



M i n u t e s

of the GENERAL ASSEMBLY

held in Berlin, Germany, on 25 September 2011

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MINUTES

of the General Assembly held in
Berlin, Germany, on Sunday, 25 September 2011

Venue: International Congress Center (ICC) Berlin
Messedamm 22
Main entrance: corner Neue Kantstr. - Messedamm
14055 Berlin
Germany

Chairman: Professor Richard Darton

Duration: 11.00 –12.00 h

Minutes Secretaries: Dr. W. Meier
I. Honndorf

Persons Present: see list of participants

These minutes summarize the major results of the discussions, which were based on detailed working papers. The working papers complement the minutes.

Oxford, April 2013

Frankfurt am Main, April 2013

(Prof. R. Darton)

(Prof. W. Meier)

Agenda

Opening of the meeting and adoption of the minutes of the previous General Assembly
(Frankfurt am Main, Germany, 15 May 2009)

A Strategic matters

- 1 President's report
- 2 Executive Vice-President's report including accounts and budget
- 3 Scientific Vice-President's report

B Administrative matters

- 4 Elections
 - 4.1 EFCE President
 - 4.2 EFCE Executive Vice-President
 - 4.3 EFCE Scientific Vice-President
- 5 Membership matters
 - 5.1 Application(s) for EFCE membership
 - 5.2 Withdrawal(s) from membership

C EFCE activities and events

- 6 EFCE awards
 - 6.1 Jacques Villermaux Medal / Student Mobility Award / Excellence Awards
 - 6.2 EFCE Honorary membership
- 7 Events
 - 7.1 ECCE-8, Berlin/D, 25 – 29 September 2011
 - 7.2 ECCE-9, The Hague, 21-24 April 2013
 - 7.3 WCCE-9, Seoul, South Korea, 18-23 August 2013
- 8 Communications group and Public relations: Matters for report
- 9 World Chemical Engineering Council, WCEC

D Miscellaneous matters

- 10 Questions to the President
- 11 Date and place of the next General Assembly meeting
- 12 Any other business

List of participants:

Representatives of the Member Societies:

Belgium:

Ir. E. de RADEMAEKER
Technologisch Instituut vzw

Croatia:

Dr. V. TOMASIC
Croatian Society of Chemical Engineering

Czech Republic:

Prof. J. DRAHOS
Czech Society of Chemical Engineering

Denmark:

Prof. Dr. R. GANI
Ingeniørforeningen i Danmark (IDA), Kemiingeniørgruppen

Finland:

Ms. T. PIIRA
Association of Finnish Chemical Societies

France:

Mr. J.-P. DAL PONT
Société Française de Génie des Procédés - SFGP

Germany:

Ms. I. HONNDORF
DECHEMA e.V.

Greece:

Mr. K. KREMALIS
Chambre Technique de Grèce - Committee for Chemical Engineers

Dr. K. VAFEIADIS
Hellenic Association of Chemical Engineers

The Netherlands:

Dr. W. BAKKER

Koninklijke Nederlandse Chemische Vereniging (KNCV) and
Koninklijk Instituut van Ingenieurs (KIVI-NIRIA) and
Nederlandse Process Technologen - NPT

Poland:

Prof. Dr. B. KAWALEC-PIETRENKO

Polish Association of Chemical Engineers

Portugal:

Mr. E. FERREIRA

Ordem dos Engenheiros - Colégio de Engenharia Química

Romania:

Prof. Dr. G. MARIA

Romanian Society for Chemical Engineering

Slovak Republic:

Prof. Dr. V. BALES

Slovak Society of Chemical Engineers

Spain:

Prof. C. NEGRO ALVAREZ

Asociacion Nacional de Quimicos de Espana-ANQUE

Dr. J. SOLEY GUERRERO

Sociedad Espanola de Quimica Industrial e Ingegneria Quimica – SEQUI

Turkey:

Prof. A. ÖZDURAL

Turkish Chamber of Chemical Engineers

United Kingdom:

Mr. A. FURLONG

ICHEME -The Institution of Chemical Engineers

Representatives of the Corresponding Societies:

Mr. R. ANDERSSON

Canadian Society of Chemical Engineering

Executive Board members

Dr. W. BAKKER (*Executive Vice-President*), Amersfoort/NL

Prof. Dr. V. BÁLES, Bratislava/Slovak Republic

Mr. J.-P. DAL PONT (*General Secretary*), Paris/F

Prof. Dr. R. DARTON (*President*), Oxford/UK

Prof. Dr. J. DRAHOS Praha/CZ

Dr. H.J. FEISE (*Scientific Vice-President*), Ludwigshafen/D

Prof. Dr. R. GANI, Lyngby/DK

Prof. Dr. B. KAWALEC-PIETRENKO, Gdansk/P

Mr. K. KREMALIS, Athens/GR

Mr. F. NICOL, Limay/F

Dr. E. SORENSEN, London, UK

Working Party and Section chairpersons/representatives

Prof. Dr. J. BERTRAND, Paris/F
Working Party on Mixing

Prof. Dr. A. IRABIEN, Santander/E
Section on Environmental Protection and Sustainability

Prof. Dr. M. PITT, Sheffield/UK
Working Party on Education

Ir. E. de RADEMAEKER
Working Party on Loss Prevention and Safety Promotion

Dr. E. SORENSEN, London, UK
Working Party on Fluid Separations

Prof. Dr. I. TURUNEN, Lappeenranta/FIN
Working Party on Process Intensification

Invited Guests

Dr. M. SCHÄFER, Ludwigshafen/D
Preparatory Committee – Working Party on Characterisation of Particulate Systems

Representatives of the offices of the General Secretariat

Mr. A. FURLONG, Rugby/UK

Ms. I. HONNDORF, Frankfurt am Main/D

Excused:

Dr. B. BISCANS, Toulouse/F

Ms. P. BRIDOU BUFFET, Paris/F

Dr. D. BROWN, Rugby/UK

Prof. Dr. J. COCA PRADOS, Oviedo/E

Prof. V. KAUCIC, Ljubljana/SLO

Prof. Dr. D. KNORR, Berlin/D

Dr. R.E. LOW, Runcorn, Cheshire/UK

Prof. T. McKENNA, Kingston/CAN

Dr. W. MEIER, Frankfurt am Main/D

Ms. R. PEYS, Antwerpen/B

Prof. Dr. S. PIERUCCI, Milano/I

Prof. M.A. RODRIGO RODRIGO, Ciudad Real/E

Prof. P. RUDOLF VON ROHR, Zürich/CH

Prof. Dr. E. SCHLÜCKER, Erlangen/D

Prof. dr.ir. J.C. SCHOUTEN, Eindhoven/NL

The President of the Federation, Prof. Darton, opened the meeting and welcomed the participants. The participants introduced themselves.

No requests for amendments being tabled, the minutes of the previous General Assembly, held in Frankfurt am Main, Germany, on 15 May 2009, were approved and adopted as a correct record of proceedings.

A Strategic matters

1 President's report

Prof. Darton reported on the strategic discussion of the Federation's future direction and activities that had taken place since the last General Assembly in May 2009. On his initiative, the survey "Perspectives in European chemical engineering" was launched in 2010. With the aid of the EFCE Member Societies, chemical engineers in Europe had been asked about their views on issues including career satisfaction, industry support, prospects and mobility, ethics, energy and climate, and biological engineering.

Prof. Darton presented and discussed the summary findings of the survey. 1797 chemical and process engineers from 35 countries participated in the survey. In addition to the overall results obtained, the summary findings referred to data from countries with more than 100 participants (Denmark, Germany, Italy, The Netherlands and UK) since these were statistically significant.

Prof. Darton stated that as a result of the findings, the following issues should be included in EFCE's future strategy:

- a. **Biofutures: To ensure that "bio" is part of EFCE's programme**
A step forward had been taken with the joint congress ECCE8/ECAB1 and the approval of the European Section on Biochemical Engineering Science (ESBES) of the European Federation of Biotechnology (EFB) as an associated EFCE Section.
- b. **Ethics and professional standards: raising awareness**
The Executive Board had been commissioned to develop an action plan on how EFCE can contribute.
- c. **Energy, climate change and the low carbon economy**
This was a major issue to be dealt with in detail by the EFCE Sections on Environmental Protection and Sustainability and on Process Engineering for Sustainable Energy in close cooperation with industry and politicians.

d. Innovation, employment and mobility

In cooperation with the Working Party on Education, the Executive Board had been asked to discuss these major challenges for chemical engineers in Europe.

Prof. Darton invited the participants to actively participate in EFCE's ongoing strategic discussion and to express society's needs so that future activities can be adapted, accordingly, for the welfare of the Member Societies and their members and the development of the profession in general.

Finally, Prof. Darton announced that a further detailed discussion on the findings and their impact on the Federation's strategy and delivery of the strategy would take place at the EFCE Forum the same day following the lunch break.

The slides on the summary findings of the Perspectives survey are given in [Appendix 1](#).

Action 1:

The Executive Board is to develop an action plan on how EFCE can contribute to raise awareness of ethics and professional standards.

Action 2:

In close cooperation with industry and politicians, the EFCE Sections on Environmental Protection and Sustainability and on Process Engineering for Sustainable Energy are to deal with the issue of energy, climate change and the low carbon economy.

Action 3:

In cooperation with the Working Party on Education, the Executive Board is to consider the issues of innovation, employment and mobility.

2 Executive Vice-President's report

Dr. Bakker presented the EFCE accounts for 2010, the budget for 2011, and the draft budget for the year 2012 which are all included in [Appendix 2](#).

He explained that for 2011, the EFCE budget included special expenses for the development of the EFCE strategy and for a new layout and improvements to the EFCE website undertaken in 2010. A provision of 40,000 euros in the EFCE budget for 2011 had been made for special projects and actions resulting from the strategic discussion.

Mr. Bakker stated that the Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences (IVA) had resigned as a Member Society in July. The outstanding 2011 membership fee would be written off.

The General Assembly approved the accounts for 2010 and the budgets for 2011 and 2012. However, it the request was made to circulate the EFCE accounts in advance of the General Assembly meeting in future, preferably to include them in the working papers.

3 Scientific Vice-President's report

Dr. Feise summarised the scientific activities of the EFCE Working Parties and Sections in the previous two years, based on the Reports for 2009/2010 which had been received from the Working Parties and Sections in spring 2011. His presentation slides are attached as Appendix 3.

Working Parties (WPs):

Dr. Feise reported that 10 new Chairs had taken office since the previous General Assembly meeting in 2009. A list of the current Working Party and Section Chairs is given in Appendix 4. The introduction of "elected members" and of a procedure for reviewing WP membership had resulted in a significant increase in active participation in several Working Parties and the replacement of members.

Special attention was given to the Working Party on Comminution and Classification, which had not been active since 2009. Mr. Feise advised that a Working Party meeting would take place at ECCE8 to discuss ways out of the crisis and the potential replacement of the chairman.

Post-meeting note: At the Working Party meeting, Prof. Arno Kwade, Germany, was elected as the new Chair of the Working Party. Prof. V.E. Mizonov, Russia, was elected as a member of the WP (with full voting rights).

Sections:

Dr. Feise presented the development of the EFCE Sections. He drew attention to the Section on Separation Technology and announced that, after seriously considering the arguments brought forward by its Chair, Prof. Coca, the Executive Board had decided to close the Section. Furthermore, he again stated that further efforts should be made to increase the number of Section members, which so far did not differ significantly from the number of Working Party members.

In particular, Dr. Feise presented examples of successful projects and activities of EFCE Sections and Working Parties especially for students and young academics, e.g. the special workshop and industry-sponsored award for young researchers in food engineering of the Section on Food, the successful Working Party summer schools, and the joint poster prize of three Working Parties.

EFCE awards

Mr. Feise reported that the award schemes worked well and were well established. 10 Working Parties/Sections were already awarding an Excellence Award with a two- or three-year frequency. The very successful Student Mobility Award would be presented for the fourth time on Wednesday, 28 September 2011 during ECCE8.

For further details, see item 6 of the working papers.

However, Mr. Feise pointed out that the larger European countries tended to be better represented than smaller ones, both with regard to nominations/applications and laureates. Efforts should be made to improve the circulation of the announcements for EFCE awards directly to universities and the respective chemical engineering departments in order to increase the pan-European distribution of the applications/nominations. Further communication via social networks should be considered. Mr. Feise encouraged the representatives of the societies to forward the announcements to their members and the community as widely as possible.

Action 4:

The Member Societies are to forward announcements for the EFCE Excellence Awards and the Student Mobility Award to their members and the community as widely as possible.

B Administrative matters

4 Elections

4.1 EFCE President

Following the recommendation of the Executive Board, the General Assembly unanimously re-elected **Professor Richard Darton**, Oxford, United Kingdom, as EFCE President for a second two-year term of office, starting on 1 January 2012. Prof. Darton thanked the General Assembly for their confidence and accepted the office.

4.2 EFCE Executive Vice-President

The General Assembly unanimously re-elected **Dr. Wridzer Bakker**, Amersfoort, The Netherlands, as EFCE Executive Vice-President for a second two-year term of office, starting on 1 January 2012. Dr. Bakker thanked the General Assembly for their confidence and accepted the office.

4.3 EFCE Scientific Vice-President

Following the recommendation of the Executive Board, the General Assembly unanimously elected **Professor Rafiqul Gani**, Lyngby, Denmark, as the new EFCE Scientific Vice-President for a two-year term of office (1 January 2012 – 31 December 2013). The new Scientific Vice-President expressed his thanks and accepted the office.

On behalf of the entire General Assembly and the General Secretariats, Prof. Darton expressed his sincere thanks to Dr. Feise for his enthusiasm and great personal commitment with which he had fulfilled the position of Scientific Vice-President and introduced new ideas in the past four years.

Action 5:

The Frankfurt office will confirm in writing the re-election of Prof. Darton and Dr. Bakker and the election of Prof. Gani.

5 Membership matters

Composition of the Executive Board:

The General Assembly noted the resignation of Dr. Andreas Knell, Switzerland and Dr. Jochen Rudolph, Germany, industrial members of the Executive Board, and confirmed the decision of the Executive Board to co-opt two new representatives from industry, namely, Dr. Andreas Schreiner, Novartis Pharma AG, Basel, Switzerland, (for his CV, see [Appendix 5](#)) and Dr. Hermann Feise, BASF SE, Ludwigshafen, Germany, until the next formal election of the Executive Board. The composition of the Executive Board from 1 January 2012 is given in [Appendix 6](#).

Action 6:

The Frankfurt office will confirm in writing the co-option of Dr. Schreiner and Dr. Feise to the Executive Board.

5.1 Application(s) for EFCE membership

The Frankfurt office presented the application of the Swedish Association for Chemical Engineers (Svenska Kemiingenjörers Riksförening –SKR) to the Federation. The application letter of 22 September 2011 is attached as Appendix 7.

The participants welcomed the decision of SKR to apply for EFCE membership as a replacement for IVA. This would allow the Swedish delegates to continue their active participation in the Working Parties.

The General Assembly unanimously approved the admission of the Swedish Association for Chemical Engineers (SKR) to full EFCE membership. The Frankfurt office was commissioned to confirm the decision to the President of SKR in writing.

Action 7:

The Frankfurt office will confirm in writing the admission of the Swedish Association for Chemical Engineers to full EFCE membership.

5.2 Withdrawal(s) from membership

With regret, the General Assembly noted the withdrawal of the Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences (Kungl. Ingenjörsvetenskapsakademien - IVA) from EFCE membership. However, once again, the participants thanked the Swedish colleagues for the huge effort they had made within the previous two months to find another Swedish organisation willing to step in.

C EFCE activities and events

6 EFCE awards

6.1 Jacques Villermaux Medal / Student Mobility Award / Excellence Awards

See item 6.1 of the working papers

The General Assembly noted and congratulated the laureates of the various EFCE awards.

6.2 EFCE Honorary membership

Mr. Darton reported that rules for Honorary Membership of the EFCE had recently been set up and approved by the Executive Board at its meeting the day before. For the final rules, see [Appendix 8](#). He pointed out that the number of Honorary Members was not limited and invited the participants to nominate candidates for Honorary EFCE Membership to the Executive Board based on the new rules.

7 Events

7.1 ECCE-8, Berlin/D, 25 – 29 September 2011

Dr. Feise presented a brief update of the number of registrations and papers of ECCE8/ECAB1. Approximately 3000 participants from 63 countries had registered for ECCE8/ECAB, 40% of them coming from the host country. Two-thirds of the participants had registered for ECCE and one-third for ECAB. The programme would include around 900 lectures and 1000 poster presentations.

Finally, Dr. Feise expressed his sincere thanks to the International Scientific Committee whose members had done a great job in compiling an attractive programme of a high standard.

7.2 ECCE-9, The Hague, 21-24 April 2013

Mr. Bakker briefly presented the status of the organisation of ECCE9 including the conference theme, the new logo, and the congress structure. His presentation slide is given in [Appendix 9](#). A strong organising committee had been formed for ECCE9 which had already started its work. The first announcement had recently been finalised and would be distributed at ECCE8/ECAB1. He invited the participants to visit the ECCE9 booth at K5.

7.3 WCCE-9, Seoul, South Korea, 18-23 August 2013

Attention was drawn to the first announcement of WCCE9 which had been included in the conference bags for ECCE8/ECAB1. Mr. Darton reported that the Vice-Chairman of WCCE-9, Prof. Hwayong Kim, had accepted the invitation to Berlin to advertise WCCE9 at a special complimentary booth. EFCE had renewed its offer to promote WCCE9 in Europe as widely as possible. WCCE announcements would be added to the EFCE website and the issues of upcoming EFCE newsletters.

8 Communications group and Public relations: Matters for report

Mr. Darton reported that a number of public relations activities had been introduced or increased to improve the visibility and profile of EFCE. These measures included the new website layout, an increasing number of press releases and electronic newsletters, a new format for EFCE News in ChERD and, most recently, the EFCE Communications Group. At present, the impact of the PR measures was being evaluated, e.g. by assessing the traffic of the EFCE website.

He invited the participants to visit the EFCE booth at J3 where, based on an initiative of the Communications Group, 10 EFCE Member Societies were presenting their national activities.

Mr. Darton strongly encouraged the participants to submit announcements of and reports on activities of the Member Societies, Working Parties and Sections to the Frankfurt office (honndorf@dechema.de) for publication in the EFCE news in ChERD and the e-newsletter. All kinds of scientific activities they would like to promote were welcome.

9 World Chemical Engineering Council, WCEC

Mr. Darton stated that the World Council of Chemical Engineering had been an efficient platform for worldwide cooperation and promotion of events. The recent meeting of the WCEC Executive Committee had taken place in Chicago, USA, on 14 March 2011. The chairmanship would likely change from Prof. David Wood to Prof. Philippe Tanguy. Tanguy (Post-meeting note: Actually the new chairman is Dr Greg Lewin, an Australian who has been President of IChemE, and has recently retired as President of Shell Global Solutions, the oil company's research and development activity). Furthermore, the World Council would support the establishment of an African/Middle East Federation of Chemical Engineering (CHESAME).

D Miscellaneous matters

10 Questions to the President

No questions were raised.

11 Date and place of the next General Assembly meeting

Those present agreed that the next regular General Assembly would be held on the occasion of ECCE9 in The Hague, The Netherlands, in April 2013.

The invitation and the working papers would be distributed in due time.

In addition to the business meeting, the third **EFCE Forum** would be organised in conjunction with CHISA 2012 in Prague, Czech Republic, in August 2012.

12 Any other business

No further points being raised, the President closed the meeting at 12.00 h.

List of Actions

Action 1:

The Executive Board is to develop an action plan on how EFCE can contribute to the raise of awareness to ethics and professional standards:

Action 2:

In close cooperation with industry and politicians, the EFCE Sections on Environmental Protection and Sustainability and on Process Engineering for Sustainable Energy are to deal with the issue of energy, climate change and low carbon economy

Action 3:

In cooperation with the Working Party on Education, the Executive Board is to consider the issues of innovation, employment and mobility.

Action 4:

The Member Societies are to forward announcements for the EFCE Excellence Awards and the Student Mobility Award awards to their members and the community as widely as possible.

Action 5:

The Frankfurt office will confirm in writing the re-election of Prof. Darton and Dr. Bakker and the election of Prof. Gani.

Action 6:

The Frankfurt office will confirm in writing the co-option of Dr. Schreiner and Dr. Feise onto the Executive Board.

Action 7:

The Frankfurt office will confirm in writing the admission of the Swedish Association for Chemical Engineers to full EFCE membership.