



Draft Notes of EAPN Bureau meeting
27 May
Zoom

Participants (members): Vera (Austria), Eleni (Cyprus), Richard (France), Biljana (Macedonia), Carlos (Spain), Ian (IFSW), Honoratte (Norway)

Participants (staff): Leo, Philippe

Session 1 – Approval of draft notes and agenda

Key discussion points

N/A

Decision

D1. [Minutes of Bureau meeting of 6 May](#) adopted

D2. [Draft Agenda](#) for today's meeting adopted

Session 2 – September meetings

Key discussion points

- Staff have recommended cancelling or rescheduling the meetings in September, due to covid.
- EAPN Germany has clarified that they cannot commit to organising the meetings in September in Berlin, due to covid.
- Most Bureau members felt it unlikely that enough borders would be open, and enough members would be able / willing to travel. Some members of the Bureau and Ex Co would be considered 'at risk' and would be less likely to be willing to travel.
- The Bureau recognise recent decisions by the Belgian Government to allow General Assemblies to be held online. See the Royal Decree in the Belgian Monitor, [here](#)
- If we reorganise the GA online, then we must improve our online voting systems – to enable secret votes to be securely cast.

Decision

D3. We will **recommend to the Ex Co** that we cancel the physical meetings planned for September in Berlin – notably the General Assembly, Ex Co and EUISG, as well as the Capacity Building

D4. If Ex Co agrees, we will reorganise Ex Co, EUISG and Capacity Buildings online.

D5. We should attempt to organise a physical meeting of the Ex Co to coincide with the PeP meeting in 2021, if the PeP meeting is reorganised to early 2021.

D6. We will recommend to the Ex Co that the General Assembly is **reorganised as an online GA**, dealing with statutory business, on 25 September (Precise timing TBC). If needed we could also organise an extraordinary GA, online or offline, when necessary.

Action	Responsible	Deadline
A2. Prepare recommendations for Ex Co	Leo	Early June
A3. Feedback to staff team	Leo	Early June

Session 3 - Funds

Key discussion points

- Staff team have presented recommendations for a reallocation of funds, following savings incurred by cancelling Q1 and Q2 meetings of Ex Co, EUISG and PeP NCs.
- It was noted that the predicted staffing costs have increased – reasons for this must be clear for explanations to Ex Co.
- Cancelling the physical meetings in Q3 will lead to further savings of approx. 60k – we will need to agree reallocations for this amount too.
- The recommendations were welcomed, for the 60k mentioned above the Bureau would like to see proposals focusing on **raising funds, increasing visibility of EAPN and creating benefits for members**. Events like the EAPN Spain recent seminar, which gave the opportunity to many EAPN members to highlight their work, could be a good option.

Decision

D7. The staff recommendations were accepted by the Bureau, and the Bureau will make this recommendation to the Ex Co, for decision on 16 June.

D8. Future proposals from staff for the predicted 60k savings should focus on **raising funds, increasing visibility of EAPN and creating benefits for members**

D9. We should attempt to organise a physical meeting of the Ex Co to coincide with the PeP meeting in 2021, if the PeP meeting is reorganised to early 2021.

Action	Responsible	Deadline
A5. Feedback to staff team	Leo	Early June
A6. Prepare documents for Ex Co discussion on 16 June	Leo, Philippe, Richard	2 June
A7. Prepare finance session, leaving time for Ex Co to give guidance on reallocating the next 60K	Leo, Philippe, Richard	9 June

Session 4 – BE / FEANTSA resolution

Key discussion points

- Carlos and Leo have both spoken with the networks who prepared the resolution and are satisfied that it can contribute to the Strategic Review. Ex Co discussions in June could help lead to a revision of the Strategic Objectives, a key part of the Implementation Plan.
- There are worries that the resolution may find its way to our funders, and thus damage the reputation of EAPN. Worries were also expressed about the potential implications of the resolution on the finances of EAPN.
- There was a recognition of a split in EAPN around this resolution – with roughly half of members supporting it and half not. That said, we now need to try to move forward in a constructive manner.

D10. Leo and Eleni to plan the Ex Co session on the resolution with Freek and Caroline

Action	Responsible	Deadline
A8. Speak with Freek and Caroline and prepare an agenda to circulate to Ex Co for this session	Leo, Eleni	2 June