

EUROPARC Federation
Council Meeting Minutes, 25th October 2015

Location:	Regensburg – EUROPARC office			
Date:	25 th October 2015	Start :	9:30	End : 16:30
Attendees:	Council Members Present: Ignace Shops, Paulo Castro, Kaja Lotman, Michael Hosek, Vittorio Alessandro, Dominique Leveque, Co-opted Council: Olaf Holm, Pierre Schmelzle, Peter Rawcliffe Others present: Carol Ritchie (Executive Director), Federico Minozzi (Managing Director), Roger de Freitas (Internal Auditor)			
Apologies	Olaf Ostermann			

Agenda Item	Notes	Decisions Taken	Actions
1-2	<p>Welcome from the President and introduction The President welcomed the Council for the meeting and invited participants to introduce themselves to PS and PR attending for the first time since their appointment. Everyone provided a quick update on recent meetings and activities carried on for the Federation.</p>		
3	<p>Minutes of last Council Meeting Minutes presented</p>	Minutes approved	
4	<p>Matters arising OH raised the need to clarify role and functions of the representative of the sections. Council propose to prolong OH mandate in the Council.</p>	Council agrees to prolong Olaf Holm mandate as a co-opted member in the Council till 2017	
5	<p>Charter for Sustainable Tourism: updates and approval of part III methodologies PC provides a report on Charter Part III tests and methodologies: updates on French experience and on the Spanish experience which proposed to adapt the French methodology to the Spanish experience. There is an interest from TO to work across the 2 countries. A further push is needed in Italy and Germany to progress on Charter part III. Council approves methodologies Charter 3 for France and Spain – write to French Section.</p>	<p>Council Approves the Charter III methodologies for France and Spain. Council approves the re-evaluation documents for the Charter.</p>	Directorate to inform officially French and Spanish Sections of the approval of Charter III

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	<p>PC provides updates on project development on sustainable tourism, with section and IPAMAC. Directorate confirms EUROPARC interest in becoming partner of a possible project on Sustainable Tourism on the Interreg MED programme – 2016 application.</p> <p>Re-evaluation process: PC informs of the revision and updates of the Charter Re-evaluation documents.</p>		
<p>6</p>	<p>Treasurer's Report PC presented the report, the current working budget and the financial situation of the Federation. CR highlighted that the main reason for withdrawing resources from the reserves at the end of the year is related to membership fees not being paid or being delayed.</p> <p>Directorate Report CR presented an update on recent activities: projects, international meetings and conferences, project applications and EU policy.</p> <p>Membership Report CR provided also an update on membership: since the beginning of the year EUROPARC received 17 new members and 6 resignations.</p>	<p>Need to discuss in one of the next council meetings: membership structure, categories and relation with networks of members.</p> <p>Council approves new members:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Regional Landscape The Voorkempen (Belgium) 2) WWF Adria- Association for the protection of nature and conservation of biological diversity (Croatia) 3) Astronomy- Workshop "Stars without Borders" (Germany) 4) Nature Park Bourtanger Moor- Bargerveen (Germany) 5) State Natural Reserve Gola del Furlo (Italy) 6) Marine Protected Area and State Nature Reserve Torre Guaceto (Italy) 7) Sinis Peninsula - Mal di Ventre 	<p>Directorate to provide list of non paying members to Council. Council – where direct contacts can facilitate the process - to contact non paying members.</p>

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		Island MPA Cabras Municipality (Italy) 8) The Royal Society for the conservation of Nature (RSCN) (Jordan) 9) Nordland National Park Centre (Norway) 10) Stolowe Mountains National Park (Poland) 11) Polesie National Park (Poland) 12) Magura National Park (Poland) 13) Wielkopolski National Park (Poland) 14) Roztocze National Park (Poland) 15) Polish National Parks Association (Poland) 16) ECOTOURISM Association Valea Vinului- Radnaborberek (Romania) 17) David O`Neill (United Kingdom)	
7	General assembly and Conference updates CR provides an update on the Conference programme and the structure/agenda of the GA is revised with Council.		
8	Council and Sections meeting The meeting with the Sections and Council taking place at the Conference the following day is prepared. Main topic for discussion will be the role that Sections are ready to play for the implementation of the strategy.		
9	Working Groups	Council recognises the valuable role	Directorate to revise term of

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	<p>CR, referring to the document distributed to the Council, introduced the topic framing the context and providing feedbacks on the work of the different WGs. It is important to</p> <p>The following aspects are then considered and discussed: the need and opportunity to provide technical support (web based platform) to facilitate the organisation of e-meetings (PS will circulate options); the need to raise the profile of WG; possibility to fund some actions proposed by members/sections (challenge fund). WG have been a positive experience, but they need to become sustainable and more effective. It is important to involve members and sections in the process of establishing new groups, in order to identify priority themes and areas of interest. Need to clarify if Sections might be interested and ready in leading any group in the future. Future WGs (or similar) should have a clear purpose that clearly relates to the strategy and a reasonable scope with European relevance. Important to consider a regular method of evaluation of WG: need to redefine WG terms of reference.</p>	<p>plaid by WGs and acknowledges the great voluntary work delivered with the support of a large number of members.</p> <p>WG needs to be restructured and aligned to the new strategy objectives. Guidelines and terms of references have to be revised.</p> <p>Open to members and sections a call for proposals to establish new Groups.</p> <p>Council will mandate only WG that have a clear strategy link and a European relevance/scope.</p>	<p>reference / guidelines before the end of the year.</p> <p>Council to approve the revised Guidelines.</p> <p>Directorate to open to members a call for proposals for the creation of new groups, within the context of the strategy.</p> <p>Council to evaluate the proposals and make final approval of WG (or alternative platforms).</p>
<p>10</p>	<p>Our beautiful Europe IS briefly informs about the exchanges had with ECNC and introduces the document "Our beautiful Europe". Views are shared on a possible contribution of EUROPARC</p>		
<p>11</p>	<p>2016 Council meetings March 2016 in Tallin – KL 3rd week of May – Cinque Terre NP - VA</p>		
	<p>As there were no other matters arising IS concluded the meeting thanking all the participants.</p>		