

Winter EDM Budapest, February 21. – 24., 2008
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Attending:

EDM Chairperson	Conor H.
EDM Vicechair	Toby G.
EDM Secretary	Sigrid B.
EDM acting Treasurer	Jim D.
FD Committee Chair	Miko
FD Committee Vice-Chair	Joao
Croatia	Sanda
Egypt RD alt	Karim
Finland RD	Jussi
Finland RD alt	Janne
France RD	Valentine
France RD alt	Ana
Greece RD alt	Pavlos
Greece RD alt 2	Konstantine
Hungary RD	Eszti
Ireland RD	Irene
Ireland RD alt	Niall
Israel RD	Yuval
Israel RD alt	Oded
Lithuania RD	Thomas
Malta RD	Simon
Malta RD alt	Ian
Poland RD	Karolina
Poland RD alt	Agnieszka
Portugal RD	Tomas
Portugal RD alt	Sergio
Slovenia	Jovanka
Spain RD	Inigo
Spain RD alt	Teresa
Sweden RD	Sisko
Sweden RD alt	Veronica
Turkey RD alt	Oral
Turkey Translator	Baris
UK RD	Nina
UK RD alt	Liz
Western Russia RD	Andrey
NAWS	Becky
NAWS	Travis
World Board	Mary B.
World Board	Arne
Guests	
Denmark	Iver
Egypt	Ahmed
Serbia	Goran
Ukraine	Andriy, Ruslan, Oksana
Several guests from the local fellowship	

Thursday February 21st

9.30 – 10.30 Orientation session and Opening of the meeting

The meeting starts with the reading of “Just for Today”, followed by a round of introductions of everyone present at the meeting.

Two members share about their experience about being at their first EDM (Eszti, Hungary) and being at EDM with English not as their first language (Tomas, Portugal).

Conor (chair) – please be considerate to people who’s first language is not English. Speak slow and clear.

Toby (vice-chair) – gives an explanation of the consensus decision-making process. See Orientation Pack page 5).

Open Steering Committee positions: Treasurer, alt chair.

Deadline for resumes for the open Steering Committee positions is after the session this morning.

Zonal nominations: Three nominations were given at the last EDM in Wales. The next nominations for World Service positions will be for WSC 2010. No zonal nominations at this EDM.

Short break

Session starts with reading of the 12 concepts.

Meeting booklet given out.

Approval of the minutes. Correction: three nominations for *World Service* positions, not World Board positions. Two for World Board, one for Conference Co-facilitator.

Approval of the agenda

10.45 – 1.00 Steering Committee Report

(Report in the booklet)

Conor (chair) – point of personal privilege. I’m resigning from the chairperson position because I have the opportunity to fulfil a childhood dream, to direct a film, starting in March. Toby will take over as the acting chair. This EDM, we will have elections for the vice-chair position. The new vice-chair will then conduct the elections for the chair position in Helsinki. I will remain as the signatory for the bank account until the new vice-chair and the new chair are both elected, because changing this is a complicated process.

Also because Nadi has resigned as the treasurer, we decided to ask our alt. Secretary Jim to act as the treasurer until the new treasurer has been elected. He is doing an excellent job with this. Thanks.

In communicating with the ECCNA committees in Wales and Helsinki, we found we are not giving the ECCNA committees enough guidance. The guidelines are rather old and incomplete. We suggest some changes (see page 28 in the booklet) and ask delegates to form a workgroup to further elaborate on this.

EDM funding policy: it has been decided in Bellaria (2002) that SC members can have a single room. This is not in the minutes. We ask the body to formally approve this.

We also ask to set aside a fixed budget for FD travel to the EDM, because this is not in the earmarked monies yet (explanation of the term ‘earmarked’, which also means ‘set aside’)

We have communications with communities that are not present at EDM, they receive all the mailings. Please make use of the edm_na@yahoo.com email address to send your questions to us, to forward to the delegates.

Very deep gratitude to World Services for all the support of EDM and the different activities with communities in the EDM zone. Thanks also for the organisation workshops in cooperation with the EDM FD Committee that will take place after this EDM.

Treasury Report: (Report in the Booklet page 8)

Some housekeeping announcements on treasury:

There will be a collection for the coffee and tea during the breaks.

All funded participants are asked to hand in all receipts for flights, transport, and hotel rooms if not paid directly. Per Diem will be given in local currency. It is easier for the treasurer to transfer money through the bank to the funded participants in advance and hand it back to the treasurer after the meeting.

ECCNA seed money is 5000 Euros. It is important that this is also returned in Euro. There was a problem with this in Wales: the amount actually paid back was not 5000 Euros but around 300-400 Euros less, because it was paid in Pounds Sterling and the exchange rate dropped.

We also need to have a fixed budget for the conference facilities (venue, sound system etc) for the EDM. The room for this EDM costs 1200 Euro, Geneva and Valencia was similar. We need to earmark this.

Amendment to the report in the booklet (page 8).

There is a donation of 25 Euros from Netherlands to be added.

Monies transferred	
Hotel Carat (deposit)	600,00 €
Vice chair	1.176,50 €
Secretary	302,36 €
acting Treasurer (euro account)	6.011,66 € payments to be made in euros
acting treasurer (sterling account)	2.000,00 € payments to be made in local currency
ECCNA Finland	5.000,00 €
World Services	713,60 € 10% ECCNA 24 Wales profit
Total	15.804,12 €

Ring-fenced monies (Money set aside)	
Legal entity	2.000,00 €
Prudent reserve	4.000,00 €
SC travel (next EDM)	4.000,00 €
Emergency travel	1.000,00 €
Budget set aside for EDM 2009	2.576,00 €
FD travel (???)	2.000,00 €
Total	15.576,00 €

Amount in bank after transfers 22.319,95 €

Amount accessible 6.743,95 € This is a projected amount as of 13.2.08 - donations may yet come in.

Donation from Netherlands 25,00 €

Amount accessible on February 21 6.768,95 € -

Up to now there is no standard method for the accounting. Each treasurer had their own system. Because we are a legal association now, we need to fulfil the standards needed for the Belgian authorities.

Explanations about the tables in the booklet:

Page 8 (see above) is the basic accounting. The next pages are details. Page 9 gives the incoming and outgoing amounts on the bank account.

To have cash for payments to be done for this EDM, we had to open two different accounts, because of the British banking system.

The Euro account was needed to take out cash in Euro to hand to the funded delegates in cash, as well as pay the hotel in Euro. The sterling account is where I can take out local currency (Hungarian Forint) from the cash machine, so that the per diem can be handed to the delegates in cash.

It was not possible to have both from the same account.

Simon (Malta) – there was a donation from Malta 100 Euro given in Wales. It is not on this list.

Inigo (Spain) – Donation from Spain on January 24 is not listed yet.

Jim (acting treasurer) – the balance sheet lists all the monies that were listed on the account. Paul from WSO-E sends them by fax. If the donation is not listed, you need to speak with your bank.

Conor (EDM) – Updated budget will be given on Sunday.

Suggestions from the Steering Committee report:

1. Suggestion that the body to form a work group for the ECCNA Guidelines

consensus to have this workgroup.

Suggestion to have members from previous ECCNA **committees** on the workgroup. E.g. members from UK, Portugal, and possibly Sweden (who plan to present a bid for ECCNA in 2010)

Workgroup: Veronika (Sweden), Jussi (Finland), Liz (UK), Conor (Ireland). Veronika to chair the workgroup.

2. We ask the body to formally approve the policy that SC and FD members are given a single room

This was a decision taken at EDM in Bellaria 2002 but not minuted. We have talked with several former SC members who remember this; it has been common practice since then. Reasons are that SC and FD members are “on duty” as soon as they leave the room. Privacy is needed. This is not in the guidelines up to now.

Consensus to approve a previous decision that SC and FD members have single rooms while they attend EDM.

3. We suggest to set aside a budget of 2000 Euros for the travel of FD members to the EDM

Question – We need to do FD and don't want to discuss every time, but what if the funds are not available?

Answer – Guidelines should be the ideal, we follow them if possible but need to be flexible to reality. If financially impossible, we can discuss to bring only one member from FD instead of both.

Some discussion around this.

Consensus to set aside as part of our budget for 2000 Euro for travel of FD committee members.

4. And to also set aside a budget of approx 1000 Euros for the EDM meeting rooms at winter EDM.

Concern about finding locations for EDM with a lesser budget.

Consensus to set aside as part of our budget 1000 Euros for venue expenses of winter EDM.

Point out in the guidelines that decisions taken around the budget are on the basis that money is available.

12.20 – 13 Community reports

Communities are asked to present up to five most essential points from their reports. Reports were sent out in mailing #3 or handed out before the meeting. Many reports have a number of questions, asking for experiences from other communities. Please decide which (maximum 3) questions should be discussed by the EDM body and which can be discussed with individual members, EDM Steering Committee, Fellowship Development Committee or World Services. Reports from absent communities are read out and questions discussed.

Greece (Pavlos and Konstantine) – in mailing #3

The first meeting in Greece in Farsi /Iranian language in the centre for refugees in Athens. PI committee made a presentation there.

Greek Literature Translation committee is difficult and slow. We have no approved Basic Text in Greek yet. We have draft translations by different members circulating.

Greek regional convention 2007 has not given a financial report yet. A legal association had to be formed, to rent the convention space and make a large down payment. To get this money back, more activity with the legal association was needed, that we did not know about before. This has delayed the financial report.

Local TV presentation was organised by PI subcommittee of the Northern Greece area.

Oral (Turkey) – after the TV presentation do you feel you are growing faster?

Pavlos (Greece) – in the Northern Area NA is growing. They are doing a good job at PI. Maybe it is a consequence, of all their activity. The south is stagnating. We had a huge convention in Athens and hoped for many newcomers, but it did not happen.

- At the regional meeting, we have an area participating and also groups that don't belong to an area. The area has as many votes as the groups it is representing. We try to make it as fair as possible for everyone. Feedback about this?

Conor (chair) – we had this discussion in Ireland. An area representing many groups wanted more votes. We decided against that. Our literature says: A group conscience is that each member of the group conscience has an equal say. That's why each participant has one vote, whether they represent an area with many or few groups

Mary (World Board) – the area representatives carry the group conscience of the groups they represent.

Eszti (Hungary) – we have the same service structure. Each group has a vote

Yuval (Israel) – We have regions and areas, but Tel Aviv is the largest town that has no area. Our regional meeting is also mixed. Every participant has the same vote.

- How to set up a regional office? We are not sure if we can support it financially. Can we accept an offer for free/low cost office space? Any experience?

Joao (FD-vice) – In Portugal we became a legal association, so we become a social identity. As such we can accept the same offers as other legal associations do. As fellowship, we have to make our own decision, based on our principle.

Sisko (Sweden) – we have a service office. The costs are budgeted yearly by the region. We make our money mainly through literature sales. We have our literature stocks there and use the office mainly for literature sales. Many premises offer lower rents for meeting rooms, we accept that.

Karolina (Poland) – our bigger problem is with people to run the office. We have a deal with a treatment centre to have the office there. Money for the office is budgeted by the region. We struggle with lack of money. Our money comes from literature sales and donations.

Conor (Ireland) – we have an office in a building at a reduced rent, which is offered to all similar groups and associations in that building.

Lunch break

14.30 – 16 Community reports

Israel (Yuval and Oded) – report in mailing #3

We have a mixed service structure. Region, areas, groups without area, subcommittees on different levels. The structure is slowly growing and changing. We now try to have a new assembly of only area representatives. People don't understand the service structure. We had our first regional assembly two months ago, it was a big success. We have 250 meetings a week.

- How can we bring the information from EDM back to the groups, when English is not our language?
- Ana (France) – we go to area and region meetings and talk about it a lot. The groups are very interested in EDM. I ask for help to translate information.

Nina (UK) – I put the Fellowship Development information at the beginning of my reports, because it interests people most. That makes them listen. Reports are posted on the website.

Jussi (Finland) – we can't bring back everything, it's too much. But we get the excitement and the energy and bring that home, and more people get interested, come to EDM and spread the information

Konstantine (Greece) – I emphasise the human angle of the information, that interests people most. Then next I put in the structured information

Inigo (Spain) – we need to decide what information we really need in our region. For example we now use the consensus decision making process. We also ask specific questions to EDM and receive feedback.

Transfer information in digestible bits.

Malta (Simon and Marten) – report in mailing #3

We have a much simpler service structure. Our 4th meeting has opened. Our 2nd national convention will take part, a member from UK will share and help us with workshops. IP #1 is about to be printed!

- We have some members from a rehab centre that “allows” members to drink alcohol. They feel good with that. There are conflicts around that. Can they be full members? Any experience?

Inigo (Spain) – we found out that one member who did PI service was using pills and promoting the use of this medicine. He got very upset when we talked with him about it and resigned.

Miko (FD chair) – on group level, you can emphasise what NA is about. Add in the format “clean time means abstinence from all drugs, including alcohol (or whatever)”.

Veronika (Sweden) – we read the group reading cards at the beginning of each meeting that says “Alcohol is a drug”.

Jussi (Finland) – it is the responsibility of each addict to define if they are clean. If someone wants a clean tag, we give it to them, even if we know he has been drinking or using. Only the addict can tell for himself.
 Oded (Israel) – it is not our job to decide if someone is clean. We can only give example of ourselves.
 Konstantine (Greece) – of course it is a personal decision. But for newcomers it can also be confusion and upsetting to hear from members that they can drink.

- Non-members are attending our convention. Is it ok to make a collection from them too?
 Karolina (Poland) – after each meeting, the chair asks non-members to not contribute.
 Sergio (Portugal) – we had discussions and bad feelings around that. We don't do it anymore.

Egypt (Karim) – report in mailing #3

We have all IPs translated and the Basic Text is about to be approved. The draft basic text is in the national library. The translation committee works together from several Arabic countries. Translations are revised with the help from World Services.

The website is online now.

Our convention was attended by around 800 people and also some public representatives. A PI presentation was made for professionals.

Question about the accounting of the legal association. Some experiences offered.

Funding for one delegate for Winter EDM 2009

Finland (Jussi and Janne) – report in mailing #3

Our service structure is growing. For the first time we have all service positions filled. Sweden helped us to make our first annual budget.

We are translating "It works how and why". The literature committee is working in an area.

We have several conventions and we have a "Sponsorship Day" with workshops and occasion to meet for all people interested in having or being a sponsor. There was a Christmas workshop especially for isolated groups, about 20 groups attended.

UK (Nina and Liz) – report in mailing #3

The UK PI committee thinks about calling themselves PR committee. Research is being done.

We have a very successful "Parents and Carers committee", we now have 155 meetings that are labelled children friendly and 16 meetings have a crèche with paid babysitters to take care of children during the meeting. There is a booklet "Taking Care" approved in the UK, which we would like to suggest as new literature.

CAR Workshops: We have been holding CAR workshops around the UK and have had a lot of great feedback. But it is hard to get people interested.

- How do you support people speaking other languages in your communities?
 Konstantine (Greece) – the Farsi speaking people approached us and asked for help in getting meeting space. They stand on their own feet just great.
 Jussi (Finland) – there are English or Swedish speaking members coming to our meetings. We bought English literature and try to offer translation to them.
 Conor (Ireland) – a Lithuanian meeting started in Dublin recently. We made a donation of literature to them and helped make the connection to the facility renting meeting space.
- UK Fundraising & Entertainment: the committee starts with lots of enthusiasm and ideas, but does not follow through. There is lack of accountability. This happened several times now. Any experience how to run a Fundraising committee?

Sergio (Portugal) – we had the same problem at regional level. It did not work. We now have only F + E committees on area level. They organise events like Christmas dinner, dance, and picnics. However the target is not to raise money, but to meet and have fun for the newcomers. It works well on area level.

Sisko (Sweden) – we never had a Fundraising committee at regional level or even on area level. We have pre-convention parties to raise funds for the convention itself. We have 5 yearly events, so there is plenty of opportunity to party.

Ana (France) – we also found it does not work on regional level, but it works better at area level.

Short break

Portugal (Tomas and Sergio) – report given out

We had to stop our newspaper "Serenity" for lack of service.

We had a promotional clip on TV, now we have many calls. The clip was prepared and produced by NA-members and was broadcast free of charge. It was on TV for 2 weeks at 3 in the morning. We have a free telephone number, supported by the phone company. This caused a lot of discussion, now the phone company stopped giving the number for free. Number of meetings is consistently decreasing, nine only in last months. The reason is probably in the way we are working at area, region or group level. Addicts stop coming and the groups close. Two areas also stopped working as area structure, because of lack of service. We need serious reflection why this happens.

We have our regional assembly in early December. We would like to have the minutes and the agenda for EDM before that, so we can discuss it. Answer: the minutes were sent out in September, but the agenda is finalized shortly before the meeting.

France (Ana) – report given out

Most meetings are in Paris, but the south is growing now.

At the last EDM in Wales we talked about the big amount of money in our treasury. Money is a problematic topic in our region.. We have a legal association with treasurer, but it is a bit apart from the region. The financial reports are complicated and unclear to most members. We are saving a lot of money for the potential rent of an office. We still have 51.000 Euro in our bank account. We had a workshop on treasury recently. No decision has been taken yet what to do with the money, but we start talking about our problems.

- What is the advantage of having a treasurer of the region and one for the legal association?

Sergio (Portugal) – we have two treasurers and we have two accounts. One is for literature and the legal things. The regional treasurer does the accounting for all money movements of the region on another account.

Jussi (Finland) – we have two treasurers. Legal association has to comply with the finish laws, which is complicated. It is simpler to elect the regional treasurer, so we do that separately.

Sigrid (Secretary) – the legal association treasurer does the financial report for the government every three years. It is a long term commitment. The regional treasurer is elected every two years and does the entire treasury work.

Hungary (Eszti) – in mailing #3

We call ourselves Drug addicts anonymous in public and media, but inside NA we call ourselves Narcotics Anonymous. This is a start to solve a long controversy.

We have no committees for PI and H+I.

We had presentations for probation officers and are communicating about the possibility of attendance cards.

- Shall we start new literature translation or wait for existing ones to be approved.

Karolina (Poland) – we have lots unapproved but good translations. We asked for help from World Services.

Karim (Egypt) – translate what you can now. Then you have something to use as a guideline for the final translation. The translation basics also help.

Sisko (Sweden) – the translation committee is regional. The regional committee members prioritize what to translate first, the committee then does the work.

Konstantine (Greece) – our experience is, if the translation is not done well, it is more difficult and costs more to change later.

Western Russia (Andrey) – report in mailing #3

We have very active committees for FD and PR. In Moscow the committee does about 5-6 presentations weekly to professionals. Also in other cities.

- We have problems with the Church. Members were invited to take part at a round table, organized by church officials. They had very bad opinions about NA and other 12 step communities. They don't want to support us anymore. Some groups meet in churches. We don't have a solution yet. We want to write an information letter, but don't know yet how to do that. Any experience?

Conor (chair) – there is a page on the na.org website "Information about NA", suggestion to translate that.

Sergio (Portugal) – PI often has to fight the wrong information that people in the public have about NA. We need to give them correct information. There is information in the Public Relations Handbook.

Ireland (Niall) – report in mailing #3

We have 5 areas. One area is having difficulties and we have done some workshops on the area planning tool, in other areas as well. We got good feedback on that.

We have rented a new office space in Dublin and are in the process of creating new office guidelines.

The convention was very successful.

We made a donation of 2700 Euro to EDM.

- We need experience on social workers sending people to NA and requesting to get letters signed. Liz (UK) – we have meetings that are marked “court card friendly”, where people can get their court cards signed. Because people don’t want to write their name, so we have a stamp. Some meetings let those members put their cards into a basket and the chair signs them anonymously. Karolina (Poland) – patients from a treatment centre came to our meetings. We signed it with a symbol / squiggle, not with a personal name. The treatment centre is informed about the principle of anonymity.
- How can we approach someone selling drugs outside a meeting? Any experience? Karim (Egypt) – the UK pamphlet “Inappropriate behaviour” can answer this.

Friday February 22nd

Meeting starts with reading of Just for Today

9.00 – 10.30 Community reports

Spain (Inigo and Teresa) – report in mailing # 3

NA is growing. Some areas are closing, others are splitting. We are creating a new PR subcommittee, thanks to all the input from other regions. A subcommittee is developing guidelines. Donation to EDM 1800 Euros, as a percentage from the annual budget of last year and this year. No regional convention in 2009 because of the World Convention. Literature price raised by 10 % and we are organizing a raffle to cover for the loss of income without the convention.

Poland (Karolina) – report in mailing #3

Basic Text is translated but there is lack of service in the translation committee. The four Newcomer IPs are translated. Financial situation is difficult. The convention was a financial success, but donations from groups are low.

Sweden is sponsoring Poland as a region. Some Swedish members were invited to the polish convention last year to do workshops. Then members from Poland went to Sweden. It is a great learning experience. We are applying for seating at the World Service Conference.

- How do you deal with finances and keep the fund flow, without a legal association?

Joao (FD-vice) – In my Region, before the legal association, the bank account was in the name of three people from the Steering Committee. Payments required the signature of at least two people. With the legal association the accounting process has to be very clear.

Pavlos (Greece) – the account is in the name of two people. But the legal association is just to be legal towards the government; it has nothing to do with the money flow.

Conor (chair) – Treasury system on the basis of the “Guide to Local Service” can work also without having a legal association

- We are spending the money we don’t have (like trip of the alternate to Budapest), how can we budget? Toby (vice-chair) – since Spain has a budget, we have more money than ever. EDM has more money too, with a budget. It works to have a budget in the region, the money suddenly appears.

Sweden (Sisko and Veronika) – report in mailing #3

We plan our budget at the November meeting every year. Usually we have quite a lot of money left at the end of the year.

We have 12 areas now. One area closed, but it has started up again, because new meetings have opened. We try to work with planning and we are getting better at that.

In November we had our first regional inventory and use that material for our future planning.

Workshop about “how to be an effective Regional Committee Member”, hoping to improve awareness of all members in the service structure. Previously, the RDs did all the CAR workshops. This time, RCMs are holding them. They discuss the questions of the discussion topics at the area meetings. The groups are getting interested.

Swedish region is developing good relations with Poland and Denmark, mostly on area level. It is helping service enthusiasm very much. We try partnering members from geographically close areas.

Elections: members put themselves up for elections very short term. Now a workgroup tries to find people to nominate for the positions, so we can elect the right people for the positions.

Yuval (Israel) – we ask people to put themselves up for election to do that two weeks before the election. It works miracles, when people think about their role in the service before running for election.

Turkey (Oral and translator Baris) – report in mailing #3

Turkish fellowship is growing very slowly. Five groups, now there is new group in southern Turkey.

The Area service committee meets every 3 months.

Our next convention is in Fethiye, we have T-Shirts.

Slovenia (Yovanka) – in mailing #3

We are a very small fellowship, about 5 members with some clean time. We have no service structure. We are very active, we get in contact with Bosnia, Croatia, Serbia. We had a convention together last year and will have another one this year. But we are growing very slowly. If we suddenly have many newcomers, we have not so many people with clean time to deal with that.

We are too small now to form a legal association or formal structure.

We have no support in any treatment centres yet from professional who might send newcomers.

World Services attended a Drug Conference in Ljubljana, now people are more interested in finding out about NA. We have an email prepared to send to people who enquire.

We had a request to give information to a prison, but we have not enough members to do PI.

We consider forming a region together with all the countries from Ex-Yugoslavia. We travel a lot and meet regularly. We don't know how to call it yet. We are part of the Balkans, but also Greece and Bulgaria. Our countries are connected through the language, which is similar, so we can use the same translated literature.

Simon (Malta) – Malta fellowship was very small. We are very close to rehab centres, this helps us to grow. They are referring people to NA. We have grown from 6 people to about 30 members now.

Sanda (Sanda) – in mailing #3

5 meetings in Croatia, we celebrated our 6 years anniversary. No service structure yet. The first NA group was created by a non-addict, who wrote a book about NA. This book was the first literature in the meetings. Situation has changed after the Balkans convention, we experienced for the first time what NA is about.

Members from UK visited Zagreb and held a workshop for us. We learned about NA principles and began to form a basic service structure, we translate literature, we have an advertisement in the daily newspaper, a hotline and information to hospitals. We now have a translation of the steps and traditions and the basic glossary.

Denmark (Iver, Regional Committee chair) – in mailing #3

Gives an informal report from Denmark. Denmark Region has chosen to not send an official delegate to EDM yet. We are very happy to have help from Sweden to restructure our service structure. It is beginning to function very well. Website, PI committee, translations have started working. Last week NAWS visited our service conference and held workshops there.

The Copenhagen area, which is half the groups in Denmark, is breaking down but we are working on this.

Short break

10.30 – 11.00 Fellowship Development report – report in the meeting booklet

Miko (FD chair) and Joao (FD vice chair)

It is amazing to see how well the sponsoring communities system works that we have developed at EDM. Members from Germany went to hold workshops in Holland. Both communities sent a report about the activity, which is in the booklet.

We worked together with NAWS to organize the Central European Workshops taking place in Budapest after EDM. We now made contact with fellowships that have not been to EDM in a while, such as Italy.

Members participating in the workshops are coming from Estonia, Ukraine, Slovenia, Lithuania, Bosnia, Malta, Poland, Latvia, Prague, Croatia, Italy, as well as any delegates who are staying over from EDM.

Please send us your information for the Human Resource Pool of EDM and fill in the Resource Pool form. We need this information to know who is available for FD work. We sent emails to all members in the Resource pool but received little feedback. Please update your information.

There was no follow-up in Turkey, because there was no actual request from the fellowship for it. Several follow-up activities had taken place in Turkey already. We felt that there was no need at this time.

Karolina (Poland) – 11 members from Poland are coming to the NAWS workshops in Monday/Tuesday. We are very grateful for that.

Toby (Vice chair) – We have enough funds to meet current FD requests. We receive the requests from the communities, and then FD sets off to investigate more about it, make the contact and then decide how to proceed. It is a very good development.

11.00 – 13.00 FD workshop “Follow Up – What’s Your Vision?”

We had several workshops at the past EDMs about different possibilities of doing Fellowship Development work. Now we want to talk about what comes after that. Follow-up can be different things, it can range from monitoring the community to having activities that come after an FD activity.

Body splits into six small groups. The handout describes the situation of a small community and asks about possible FD and follow-up activities.

Short feedback from the small groups (details in the FD report).

1.
 - Send someone to make workshop
 - Ask for continuous feedback
 - Get them in touch with other communities
 - Follow up on the action points after that
2.
 - Ask regions to sponsor other regions
 - Be open about how plans are going, evaluate them. Set a plan and follow it, but keep it alive
3.
 - Have an initial action plan
 - Follow up: make sure the region has the resources to manage their own workshops
 - Create a planning tool for regional activities, incl. Creating a budget
 - Use fun activities to introduce members to service.
 - Use another community to do the initial FD but then also let the community visit other workshops; have sponsoring workshops for both.
4.
 - Need for community to ask for help themselves, asses their own needs realistically
 - Be careful to give structures. Don’t spare them the growing pains. Like sponsoring addicts.
 - Effective communications from the community shows how effective our FD activity is.
5.
 - Help them find support in other communities close to them
 - Keep dialog between communities, mutual visits
 - Communities should achieve their own conclusions about what the problem and the solution really is.
 - Provide help to the communities to make their own translations
6.
 - Combine fun and service, make it attractive
 - Establish a contact and maintaining it
 - Develop a questionnaire to get feedback
 - Develop a format to encourage more communication from the community, provide them opportunity to ask for follow-up themselves
 - Evidence that it is working: self-support, formats and tools are being used by the communities
 - Make a film/clip about EDM to show world-wide fellowship in attractive way

Sum-up: improving communications seems to be the next step. We need to work on that.

Lunch break

14.45 – 15.20 Zonal nominations workgroup report

Up to now, nominations could be made by regions and also by World Board. Usually these are people who the Regions or the World Board have some service experience with. Zonal Nominations are meant to be another possibility of finding potential candidates for World Service positions. Delegates at WSC often don’t

know these candidates. If a person has a nomination, this helps the delegates at WSC evaluate the resumes for the elections.

At our last EDM in Wales, we made some Zonal Nominations for elections to World Service positions at the World Service Conference 2008. This was the first time we did this, so we asked a workgroup to make some suggestions, how this could be handled in future. The workgroup report lists some suggested criteria (report see meeting booklet).

The workgroup suggests to nominate people who the EDM as a body has experience doing service with, within about the last 4 years. The number of years is just to say that delegates have had some period of experiencing the nominee doing service for EDM.

Zonal Nomination can be for people that the region cannot give a nomination, because the person had done service mostly for the EDM in the past years, not for the region. Such as Steering Committee or FD Committee members.

This is a working document. Once we have decided on the procedure, this should be included in the Orientation Pack as part of our guidelines.

Discussions and suggestions:

Suggestion is that Zonal Nominations might only be considered if there was time on the agenda to discuss them. Priority is our FD work. A way to avoid that there might not be time is to ask for nominations to be sent to EDM in good time (such as 2 weeks) before the meeting.

Workgroup report suggests consensus based decision for the nominations. Using the existing EDM election procedure would be more appropriate

We need a set of requirements the potential candidates should meet to be eligible for nomination. The workgroup should also work with the suggested points to be added to the Orientation Pack.

Consensus: the Zonal Nominations workgroup will bring a set of criteria for Zonal Nominations to be approved at EDM in Helsinki..

15.20 – 15.40 Website report

(Report in booklet page 12)

Website link has been added to Google search engines with some keywords. More to come.

Roland is still trying to change the 'owner' of domain name. As soon as this is done, web space can be rented. Costs estimated around 120 euros/year.

The visits to the website are steadily increasing. Roland has sent a statistic printout which is shown around the room. The most popular item to download is the "UK Service pamphlet". Please send relevant information – documents, events, FD work – so that it can be included.

The 'Links' page contains link to other communities' websites – please check and send updates and changes.

Communities have the possibility to have the "About us"-page translated in their language. 7 communities have sent their translations so far. When you send the translations, please include the English paragraph heading to each translated paragraph, because it is difficult to identify without that. The translated pages can also include local contact information such as webpage, office address, and brief paragraph about the community (see Turkish translation).

Contact email for all additions and changes is edm_na@yahoo.com

Nina (UK) – would like to see a forum for discussions among the EDM body. Would be willing to moderate that.

Feedback to the web servant: excellent webpage, very clear.

Please take back to the communities that web servant is open for election in Helsinki.

15.40 – 16.00 EDM report to World Service Conference

The Zonal Forums get the opportunity to present a report at the World Service Conference. Steering Committee has drafted a report (booklet page 25). The report is briefly discussed, some amendments added and approved by the body.

Short break

16.30 – 16.45 ECCNA 24 Wales closing report

The ECCNA report usually should offer experience to the future ECCNA committee. We only received a report from the chairperson of ECCNA in Wales (see booklet page 24).

Some points mentioned in the report were about pre-registration, translation equipment, the necessity of updating of guidelines as to the venue requirements, and some problems with the fundraising committee. The report also includes a financial overview.

Joao (FD vice chair) – the report says that it makes little sense to rent much translation equipment in a community where most people speak English. The ECCNA guidelines group should consider this.

16.45 – 17.00 ECCNA 25 Helsinki report

Conor as the member of the Steering Committee has already traveled to Finland and met with the ECCNA host committee. Report from the committee is handed out.

The committee meets regularly and all subcommittees are working.

Extra meeting space had to be rented, but it is still within the ECCNA budget.

The seed money 5000 Euro has been transferred.

Translation equipment for 5 languages has been rented, the possibility of (cheaper) blue-tooth equipment is being investigated.

The website is online.

The flyer has been printed, but even with diligent proof-reading nobody noticed it has no date on it! The flyer will be overprinted with the date. Members, who wish to take the flyer without date, can do so and make a sticker with the date to paste on it.

Accommodation committee is negotiating hotel and restaurant deals.

Merchandising, entertainment and programming committees are working.

Pre-registration until 13.7.2008 is 25 €, after that 30,- €, party tickets for both nights 12,- €.

Special hotel rate for EDM members has been negotiated at the Hotel Olympia. Price for double room is 100,- €, single room not known. Please book the room until the end of May. There are other hotel possibilities on the flyer.

Speaker CDs can be produced on site, number of 100 CDs sold is an estimate.

Income from entertainment is not on the budget yet.

Saturday February 23rd

Meeting start with reading the Just for Today meditation.

9.30– 10.00 NAWS report

4 long term employees of the World Service Office have died in the last 6 months. It is a difficult time.

Poland and Egypt are asking for seating at the World Service Conference. About half the delegates present at EDM are conference participants. CAR and CAT have been sent out.

Survey about medallion design preference on na.org 8.500 people participated so far.

Conference participants report to be filled in on the website. Non-conference participants can also fill it in.

Issue discussion topics: questions are in the CAR and on the website. Anyone can submit their input to these questions.

4 new World Board Service pamphlets have been published. Material for these pamphlets comes also from the issue discussion topics.

New personal stories proposed for 6th edition basic text, for voting at World Service Conference.

Also two new IPs for young people and parents

The website is being re-designed and will be online around May 2008, to be approved at WSC.

4 year project to look at new different ways to provide services, as addendum to the PR handbook. Please send your input.

Meeting directory and the FTP site with shared resources from the regions.

World Convention 2009 in Barcelona

NAWS participates in PR events worldwide. This is a great opportunity for FD work. Please let us know about events jane@na.org

10.00 – 10.15 Questions from communities

Latvia

- We need your experience for press conference organisation for social workers, workers of drugstores, priests, experts in narcology and other officials people?

Sergio (Portugal) – we made a mailing to professionals by mail and offer to make an information panel to them. The mailing includes several treatment centres. 8 of them answered and 3 agreed to have an presentation. The presentation took one hour. We introduce NA worldwide and the meetings in our area and community. We have a power point presentation to show. Then we have time for questions. We are prepared to answer several frequently answered questions (FAQ). This is the most valuable time in the presentation. We also offer some literature: meeting schedule area and national, resource in the community.

Jussi (Finland) – we have prepared an information packet for the professionals.

Sisko (Sweden) - we sent out invitations to all kinds of professionals and invite them to the presentation.

Usually they are not so well attended.

Simon (Malta) – we invited a big selection of people, including relatives, doctors, everyone. They asked many questions and it influences their perception of NA. Treatment centres are sometimes afraid we will take their jobs. We contact them by phone also and invite them to our convention.

Conor (chair) – involve the public as much as possible.

Short break

10.30 – 12.15 NAWS workshop

Workshop topic is about the service structure. The delegates are seated in small groups arranged according to the “development stage” of the communities. Communities sitting together from UK, France, Sweden, Portugal. Other groups from Greece, Finland, Hungary as well as the new communities like Malta, Slovenia, Croatia. One group is members from the EDM Steering Committee and Fellowship Development as service structure of the EDM. Groups are to discuss two questions: “what works well” and “what is not working well” in our service structure. Feedback is written on flipcharts and pasted on the wall.

Lunch break

14.15 – 15.00 Bids for winter EDM 2009

Requirements for bids to hold the winter EDM are in the Orientation Pack.

France southern area

NA is quite strong in Paris, but finally the fellowship in the south of France is also growing. World Convention took place in Paris in 1995, but we never hosted EDM in France.

The local fellowship would use the EDM as opportunity to host a convention in Marseille.

3 Hotels as possible locations for the EDM:

1. Favourite location is a monastery La Baume in Aix en Provence.

Next airport is Marseille, travel time approx. 30 minutes by bus. Train travel time from Marseille 20 minutes.

Seminary full board with all meals in a single or double room at 54,- € per person. Rooms are very basic.

There are different types of rooms available in the monastery.

There is a big conference room for 120 – 200 people, with daylight. There are also smaller conference rooms. The biggest conference room costs 435 € per day, the smaller ones are less. Conference rooms are fully equipped with projector and internet.

We need to take a minimum of 25 rooms, then the conference room will be free.
Possible dates are everything except the first week of March.

2. Hotel Souleia in Aubagne:

Two meetings take place in Aubagne.

Costs are 130,90 per person in a single room, including full board and the conference room.

3. Etap Hotel in Marseille

this is a worldwide hotel chain in the centre of Marseille close to the old port.

The conference room is smaller and has no windows. Costs are 460 € per day

The first location is very much liked.

16 voting communities are present. Simple majority is 8.

The EDM votes to hold the winter 2009 EDM in France.

Bids for summer EDM 2009

None, at the moment

15.00 – 16.20 Questions from communities

Serbia (Goran) – presents a report (report given out)

First meeting in August 2007 with support from members in Croatia and London. About 4 members, not a lot of clean time, but the meeting continues. A new meeting opened 2 weeks ago.

Service structure does not exist yet.

Connections are being made with a local treatment centre.

The second convention is planned in Trogir, in May, together with Croatia, Slovenia and Bosnia.

- Last year there was a little event together with AA and Al-Anon as combined event. Is this ok with our traditions?

Karolina (Poland) – we have a regular event in a polish town with members from all 12 step fellowships together. NA is also involved in this. It works well. It is a kind of PI event too. Members from other fellowships come to an NA meeting to see how it works, and sometimes the message is passed.

Joao (Portugal) – In some conventions, we consider offering rooms also for other fellowships as special interest meetings.

Sisko (Sweden) – Sweden is a mature fellowship. In our history, many members used both fellowships to stay clean. Our very first convention in 1989 was with only 30 members present, but we were proud that it was an NA convention

Sigrid (Germany) – In the small town I got clean, we organized a PI event / information panel together with AA. We made clear that we are different fellowships, but we put together our efforts because we did not have the resources to do it alone. It was probably against the traditions, but it was what we could do.

Question from communities

Malta

- Local rehab centre does not refer people to NA because they don't have a positive image of NA. It is a 12 step rehab run by an NA member and they want more influence on NA.

Joao (Portugal) – patients of the rehab centre have to follow the rules of the rehab. This may be against our meeting practice, e.g. go out for coffee after the meeting. We need to respect the restrictions the treatment centre gives.

Veronika (Sweden) – we had a situation like this. It takes time, just keep on doing it the NA way. It will resolve itself.

Inigo (Spain) – A treatment centre in Spain obligates people to go to the meeting. People who come from that treatment centre feel they need to follow the rules, even after they left the treatment. But they continue coming.

Konstantine (Greece) – a priest takes huge interest in addicts. He gives them different, religious guidance/ instructions that conflict with NA. He confuses the NA members. We needed to tell him to back off.

Jussi (Finland) – most members don't come straight off the streets. Most institutions send people to NA.

They learn about NA from the view point of the institution. We let them make the choice if they want to go to NA or back to the institution. We treat them as members.

Conor (chair) – the government sponsored treatment centres did not send people to NA for a long time. They did not want to communicate with NA. We went on trying to talk with them and tried to keep the meetings attractive. People started coming.

UK

- Should they have a forum on their website for young people? Has anyone done that?

Becky (NAWS) – We have heard of a Yahoo group. In USA you'd get sued. Yahoo group would welcome any questions. Portia at WSO would be good person to contact.

Arne (World Board) – NA youth convention held at Quebec this weekend. They may know something.

- Can we get the CAR earlier?

Becky (NAWS) – The CAR is available 5 months before WSC in English, but none of the content is a surprise so we all know what's in it before it comes out. This year is a perfect example (approval of literature)

- Have other communities changed name of PI to PR?

Mary (World Board) some have changed and stayed, some changed and changed back. Regions find what works best for them via workgroups

Veronica (Sweden) – one area has changed via workshops.

Conor (Ireland) – In Ireland, the areas are happy to stay as PI though at region it's PR

Resumes are given out for the positions of treasurer and vice-chair.

Pavlos (Greece) – one candidate for treasurer doesn't have enough clean time for the position. Should the candidate be considered?

Some questions and discussion around this.

The next treasurer be starting immediately after EDM in Hungary.

Election now is only for treasurer, not for both the alternate and the treasurer. The alternate would be in the alternate position for 2 ½ years; usually we have one year in which the alternate is trained to take over.

The body feels that if we put clean time requirements in the job description for service positions, then we should keep to them. It might cause a precedent to not observe the requirement now.

Information about the voting procedure:

The candidates do not have to be present for the election. If all candidates are here we can ask questions of them but, if not, then no. There is no discussion about the candidates

Short break

16.30 – 18.00 Workshop with local fellowship: Tradition 7. **("How to do service with almost no money")**

About 15 Hungarian members and 30 members from EDM and World Services participated in the workshop. The participants were grouped into small groups of 6-8 people. After an introduction of the topic, the small groups are asked to discuss two questions relevant to the 7th tradition:

1. what principles are in the 7th tradition, and how can we apply them in our home group?
2. what works well in our home group and how can we support that /support the people who do that?

Feedback is then collected – 2 points from each group – and written on the flipcharts both in English and Hungarian. Translation was available throughout the workshop.

The workshop wraps up with about 15 minutes of Question and Answers for the local fellowship.

Sunday February 24th

Meeting start with reading the Just for Today meditation.

9.30 – 11.00 Treasury closing report, Approval of budget

Jim (acting Treasurer) –

Suggestion from Paul WSO-E:

Change of bank signatories are often difficult, the last time due to small missing details in the bank forms it took several weeks before the new directors could use the bank accounts. Beside this the installation of the bank online software can be also a problem.

I would suggest that the EDM allows me as an agent of the AISBL (name of legal association in Belgium) to process payments directly from Brussels. I would act only on reception of a document approved by two SC members. This system would enable us to have always access to the EDM account even during the intermediate period of change of directors.

Becky (NAWS) – World Services is liable for anything Paul does, as he is the employee of WSO-Europe. We trust him. It would make life easier for EDM and for Paul.

Is there consensus? Some questions.

Concern is expressed that there would be only one person that has access and possibly control over the bank account. Clarification: two SC members would ok every transfer.

Consensus to give Paul WSO-E the signatory for the EDM bank account

Ring-fenced monies (Money set aside)	
Legal entity	2.000,00 €
Prudent reserve	4.000,00 €
SC travel (next EDM)	4.000,00 €
Emergency travel	1.000,00 €
Budget set aside for EDM 2009	2.576,00 €
FD travel	2.000,00 €
Total	15.576,00 €
Amount in bank February 13.2.2008 22.319,95 €	
Money set aside	15.576,00 €
Amount accessible	<u>6.743,95 €</u>
Donation from Netherlands	25,00 €
Donation from Malta	<u>100,00 €</u>
Amount accessible on February 24	<u>6.868,95 €</u>
Donation expected from Spain	<u>1.800,00 €</u>
	8.668,95 €

New budget suggestions

Hungary Funding to Summer EDM (accommodation + per diem)
 Lithuania Funding to Summer EDM
 FD trip to Lithuania July 2008
 Egypt to Winter EDM 2009 France

Some questions around the “expected donation” from Spain. The transfer has been initiated and needs to be counter-signed by the second signatory of the Spanish bank account. UK and Portugal express doubts if we can calculate with money that is not physically in the bank yet. Without counting the Spanish donation, the available budget is 6.868,95 Euro.

Without income of ECCNA in 2009 two more EDM meeting need to be financed.

Average costs for one EDM including travel funding for delegates is around 10.000 – 12.000 Euro

To finance both EDMs, around 20.000 € would be needed, without any FD work done in-between. These funds are not there yet. Money set aside up to now for summer EDM 2009 is 2.576 plus prudent reserve.

Lively discussion around setting aside money – and how much – for summer EDM in 2009 and possibly also for the winter EDM in 2010. Several proposals, whether to set aside 2000 Euro, 1.000 Euro or maybe everything.

If donations stopped now, we would have to decide whether to have an EDM meeting or do FD work. But it always happened that the money came through. It is a matter of trust. We need to discuss in our communities, how awareness can be raised to contribute to EDM.

Proposal from the treasurer to set aside 2000 Euro towards EDM in summer 2009.
Is there consensus? No, more discussion needed.

Another proposal from Greece to set aside a 50 % of the EDM budget from now onwards toward EDM in summer 2009 and winter 2010. Should we set aside 50 % of the current budget (around 3435,- Euro)?

More discussions around the amounts proposed.

Proposal to set aside 50 % from the current budget (3434,48 Euro) for the summer EDM 2009. Consensus
Amount now set aside is **6010,48 €**

Question: Why doesn't the World Convention contribute towards the EDM in summer 2009?

Becky (NAWS) – the World Convention does not make money. It costs very much, and it is consciously designed as an FD event. Trust! NA has enough money to take care of almost anything we decide to do. We can help if needed, but there is no procedure for this. It would be a bigger discussion, maybe to leave for summer EDM.

Short Break

11.30 – 12.30 Elections for SC Treasurer, SC Vice Chair

Procedure of the elections:

The description in the Orientation Pack on the requirements and duties of the service positions is read.

Introduction of the candidates, asking for a proposer and a seconder for each candidate.

If the candidate is present, questions can be asked to them

The candidate leaves the room, if present.

A discussion can take place about the candidate's suitability for the position

Guidelines are not up to date on our election procedure, as it was done in the past: the guidelines say that no questions can be asked of the candidates. At the last EDM in Porto, the chair asked if the body would like to ask questions from the candidate as to their experience and ability for the service position, which they did. This needs to be updated. Also we have also done a secret ballot / vote, even when there is only one candidate.

Options for voting: put the name or leave blank (abstain).

We reduce the amount of voting communities by the amount of abstentions. A 2/3 of voting participants needs to be present (not abstaining) for the election to be valid.

50 % majority is needed.

Treasury:

One candidate: Jim D. (UK)

Proposed by Sweden, seconded by Poland

Questions from the body to Jim

Jim (acting treasurer) – I have taken on the role of the acting Treasurer after Nadi stepped down. I have done a lot of training and preparation, including a trip to Brussels to learn about the legal association. This is why I decided to put myself up for election as the treasurer. If elected, I will step down as the alt. Secretary. Information: if I am elected, I will be able to be at the next EDM in Helsinki only from Friday. This has been discussed with the Steering Committee and they will arrange for treasury be taken care of.

If a treasurer is not elected now, the position will continue to be filled by the remaining members of the Steering Committee. The election would then have to be repeated in Helsinki.

Time for discussion.

Ballots are given out. 17 voting communities.

Jim is elected as treasurer

Vice chair

Two candidates.

Croatia and Serbia wish to not take part in the election, as they feel they cannot vote. They are not counted as voting communities in this election. 15 voting communities.

Simon J. (UK), proposed by Spain, seconded by France

Questions to Simon:

Nina (UK) – you were given a Zonal Nomination by EDM as Co-facilitator. How can you do both? Secondly, if you are elected as vice chair and then also as Co-facilitator, will you be available as chair person?

Simon (UK) – that position would start at WSC 2010. I see no time conflict as vice chair. If I needed to decide, my loyalty lies with the EDM.

Tomas (Portugal) – what does that mean?

Simon (UK) – I would withdraw my nomination as Co-facilitator.

Sisko H. (Sweden), proposed by Finland, seconded by Malta.

No questions to Sisko.

Time for discussion.

Ballots are given out. 15 voting communities. Two new communities withdraw their votes, as they are unfamiliar with both candidates.

Sisko is elected as vice chair

Proposal to update the paragraph on the election process in the Orientation Pack (page 10):

Points found now are

- If all candidates for a position are present, questions can be asked of the candidates about their experience and qualification for the service position. If the candidates are not all present, no questions can be asked.

- elections will be conducted by a closed paper vote

The steering Committee will suggest update wording for next EDM.

Consensus

Short Break

13.00 – 13.30 Matters arising, meeting Sum up & close

Ukraine (Ruslan and Andriy, Oksana as translator) – give a short report

62 groups in Ukraine. New H+I committee in Odessa is very successful. We receive help from Russia with experience. The biggest problem is that we don't have literature. Convention will take place last weekend in May in Odessa.

Goodbyes from Delegates and members who attend the EDM for the last time.

Some closing announcements

Decisions taken during the weekend:

- Minutes of the last meeting approved
- **ECCNA Guidelines:** Consensus that the body to form a work group for the ECCNA Guidelines
- **EDM Travel:** previous decision approved that SC and FD members can have single rooms while they attend EDM.
- **Budget decisions:**
to set aside as part of our budget for 2000 Euro for travel of FD committee members.
to set aside as part of our budget 1000 Euros for venue expenses of winter EDM.
These decisions are on the basis that money is available.
- **Zonal Nominations** workgroup will bring a set of criteria for Zonal Nominations to be approved at EDM in Helsinki.
- EDM report to WSC approved
- Winter EDM 2009 will take place in France
- Decision to not consider one resume for Steering Committee position because the candidate does not meet the suggested clean time requirement.
- **EDM bank account:** Consensus to give Paul WSO-E the signatory for the EDM bank account
- 50 % of the current budget (3434,48 Euro) set aside for the summer EDM 2009 and winter EDM 2010.
- **Elections:** treasurer – Jim D. (UK), vice-chair – Sisko H. (Sweden)
- **Orientation Pack:** Steering Committee will suggest updates for the paragraph on the election process (page 10).
- Ask for bids for summer EDM 2009 as usual, but without bid for ECCNA.

Requests:

Lithuania to Summer EDM 2008

Hungary partial funding (accommodation + per diem) to Summer EDM

Lithuania FD visit to their convention in June 2008

Denmark PI (send member, no funding)

Egypt to winter EDM 2009

Meeting Closed