



*European Higher Engineering and Technical Professionals Association
Europäischer Verband höherer Berufe des Ingenieurwesens und der Technik
Association Européenne des Professions Supérieures d'Ingénieurs et de la Technique*

2008 Annual Report of the Board to the General Assembly

POINTS OF REFERENCE

EurEta is the organisation representing the higher educated engineers corresponding to the **level D of the EU Directive on Professional Qualifications (EC/2005/36)**.

After having explored the various internationally recognised parameters, EurEta fully recognises itself in the **Level 6 of the European Qualification Framework (EQF)**.

These two clear features of reference make EurEta a clearly identifiable organisation in Europe and worldwide, which is able to play an important and influential role as the pan-European professional body for higher engineering and technical professionals.

AWARENESS AND TARGETS

In this context EurEta has further deepened its awareness that

- a) a more consistent geographical and political representativity in Europe,
- b) a wider representative umbrella for including also the level C of the above-mentioned EC Directive, providing then a wider representativity of the engineering sector,
- c) a consistent and constant presence in Brussels makes the contacts and relationships with the European decision makers possible and easier and therefore its engineers' voice more heard,
- d) a stronger promotional activity with all effective instruments, such as a clear and explanatory brochure, a lively and regularly updated website and also national and international conferences with major political involvement and related contacts,
- e) an internal more tolerant, open-minded, gentle and globally European-oriented attitude and working spirit as well as a clear and effective communication and
- f) a constant and strong financial discipline

are essential elements for and throughout its improvement and growing process.

DECISIONS MADE AND RESULTS REACHED

a) All members of EurEta's bodies have continued to search for new and deepen fruitful contacts with those countries that have shown in the past or that show an interest for becoming members of EurEta in order to enlarge its representativity base and have a stronger voice in the EU's decision-making scenario.

ABDT (Level of *Staatlich Geprüfte Techniker*) have become a Supporting Member of EurEta in the perspective of possibly becoming a Full member after the requirements will be submitted and approved by EurEta's Registration Committee.

The President Keller has further encouraged contacts and activities in Austria, in Germany and in Latvia. All Members of the Board as well as Milena Fontana and the RC Chairmen have been attributed a European region of reference where to continue to assess the possibility and identity of future possible membership to EurEta.

To this specific purpose an increased budget has been made available.

b) The Riga Technical School (Level C of the EC Directive) has become Member in Development of EurEta. EurEta's RC is going to further assist this development. EurEta's Board has visited the facilities there and this year General Assembly has been held there, too. By the way, Latvia is considered further more as a possible "bridge" with the Eastern European countries.

The General Assembly, on the base of the Registration Committee's assessment and Board's proposal, has approved to formally and concretely build up inside EurEta the possibility of having the Level C structure for further memberships.

EurEta comprises then also this section now for professionals of Level C that will organise themselves separately but under the monitoring of the Level D structure.

c) The presence of EurEta in Brussels has proved to be a central element to ensure the proximity to key people and institutions. Further more, EurEta meetings in Brussels have proved to be an excellent strategic opportunity to meet, at the same time, locally based Members of the European Parliament as well as spokespeople of other organisations.

Good contacts have been built locally with SEFI (Société européenne pour la formation des Ingénieurs, www.sefi.be) of which EurEta has now become member, CEPLIS (Européen des Professions Libérales, www.ceplis.org), which is willing to accept EurEta as member as soon as its own Statutes will allow this (in 2009), EUROCADRES (www.eurocadres.org), which proved to be a very supportive contact (invitation to several international meetings among others), a partner with real willingness to collaborate with EurEta) and with with a Memorandum of understanding has been with EurEta has been proposed, EYE-VDI (European Young Engineers, www.e-y-e.eu), EFCA (European Federation of Engineering Consultancy Associations, www.efcanet.org).

EurEta's mission is now very positively considered and comprised by these organisations.

EurEta's Board with have met also: Mrs Pamela Brumter of the European Commission, DG Internal Market, Agnes Bradier of the European Commission, DG Employment as well as Carlo Scatoli.

All Members of the Board and of EurEta in general are cultivating their close contacts with the Members of the European Parliament so as to have their support for any important future political initiative.

d) In terms of promotion, the production of a clear, explanatory, handy promotional tools (six pages brochure) has been finalised and it has already proved to be very useful for all kind of meetings everywhere.

Further more, the website continues to be a very important instrument in a global era of electronic communication. It is regularly updated with the Members' contributions and it unceasingly proves to be an attractive link for the ones willing to know EurEta's activities and perspectives. Guidance in EurEta is to be found in its website.

Further more, EurEta's Board and President have recognised the importance for EurEta to acquire a stronger visibility and awareness at EU and international level and think that an international conference in Brussels could provide a substantial contribution to this purpose, with the involvement of EU institutions and stakeholders. A major political and practical effort will be made in this direction.

e) Cross-cultural understanding and general management is an opportunity and a challenge for EurEta as well as for any culturally mixed organisation and experience. EurEta's involved parties are aware of this and constantly work to improve this dimension.

f) From the financial point of view a constant rigorous budget discipline is a must and it is clear that decisions to be taken need to be consistent with the Association's ambitions as well as the its present resources.

In overall and in any case, a good financial management, recognised and approved by the designated Auditor, presently allows EurEta to work well and to look at the short-medium terms with some good financial basis.

3. A NEW REGISTRATION COMMITTEE

The General Assembly in Riga in June has appointed the members of the new brilliant EurEta's Registration Committee: Mariano Magnabosco (IT) as Chairman, Daniel Seitz (CH) and Petteri Hyttinen (FI) as members.

4. MISCELLANEOUS ON ACTIVITIES

During the year the following business meetings were held: In February the Board met in Baden (Switzerland); in June meetings of the General Assembly in Riga (Latvia), in October the Board's meeting was held in Brussels (Belgium). By this occasion, FEANI's local staffs were visited and the relationship is formally continued.

This is the report that is going to be submitted to the General Assembly in June 2008.

Brussels on 30th March 2009