
**Business Meeting held in Uppsala (Sweden)
on 12 June 2008
during the 22nd EGF General Meeting**

President Göran Dalin was in the chair

Minutes

1. Opening

The President opened the meeting at 09.30 with a welcome to all participants.

2. Minutes of the Business Meeting held in Badajoz, Spain, 6 April 2006

The minutes of the previous Business Meeting had been on the notice board for everyone to read. There were no comments.

3. Report from the Executive Committee Meetings of 4 September 2007 (Ghent) and 10 June 2008 (Uppsala)

a) Symposium on 'Permanent and temporary grassland: plant, environment, economy'

The President reported that we had a successful symposium which was attended by 212 people. The Proceedings appeared as volume 12 in the EGF series 'Grassland Science in Europe'.

b) 15th EGF Symposium 2009

The Committee accepted the proposal for the 15th EGF Symposium on 'Alternative functions of grasslands' to be held in the Czech Republic, 2009.

c) 23rd EGF General Meeting 2010

The Committee invited Germany to prepare a proposal for the 23rd EGF General Meeting 2010.

d) Invitation for the 16th EGF Symposium 2011

Austria has expressed the willingness to organise the EGF Symposium in 2011. The Executive Committee supported this.

e) Invitation for the 24th General Meeting 2012

An official invitation for 2012 by Poland is to be expected. According to the Constitution, the final venue of a General Meeting should be made at a Business Meeting of a previous General Meeting.

f) Establishment of EGF Working Group on 'Grazing'

The request by Agnes Van den Pol-van Dasselaar (The Netherlands) to establish a new EGF Working Group on grazing was approved for a mandate period of four years. The Working Group will report every General Meeting.

g) EGF Fund

The balance is CHF 16 378.71. The Fund helps to cover administrative costs and occasional expenses by the Federation Secretary. The Fund is in a healthy state, with money coming in from meetings (10 CHF per paying participant) and from the post-conference sale of Proceedings.

4. Progress Report on the 15th EGF Symposium on 'Alternative functions of grasslands' to be held in the Czech Republic, 2009

Cagas, the symposium chairman, gave a short overview of the expected programme. He invited everybody to attend the Symposium in Brno, Czech Republic, 7-9 September 2009, and to send abstracts before 31 July 2008.

5. Arrangements for the 23rd EGF General Meeting 2010 proposed to be held in Germany

Isselstein presented an introduction to the meeting, to be held 30 August to 2 September 2010 in Kiel, Germany, at the Baltic Sea. The proposed theme of the meeting is 'Grassland in a changing world – meeting the requirements of producers, livestock, society and the environment'. Isselstein drew attention to the information flyer and invited everybody to attend the next General Meeting in Germany. Upon the suggestion of the Executive Committee the Business Meeting accepted with applause the invitation from Germany to host the 23rd EGF General Meeting.

6. Elections to the Executive Committee

a) President

The President himself was in the Chair during this item. He proposed Isselstein as new President for the period 2008-2010, which was met by approval from the audience. Past President Dalin continued to chair the Business Meeting.

b) Regional representatives

The following countries were elected in the Executive Committee to represent their region:

Northern Europe – Iceland

North Eastern Europe – Poland

Eastern Europe – Ukraine

South Eastern Europe – Serbia

The Federation Secretary will ask the national grassland societies from these countries to provide the name of their representative to the Federation Secretary as soon as possible. The President spoke words of thanks to Nesheim (Norway), Adamovic (Latvia), Razec (Romania) and Alibegovic-Grbic (Bosnia & Herzegovina) who represented these regions during 2004-2008.

c) Federation Secretary

Kessler was re-elected for a term of two years.

7. Reports

- a) Milne (UK), editor of Grass and Forage Science, reported that the journal's impact factor showed an upward trend. By achieving 1.04 the 1.0 barrier has been surpassed for the first time. The journal has 5 new associate editors and 10 new advisory editors.
- b) Taube reports that the 'Grassland re-sowing and arable rotation' working group had a meeting 2007 in Ghent and one here in Uppsala. The next activities will be a workshop in the Czech Republic 2009 and a meeting in Germany 2010. The new chairman of the working group will be David Hatch (UK).
- c) Elgersma reports on the progress of the working group on 'Analytical methods for measuring fatty acids in forage'. They had a workshop on Sunday in Uppsala with 23 participants. Future workshops are planned related to EGF conferences.
- d) van den Pol-van Dasselaar invited people interested in an EGF working group on 'grazing'. The kick-off meeting took place last Monday with 48 people participating. They decided to go on with van den Pol (The Netherlands) in the chair. People interested in the activities of the group are invited to contact her.

8. Any other business

Isselstein, the new EGF president, thanked Dalin, Nilsson-Linde and the Swedish team for hosting and organising this 22nd EGF General Meeting in Uppsala, Sweden.

9. Closing

Dalin closed the Business Meeting at 10.00.

[At the closing ceremony on the final day of the conference the EGF flag was lowered and passed on from Sweden to Germany. Isselstein warmly invited all participants to Germany in 2010 and thanked the Organising Committee of the 22nd EGF General Meeting for the job well done.]

Zurich, 30 July 2008

Willy Kessler
Federation Secretary