

**Management Board conference call (via GoToMeeting)  
Tuesday, 18 January 2020 at 11:00h**

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Agenda

- 1) EUBCE organization and objectives
- 2) Open discussion on the fees: Possibility to reduce the gap between Associate and Full members
- 3) Selection of date and format (one day or noon to noon) for the next Steering Committee meeting in Brussels

Participants: Andrea, Jaap, Julien, Rita, Margarita, Ana

**1) EUBCE organization and objectives**

EERA Bioenergy booth for EUBCE 2020 will be the number 40, close to the coffee station of the conference. The registration form to book the booth, provided by ETA-Florence, is completed in the absence of the specific requirements we could have. Andrea proposes the Secretariat to be in charge of the booth throughout the 3 days of the conference (as an extra service).

The MB members agree on the main objective of having a booth is meant to attract new potential members, showing the advantages of becoming an EERA Bioenergy member. Secondly, it is also meant to show EERA Bioenergy activities and the members' involvement in European projects thanks to their cooperation within the Joint Programme. Besides, as SPCs are willing to collaborate in the approach of the JP to potentially interested visitors, the booth could act as a meeting point for representatives of non-member entities who - eventually- could be interested in meeting them.

A brief brainstorming about the most suitable booth format to achieve these objectives takes place and some ideas rise, such as: Posters covering the booth walls focused in the different pillars of EERA Bioenergy JP, using a screen to show a video presenting EERA Bioenergy (which is considered too ambitious for April) and/or showing members' videos from their EU projects, some EERA Bioenergy gadgets to be distributed, leaflets and brochures, etc. After the discussion, Margarita is requested to:

- Inform the organization of the conference about the screen requirement to be installed in the back wall of the booth.

- Prepare a draft design of the booth that will be shared and further approved by the Management Board.
- Propose different gadgets to be distributed in the booth.
- Ask all EERA Bioenergy members about their videos from EU projects and their willingness to share them to be shown in the EERA Bioenergy booth.
- Collect as many members' project videos as possible to be shown on the booth screen.

## **2) Open discussion on the fees: Possibility to reduce the gap between Associate and Full members**

Associate members' fee is 500 €/year and Full members' fee is 2,500 €/year. Nowadays, the difference between each membership type is basically that Associate members don't have the right to vote when requested either become Subprogramme Coordinators. The MB agrees the gap between both fees seems too big compared to the 'just two' advantages of being Full member. Andrea proposes to increase the Associate membership fee and set it closer to Full members' fee. He understands it would encourage members to become Full members as well.

Margarita explains how the situation was in the past, the rationale for having two different types of members/fees: Only one entity per country was allowed to become a Full member. Then they had to act as an 'umbrella' organization for the rest of the member organizations from the same country. Thus, those organizations from the same country had to establish a kind of agreement with the Full member organization and then becoming an Associate member of EERA Bioenergy JP under the umbrella of the main organization. The JP information was sent to the umbrella organization and it was supposed to be circulated by the Full member among the Associate members from the same country.

After a brief discussion, most members of the MB agree on the convenience of decreasing the gap between both memberships' fees. Regarding the final amount to be set for the Associate members' fee, Jaap points out the increase needs to be justified by budgetary needs and perspectives (JP activities, etc.).

Finally, it's agreed more reflexion is needed, so it will be further discussed and concreted in the next Management Board meeting in the presence of all members of the Management Board, before proposing anything to the Steering Committee.

### **3) Selection of date and format (one day or noon to noon) for the next Steering Committee meeting in Brussels**

Rita proposes the date for the meeting could be close to the Subprogramme 5 physical meeting, which will take place on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of June in Brussels. On the other hand, Andrea asks about the preferred format for the next Steering Committee meeting. All attendant members of the Management Board agree on the noon to noon format, as it encourages networking activities.

Finally, the Management Board agrees on the days 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> of June for holding the noon to noon Steering Committee meeting. The date will be confirmed after consulting Jean and Francisco's availabilities.

Margarita is requested to ask about the availability for those dates of the missing Management Board members (Jean and Francisco) and the EERA aisbl meeting room.

The meeting finishes at 12:00 h.