josep M. Pagès (Secretary General).

1. Apologies for absence.

Caroline Föllmi (CH), David Brown (UK), Maja Persson (SE), Ronny Berdinesen (NO), Bent Leonhard (DK) and Grzegorz Falkowski (PL). Nikos Thymakis (GR) intended to be present at the meeting but he was unable to hear or communicate due to technical problems.

2. Agreement of the Agenda.

The Agenda was agreed.

3. Minutes: approval of the minutes of the previous ENA Secretaries meeting held on 05-05-2015.

The Minutes were approved.

4. President's introduction.

President Edwards thanked all the attendants for being online and reminded the focus of this meeting was to prepare for the General Assembly.

5. ENA finances (Financial situation update)

The financial information updated to 31st October was previously available for ENA members on the private part of the website, SG summarized that costs are within budget and with regard to the pending income of membership fees he informed the meeting that Greece had paid half of its fee and there was no news from Hungary.

It was decided to send the financial statement ended 31st December 2015 to the accountants for authorisation, this will be presented to the GA for approval.

(Action: SG to send 2015 docs to Nele in early January.)

With regard to Hungary, SG informed he is in contact with two organisations (Western Transdanubian Nursery Association and Hungarian Ornamental Horticulturists Association) to bring them into ENA as successors of the Hungarian Alliance and Product Board of Propagating Materials Growers. It was decided to further search contacts within the Hungarian associations (action: President).

7. ENA EU Legislation Working Group:

Marc Van Hulle (EU Legislation WG chairman) introduced the discussion.

a. CN (Combined Nomenclature) Codes update

Edoardo Sciutti (IT) filled in the group with the most recent information as his organisation has been working with their Customs and Ministry authorities; he explained after the CN codes were recently published (Official Journal of the European Union 30.10.2015) the old and new codes will coexist for 2 months after entering in force in January 1st 2016.

Marc Van Hulle insisted this information should be communicated to the software companies to update the invoicing programs.

It was decided to further work on the document that defines the 2016 codes, making better explanations and adding practical examples; finishing it in December. (Action: Edoardo, WG Chairman, President, SG).

It was also decided to ask ENA members to identify the code groups they'd like to have in the future (for example a group for Palm trees); at the same time ENA will approach the EC (Edoardo will provide the contact) to ask if a wide renewal of the codes would be possible. The conclusions will be taken to the General Assembly.

b. Invasive Alien Plants

Marc Van Hulle (EU Legislation WG chairman) reminded about the information received and sent to ENA members and suggested to prepare a guideline of alternatives to IAS plants that European nurseries might include in their catalogues.

It was agreed to ask the ENA members about the official websites in their countries listing the IAS and to link them from the ENA website for members' reference.

Marc Van Hulle (EU Legislation WG chairman) volunteered to prepare a draft paper on IAS plant alternatives, to be circulated and submitted to the next GA.

SG informed no action from ENA members was required after sending out the draft list of IA plants of Union Concern and he also informed about the answer received from the EC to our letter on IAS.

c. Plant Health

SG informed the meeting that the reply from the EC about *Xylella* was received and summarized the broadcast of the disease. Edoardo Sciutti (IT) thanked ENA for the press release on *Xylella* and explained eradication programs are in force in Italy, the country has received EC inspections in many different regions to verify the national controls, R+D projects are starting and he expressed concerns about the outbreaks in France which buffer zone

enters into the Italian territory. He complained that France is requiring Plant Passport for species that don't need it and that some countries are advising their companies to not buy from Italy.

It was agreed the information ENA sends regularly about *Xylella* is useful and must continue. After a short discussion about the import controls, it was decided to lobby the EC for a common protocol at the BIP (border inspection point) on controlling plants arriving from outside the EU. It was also suggested to ask the EC for information about prevention in nurseries.

About the new EU Plant Health Regulation, SG informed we should wait until the end of the trialogues process to have the last official document.

Marc Van Hulle (EU Legislation WG chairman) highlighted the Phytosanitary Certificates requirements on PCN (*Globodera pallida* and *G. rostochiensis*) free status were not clear enough and it was decided to ask the EC for a written statement on how to proceed.

d. Plant Protection Products

Luis Martin (ES) asserted the lack of PPP is a major problem for nurseries and while the mutual recognition process might work, it is, by far, too slow. He asked ENA to organize a WG to speed up the processes. Nele Lauwers (BE) shared the list of participants in an international WG on minor uses that might be already doing the job.

New members:			
Dario Ivic	HR	CCAFRA – Institute for plant protection	dario.ivic@hcphs.hr
Mladen Simala	HR	CCAFRA – Institute for plant protection	mladen.simala@hcphs.hr
Miguel Vela	ES	FEPEX (producers association)	tecnicos@fepe.es
Pascal Braekman	BE	Departement Landbouw & Visserij, ADLO	pascal.braekman@lv.vlaanderen.be
Other participants:			
Maria Pastor	ES	Spanish Ministry of Agriculture	mpastor@magrama.es
Bénédicte Mary	BE	Comité régional phyto	benedicte.mary@ucloouvain.be
Bolette P. Neve	UK	Horticultural developm. Comp.	bolette.palle-neve@hdc.ahdb.org.uk
Jeanette Vriend	NL	LTO Glaskracht – groententeelt	vriend@ltooglaskracht.nl
Sanja Manduric	SE	Swedish board of Agriculture	sanja.manduric@jordbruksverket.se
José Van Bijsterveldt	NL	NVWA	j.e.m.vanbijsterveldt@nvwa.nl
Helma Verberkt	NL	LTO Glaskracht - sierteelt	hverberkt@ltooglaskracht.nl
Vivian Powell	UK	HDC	vivian.powell@hdc.ahdb.org.uk
Johanna Jansson	SE	Swedish board of Agriculture	johanna.jansson@jordbruksverket.se
Maria Hamacher	DE	Landwirtschaftskammer NRW	maria.hamacher@lwk.nrw.de
Jean-Claude Malet	FR	Ministry Agriculture	jean-claude.malet@agriculture.gouv.fr
Wilfried Hennes	DE	Landwirtschaftskammer NRW	wilfried.hennes@lwk.nrw.de
Giovanni Minuto	IT	CERSAA	Giovanni.minuto@sv.camcom.it
John Adlam	UK	Horticultural trades association	John@dovebugs.co.uk
Laurent Jacob	FR	Astredhor	laurent.jacob@astredhor.fr
Bert Coemans	BE	FPS, Public health	bert.coemans@health.fgov.be
Paul Venderbosch	NL	KAVB	venderbosch@kavb.nl
Mano Wick	DE	JKI-SF	mano.wick@jki.bund.de
Klaus Paaske	DK	AU	klaus.paaske@agmci.dk
Bruno Gobin	BE	Proefcentrum voor Sierteelt	bruno.gobin@pcsierteelt.be
Marc Vissers	BE	Proefcentrum voor Sierteelt	marc.vissers@pcsierteelt.be

It was decided to look at what is done by other groups and see how ENA can be involved and to ask the ENA members to identify the important issues for their nurseries to prepare a suggestion for the GA. (Action: Nele, Tim, Luis).

Afternoon session.

Present: Tim Edwards (UK – President), Marc Van Hulle (EU Legislation WG chairman), Mina Tsonkova (BG), Nele Lauwers (BE), Edoardo Sciutti (IT), Markus Guhl (DE), Alba Ridao (ES), Leon Smet (NL, Promotion WG chairman) and Josep M. Pagès (Secretary General).

6. Promotion WG

Leon Smet (Promotion WG chairman) summarized the Green City promotion project documents. He informed the meeting that multi-country programs will have priority to be funded by the EC (80%). The proposal is to focus on implementing B2B meetings during existing events (for example trade fairs, landscape architects events, etc.) to promote the need to have greener cities. He added that, so far, 10 countries have expressed their interest in participating (including France which is not an ENA member). It was agreed that outsourcing the program management and employing a professional to lead it would be advisable (cost could be around 15.000 € for the 3 years, the cost for just making the application will be asked for). ENA would be the applicant for the funding of the 3 years program.

Regarding the overall value of the program, it would depend on the amount of money raised from ENA members; for example if 10.000 € per year and organization were raised and we had 10 participating countries, the program could be of 500.000 € / year. It was clarified that each country will not have to contribute the same amount of money, it would depend on the interests of the country and the activities proposed.

It was agreed Leon and Tim will prepare a presentation of the project for the next GA, asking to the GA to approve ENA application for an EU promotion grant. Meanwhile a small group (Leon, Tim, Mina) will work before Christmas to nail down the project.

8. Environmental and Sustainable Certifications and Labels WG

SG informed the meeting that Mr Harm Horlings was going to join the face to face ENA secretaries meeting and, previously the same day also in Brussels, to participate in a meeting with FSI to look for cooperation possibilities, but since our meeting was cancelled he could not make it.

His goal is to find the system to the lowest common denominator for all certifications. It was agreed to invite ENA members interested in meeting to prepare a proposal. (Action: SG will convene.)

9. International Plant Names List WG

Leon Smet (WG chairman) informed the modifications will reach the final stage of discussion and within the next two weeks WG members are going to receive the final proposals from Dr Marco Hoffman (WG director). GA will be informed at its next meeting. It is expected to have the new books ready in March 2016.

10. Proposals from FEPEX (Spanish organization)

President Tim Edwards thanked Alba for the letter recommending work for ENA to undertake and encouraged other delegates to share their interests too. As three of the proposals were already discussed during the meeting, he focused on the two first proposals: 1) ENA to adopt a position against the further opening the EU market and 2) to present to the EC the idea of creating a package of support measures for the European flower and plant production sector. Some delegates expressed their opinions in favor or against the proposals and finally it was agreed to send out to the ENA members the letter from Spain, including the President's reply, asking for comments. (Action: SG).

11. European nurseries statistics

SG presented the provisional figures collected to the date, supplied by 80% of ENA members. (Action: SG to ask for data from pending countries and prepare them for the GA). Marc Van Hulle suggested adding wages into the questionnaire. Tim Edwards explained AIPH is trying to find some funding for their statistics publication and suggested that ENA might cooperate (action: Tim).

12. State of industry: short update

SG explained that some countries were concerned about the market evolution this autumn. It was decided to add areas of concern and numbers of closing/bankrupt nurseries to the template used to collect information about the market and to present the summary to the GA. It was expressed the infographic, summarizing it, was interesting.

13. Summer meeting 2016 (Bulgaria)

Mina Tsonkova (BG) presented the proposal for the summer meeting: 21 – 23 June, having the meeting in Sofia (1 night) and visiting nurseries around Veliko Tarnovo (1 night). All agreed the program looks great.

14. ENA 25th anniversary

A draft of the project to celebrate it, planting one tree in each country, was discussed. To define the audience of the activity, professional or general public, is needed. It was decided to ask ENA members for each country proposal for one site where to plant the tree and proposals for the site at the EU level (EU Parliament?) to be presented at the GA. It was agreed to celebrate the anniversary, the international planting chain, in middle October, on a working day, proposing Wednesday 19th October 2016. Action: SG to look for events around this date.

Leon suggested using the Jubilee of ENA to influence high level politicians, like ELCA has done making a statement for the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Paris.

15. Future election of President, Vice-President and Treasurer

It was decided to inform all members that ENA should have elections during the summer meeting, asking if anyone volunteer for the positions. SG reminded that, according to the article



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21 of the ENA statutes, the President is eligible for re-election once and the Vice-President is eligible for re-election twice.

16. Date of Next secretaries Meeting.

It was agreed to decide during the GA when to convene the next secretaries meeting, probably in May 2016 in Brussels.

17. AOB

- SG thanked ANVE (Italian organization) for their offer to host the meeting in Brussels.
- President encouraged members to participate at the AIPH dinner during IPM-Essen sharing an ENA table. Action: SG to send a reminder.
- Markus Guhl (DE) explained that the BdB-ENA reception at IPM will be organized as in previous years (Wednesday 27th January 2016). He also volunteered to check if there is an event at IPM during that night to have the secretaries gathering for dinner, if not he will book another place outside the trade fair.
- SG was asked to remove the information in the old website as it creates confusion because it is not updated.

Tim Edwards (UK – President) thanked everyone for the participation and adjourned the meeting at 15h40.

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Meeting Date	Meeting Duration	Number of Attendees	Meeting ID
November 26, 2015 9:07	183 minutes	11	620-458-237

Details

Name	Email Address	Join Time	Leave Time	Time In Session (minutes)
Edoardo		9:31 AM	12:09 PM	158
FEPEX - Luis Martin		9:54 AM	12:09 PM	135
Nikos		9:43 AM	10:05 AM	22
Josep M. Pages	ena@enaplants.eu	9:07 AM	12:09 PM	183
Marc Van Hulle	marc.van.hulle@sylvia.b	9:38 AM	12:09 PM	151
Markus Guhl		10:04 AM	12:09 PM	125
Mina (BG)		11:35 AM	12:09 PM	35
Mina Tsonkova (BG)		9:07 AM	11:33 AM	147
Nele Belgium		9:07 AM	12:09 PM	182
Nkos Thymakis	nikthymakis@gmail.com	12:00 PM	12:02 PM	2
Nkos Thymakis	nikthymakis@gmail.com	10:14 AM	10:15 AM	2
Tim Edwards		10:00 AM	12:09 PM	129

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Meeting Date	Meeting Duration	Number of Attendees	Meeting ID
November 26, 2015 1:52	116 minutes	8	138-158-813

Details

Name	Email Address	Join Time	Leave Time	Time In Session (minutes)
Edoardo		1:56 PM	3:43 PM	107
Alba Ridaó		1:53 PM	3:47 PM	115
Josep M. Pages	ena@enaplants.eu	1:53 PM	3:48 PM	116
Marc Van Hulle	marc.van.hulle@sylvia.b	1:53 PM	3:43 PM	111
Markus Guhl		2:48 PM	3:43 PM	56
Mina (BG)		1:56 PM	3:43 PM	108
Nele Lauwers		1:54 PM	3:43 PM	109
Tim Edwards		1:53 PM	3:48 PM	115
Leon Smet				