

Executive Committee meeting December 3-4 2010,

Venmue: Mundo – B, Rue d'Edimbourg 26, Edinburgstraat, 1050 Brussels

Present: Michaela Moser (EAPN Au), Ludo Horemans (EAPN Bel), Douhomir Minev (EAPN Bul), Ninetta Kazantzis (EAPN Cy), Karel Schwarz (EAPN Cz), Per Thomson (EAPN Dk), Kart Mere (EAPN Estonia), Juha Mikonnon (EAPN Fin), Olivier Marguery (EAPN Fr), Alexander Kraake (EAPN Ger), Yota Arvaniti (EAPN Gre), Isabella Marton (EAPN Hu), Anna Visser (EAPN Irl), Letizia Cesarini Sforza (EAPN It), Arunas Svitojus (EAPN Lit), Giles Rod (EAPN Lux), Irene Schembri replacing Edgar Busuttil (EAPN Mal), Quinta Ansem (EAPN Net), Vigidis Von Ely (EAPN Nor), Kamila Plowiec (EAPN Pol), Julio Pavia (EAPN Por), Zuzana Kusa (EAPN Slovakia), Alen Novit replacing Ibrahim Nouhoum (EAPN Slov), Carlos Susias (EAPN Sp), Victor Momodu replacing Clare Caves (EAPN UK), Maciej Kucharczyk (AGE),

Apologies: Sonja Wallbom (EAPN Sw), Patricia Alert (ENOPF), Goran Larson (Salvation Army),

In attendance: Nazek Ramadan (Mainstreaming Group Migration), Staff Members: Fintan Farrell, Sian Jones, Vincent Caron, Tanya Basarab, Philippe Lemmens, Pauline Geoghegan, Amana Ferro, Nellie Epinat.

No response: Andreea Radut (EAPN Romania)

Key Decisions	Décisions clé
1. Exco members were reminded that they must send each year, an annual report from their Network and an updated membership list.	1. On rappela aux membres de l'Exco que chaque année ils doivent renvoyer un rapport mis à jour de leur réseau ainsi qu'une liste de leurs membres.
2. EAPN to continue to lobby with the Commission and Members States on the governance process and content of Europe 2020, particularly related to asking for engagement of national stakeholders in the NRP. Members would continue to press for engagement themselves. EAPN would respond to the Flagship Platform Against Poverty, with a particular focus on defending the Social OMC, and national engagement in broader national action plans for social inclusion and national strategies, as well as demands for concrete actions to deliver on rights. Members would be asked for input following publication on 16 December and a response developed to input to the SPC on the 20 January. Members would be asked to assess their NRPs and targets when the full reports were made available at the end of April.	2. EAPN continue de faire pression auprès de la Commission européenne et des Etats membres sur le processus de gouvernance et le contenu de la Stratégie Europe 2020, eu égard, en particulier, à l'implication des acteurs nationaux dans le Programme de réforme nationale (PRN). Les réseaux nationaux continuent de faire pression eux-mêmes pour cette implication au niveau national. EAPN répond à la Plateforme-phare de lutte contre la pauvreté, en insistant sur la défense de la MOC Sociale, l'implication nationale dans des plans d'actions nationaux intégrés et suivant des stratégies d'inclusion sociales nationales, et sur des demandes d'actions concrètes pour l'application des droits fondamentaux. Les membres d'EAPN sont priés de transmettre leurs contributions après la publication du 16 décembre, et une réponse développée pour la contribution d'EAPN, qui sera envoyée au

	Comité de Protection Sociale du 20 janvier. Les membres sont priés d'évaluer leurs PRN et objectifs quantifiés une fois les rapports complets publiés fin avril.
3. Exco members were asked to ensure that documents and products they produced specifically for the 2010 Year be sent to Nellie (nellie.epinat@eapn.eu) so that we can put them on the 'endpoverty' website.	3. Les membres Exco doivent s'assurer que les documents et produits préparés pour l'année 2010 soient envoyés à Nellie (Nellie.epinat@eapn.eu) pour pouvoir les mettre sur le site web (endpoverty).
4. Agreement was reached on the next steps to be taken (Dec and Jan) by EAPN in relation to the Europe 2020 and the Platform against Poverty.	4. Un accord fut trouvé concernant les prochaines étapes à suivre (déc. et jan) par EAPN par rapport à l'Europe 2020 et la plateforme contre la pauvreté
5. EAPN with the partners from the 2010 NGO Coalition should consider whether in 2011 to have a Human Ring around the European Council Building in order to highlight issues in relation to poverty, exclusion and inequalities.	5. EAPN avec les partenaires de la coalition 2010 des ONG devrait considérer si oui ou non il y aura une chaîne humaine autour du Conseil de l'Europe en vue de mettre l'accent sur des questions par rapport à la pauvreté, l'exclusion et les inégalités
6. Executive Committee members are requested to react to the draft EAPN statement on the 2010 Year before December 10 th , so that their comments can be taken into account in the final version to be distributed during the 2010 closing conference on December 17 th .	6. Les membres du Comité Exécutif sont priés de réagir au projet de la déclaration sur l'année 2020 avant le 10 décembre, de sorte que leurs commentaires puissent être pris en compte dans la version finale qui sera distribuée lors de la conférence de clôture 2010 le 17 décembre.
7. The proposal to keep the approach of National Focus weeks was agreed with in 2011 the following three common elements: 1) a way to highlight the Call for a Directive on Adequate income, 2) a link with the 2011 Year on Volunteer from a poverty and social exclusion perspective and 3) a reality check on the follow up of the 2010 Year. We need to discuss this in more detail at the February Executive. We should keep a similar calendar of national focus weeks as in 2010, though a few changes may be required and it might be better to find another name than National Focus week. Just like in 2010 it will be up to each Network to decide what is appropriate for their country.	7. La proposition de garder l'approche des semaines thématiques nationales en 2011 fut acceptée avec ces trois éléments 1) un moyen de mettre l'accent sur l'appel d'une directive sur le revenu adéquat 2) un lien avec l'année 2011 sur le volontariat d'une perspective de pauvreté et d'exclusion sociale 3) une vérification de la réalité sur le suivi de l'année 2010. Nous devons discuter ceci plus en détail lors de l'Exco de février. Nous devrions garder un calendrier similaire des semaines thématiques comme en 2010, avec quelques modifications et peut-être une autre dénomination. Comme en 2010 chaque réseau devra décider ce qui est approprié pour son pays.
8. Based on the inputs already received in	8. Basé sur les données déjà reçues par

<p>relation to the next strategic plan including the discussions at this Exco: the Bureau with support from the secretariat should develop a first draft of the new EAPN Strategic plan to be the base for discussions at the extended Exco meeting in February. This document should in so far as possible outline possible scenarios for how EAPN could change its working methods in the future.</p>	<p>rapport au prochain plan stratégique y compris les discussions de l'Exco, le Bureau devrait avec le support du secrétariat préparer un premier projet du nouveau plan stratégique qui servira de base pour les discussions lors de l'Exco de février. Ce document devrait dans la mesure du possible dessiner les scénarios possibles quant aux changements des méthodes de travail futurs d'EAPN.</p>
<p>9. It was agreed that the secretariat should produce a document which outlines how major decisions were taken in EAPN in the past 5-6 months so as to help to concretely show how governance works in EAPN.</p>	<p>9. On décida que le secrétariat doit préparer un document qui montre comment les décisions majeures furent prises à EAPN dans les derniers 5-6 mois de sorte à montrer comment fonctionne concrètement la gouvernance chez EAPN.</p>
<p>10. The five case studies on National Networks had not been discussed in the meeting and the members of the Exco were invited to look at the document in preparation for the next meeting on the strategic plan.</p>	<p>10. Les cinq études de cas sur les réseaux nationaux n'avaient pas été discutées lors de la réunion et les membres de l'Exco furent invités à consulter ce document en préparation pour la prochaine réunion sur le plan stratégique.</p>
<p>11. Exco members were invited to submit case study contributions for the next participation book by 10th January.</p>	<p>11. Les membres d'Exco furent invités à soumettre des contributions des études de cas pour le prochain livre sur la participation au plus tard le 10 janvier.</p>
<p>12. The remaining four networks were asked to send figures of their 2009 budget for purpose of monitoring.</p>	<p>12. Les quatre réseaux restants furent demandés d'envoyer les chiffres de leur budget 2009 pour les besoins de monitoring .</p>
<p>13. The Exco discussed the need to support the preparation and integration of the work for the EU meetings of people experiencing poverty in the participation work of the National Networks, and to work together with the National Coordinators on that.</p>	<p>13. l'Exco a discuté du besoin de soutenir la préparation et l'intégration du travail pour les réunions UE des personnes en situation de pauvreté dans le travail de participation des réseaux nationaux et de travailler conjointement avec les coordinateurs nationaux à ce sujet.</p>
<p>14. Exco members were reminded to make sure that there is a quick follow up in 2011 on the reporting and financial justifications needed under the 2010 contracts.</p>	<p>14. On rappela aux membres de l'Exco de s'assurer qu'il y ait un bref suivi en 2011 sur les rapports et les justifications requises sous les contrats de 2010.</p>
<p>15. A list of membership contributions received in 2010 was distributed and Exco members were asked to respond if their Network has not made a contribution in 2010.</p>	<p>15. Une liste des contributions des membres reçus en 2010 fut distribuée et les membres d'Exco furent demandés de répondre si leur réseau n'a pas encore fait une contribution en 2010.</p>
<p>16. EAPN Fund: Exco members were asked</p>	<p>16. Fonds EAPN: On demanda aux</p>

<p>to try to arrange all or any of the following: 1) A donation from the National Network, 2) A donation from participants to the European Meetings of People Experiencing Poverty 3) to try to identify one Institution (Foundation, NGO...) who would make a donation. All donations received to the Fund before the end of January 2011 will be permanently recorded as the original donors to the Fund. Information about how to make donations is available in the Fund leaflet.</p>	<p>membres de l'Exco d'arranger en partie ou intégralement: 1) une donation du réseau national 2) une donation des participants de la rencontre des personnes en situation de pauvreté 3) d'essayer d'identifier une institution (fondation, ONG....) qui ferait une donation. Toute donation reçue par le Fonds avant la fin de janvier 2011 sera enregistrée comme donneur original du Fonds. Les informations sur les donations se trouvent dans la brochure.</p>
<p>17. There was a request that the Exco receive a report on how the resolutions agreed at the GA 2010 have been followed up</p>	<p>17. Il y a eu une demande que l'Exco reçoive un rapport quant au suivi des résolutions prises à l'AG de 2010.</p>
<p>18. Julio, Ninetta, Ludo, Quinta, Letizia, Vigdis and Fintan agreed to be an informal group to help with the preparation of the 2011 GA.</p>	<p>18. Julio, Ninetta, Ludo, Quinta, Letizia, Vigdis et Fintan étaient d'accord de former un groupe informel en vue de la préparation de l'AG 2011.</p>
<p>19. <i>Letter from Structural Funds Task Force</i> requesting that there be a joint conference on the Crisis involving the 3 EAPN working Groups attached to the GA. There was agreement to the idea behind this proposal but it was thought not best to link it to the GA as such a conference would be best held in Brussels. The Secretariat to come back with a proposal.</p>	<p>19. <i>Lettre de la Task Force Fonds Structurels</i> demandant qu'il y ait une conférence commune sur la crise impliquant les trois groupes de travail d'EAPN attaché à l'AG. Il y avait un accord sur l'idée derrière cette proposition mais on décida de ne pas l'attacher à l'AG car il serait mieux de tenir une telle conférence à Bruxelles. Le secrétariat devrait faire une proposition.</p>

Friday 3 Dec (14.00 – 15.30) Chair: Ludo Horemans

1) Welcome: Ludo particularly welcomed Giles who will replace Karin as the Exco member from EAPN Luxembourg. He asked Giles to pass on our thanks and best wishes to Karin.

2) Approval of the Agenda: Agenda was approved. Letter from EAPN Structural Funds Group will be addressed under item about the 2011 GA.

3) Approval of the minutes and matters arising: The minutes from 23-24 April and from 9 June were approved. Matters arising: It was noted that there had been a discussion about Extreme poverty in the social inclusion working group but that we still hadn't allocated time for this discussion to happen at the Exco. Exco members were reminded that they must send each year an annual report from their Network and an updated membership list.

4) EAPN 2010 Work Programme Policy Issues: The Policy Brief sent before the meeting was used as a background for this item. Sian presented a power point to further update the Exco members on the latest developments on the Europe 2020 Strategy. She asked for feedback from members on attempts to engage in the current process. However, all members were having difficulties. Spain has had discussions with its representatives, but still without a clear process. She then outlined a proposal and time line for EAPN actions in December and January in relation to the next steps in the Europe 2020 and the Platform against Poverty. This proposal was accepted by the members of the Exco.

The main actions agreed were to continue to lobby with the Commission and Member States on the governance process and content of Europe 2020, particularly related to asking for engagement of national stakeholders in the NRP. Members would continue to press for engagement themselves. EAPN would respond to the Flagship Platform Against Poverty, with a particular focus on defending the Social OMC, and national engagement in broader national action plans for social inclusion and national strategies, as well as demands for concrete actions to deliver on rights. Members would be asked for input following publication on 16 December and a response developed to input to the SPC on the 20 January and follow up to the other key proposals. Members would be asked to assess their NRPs and targets when the full reports were made available at the end of April. The EXCO agreed that it was a priority to inform and capacity build with members, once the new process/content became clearer. The secretariat will develop a briefing.

5) Mainstreaming Groups:

5.1) Globalisation and Poverty: This group addressed four key areas:

a) Sharing of information: Members of the group exchanged re contacts they have developed with organisations working on development or global issues. Fintan gave an update on our contacts at European level with: Dignity International (Partners meeting in Brazil and Human Rights training in Malaysia), Action Aid (proposal to do some shared work on participatory budgeting), Cross Networking (proposal to establish a European Finance Watch), Euromemorandum Group (working on ECOFIN), Spring Alliance/Civil Society Contact Group (work on Europe 2020), Council of Europe (project on Human Rights and Poverty). The members of the group requested that they be kept more informed and engaged with these developments and that we needed a way to keep the broader EAPN members informed about this area of work of EAPN. Fintan agreed that it has been difficult to find the time for this communication but he also reminded that some of this information is available in the EAPN Flash.

b) EAPN Discourse on Globalisation. Fintan gave a hand out on the presentation that he did recently on globalization and poverty. It centers around three aspects: 1) promoting a Human Rights approach, 2) Migration policies and 3) Balanced social-economic development with more engagement with economic policies.

c) Up coming actions/requests: 1) Migration Seminars with (EAPN/PICUM, EWL and Médecins du Monde), 2) Request from Cross Networking partners to be involved in a project on Food Sovereignty, 3) Involvement in World Social Forum with Dignity International and a manifestation on land rights run by their Indian partner. The members wanted more information about the proposal re Food security and there was support for EAPN to be involved in the WSF: Fintan to follow this up.

d) Consultative Status with UN: Fintan to follow this up.

5.2) Discrimination and Poverty (Racism and Migration)

This group addressed 3 main issues:

a) Peer Review on Migrants' integration into the labour market. Nazek spoke about this peer review she attended in Oslo (Norway) on 17 and 18 November. Vincent outlined the main topics addressed in EAPN draft Paper for this Peer review. It was an opportunity for Members to make comments on this draft and to exchange on the key challenges and obstacles encountered by Migrants while trying to get integrated into their host countries. The right based approach has been highlighted as a pre-requisite. The role of the education system should be also better stressed.

b) Brainstorming session on the follow up of the Migration conference: The migration Conference was seen as very useful to get NNs more involved in this topic by raising awareness on the challenges and difficulties encountered by migrants throughout in the EU. Nonetheless, a consensus emerged from the discussion: EAPN is a general network not expert on migration. Thus, further work on migration should be done in coordination with NGOs dealing with migration. In our work, a balance should be found between discrimination and migration so as to fight against discrimination towards all vulnerable groups of people (Migrants, Roma, Gypsies...).

c) Presentation of upcoming events: Vincent spoke briefly about the 2 events on undocumented migrants organised in partnership with PICUM, EWL (the European Women Lobby), and Médecins du Monde on December 8 (multi-stakeholder meeting on the inclusive growth pillar of EU2020 and undocumented migrants and a public hearing at the European Parliament on Access to health care for undocumented women and children).

Regarding the Group's priority for 2011:

- a paper on good and bad practices regarding migrants' integration
- to work further on the question of Roma inclusion together with other EU networks.

5.3) Discrimination and Poverty (Gender and Demographic change)

As Karin Manderscheid, former Chair of the Group, is no longer an EXCO member, the first order of business was to elect a new Chair. Quinta Ansem, from the Netherlands, was chosen with unanimity of votes. As usual, the session commenced by an exchange of information regarding new information at national level. This is a useful process in itself, but also in order to help Group members to better understand what is our rhetoric, as EAPN, regarding Gender, Age and Demographic change, as well as the challenges that we are facing.

Amana gave an update regarding EAPN's presence at the CARE annual conference of the Social Platform), where we ere represented by Letizia Cesarini-Sforza and a project from Italy – Provincia di Siena. Updates were also provided on the state of play of the Maternity Leave Directive, as well as EAPN's participation in the NGO Coalition for the European Year 2012, dedicated to Active Ageing.

Regarding the Groups' priorities for 2011, it was decided that:

- the paramount priority is finalising a position paper, putting out our standpoint on the issues the Group works on;
- we need to look more into violence against women and how it impacts poverty;

- we should find better ways of mainstreaming our concerns in the general EAPN work.

Points of action: Members to look through the EPAP and their country's NRPs and prepare a short bullet point input on how GADC are taken up in these documents, for the February EXCO.

Saturday 4 Dec (9.30- 13.00) Chair – Ludo Horemans

6) 2010 Year:

6.1) Update on developments in the 2010 Year: Pauline Gave a quick update on developments in the 2010 Year including information about the Human Ring around the European Parliament, the closing conference for the Year and the AGORA to be held in the Parliament on 27-28 January. She also reminded Exco members that we want the 'endpoverty' website to remain as an achieve of NGO activities and contributions to the 2010 Year. Exco members were asked to ensure that documents and products they produced specifically for the 2010 Year be sent to Nellie (nellie.epinat@eapn.eu) so that we can put them on the 'endpoverty' website. The idea that we should repeat the Human Ring focusing on the European Council in 2011 was launched.

6.2) Presentation and discussion of draft evaluation: Pauline reminded Exco members of the overview document on Evaluations that had been sent before the Exco meeting. This overview document will be further developed with inputs from the NGOs in the 2010 Coalition and will be presented at the Closing Conference of the 2010 Year. She also distributed a document at the meeting which included all the answers received from members about the 2010 Evaluation. This document will be sent electronically after the meeting. Exco members who have not already completed their input for this evaluation were reminded to do so as soon as possible. Please note that the full evaluation document with the inputs from the individual Networks and Organisations will be made available publically.

6.3) EAPN statement on the 2010 Year: The background to the EAPN Statement for the end of the 2010 Year was explained (the draft statement had been sent before the meeting). In the discussion proposals were made to adjust the statement as follows:

- Add the Presidency to the list of stakeholders identified
- Add 'more state revenue by taxing...'
- Add Fight against tax havens and against the shadow economy
- Add new alliances: the economic sector' and 'organisations against unemployment'
- Add a platform for the implementation of Services of general interest.
- National Action Plan for Social Inclusion should be reinforced by the EU level, complementing the national Reform programmes.
- Stress the need for the development of more transnational exchanges as a basis for better EU construction
- Strengthen section on the participation of people experiencing poverty
- Make a greater reference on the need to combat inequality

Executive Committee members are requested to react to the draft statement before December 10th, so that their comments can be taken into account in the final version to be distributed during the 2010 closing conference on December 17th. The secretariat was asked to adjust the statement in line with the comments made at the Exco.

6.4) Discussion and decision re continuation of 'national focus weeks': A proposal was made to maintain a type of 'national focus week approach' in 2011, obviously less intensive than in 2010 and as always up to the Network what they can do. But the idea was that the focus weeks in 2011 would have three common elements: 1) a way to highlight the Call for a Directive on Adequate income, 2) a link with the 2011 Year on Volunteer from a poverty and social exclusion perspective and 3) a reality check on the follow up of the 2010 Year. In the discussion that followed the following points were made:

- Mixed views about the idea: the focus weeks were important for cooperation and interaction between networks which is positive but it is difficult to pick a week when other things are happening, e.g. around October 17th.
- The symbolic transfer between Networks is considered to be very good.
- Focus weeks should be linked to other planned events.
- Focus weeks are a good idea; we should do this again, the Italian network already had the idea to repeat this next year.
- It proved to be a good way to link with other organisations.
- The issue to be tackled during the focus weeks could be linked to the Platform against Poverty, but networks should decide on the issue they wish to work on.
- National focus weeks are important.
- Need to look at practical aspects of visits during the national focus weeks to share the basis of knowledge and good practice, and to strengthen links (for example Norway and Estonia strengthened their links due to the national focus weeks).
- It was good that EAPN get engaged in the Year against Volunteering and should clarify what it means by volunteering. We need also to address some concerns including: There are concerns in some countries that governments could use volunteering to justify cuts in vital services: Worries about the ethos and image of volunteering.
- Focus weeks are good: forced to do something
- Easier to get attention of the media for one week rather than throughout the YEAR
- Easier to get international exchange
- Problems can be that we need something to do, that 'being pushed could backfire', and that money is needed to do anything.
- Need to do innovative things (not just conferences)
- Before we decide we should look at the positive and negative experience of the European year to see what worked best, for example financial support should be linked to the needs of the networks.
- In Bulgaria where there are problems in getting people to acknowledge poverty and its definition: 6 events were organised during the national focus week, and they went very well.
- In Slovakia there was a focus on people experiencing poverty and the participation on NGOs which was developed through the focus week.

- In Denmark there had been three big conferences aimed at getting the government to acknowledge that poverty exists. They had good media coverage, giving the network more visibility, so their activity has increased, so the National focus week has been a good tool.

The conclusion of the discussion on the national focus weeks was to go forward with the proposal made, to discuss this in more detail at the February Executive. We should keep a similar calendar of national focus weeks as in 2010, though a few changes may be required and it might be better to find another name than National Focus week. Of course just like in 2010 it will be up to each Network to decide what is appropriate for their country. While a focus on the Platform against Poverty would be a good during each National Focus week it was acknowledged that the Platform against Poverty is likely to be central to the overall work of EAPN in 2011 and beyond.

7) Evaluation and Strategic Planning Follow Up

The discussion on follow up of evaluation and strategic planning was based of the following documents that were sent before the meeting: the minutes of the 2010 GA, EAPN Mission, Vision and Values, A document 'Update on developments of the next EAPN Strategic Plan, The EAPN Participation Strategy and the Case Studies on the 5 Networks. Fintan and Tanya introduced the back ground to the item and then the Executive Committee split in three Groups to discuss the following issues:

- Confirmation of vision, mission and values
- Agreement of criteria to assess our decisions about strategic changes to make in the context of our next strategic plan (see draft criteria in document)
- Goals for the next ten years: What do you want EAPN to achieved in the next 10 years
- Concrete key ideas for change (for example: You can not be a member of the Executive Committee for longer than 6 years without a break, build the structure of the Network around regional Networks...)

The Feedback from the Groups was as follows:

Confirmation of vision, mission and values:

- Equality and fighting inequality should be the base in the whole document.
- include: and adequate minimum income for a dignified life in the vision
- Belief in democracy should be visible in the vision.
- add political rights to the vision
- Develop for social welfare protection support (in the mission).
- In the Mission do bullets speak to clear work areas? – examine phrasing (among the 4 bullets, some overlap)
- Building on transnational learning from each other should be in the mission
- The mission of EAPN should not only be about information/awareness raising but also about producing knowledge.
- Value number 5 should be rephrased to include any kind of discrimination

- Values should include references to Transparency in how democracy functions, decides and how, i.e. democracy at EU and National levels
- Add to values: EAPN believes in every person enjoying a dignified life
- Concrete proposals for wording changes in the Vision, Mission and Values Document are included in annex 1 to these Minutes.

Agreement of criteria to assess our decisions about strategic changes to make in the context of our next strategic plan (on the bases of the document provided before the meeting):

- Cluster criteria into 5-6 maximum.
- Prioritize three criteria from the list:
 - participation of people experiencing poverty at all levels
 - Draw on national realities for EU and lobbying/national advocacy
 - Capacity building - explain European initiatives nationally – accessible/useful tools.
- Make a strong introduction and generally the language should be stronger, more positive, more uplifting.
- Combine points 2 +6 + 11 and points 9 + 4 + 14
- Points 3 and 13 are important.
- Point 11: Work of EAPN reflect national policy processes: change to raise national issues at EU level.

Goals for the next ten years: What do you want EAPN to achieve in the next 10 years:

- In 10 years each National Networks have sufficient funding for at least 1 staff person
- Ensuring well developed and financially sustained national networks.
- Transnational exchange between countries/project driven – each NN should be involved in at least 1 project
- Strengthen grassroots reach of NNs (membership development).
- EAPN to become the expert in the knowledge about poverty and social exclusion, providing new sound bases for the political decision process.
- More radical approach to formulating policy goals: e.g. contribute to changed model of development – reflect how to organize our policy work to this alternative way
- EAPN to lobby, guide and influence the Europe 2020 Strategy to ensure targets of poverty reduction are met
- Universal access to services (childcare)
- Mainstreaming social dimension in all EU policies

Concrete ideas for change:

- The Secretariat should produce a list of major decisions in the last 6 months to understand how this process works in practice.
- Develop an organizational chart on how the democratic process is set up within EAPN and make concrete suggestions how to improve the governance (also looking at development and communication).
- Check the Budapest GA proposal on prioritizing and working with documents.
- Should include a bureau of 7 members
- Revisit the criteria for membership in the Exco and other groups to rearticulate questions of decision-making and what strategies are needed.

- Need of Exco training (also for the new members) how to be an Exco member, Member of a group, what are the problems, how to deal with different levels of knowledge.
- Not just training for Exco should be developed but also for the Bureau – members of this group should be selected based on skills needed, not based on titles.
- Specific training for new actors to facilitate member engagement. Induction training and mentor programme.
- More focus on capacity building – NN develop paid staff resources Both internal and external communication should be looked at – develop mutual support – it should be shorter, clearer, more intensive
- Develop new working methodology of engaging volunteer member (e.g. revise working with documents)
- Develop concrete tools – counterarguments against dominant agenda supporting members in their discussions with national authorities, inspired from alternative economists and other groups
- “privileged partnerships” between national networks, common projects
- communication tools to mobilise grassroots groups/members.

Based on this report back and the other inputs received to help develop EAPN, the Bureau with support for the secretariat should develop a first draft of the new EAPN Strategic plan to be the base for discussions at the extended Exco meeting in February. This document should in so far as possible outline possible scenarios for how EAPN could change its working methods in the future.

It was agreed that the secretariat should produce a document which outlines how major decisions were taken in EAPN in the past 5-6 months so as to help to concretely show how governance works in EAPN.

Saturday 4 Dec (15.30- 17.30) Chair Izabella Marton

8) EAPN Work Programme 2010: Development and Communication Issues:

- **Funding.** Funding briefing 2010, including focus on project work (sent)
- **Enlargement.** Update on Enlargement (Sent)
- **Participation.** Paper on ‘Small Steps Big Changes’ edition two
- **Communication.** EAPN Questionnaire on Communication (to follow)

8.1) Presentation of the funding briefing drew attention of the Exco to the following:

- Attendance of yearly funding seminar is under expectations and Networks need to review this for 2011
- EAPN will respond more to projects with possibility of getting funds for National Networks to manage and participate in projects
- Budget for 2009 has not been submitted by all Networks which undermines the monitoring and lobby process
- EAPN Europe is actively lobbying for a better PROGRESS Programme

- In 2011 the national funding lobby action will be carried out across Europe, with Networks calling for public funding of their engagement with policy making;

8.2) Enlargement. An enlargement briefing was presented, highlighting the EAPN support to creating national anti poverty networks in Latvia, Serbia, Macedonia and Iceland. Contacts with Turkey and Croatia are kept.

8.3) Participation. The Exco members were informed of all the work on participation and they were invited to contribute to the follow-up book on participation: Small steps – big changes, particularly focusing on training, models of structures or methods of integrating people experiencing poverty and social exclusion in the work of national networks. The background document was disseminated and Exco members were invited to contribute until the 10th January.

As follow-up to the European Meetings of People Experiencing Poverty, Exco members were asked to support National Coordinators and to integrate people who go through the preparatory process in the work of the Networks. EAPN Italy and EAPN Hungary stressed the importance of working together and of not creating two competing types of membership in national networks.

9) Financial Report

9.1) *Realised Budget 2010:* Philippe gave information on the realized budget for 2010. He stressed that in order to stay in budget and meet our co funding requirements that it is essential that the Networks deliver on the commitments in their contracts with EAPN. A list of membership contributions received in 2010 was distributed and Exco members were asked to respond if their Network has not made a contribution in 2010.

9.2) *EAPN Fund (see leaflet):* Fintan reminded the Exco members of the information that is in the EAPN Fund leaflet and that the Fund is now open. He said that in 2011 EAPN would engage the support of professional fundraisers to help to develop a fund raising strategy. EAPN will not develop a public profile for the fund (for example make it visible on our website) until we have engaged and had the advice of such professionals. The original donation to the fund comes from EAPN (50.000 Euro). We have a limited appeal for donations to the fund up until the end of January 2011. We ask Exco members to try to arrange all or any of the following: 1) A donation from the National Network, 2) A donation from participants to the European Meetings of People Experiencing Poverty 3) to try to identify one Institution (Foundation, NGO...) who would make a donation. All donations received to the Fund before the end of January 2011 will be permanently recorded as the original donors to the Fund. Information about how to make donations is available in the Fund leaflet.

10) GA 2010 and 2011

10.1) *Follow up from GA 2010*

- ***Minutes of GA 2010 (sent previously):*** There were no corrections proposed to the minutes

- **Report of Migration Conference at GA and EAPN Migration Position Paper:** The report will be available in early Jan. The proposals for adjustments for the Position paper will be discussed at the February Exco meeting.
- **Final Declaration Change of procedure:** The Bureau will make a proposal to the February Exco
- **Resolutions agreed at the 2010 GA:** Quinta asked that the Exco receive a report on how the resolutions agreed at the GA have been followed up.

10.2) GA 2011

- The GA will be held in Portugal and they have provided a first draft for the Agenda. The following people agreed to be an **email group to develop the agenda:** Julio, Ninetta, Ludo, Quinta, Letizia, Vigdis and Fintan.
- **Exco Meeting after the GA:** It was agreed that an Exco meeting to follow immediately after the GA should be arranged.
- **Letter from Structural Funds Task Force** requesting that there be a joint conference on the Crisis involving the 3 EAPN working Groups attached to the GA. There was agreement to the idea behind this proposal but it was thought not best to link it to the GA as such a conference would be best held in Brussels. The Secretariat to come back with a proposal.

11) AOB

The Calendar of EAPN meetings for 2011 was distributed. Please note that this calendar is available on the members section of the EAPN Website.

12) Evaluation:

Carlos congratulated the Secretariat on all the work done in 2010. Quinta said it was important that we take the time to develop the Exco as a coherent group.

Annex 1: Specific word changes proposed for the Document on Vision Mission and Values (proposed additions included in red)

The European Anti Poverty Network (EAPN) is working for a Social **and Democratic** Europe free of poverty and social exclusion with access to economic, social and cultural rights for all. To achieve this we seek a fair distribution of wealth, accessible quality employment, high levels of social protection, **access to health, education, social services**, the combat of discrimination and the meaningful participation -through the organisations in which they participate- of people experiencing poverty and social exclusion.

EAPN aims to be recognised as a key organisation defending the interests of people experiencing poverty and social exclusion with visibility at all levels (local, regional, national, EU)

Mission:

EAPN is committed to the eradication of poverty and aims to put the fight against poverty, social exclusion **and inequality** at the top of the political agenda of the European Union.

In order to achieve this ambition EAPN has set itself the following mission:

- To promote and enhance the effectiveness of actions against poverty, social exclusion and **inequality**
- To disseminate information and to raise awareness of issues relevant to the fight against poverty, social exclusion and **inequality**
- To help shape appropriate social policies and action programmes
- To lobby for and with people and groups experiencing poverty, social exclusion and **inequality**
- **To create the knowledge about causes and consequences of poverty, social exclusion and inequality.**

EAPN Values:

- EAPN believes that poverty and social exclusion are a denial of fundamental human rights and thus a failure to respect and protect human dignity
- EAPN believes that poverty and social exclusion arise from complex and multidimensional processes that cannot be dealt with in isolation or on the margins.
- EAPN believes in the possibility to achieve a better sharing of wealth, opportunities and resources.
- EAPN believes in gender equality.
- EAPN believes in respect for cultural and religious diversity and non-discrimination on the grounds of sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age, sexual orientation or social origin.
- EAPN believes in the richness of language diversity in the European Union.
- EAPN believes in the organisation of our work in a democratic and transparent way, which respects the different specific tasks of the different bodies that make up the Network.
- EAPN believes that people have the right to influence and participate in the decisions that affect them and to have their views and experiences listened to and acted on.
- **EAPN believes that people have a right to participate in society.**
- EAPN believes that particular measures are needed to empower people experiencing poverty, exclusion and inequalities and to ensure that their 'voice' is heard in policy making, policy implementation and policy evaluation.
- EAPN believes in seeking to work in partnership with other actors sharing a common vision including actors within; state authorities, public sector bodies, European Union Institutions and with trade unions, **academics** and employers and with other NGOs. EAPN believes in the independence of Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and believes that public authorities have a responsibility to create and adhere to frameworks which respect the independence of NGOs.