

ESBA – Meeting 23 February 2016

Discussion about the priorities

Presents

Full members:

For ArTUR – Sustainable Architecture (Slovakia), Hruby Sur 237, 90301 (Slovakia): Zuzana Kierulfova, President, and Marian Ontkoc, Vice-President

For ASBN - Austrian Straw Bale Network (Österreichisches Netzwerk für Strohballenbau), Baierdorf 6, 3720 Ravelsbach (Austria): Mr Herbert Gruber, President and Erwin Schwarzmüller, member

For COMPALHA – Associação para a bioconstrução com materiais naturais em Portugal (Portugal) : Mrs Catarina Pinto, President, represented by Rikki Nitzkin

For FASBA - Fachverband Strohballenbau Deutschland e.V., Auf dem Dörnberg 13, 34289 Zierenberg (Germany): Mrs Sissy Hein and Michael Fischer, Co-Presidents

For MSZE – Magyar Szalmaepitok Egyesulete – Hungarian Strawbuilders Association (Hungary), Jókai u. 14, 5650 Mezőberény: Igaz Titusz – Vice-President

For Ogólnopolskie Stowarzyszenie Budownictwa Naturalnego – OSBN, Ul. Szczera 23A, 02-482 Warszawa, (Poland) : Maciej Jagielak, President

For Promopaglia, Piazza Santa Maria Beltrade 2, 20123 Milano (Italy): Stefano Soldati, President

For Red de Construcción con Paja – RCP, Calle Julio Cesares 4, 28050 Madrid (Spain): Rikki Nitzkin, President

For RFCP – Réseau Français de la Construction en Paille, SCM Lejeune, 28 avenue Léon Blum, 31500 Toulouse (France) : Manas Melliwa and Dirk Eberhard, Co-Presidents, Noé, Caroline Daussin

For SBUK, Strawbale Building UK, 34 Rymill Close, Bovingdon, Herts, H03 OJA (United Kingdom): Eileen Sutherland

For Strobouw Nederland - SBN, Lage Biezen 1, 5465 PT Veghel (Netherlands): Mrs Audrey Vanden Heuvel, Secretary of the Board

Associate members:

For Le Gabion, 3 Impasse des Gentianes, 05200 Embrun (France): Richard Larcortiglia, President

For Paille-Tech srl, rue de la Glacerie 6, 5150 Franière (Belgium): Jean-Luc de Wilde, Member of the Board

4 themes firstly discussed

1. Communication

Internal communication: focus first on this during the first month. How will we talk to each other inside the group?

How to make decisions? Board or small groups?

Communication manager as member of the board?

Debate about the choice of the tools. Reaching people => selecting the means, ranking the way of working.

Need for an own cloud, if possible independent

Conflict resolution / conflict prevention

External communication

Corporate identity

2. Finance

Revenues

Fees: how much? Who pays? Decision to be taken in AGM

Exhibition, workshop, conferences

Crowdfunding

European grants – difficult to get without expertise

Working on a small groups with results in a group

Costs

Communication manager / coordination, facilitation of the groups

Question of sharing the work

ESBA in a sum of organisations. We need to be connected together before selling us externally.

Consolidating

Quantity of energy necessary for lobbying

No money for action if we do not

ESBG can be the first important source of funding

We need to make a budget, with the fees and other revenues

3. Board

More pyramidal or more horizontal?

3 WG? Financial, communication and representation

Concern with horizontal system: dilution of responsibility, no real leadership

Too many people to meet = costs, time consuming, inefficient

Concerns about pyramidal: too much power, people deciding too many things. But more efficient

First election till next ESBG (16 months instead of 2 years)

Mixing the 2 systems: use both and connect them. Sociocracy is to connect the two systems, to be better than pure horizontal or pure vertical. Inversed pyramid: the president is at the service to the board which is at the service of the assembly.

Make work the board: members of the board are equal, they commit and can lead working groups with resources outside the board.

Elections without candidates, as in France?

Use the skills in the best way

Major decisions in the board or in the groups?

4. Action programme

ESBG: perspective of international organisation. Important to be involved. Focus to professionals, straw building tours. Can focus all the energy of ESBA, because everything can enter in the project.

Research coordination programme

Skill exchange programme / pro training

Political lobbying

Publication

Databases are necessary

The question of funding is always related to the capacity of action.

Decisions about membership fee

Fee: OK

Differentiation between full members and associate members: OK

Differentiation between full members fee? Flat fee or sliding scale?

For full members: minimum membership fee: **400 €**

= regular fee. If impossible, ask a grant from other members

Donations from rich members are welcome

Sliding scale for associate members: OK. First: **150 €**

- Individuals
- Associations
- Companies
- Authorities

Question of the members: don't go to conflict with the National organisations

Caution: collecting money from many members takes time

Question of the expenses for knowing how much we need to collect: idea to adapt the expenses in function of the revenues, and to try to increase the revenues

Organisation of the board: pay fees to ESBA to pay travel costs of the Board members, or let the costs to National organisations?

Discussion about expenses: new table done (see Manas)

With the basic budget of about 5.000 € coming from fees, the **travel and accommodation of board members will be refund**, knowing that people will have to choose the cheapest way to travel and accommodate.

Board

First round

Herbert: in or not. But can work on projects, communication and database. Interest for skill exchange. Time from October to April

Manas: skills about coordination and animation. Candidate to the board. Regular time

Erwin: architect, main focus on EU funding, no focus on the board, but can offer skills on punctual basis

Rikki: limited time till September, excited by board participation but may be not now

Alessio and Letizia: concentration on ESBG and Promopaglia, sponsorship

Titusz: will not be board member – not enough experience in EU groups. But is OK to participate to research as architect. Will try to expand in Romania

Dirk: long experience, good connections. Have some time. Wants to be active in training and building practices. Part of programme group of ESBG

Zuzana: architect and NGO president. Some time to work in the board. Hard and efficient worker, creative, result oriented, EU projects.

Marian: architect, interest in research and new ways of working, EU funding

Caroline: can help in coordination

Stefano: interested in spreading the word for straw building. Has managed companies. Not sure be part of the board, but could help, namely in money.

Maciej: architect, designer of own projects, research PhD about strawbale building. Personal interest. Outside the board?

Richard: interested in research projects. Strawbale training. Not candidate for the board, but work on project.

Sissy: challenging to keep people together in Leonardo. ESBA will connect people and it is inspiring. Candidate, but very busy with her new project. Love structured and transparent work.

Michael: has a tax office in Germany and is registered as builder in France. Can serve as a bookkeeper (outside the board)

Audrey: likes to help other people. Builder. Likes to be in the EU movement. Arrange the things concretely in the board in Holland. Like to organise, PR, lobby, etc. 10 h/week to spend in ESBA. Likes responsibility

Eileen: training and education. Wants to be part in such a WG, for accreditation, courses for architects. No time for the board.

Peter: practical builder, research in real things.

Noé: why not in the board. Starting a new company. Project management. Not too much time.

Jean-Luc: consultant. Can become Secretary General if needed. Not candidate to the board on a voluntary basis.

Procedure for proposing candidates, with all people proposing others (no votes, only proposals from all the present people):

Candidates																
Stefano	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	15
Audrey		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1			1	1		1	11
Sissy	1		1	1	1	1	1		1	1		1	1	1	1	12
Manas	1			1		1		1	1			1			1	8
Maciej	1	1		1	1	1	1	1				1			1	8
Herbert	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	1	1	14
Noé		1	1							1	1					4
Eileen		1						1	1	1						4
Michael		1	1			1										3
Rikki			1	1		1	1				1					5
Dirk			1	1	1	1	1		1	1		1	1	1	1	9
Zuzana			1		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
Richard								1								1
Jean-Luc									1							1

Voting procedure on 10 candidates: 1 vote per full member organisation, possible vote for 10 or less candidates, necessity to receive 6 votes to be elected (11 member organisations voting). Results:

Board																
Stefano	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10
Audrey	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9
Sissy	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10
Manas		1	1	1					1	1						5
Maciej	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10
Herbert	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9
Noé	1		1													2
Rikki	1		1						1							3
Dirk	1		1		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	8
Zuzana	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10

The General Assembly elected a **Board** of 7 people to manage the association. It is composed by:

1. Mr Dirk Eberhard, 3 rue du Bac, 11300 Festes et St André (France), Co-President
2. Mrs Sissy Hein, Auf dem Dörnberg 13, 34289 Zierenberg (Germany), Co-President
3. Mr Maciej Jagielak, Slomiana 27/50, 30-316 Krakow (Poland), Co-President
4. Mrs Zuzana Kierulfova, Hruby Sur 15, 90301 (Slovakia), Co-President
5. Mr Stefano Soldati, Largo dei Cappuccini 2C, 33100 Udine (Italy), Co-President
6. Mr Herbert Gruber, Baierdorf 6, 3720 Ravelsbach (Austria), Treasurer
7. Mrs Audrey Vanden Heuvel, Mergelven 21, 5464 PV Veghel (Netherlands), Secretary

Done in Venice,

Jean-Luc de Wilde, secretary of the meeting