



EurEta I

European Higher Engineering and Technical Professionals Association
Europäischer Verband höherer Berufe des Ingenieurwesens und der Technik
Association Européenne des Professions Supérieures d'Ingénieurs et de la Technique

2006 Annual Report of the Board to the General Assembly

1. BACKGROUND

1.1. POINTS OF REFERENCE AND AWARENESS

EurEta is the organisation representing the higher educated engineers corresponding to the 4th level of the EU Directive on Professional Qualifications and will play an important and influential role as the pan-European professional body for higher engineering and technical professionals. In this context EurEta has deepened its awareness that

- a more consistent geographical and political representativity in Europe,
- a solid statutory base, with clear working relationships and methods,
- a wider statutory base, with two focuses: the one on registered engineers and the other on the political affairs and role it intends to pursue,
- a consistent and constant presence in Brussels makes the contacts and relationships with the European decision makers possible and easier and therefore its engineers' voice more heard,
- a stronger promotional activity with all effective instruments, starting from the most global one namely its website to be constantly updated, but also with conferences with major political involvement and related contacts),
- an internal more tolerant, open-minded, gentle and globally European-oriented attitude and working spirit as well as a clear and effective communication and
- a constant and strong financial discipline

are essential elements for and throughout its improvement and growing process.

2. RESULTS REACHED

- EurEta's General Assembly has approved on October 21st in Brussels its new strategy and the new version of its Statutes. These Statutes have been officially approved and will be applicable as from the 1st January 2007.

According to these Statutes, the European Higher Engineering and Technical Professionals Association (EurEta) is a non-profit making, non-political, but policy-making organisation formed to set European qualification standards for higher engineering and technical professionals, to represent these professionals and their official national Organisations on the European and World-wide level and to keep a European Register according to the level 4 set by the EU directives for those professionals, who need registration. There shall be an option to add separate Registers for other levels. The operational seat of EurEta is in Brussels.

Among the newest contributions, these Statutes bring:

1. The explicit reference to the 4th level of the EU Directive as area of importance for EurEta's representativity in Europe;
 2. The explicit reference to the possibility to open up to the third level of the EU Directive and the freedom to the engineers of this level to organise themselves under EurEta's International roof;
 3. The possibility to have a Political Committee, which, under the Board's guidelines, proposes, develops and follows up the education, mobility, professional and therefore political activities within the European and international scenario;
 4. The freedom for the National Member to focus on registration or not and therefore the obligation to pay to EurEta International solely the membership annual fee and not any more the registrants' fees. This choice takes into account the different national realities that have different approaches in this respect;
 5. The introduction of a voting system based on the type of membership (Members in Development vote at the General Assembly with one vote, Full National Members have two votes) and not on the number of registrants.
- With this new and solid statutory base, all members of EurEta, starting from the President and the General Secretary have started to get in contact with those countries that have shown in the past an interest for becoming members of EurEta as well as to a wide range of EU's Members in order to enlarge its representativity base and have a stronger voice in the EU's decision-making scenario. The solidity and clarity of intentions and orientations is the "business-card" also for the General Secretary, which is going to make the Statutes be known in Brussels at the appropriate venues.
 - The General Secretariat in Brussels has proved to be a central element to ensure the proximity to key people and institutions. Further more, meetings in Brussels have proved to be an excellent strategic opportunity to meet, at the same time, locally based Members of the European Parliament as well as spokespeople of other organisations, as the General Secretary of FEANI.
 - In terms of promotion, an important meeting has been organised in Italy, with the strong organisation of EurEta Italia, with a wide representation of several categories or highly educated technicians aiming at creating the "Common house of Engineers". FEANI's Secretary General was also present to talk about titles recognition. This kind of event makes EurEta's work visible and valuable to its engineers and to the international players. Further more, the website continues to be a very important instrument in a global era of electronic communication. It is regularly updated with the Members' contributions and it unceasingly proves to be an attractive link for the ones willing to know EurEta's activities and perspectives.
 - EurEta's Members have developed and its General Assembly has finalised and approved on October 21st in Brussels a sort of Code of Conduct, which entails and describes the communication and working rules to be applicable within the meetings as from the 1st of January 2007. The aim is to improve communication, ensure tolerance and respect of each member and to focus on the same objectives with internal and external harmony and cohesion.

- From the financial point of view, following the lesser income for the Association in the next future, a more restrictive use of the Association's resources shall get along with the decisions to be taken.

3. MISCELLANEOUS ON ACTIVITIES

During the year the following business meetings were held: In February the Board met in Baden (Switzerland); in June meetings of the General Assembly in Cagliari (Italy), Board and Registration Committee were kindly hosted in Cagliari, too; in December the Board's meeting was held in Brussels (Belgium). By this occasion, FEANI's local staffs were visited and interesting discussions have continued.

Links continue to be maintained with other European and international organisations. Apart from FEANI these include the European Society for Engineering Education (SEFI), the International Association for Continuing Engineering Education (IACEE), the European Council of the Liberal Professions (CEPLIS), and the Institute of Continuing Professional Development (ICPD).

Brussels on January 8th 2007