



European Delegates Meeting

Winter EDM France, 5.-8. March 2009

– DRAFT MINUTES –

Attending:

EDM Chair	Toby
EDM Vice-Chair	Sisko
EDM Secretary	Sigrid
EDM Treasurer	Jim
FD Committee Chair	Miko
FD Committee Vice-Chair	Joao
Croatia	Sanda
Denmark RD	Iver
Denmark RD alt	Erik
Finland RD	Janne
France RD	Ana-Luisa
Frenchspeaking Swiss RD	Sophie
German-speaking RD	Andreas
Greece RD	Pavlos
Greece RD alt	Konstantine
Hungary RD	Eszti
Hungary RD alt	Feri
Ireland RD	Niall
Ireland RD alt	Michael
Israel RD	Yuval
Israel RD alt	Oded
Lithuania RD	Ilona
Malta RD	Simon
Malta RD alt	Ian
Norway RD	Christin
Norway RD alt	Per Einar
Poland RD alt	Aga
Portugal RD	Sergio
Portugal RD alt	Marco
Slowenia	Jovanka
Spain RD	Miguel
Sweden RD	Veronica
Sweden RD alt	Kenneth
Turkey RD	Serhad
UK RD	Nina
UK RD alt	Liz
Western Russia RD	Natalia
Western Russia RD alt	Andrey

NAWS

WSO-Chatsworth	Becky
WSO-Chatsworth	Toni
World Board	Michael C.
WSO-Europe	Paul
WSO-Iran	Siamak

Several international guests and members from the local fellowship

Thursday March 5th

9.30 – 10.20 Orientation session and Opening of the meeting

The meeting starts with a round of introductions of everyone present at the meeting, the reading of “Just for Today” and the 12 Concepts for NA Service.

Toby (chair) – we want to make this EDM more interactive for all of us. The meeting room is open to anyone who needs the facilities for any kind of interaction you might want to have.

Please be considerate to people whose first language is not English. Speak slowly, clearly and digestible.

Two members share about their experience about being at EDM with English not as their first language (Sophie, Frenchspeaking Swiss) and of being an old member of the first days of EDM and coming back after many years (Michael C., World Board)

Sigrid (secretary) – please speak slowly for the minutes. Please hand me any missing reports as files for the archive. Confirm receipt of emails so that we know the email address is working. I love hot chocolate.

Sisko (vice-chair) – talks about the consensus decision-making process (see Orientation Pack page 5). Generally we are very good at finding common ground through discussion at our meetings. If we need to use the consensus process during this meeting we will make sure everyone knows when we go through the different stages.

Open EDM positions: Webmaster.

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

Short break

Meeting booklet was given out the previous evening

Minutes have been sent out in mailing #1. Approval of the minutes

Explanation and approval of the agenda

A very warm thanks to the French host committee.

10.50 – 11.30 Steering Committee Report

Page 3 of meeting booklet. Report is presented by Toby.

There has been a lot of correspondence with members and communities, within and outside the EDM. Any questions you may have to other delegates can be sent to the edm email address, we will distribute it to our mailing list. The edm_na@yahoo.com is the point of contact for any communications with EDM.

The community reports will be presented in a new approach in a workshop format at this EDM.

The bank account system has been changed, as was approved at the last EDM.

The Steering Committee meets online regularly, with FD to join in at the end of each meeting.

There was a new way of working on the SC and FD guidelines, trying to utilize all delegates as resource for input.

We received reports from absent communities (Bulgaria and South Africa). We communicated also with other communities, but we do not have feedback or report from any of the others, such as Italy or Netherlands. If anyone receives information from such communities, please pass on the information to us.

We had a few requests for attendance to this EDM (Lithuania, Hungary, Egypt, Poland, Malta, Finland, Russia) which were all approved, as funds were available this time. Usually it is our practice to fund one delegate to one EDM a year. But it is not clearly mentioned in the guidelines. Now some communities have asked for funding for their alternate, and also for funding of one member to both EDMs in the year. We ask the body to discuss this.

Questions and remarks:

Questions about absent communities, who they are and what information has been received.

Pavlos (Greece) has contacts in Cyprus.

Jovanka (Slovenia) is attending, but Slovakia is not. Serbia has sent a report too.

It would be nice to have a list of all communities who are not attending, so that members for example from neighboring communities or visitors can also contact them.

There are often also personal contacts between members that delegates or EDM do not know about. For example members from Macedonia communicating with members from Bulgaria and Croatia. We can ask them to pass on information about the situation they have in their country.

11.30 – 12.20 Treasury Report: (Report in the booklet page 6)

Jim (Treasurer) –

Some housekeeping announcements on treasury:

Rooms need to be payed in cash with the treasurer, who will hand it all to the venue.

All funded participants are asked to hand in all receipts for flights and transport as soon as possible during EDM. It is easier for the treasurer to transfer money through the bank to the funded participants.

The venue provides only one coffee break a day (afternoon). Coffee in the morning is provided by the French host committee. We will pass a basket for that during the breaks.

Page 6 shows the actual movements and budgets relevant for this EDM in France. Some explanations:

Monies transferred: Funded members have given their budgets (see page 9-10). Some of these expenses have been transferred (travel costs, visa), but not the total budgets. Accommodation will be paid directly to the venue. Some funded members also need to receive per diem and extra expenses not accounted for yet.

Ring-fenced monies: ECCNA seed money for 2010 needs to be added to the amount given in the booklet. This is because normally, the 5000 Euro seed money for ECCNA are passed on directly to the next host committee. They do not show in the ring-fenced monies, because this year (2009), we do not have an ECCNA, so the 5000 Euro went back to EDM instead of to a future host committee ECCNA 2010. We need to put it aside for that purpose.

Ring-fenced monies (money set aside)	
Legal entity	2.000,00 €
Prudent reserve	4.000,00 €
SC travel (next EDM)	4.000,00 €
FD travel	2.000,00 €
Emergency travel	1.000,00 €
Budget set aside until summer 2009	6.010,48 €
ECCNA seed money for 2010	5.000,00 €
Total	24.010,48 €

Amount in bank after transfers 45.245,58 €

Ring-fenced money 24.010,48 €

Amount accessible 21.235,10 €

Other amounts to pay: Accomodation for the funded members - this amount has changed slightly, because some members arrived earlier/later. We will know the definite amount during the weekend. A deposit has been payed to the venue, which covers most of these expenses.

Figures in the current account sheet:

ECCNA 25: we payed for the translations equipment 5.684 Euro and the host committee received 5.000 seed money – total expenses for ECCNA were therefor 10.684,-

The return from ECCNA 25 was 8.697,78.

This means ECCNA produced a loss of about 2.000 Euro.

Current EDM accounts:

We now have two accounts. One current account and one savings account. The current account will be used for all expenses, as a working account for any transfers before, during and after the EDM meetings. The savings account contains the majority of the money. Any money transferred from the savings account to the current account will need two signatures out of five.

The current account has a card to withdraw cash and a credit card. The credit card was not working yet before the EDM. This is why the treasurer had to take some money out to his (old) cash account this time.

The savings account has 45.243,58 Euro.

The current account contains 1.500 Euro.

The treasurer has withdrawn 1.000 Euro to his personal cash account to access during this EDM.

Previous EDM accounts:

Treasurer's Euro Cash holding in Bank: With the old accounts system, it was difficult to handle cash expenses during EDM (no bank card). This is why the treasurer previously used a personal cash account to handle expenses. The remaining money on this account has been transferred to the savings account, except an amount to cover the treasurer's expenses at this EDM, plus the above 1000 Euro for current expenses. This account will not be used for EDM any more.

Treasurer's Euro cash holding Helsinki: The table says a cash balance of 739,79. The cash has been put into the above cash holding, as a rounded figure (740,00), so cash is closed.

Pounds Sterling account: has been closed.

Questions and remarks

Liz (UK) – when will we discuss how to handle budgets transferred to funded delegates, who then for some reason cannot come.

Toby (chair) – later this weekend

Jim (treasurer) – it is not clear yet, how long transfers from savings account to current account are going to take. Funded delegates are asked to give their budgets as soon as possible, so that you will have your money on time.

Paul (WSO-E) – it will probably be possible to use an electronic signature for transfers from the savings account. But this might also take time.

Lunch Break**14.00 – 16.00 Community Reports Workshop**

This is a new way we are trying for the Community reports. The reports will not be read out to the whole body, but we will divide you into four small groups. Each group will have the reports of the group members, and will also receive one report of an absent community. First, you will have time to read the reports. Then you will have time to discuss your reports, questions and issues that came up in the reports.

Objectives to report back from the small groups:

- * "Find novelties!" These are any ideas you hear in the reports that are new to you and/or worth reporting back to the body.
- * "Issues or solutions: task assignments" Identify issues to be discussed, for example the questions in the reports. Discuss them in your group. If you find that you have resources in your group to answer these questions directly it is good! Perhaps you want to continue dialogue and support between communities between EDMs, then it is a task assignment
- * "Issues that need more help": more information needed from the body in the sum-up session.
- * Please also take note of all the funding requests.

In mailing #3, the community reports contain a sum-up of all the questions asked in the reports. If your community has answers to any of the questions, and you are not in the group with the community asking, you can of course give your answers to those questions directly and personally, outside of this workshop.

"Air-group": delegates from Slovenia, Croatia, France, Poland, Lithuania, Turkey,
alt. delegates from Sweden, Malta, Israel, absent community report from Serbia

"Fire-group": delegates from Western Russia, Denmark, Norway, Frenchspeaking Swiss, Israel
alt. delegates from UK, Ireland, absent community report from Egypt

"Water-group": delegates from Hungary, Malta, UK, Portugal, Germanspeaking
alt. delegates from Greece, Russia, Norway, absent community report from Bulgaria

"Earth-group": delegates from Spain, Sweden, Ireland, Greece, Finland
alt. delegates from Hungary, Portugal, Denmark, absent community report from South Africa

Short break**16.45 – 18.00 Community Reports sum-up session**

Groups come back together and report back from the small groups

novelties reported from the groups

France uses their own membership statistics for PI presentations

They have communications with the government and justice

Annual group conference together with regional meetings to decide about regional issues

Poland had an ad hoc lottery as fundraiser for an event about to make a loss

Egypt did a PI presentation for yellow pages Egypt.

Egypt were asked by a TV channel to do 10 episodes of 20 minutes (the did not do it in the end)

Frenchspeaking Swiss do regular presentations on the radio

Every group in the region has an email address on the regional website

The phonenumber gets a lot of calls for a pizza service ☺

Israel have sold more Russian basic texts in 3 months than Western Russia in one year. 20 % of the addicts in Israel are Russian

Prisoners are allowed to attend conventions under surveillance

Denmark create a loving atmosphere in service meetings by doing a sharing round, this makes service more attractive.

Western Russia maximum distance is 7000 km

NAWS are now printing the Basic Text and the Just for Today in Moscow in Russian

Norway raises funds by literature sales, even though they don't have an office

RSC moves around to different areas

Discussion about changing the writing of tradition 11 to include the internet

UK has prison sponsorships, anonymously via mail and a PO-box. Three areas participate in this.

German-speaking region have no income on literature

Have Step working groups that are possibly against the traditions

Sweden considers combining PI and H+I on regional level to PR coordinators

Farsi speaking members are doing amazing PI work

Regional literature distribution committees hold workshops for Area lit. committees

Spain region keeps its money in savings accounts that gain interests

South Africa would like to have volleyball games at the World Convention!

They elect RSC members in the Regional Assembly

After each Regional Convention they have a "lessons learned"-document for the next committee

FD committee is contacting other African fellowships

They have a campaign to collect old literature, keytags etc to help the H+I committee

Greece have their first area phonenumber which operates daily

Area needed documents from legal association to open a phonenumber

Held their first successful FD workshop outside of convention

PI project covered the whole island on Crete

Finland has all regional service positions covered, yeah! Including a literature person for each area

Ireland have the regional meetinglist both for sale and online on the website

Strategic plan covers literature (providing new literature to areas), entertainment, parents and carers, regional assembly with workshops about IDTs.

Have redesigned their website

Celebrates 30th anniversary

"Home group committee" supports services on home group level

Discussions in which solutions could be offered:

- * France: Drug replacement programs: how do we deal with professionals? Can newcomers share in meetings? Feedback: welcome them, mind the traditions, there are bulletins about that
- * Slovenia: Alienation between members due to very differing clean times. Problems of getting newcomers into service. Suggestions were to have small and simple tasks for newcomers, such as greeting, coffee ...
- * Poland: area is getting as big as the region, starting to be a competition.
- * Lithuania: how to handle budgets and prioritize better? Recommendation to contact Spain.
- * Two communities had problems with reservations for hotels for events, which were not filled and had to be paid anyway. Experiences were shared about this.
- * How to deal with members who don't want to pay the full amount of registrations at events. Solutions offered: personally explain to members where the money goes. Have a statement at registration desk
- * Funds from literature sales: different regions make funds from that
- * Russia: can anyone vote in a group business meeting? Suggestions that each group is autonomous and can have their own guidelines about that.
- * Egypt: don't do PI on your own, more harm can be done like that.
- * Egypt: people share a lot about their religion. Ireland and UK offered suggestions. See guidelines for inappropriate behaviour
- * Fighting in business meeting: suggestion from Denmark, to allow members to share their feelings before the business meeting, create a loving atmosphere.

Task assignments - community (1) to offer help to or share experience with community (2)

Poland → France: malicious atmosphere at the regional service meetings

Croatia → France: how to help isolated groups grow

Israel → France: translation of 6th edition basic text
 Lithuania/France → Poland/Turkey: help with starting a PI committee on regional or area level
 Sweden → Poland: printing of PI posters for police stations
 Poland/Sweden → Turkey/Slovenia: establishing a legal association
 Sweden → Lithuania: meeting attendance cards
 Sweden → Greece: how to raise awareness about financial contributions to EDM and NAWS
 Portugal → Spain: one remote group in the north of Spain, neighbor Portugal has an abundance of meetings
 Sweden, Portugal → South Africa: communication between area PI committees

After the sum-up session, members share about their feelings with this new way of working on the community reports. Some points brought up were:

- * Enjoyed it very much to have more opportunity to share in the small group
- * Time to hear solutions and problems from other communities would also be appreciated.
- * Time was felt to be much too short
- * Reporting was difficult to understand and to follow. It was literally impossible to figure out from the reports, which community has which novelties, problems, questions, solutions, and to take notes about that.
- * Suggestion to change the sum-up session, so that each region can briefly report their own points
- * Would like more contact with the other regions, outside the group too
- * It is very difficult to write minutes while keeping up with the discussion in the small groups
- * The first part of sharing in the small groups was good. But the second part did not feel good. better to have reporting to the whole body, but give it more time. Split into small groups only to talk about specific subjects
- * Focus on the questions and the assignments is positive and easier to follow-up.
- * Suggestion to write feedback on boards to make it clearer
- * Emotional and personal contacts during sharing the reports is missed
- * It is different (better) to hear the reports first hand

Toby (chair) – our impression was, we have never seen such a lively and enthusiastic discussion as in the small groups. There was a magnificent spirit in that first part. The idea was to get the issues discussed into your minds and everybody can keep on discussing them during the weekend. We have taken note of the feedback, especially what might need to be changed in the second part. There will be a lot more time to discuss open questions during the weekend.

Friday March 6th

Meeting starts with reading of Just for Today

Toby (chair) – the community reports workshop yesterday was an experiment. The second part was not well planned and we heard the concerns voiced. As a solution, we suggest that we will have another session on community reports, in which every community will have the time to voice the questions discussed during the small groups, tell us what solutions you found and what still needs to be discussed. A summary compiled during the reports session is handed out.

9.00 – 10.00 NAWS Report

Becky (WSO-Chatsworth) – presents the other members from NAWS: Paul from WSO-Europe and Siamac from WSO-Iran.

New projects:

Annual report, NAWS news, Review&Input for new pamphlets on “self-support” and “times of illness” have been sent as mailing to all delegates. Extra copies are being handed out.

“Living clean”-Project. A chapter outline was sent out in the mailing. Members are asked to participate!

Service System workgroup is working and will give some results in April.

NAWS News now contains a cover sheet with a sum-up of “What’s happening in NA World Services”.

Two new service pamphlets are ready

Limited edition Basic Text is already sold out and a new print will be available in April.

Website:

The website has been re-designed. It will be online from now on. The address is still www.na.org, but web links to literature and other material have changed – please change those links in your regions’ webpages.

World Convention in Barcelona in August 2009.

About 2000 people have already pre-registered. About half of those are from the US.

Another planning meeting took place in Barcelona last week, trying to re-negotiate rates. New information will be given about that. We try to make the World Convention as much a Fellowship Development event as possible and bring members/ communities there that don't usually participate in EDM.

We are trying to help as many members as possible from Iran to get visa from Spain. If any community has difficulties with Visa, contact us as early as possible.

Newcomers with less than 30 day are given free registration.

Costs for registrations need to be so high, because convention centers this size are very expensive. The World Convention usually does not make any profit at all. *You do not have to register to attend the meetings.* Registration helps to stay self-supporting and pay for the venues. Badges are needed to attend all the entertainment, coffee-houses etc. Usually members who can afford to pay for the flight can also afford the registration. If not, we can make collections and help members who really cannot afford to offer them the registration.

NAWS is also suffering from the financial crisis:

50.000 \$ more expenses than income per month this year. At the moment, we are living off the revenue gained before the crisis. Most income still comes from literature sales and donations.

This is the first year that we have more meetings outside of the US than inside. This also means demand on literature is increasing.

650.000 \$ literature is given out for free each year. Other publications cost 250.000 \$ year. A "normal business" would cut down on that, we don't want to do that.

200.000 \$ increase in cost of arranging the World Service Conference 2008.

NAWS Travel has been cut back, travel teams are smaller.

There are not so many ways to save costs. Literature distribution is in the process of being newly arranged, more economically. Literature is being produced in Iran and India, and will be produced in Russia and China.

Income from WSO-E is linked to the dollar exchange rate, but sales are in Euro. These expenses however are not in Euro. This is why WSO-E made increasing losses. Now, prices have been calculated in Euro altogether, this means prices have increase. Shipping rates also have not changed in 15 years and needed to be increased / adapted to reality.

9.30 – 11.00 NAWS workshop for EDM - "Our Freedom, Our Responsibility"

The body splits into four workgroups. A worksheet with three questions is handed out. Feedback for the first two questions is gathered in the large group, question three is discussed in the small groups.

1. How did someone else's efforts help you find freedom in NA?
2. How do you exercise your sense of responsibility for NA?
3. How can we inspire others to become willing to share responsibility for NA service?

For feedback to these questions see **Addendum A** at the end of these minutes.

Break

11.30 – 12.30 FD reports and discussions (meeting booklet, page 27)

Miko (FD chair) – on a personal note, it is so great to do this service!

FD activities: There were two activities The reports are in the booklet.

The next event planned is a trip to Malta in April 2009. The travel team is already in correspondence with the local fellowship. Also, we are using the opportunity to train the travel team by letting them carry out the PI workshop at this local convention.

At the moment there are no further FD requests.

Please everybody put in your resumes in the FD resource pool. We now have 58 members

International conference (ICAA) in Cyprus: NAWS invited me (Miko) to participate in this event, together with two members from Greece. We set up an information table there and local members showed up and participated. The event then turned into a fellowship development activity. The members in Cyprus are from different countries, they use literature in a number of different languages. There is one meeting in Cyprus which is now on the meeting list. Members from Greece are in close contact with them.

The next International Conference on Addiction and Alcoholism (ICAA) will be in Portugal and will hopefully also involve the EDM.

Western Russia: The travel team sent a report, and so did the local fellowship. We sent the local fellowship some questions to help them what to put in their report. This was very helpful and we are preparing a similar questionnaire to help communities make their reports.

Feedback from Western Russia about the trip:

Natalia – I wasn't there, but I participated in the preparation. Preparation could have been better. The two members from Sweden did not know a lot about Western Russia before doing this trip. We filled in a questionnaire a long time ago. Can this questionnaire be updated before a new trip and also be sent to the members doing the trip? Also the venue was extremely expensive so we could rent the room only for one day. The resources were not used well.

Andrey – Moscow members received a lot of important information, for example about fundraising. They found the workshop beneficial. There were many members from the whole country. Moscow NA then tried to do a fundraising event for New Year, but it made loss. We decided that we cannot turn such events into fund raising.

Questions and discussions

Niall (Ireland) –FD is one central issue for EDM and we have no requests for FD visits. But we have a lot of funding requests to attend EDM. Is FD involved in deciding which communities will receive funding to attend the EDM?

Sisko (vice chair) – we have been in a good financial position, so recently all funding requests were granted. If we were in a position to prioritize, FD would be involved in that. We hope to have a discussion about funding during this weeking.

Nina (UK) – how come the Steering Committee makes funding decisions? It used to be done by the body.

Sisko (vice chair) – the decision about funding was mandated to the Steering Committee some EDMs ago. This is why the treasurer has asked that we find time to discuss how to do funding. It will be discussed later.

Sergio (Portugal) – shouldn't FD have a more active role in deciding about which communities are funded to the EDM?

Miko (FD) – FD has a much more active role, in the last few years.

Sisko (vicechair) – We will discuss guidelines this afternoon. We can always propose changes to that.

Yuval (Israel) – is there a system for Outreach, even if we don't ask for help or we don't have established contacts yet?

Miko (FD) – every community we are in contact with can ask for help or some kind of fellowship development. We encourage them to ask for help.

Sisko (vice chair) – we have guidelines for funding of FD visits. We encourage all communities to be in contact and we are trying to get in contact with remote members.

Jovanka (Slovenia) – there are members in Montenegro, Serbia and Slovenia who would love to have FD activities. We are not entitled, according to the funding guidelines. Maybe there is the possibility to have an activitiy for more communities together?

Nina (UK) – new communities would probably not put it into their reports that they want help. We should actively contact them and encourage them to be part of.

Pavlos (Greece) – are there any contacts with Czech Republic and other communities not participating in the EDM?

Sisko (vice chair) – we have sent emails to a number of communities asking them for reports. In terms of reports, we received only two. There is correspondence sometimes. We hear that there are many ideas and enthusiasm about how to improve fellowship development and there will certainly be more discussion about this!

Yuval (Israel) – is there a definition to what the European Zone is? Some communities are very far. When we start to contact other countries, where do we stop?

Sisko (vice chair) – the mission statement says clearly that everyone is welcome to participate at the EDM meetings. This is very open. We received a request from South Africa at the last EDM and put it to the body how to handle this. The body decided that we could not handle this.

Jim (treasurer) – World Services has set up a division into zones. In their map, South Africa belongs to the European Zone!

Niall (Ireland) – there are no financial details in your report.

Jim (treasurer) – expenses for the trip to Russia was 1420,- plus the members funded to this meeting.

Niall (Ireland) – would like some longterm planning

Serhad (Turkey) – can the knowledge gained from these workshops be shared more? Also, when my community sends out a question and I receive a number of responses, it would be my responsibility to compile a list of these inputs and make them available to others. Suggestion to create a “knowledge base” of this kind of information.

Lunch Break

14.00 – 14.45 ECCNA guidelines workgroup (meeting booklet page 20)

Veronica (Sweden) – The suggested changes are marked in grey in the document in the meeting booklet. The changes include points about venue requirements, communications between EDM and the committee, the bank account, the budget, registrations, the approval of the flyer, PR or PI at ECCNA, a point about finances as well as a number of suggestions and experiences that might be valuable for committee organizing the ECCNA.

Questions and remarks

* Venue requirements (page 21) – the room for EDM should be for 50 to 80 people, not 45

* Translations equipment: we used to have 5 booths, but they were hardly ever needed. Is 2 enough? No, better change this to “at least 2 languages, depending on location”

* Dates for EDM “Thursday to Sunday”: in Israel and Egypt, weekends are not on Saturday and Sunday. Suggestion to change this to “four days”. Voices against. EDM should “usually” be on Thursday to Sunday. When the bids are approved, then any exceptions are approved in the situation of the bid.

No more remarks

Revised “ECCNA guidelines” approved by consensus

14.45 – 15.45 EDM SC and FD guidelines – discussion and proposal

Sisko (vice chair) – At the last EDM in Helsinki, some changes were suggested to the EDM Steering Committee and Fellowship Development guidelines in the Orientation pack. It was decided that these changes needed to be discussed and worked on some more. For this, a new approach was tried. The guidelines were sent out to all delegates as a working document, asking for input. This was done in three intervals. Delegates did acknowledge receipt, but no actual input was received. In fact, there have been no changes to the proposal. The work done on the guidelines was some restructuring, some rewording and some things were adapted to reflect our current procedures. Maybe nobody offered suggestions because everyone is already happy with the suggested changes.

Feedback on the method of working:

Sophie (Frenchspeaking Swiss) – It was a good way of working and a good way of taking responsibility. And it reduces loads of paper to carry around.

Nina (UK) – the method was clear and it gives ownership to everyone. You have time to read, digest and reply.

Sisko (vice chair) – there was no input. Does anyone care to comment on that?

Christin (Norway) – I liked the method of working. I felt I had no input to give because I feel new to EDM.

Kenneth (Sweden) – I forgot to send the input! But I like the method. It is my responsibility if I want to change something.

Toby (chair) – I like the method too. My experience in EDM is that a silence is usually agreement.

Questions and discussions on the suggested changes:

Niall (Ireland) – will the questions raised earlier about FD impact the guidelines?

Sisko (vice chair) – as we go along discussing the role of FD, there might well be further changes to the guidelines. But for now it doesn't seem there are any concrete suggestions. So this should not inhibit us from approving all the other changes made up to now.

Andrey (Western Russia) – are there any cleantime criteria for alt treasurer and alt secretary

Sisko (vice chair) – General Criteria for membership of the Steering Committee is 5 years. This would apply to the alternates too.

Andrey (Western Russia) – Can a regional delegate be a member of the Steering Committee at the same time? It is not written anywhere.

Toby (chair) – there should not be a conflict of interest. The vice secretary and vice treasurers are not seated at the EDM meetings as members of the Steering Committee.

More discussion about this. Discussion includes points about what a conflict of interest may be. Is it necessary to define more precisely the role of the vice functions? Is it necessary to limit or exclude a member who is still a delegate from being elected to the Steering Committee? Some suggestions for new wordings are made but not accepted.

Toby (chair) – Suggestion that those who want to participate in this get together to reword the paragraph or insert a sentence somewhere to insure that who is elected to the vice positions should finish their term in a reasonable period after their election.

Any other changes?

Niall (Ireland) – page 6, description of the role of secretary: change one word “instances” to “parties”. Instances is not a word used for persons usually. – Ok.

ECCNA Helsinki closing report

Toby (chair) – A very long and comprehensive report was sent from the ECCNA committee in Helsinki. It was emailed out to everyone. As it is much too long to read out to everyone now, please read it for yourself and if you have any questions or comments on it there will be time to discuss them during the weekend.

Break

Toby (chair) – We have here a suggestion for a sentence to be added to the paragraph “Elections Guidelines” in the Orientation Pack: **“If a delegate is elected, they should be outgoing, so have relinquished their regional commitment by the next EDM”.**

Is anyone against this suggestion? Nobody.

Consensus to add the sentence to the election guidelines

Consensus to approve the Guideline document

16.15 – 16.25 Website report

Sigi (Secretary) – I communicate with Roland. Webreport is in the booklet. There is not a lot to add. Roland has finished his term after the last EDM, but has been going on to tend to the basic features of the site. The visits are increasing and we should really think about how we can better use this resource. There has been a number of ideas, but implementing them has been postponed to when we have a new webmaster.

Some more ideas:

Have a link on the regional sites of your communities

Send your translations of the “About us” page on the EDM website

Use the service section and the download material

Keep the weblinks updated

Give more information about upcoming events, such as address, contact

More attractive graphic design of information

A big thank you is expressed to Roland for his work and the willingness to keep on working on it.

16.25 – 17.00 Community reports

As the reporting part of the community reports workshop was unsatisfying to some members, all regions will now have the time to report any questions they had, what answers were received and what you still need answers to.

German-speaking region: We asked the Norwegian region why they are able to donate so much money. They make money with literature sales and we don't!

Another discussion was about the Step Working Groups we have. We have doubts whether they follow the traditions. Feedback was that according to the guidelines these workshops have, they seem more private.

Portugal: At the last regional convention we made 900 € loss because people did not pay registration and we had excess merchandise. Feedback was to talk to the people and inform what registration is for. We have a lack of trusted servants.

One area will arrange a group trip to Barcelona.

We had a free contract for our phonenumber and we discussed this a lot whether we should accept that. Now the phonenumber changed their conditions and is charging us. We feel better with this.

Western Russia: We asked who can vote in a group business meeting? Answers were that each group can have its own guidelines.

Question: In our regional guidelines, we have regulations about how many members per area are allowed to vote. Also Steering Committee members can vote. We want to change that: one vote per area, SC members cannot vote. Feedback?

Christin (Norway) – You can change the guidelines when the times change.

Sophie (Frenchspeaking Swiss) – We have changed our guidelines too. It is a long process. We made an area inventory which helped.

Toby (Spain) – guidelines are alive. In Spain, the guidelines are adapted each time.

UK: the first UK service conference was cancelled at the very last minute. Apologies to everyone!

Prison sponsorship workgroup – three areas have subcommittees with very varying guidelines. The workgroup tries to coordinate these activities.

Question: we have one meditation meeting, which does use NA literature, but also a CD with a specific guided meditation technique. Currently it is excluded from the meetingslist. Any suggestions on how this meeting could be included?

Sophie (Frenchspeaking Swiss) – we have a meditation meeting, it has 15 minutes silent meditation but no outside technique.

Denmark. We shared about how we created a more loving atmosphere in our business meetings. It was not one single thing that was done. Give room to share feelings, make a conscious decision to treat each other well etc.

Question: can a non-profit organization make copies of CDs without paying copyright fees?

Becky (NAWS) – If we don't protect the copyright, we can lose it. When treatment centers use the message and change it, there is nothing we can do about it. We give copyrights to a number of organizations for excerpts, citing where it comes from. But it is important to follow the paperwork about the copyrights. The organization should be required to sign specific agreement for it.

Malta: nothing specific to report, no questions

Norway: Our report does not mention H+I and PI because it is all on area level. There is a lot of activity. We have TV and radio spots on Christmas and Easter

We pass on all the money we have left over from our budgets. Literature distribution does not cost a lot, and also we make profit from literature sales.

Question: Discussion if we should change the 11. tradition to include internet.

Becky (NAWS) – each year there is a meeting of representatives of all 12-step fellowships. One of the topics will be the 11th tradition. When the traditions were written, internet did not exist. But changing the traditions is a long process and must involve discussions on group level.

Hungary: we consider bidding for ECCNA. We have received the guidelines and will translate them.

Questions:

* We found it interesting that fellowships make profit on literature. We would like to know if this includes also unapproved literature?

Joao (Portugal) – we have only one piece of un-approved literature. We sell it at the price of photocopies plus a little profit.

Miko (Israel) – our “Just for Today” was not approved and we used to print and sell the draft.

Pavolos (Greece) – we have a number of unapproved items. We agreed to have a certain percentage of profit. Then we decided to not have profit. It goes up and down. Members can photocopy and print it themselves. Some groups give it for free. We have no unified policy.

* What are the benefits of legal associations?

Ana (France) – opening an account with two signatories. It is easier to rent rooms.

Ilona (Lithuania) – problems: be mindful who to register as members of the association. Also statutes have to be both ok with the law and with the traditions. We need to change our statutes. But one of the old directors has relapsed and is not available for any signatures. So we are completely stuck with our legal association.

Sergio (Portugal) – benefits: it strengthens our credibility, it helps in contacts with institutions and prisons, bank accounting is easier. But we also have obligations. We need to be responsible with those.

Frenchspeaking Swiss: My area wanted to send me to the UK service conference, what a pity it was cancelled. We have heard questions from other communities that interest us too.

Question Women don't come and stay in NA?

Spain (Miguel) – we have this problem but we have no experience. We would like feedback too.

Konstantine (Greece) – we had three women's meetings in Greece. They suffer from the opposition of the male members. Men get very angry about this. One meeting in Thessaloniki closed because of this. It needed efforts of understanding to help the women's meetings survive.

Nina (UK) – we have non-restrictive women's meetings, men can attend if needed. We also try to encourage women to give women only their phone numbers and men with men. The parents and carers committee is not only about women, but it probably helps women more by providing creches and child care.

Ireland: we have completed our strategic plan and this includes also to elect a parents and carers chairperson, a chairperson for events, and for literature.

Question:

* How to deal with members doing service in NA and attending other A-groups?

Kenneth (Sweden) – we had two nominees for a position. One of them did not work the NA steps but of another fellowship. She got elected. We were aware of it and it was the group conscience. It was not free of conflict.

Sigi (Secretary) – I attend AA too, I don't do service there. I have an NA sponsor, I work the NA steps, my heart belongs to NA. I would ask the candidate these things. Whatever else someone does outside NA is not our business.

Natalia (Western Russia) – a candidate for World Board at the last WSC was member of AA. There was a discussion about removing his candidature. The conference decided to keep his nomination.

Becky (NAWS) – this is a frequent question. People tend to use this to challenge someone they don't want to vote for, instead of addressing other problems they might have with this person.

* How to set up a parents and carers committee?

Nina (UK) – it was not easy to establish the committee on regional level. They did a lot of fundraising, like T-shirts. The committee does great work. Contact me to learn more.

Turkey: two new groups in Istanbul, there is a meeting every day now. We have one area and meet quarterly. The Steering Committee meets online every month.

Questions

* any feedback about the use of clarity statements?

Nina (UK) – in some areas we have issues with other fellowships, like doing big book studies. We try to keep clarity there. Some have many newcomers from treatment centers who go to many different fellowships and get confused. Each group is autonomous. My group used a clarity statement and it works.

Sophie (Frenchspeaking Swiss) – treatment centres send people who identify with mixed statements. Our solution is that at the beginning, we make a go-round where everyone introduces themselves as "addict".

* legal association : what basic questions should we ask as a basic beginning?

Niall (Ireland) – ask within the region about strategic planning: what do we want for the next two years, what do we need? And then a need for a legal association may emerge.

Yuval (Ireland) – We need the legal association if we make income or if we face governmental issues. If you don't have that, you will probably not need one.

Pavlos (Greece) – benefits are to have things like PO-box, phonenumber or bank account, not in a members name but anonymously. It's easier to rent rooms for meetings and conventions.

* PI subcommittee was established in October. We need experiences

Please contact Turkey directly!

Israel:

Question: Income from parties goes to areas instead of (as before) to Region. The region does not have enough money. Areas should pass on the income but they don't. Is there a recommended percentage of funds to be passed on in the service structure.

Sigrid (Secretary) – it used to be a constant argument about how much to pass on, on group, area, region. In my area, we have settled a budget we need and everything above that is automatically passed on. Each group or area is autonomous however.

Liz (UK) – we created some documents explaining why money should be passed on.

Serhad (Turkey) – remind and educate members frequently why we don't need to sit on the money and what it is needed for. Give the bigger picture.

Sweden:

Question: We need experiences about meeting attendance cards.

Nina (UK) – group votes if they want to be "chit-friendly" (means: they sign meeting attendance cards) and this is marked on the meeting list. The group collects the court cards and marks them in an appropriate way. Some have a stamp, some sign their name. We have good experiences with it.

Per (Norway) – we made stamps for the groups to confirm attendance. But we don't have information on the meeting list about this. Usually the organisation that sends the prisoners contacts the areas first and they tell them which meetings they can attend.

Becky (NAWS) – in the U.S., most meetings sign court cards. The only problem is the number of people that come with these cards. Meetings were losing the sense of themselves. Court cards are as good as the communications with the referring agencies. Work together with them. Court cards give prisoners a personal choice if they want recovery or go to prison. Isn't that what NA is about? We don't need to judge the people if they try to trick the system. We show them that there is something worth to get clean for.

Greece: we made contact with Sweden and are happy with that

Slovenia: our question was answered during the small group workshop

Croatia: Our biggest concern is how to attract and keep newcomers. We are trying to start with newly structured services. We registered an area. We are very proud of our translations activities – 5 IPs approved in the last few months. We received free literature and are very grateful for that – it was not only the books but the act of receiving. We gave a symbolic donation to EDM.

Question: is there anything in the guidelines about budget prioritization?

Toby (chair) – there is no NA literature, but maybe some regions have made some?

Yuval (Israel) – we have some in Hebrew.

Becky (NAWS) – FTP- local resources website http://www.na.org/?ID=local_resource_area contains some items.

Spain we are thrilled about the world convention. Ask me anything you need to know!

France: we received a lot of answers in the small group discussions. Questions were about substitution, dealing with professionals, how an isolated group can grow, how to get oldtimers back to service.

Question: how to help servants in their services, bad atmosphere in our regional service meeting: how can we solve these problems?

Aga (Poland) – fear was a major feeling in our RSC. This stopped when the members who created that atmosphere stopped coming.

Sophie (Frenchspeaking Swiss) – we got all together and did an area inventory. This involved other members that usually did not participate in the area service meetings. It really helped.

Nina (UK) – we encourage inventory. We also have the "Guide to inappropriate behaviour". We used this at one time, when a personality interrupted and was abusive. We stopped the meeting to deal with it.

Poland I received feedback to my question on how to create a PI committee.

Questions:

* The PI committee asks if they can send information by email to police stations and ask or allow them to copy and pass on that information, posters etc.

Sergio (Portugal) – we had communication with a police station. They offered to send out the information to other stations in their internal mail. That was so easy and we accepted. But we gave them the cards and pamphlets ourselves.

Ilona (Lithuania) – we produced stickers and we also gave them to the police. We sent the stickers out with a letter explaining about NA and asking them to post the stickers. They distributed them to other stations. The stickers are also in busses etc.

* One area is very big and two are very small. The big region is acting in competition to the other small areas. They don't support the regional convention.

Will be answered in contact with Sweden

Lithuania: most questions have already been answered. Other regions asked the same questions.

Question: We also have the question about budget priorities, because we have so many plans and get confused about what to prioritize.

Kenneth (Sweden) – Group assemblies are not clearly defined in Sweden yet, but we use them to gather information about group consciences. The group representatives vote on all the suggestions. From this, we make a budget.

Saturday March 7th

Meeting start with reading the Just for Today meditation.

9.00 – 10.45 Bids for Winter EDM 2010

Turkey

Serhad (Turkey) – tw different hotel options, one is three star, one four star. Both hotels are centrally located in Istanbul. Prices are around 50 Euros for single, 70 Euros for double room. Facilities cost 800 Euro without breaks and the other one 1500 Euros including break refreshments, for all the meeting days. Food is cheap. The local fellowship plans to have a service gathering before or during the EDM, with possibility to participate and learn from the EDM. Public transport is cheap. Transport by cab or private transport is 20-40 Euros. Most countries won't need a visa but can get a visa stamp at port of entry. One of the motivations to host EDM is that Turkey is close to other emerging communities such as Bulgaria. Istanbul has several meetings in the European side of the city and a new one on the Asian side. It is a small community. It is the first time Turkey presents a bid.

Egypt

Toby (chair) – presents the bids, because Mohamed from Egypt was denied the visa. Mohamed has sent a Powerpoint presentation. It gives two different hotel options, both in Giza, about 30 km outside Cairo. The airport is about 35 km and there is a Metro to Giza. Hotel prices are around 38-56 Euro. In one hotel meeting room is free, the other has costs of 67 Euro per day. Different prices for various options of coffeebreaks. Projector and micorphones have extra costs between 100-150 Euro per day. Most countries receive visa stamps on arrival. Pre-arrival visa would be needed for Croatia, Israel, Russia, Slovenia. Questions asked to Mohamed by phone. Dates would be in March, not specified yet. Conference room can seat around 50 people.

Questions and discussions:

Some more details asked. No dates given yet.

Turkey and Egypt have both received FD visits but have not presented a bid for EDM before.

Travel costs researched on the internet: it is probably more expensive to travel to Egypt than to Turkey.

Vote by closed ballot. 20 communities present for voting. Simple majority is 11.

Decision: Winter EDM 2010 will take place in Egypt. Hotel preference is Grand Pyramid Hotel.

Bids for Summer EDM and ECCNA 2010

Israel

Location is on the Dead Sea. 40 km from Jerusalem, 90 km from Tel Aviv. Bus transfers cost around 9-11 Euros. Usually the regional convention takes place at this time with 800-950 people attending. The convention hotel has 420 rooms and would be fully booked for the convention. Usually the local convention needs more rooms than that. Hotel costs 250 Euro for 2 nights, that means 125 Euro per night. Cheaper hotels can be found at around 60 Euro per day. There are several big convention halls available. Max. capacity 1800 seats. Suggested dates 2.-4. September 2010 (Thursday–Saturday), because Sunday in Israel is a workday. Visa not needed for most countries. Turkey, Egypt, Russia(?) will need a visa.

Discussions:

Prices for Convention hotel are high. There are cheaper hotels and hostels in the area.

There are three longterm members in the bidding committee and other members of the host committee with long experience. Convention committee will only be elected when the bid is chosen.

Flight prices might be a little higher than inside Europe

More specific details on EDM needed, please bring them to Barcelona.

EDM can be 2.-5. September (Thursday-Sunday) as usual.

Vote by closed ballot. 20 communities present for voting. Simple majority is 11.

Decision: ECCNA 2010 will take place in Israel.

Break

11.00 – 12.30 EDM Workshop “Regional Assemblies”

Parallell FD Workshop for the French Area Convention “PR – the Principles of our Traditions”

Large group activity:

Members are asked to share about their experiences with regional assemblies. What ideas, agendas, scenarios, etc do you have?

Aga (Poland) – What is difference between group/regional assembly?

We used collected experience from Germany and Israel and an agenda based on NAWS. It was very successfully organized by a Steering Committee. People became curious after lot of promotion. We heard the experience from Russia who did not have enough people attend. So we had it instead of our RSC. 40 delegates came. It was open for everyone to come. It was like area convention.

We didn't expect the event to make money, so we collected from groups (separate basket at meetings), but not enough so (in Warsaw) we had an auction for NA artefacts – this got enough money to cover expenses. Between the workshops, we showed the clips that were shown in Budapest.

Swedish help (2 people) helped a lot, they looked in every part, did 3 workshops and shared.

Kenneth (Sweden) – we have a yearly regional assembly and service conference. It has 2 parts: 1st for delegates to report directly from EDM and WSC, discussion topics, questions, etc. It is more discussions than decisions. The second session is for sub-committees, have workshops and to gather inspiration.

Natalia (Western Region) – we had our first regional assembly in June. Its very difficult because of distances and lack of resources. We had it in mid-Russia (for access), as a 2 days event. No decisions were made, purpose was to hold workshops, meeting other GSRs and exchange ideas. We used the opportunity to gather input on 5 service pamphlets. 100 GRSs were present, and also more members.

Miko (Israel) – We have our regional assembly twice, it is a new experience. The first was 2 years ago, the other recently. We did it as a leaning day, stayed over the weekend. The “3F” – fun, fellowship & food. The region funded 100 members to come.

The topic for the first event was “loving service”, the second was about “leadership” and ended with elections. The next assembly will be about ‘our message’.

Becky (NAWS) – we get a lot of questions. It can be difficult for large geographical areas like California or Brazil. California has 4. Holding an assembly can easily bankrupt an area. It is a better tool for smaller areas.

Short brainstorming session

call out what comes into your mind concerning “Regional Assembly”?

Small group activity

There is no definite answer for what a regional or group assembly is. It can be many different things. This workshop is about investigating some of them. The body is divided into four small groups. Each small group is asked to set up a plan for a regional or group assembly scenario: Choose a fictive community. Plan for it a scenario for the assembly, set up an agenda for it, some ideas on funding and any other ideas you might have.

For results collected from the workshop see **Addendum B** at the end of these minutes.

Lunch Break

Free use of the EDM rooms for workgroups and other meetings
NAWS workshop at convention with the local fellowship “Communication”

16.00 – 17.00 Any matters arising from the meeting that need discussion**Funding**

Toby (chair) – there have been some questions about how the funding decisions were done. We checked into this and found that there is a contradiction in the guidelines about this. It used to be that all funding decisions were made by the body during the EDM meeting. In Vilnius (2005) the body decided that the Steering Committee would decide about the funding, depending on the budget allocated for this.

In chapter “C. EDM GUIDELINES”, there are two contradictory points about funding.

-> “FUNDING”

a) The EDM funds are composed of:

- Donations from individual NA communities/groups and NA members;
- A percentage of the ECCNA profits

. Fundraising activities.

b) All new Communities who are requesting to be funded to the EDM, will be required to make a formal request within their communities report one EDM before the meeting they would like the body to consider funding them for, giving a break down of the costs for their travel, and visas if required “

and -> **BUDGET**

The EDM will approve a financial budget at the end of each meeting for the following six months. The budget will be made up of Steering committee Expenses, fellowship development committee expenses, Emergency travel, Legal association expenses, any other expenses that may arise, and amount set for fellowship development activities. The EDM steering committee are to look at requests during the interim period, and approve any financial decisions from the budget on the body's behalf.”

The suggestion to remove b) in the paragraph about “Funding” and to rename this paragraph into “Funding of the EDM”.

Some questions and discussions.

Is anyone strongly against this amendment?

Consensus: Change to the Orientation Pack in chapter C. EDM Guidelines: Paragraph “Funding” renamed to “Funding of the EDM” and paragraph b) removed.

Toby (chair) – Please keep in mind that funding must not always be for the full amount. There are different possibilities, such as partial funding for the travel costs, or per diem and hotel, in case the community cannot afford the full funding but would like to participate in the effort.

Questions about travel insurance for funded delegates

Liz (UK) – is it possible to include in the guidelines that funded members should have a travel insurance in case they have to cancel their flights.

Sigi (German speaking) – we had this in our guidelines at one time, because someone had to cancel their flight. But then we found out that these insurances usually only pay under certain circumstances, it costs more and it is used only in some exceptions.

Sophie (French speaking Swiss) – it is up to the responsibility of the delegate to stand up for their losses.

Liz (UK) – I have a yearly insurance. But the delegate who is funded cannot afford this. We should take responsibility

Sergio (Portugal) – our region doesn't cover the cost of the insurance.

Andrey (Western Russia) – if we don't get visa, it is “force majeure” so you can get refund. It is not a question of insurance.

Toby (chair) – Mohamed, who got denied the visa, received a refund for most of the tickets and he is returning that to EDM. For people who need visa, it is important that you start immediately with the paper work. Thanks everyone for your experiences and input. The Steering Committee will investigate the possibilities for such an insurance.

Liz (UK) – there should be the requirement to attend the meetings of the EDM if you are funded

Toby (chair) – we will also discuss this in the Steering Committee.

FD - outreach

There was the suggestion that EDM should also reach out to communities that are not attending the EDM (or not attending any more). We have compiled a list of all communities we know of in the EDM Zone. If you know of any contacts in any of those countries, please add them to the list. NAWS will also make use of this list to possibly help members from these communities to attend the EDM and World Convention in Barcelona.

Questions from Community reports

Finland: There was a problem with the signatories of the bank account for ECCNA.

Michael (Ireland) – Signatories of the accounts should have been passed on, but that never happened. So new accounts got opened every time. A solution was to open a second account from region so that it could be passed on from there.

Toby (Spain) – in Spain it happened that there were about 20 accounts in the bank. Through the legal association we were able to close them down.

Sergio (Portugal) – we have several accounts for region, areas and conventions. Then we changed that, so we have an account through the legal association.

Sunday March 8th

Meeting start with reading the Just for Today meditation.

9.15 – 9.45 – Information about next meeting in Barcelona

EDM summer meeting , August 15-19, 2009

EDM will be from Saturday to Tuesday this time!

The "Hotel Catalonia Berna" is very central in Barcelona. The special hotel rates have been negotiated to 100 Euro for double room, 90 Euro for single plus 7% VAT. The prices will apply through the World Convention. Rooms have been blocked for the EDM The conference room is free. Coffee breaks will be 3 Euro per person per break. Make you reservations directly with the hotel by phone or email, mentioning "EDM". Do not use their booking website.

Hotel Catalonia Berna, Roger de Lluria 60, +34-932720050, berna@hoteles-catalonia.es

World Convention August 22.-24, 2009

Tony (NAWS) – I am a special worker on the organizing committee of the World Convention.

* Pictures: Usually, the main meeting starts with some video or presentation about NA or the meeting theme. We need pictures for that! Please send to tony@na.org

* Entertainment: This is a very European World Convention. Please give your input about anything to do with the program, such as entertainment and especially contacts for music, DJs etc.

* Speakers: We need speakers. Cleantime requirement for main speakers is 10 years, 5 years for workshop speakers. Main speakers will be funded. We plan to send to regional delegates a list of people registered from their regions and ask you for suggestions. English speaker would be favorable, but not absolutely necessary.

* Announcements: If you have a convention, event, anniversary in your group, area, region in Europe before and after the World Convention, please inform us. Many people like to plan their vacation around other events. We are organizing a cruise after the World Convention.

* Hotels: many hotels have specially negotiated hotel prices. Please check the website.

* Registration: the easiest way is online. If you know of members that don't have internet access and/or don't have the flyer in your language, please help those members. The flyer has been translated into several languages. We can put them on our website.

World Convention is currently budgeting for 5000 people. If you feel intimidated by the number of people, then get involved in the convention and volunteer for service.

Michael (World Board) – the World Convention won't be in Europe again in a long time. It is a unique and special European event. Every addict should have the opportunity to participate in this. Please spread the information!

Yuval (Israel) – we have a travel agency that is contracted to help people register to the convention and plan the travel. If members don't have internet access or a credit card to register, we give them the phone number of the agency and they do the rest.

9.50 – 10.15 Closing treasury report and approval of budget

Jim (Treasurer) –

Amount in bank after transfers	45.245,58 €
Ring-fenced money	24.010,48 €
Amount accessible before meeting	21.235,10 €
Donations received during EDM	
Israel, Turkey, Croatia and Western Russia	1211,00 €
Cash (approx)	230,00 €
Amount accessible	24.176,10 €

The following requests have been received

Poland to summer EDM

Lithuania to summer EDM

Western Russia to summer EDM 2009

Hungary partial funding for delegate and for alternate to summer EDM
 Finland to summer EDM for delegate and alternate
 Egypt to summer EDM 2009 (moved from this EDM to the next one)

Also coming up is the FD trip to Malta, which is already approved.

We have enough funds at the moment, but given the economic times, we should not spend all the funds available.

Financial paperwork for the legal association needs to be finalized by July 2009. This means the treasurer needs to do a trip to Paul WSO-E in Brussels. The Belgium authorities need all receipts. Funded members are also asked to sign a form about the monies received.

In the amount of ring-fenced money, there is an amount of 6.000 Euro set aside to replace the missing income from no ECCNA in Barcelona. Treasurer suggests to keep this amount set aside for travel and venue costs of future EDMs. The amount could be re-negotiated after Barcelona. The line in the budget should read "Budget set aside for Winter EDM 2010", not "set aside for Barcelona".

Discussion about this.

Consensus to leave the amount of 6.000 Euro set aside for (after) Barcelona in the budget and decide about it at the next meeting in Barcelona

Short break

10.30 – 10.50 Election Webmaster

One candidate : Stephane

Proposer: UK

Secunder: France

As Stephane is present, questions can be asked.

There is room for discussion.

21 voting communities. Simple majority is 11

Stephane is elected.

10.50 – 12.00 FD Feedback session

Toby (chair) – the body asked for a brainstorming session about what further possibilities there would be for FD. One suggestion was to reach out to smaller communities that we have no contact with yet. A list was passed around and a number of communities was added. Some contacts are already existing. Any additional contacts are welcome.

Yuval (Israel) – It would be good to have a map with all the countries in the European Zone.

Maybe we also have to decide what the borders of the EDM Zone are, when we are reaching out. For example should we contact countries like Jordan, or what about South Africa who contacted us?

Sanda (Croatia) – Eligibility of new communities, it is in the guidelines that you need a certain service structure. We are all very small communities – Croatia, Bosnia, Slovenia, Serbia and a new community in Montenegro. Would it be possible to make an exception, so that we can receive an FD trip to our small areas?

Pavlos (Greece) – neighboring communities can travel to other, smaller communities. We should consider supporting this also. Not only make Fellowship Development trips by EDM.

Sisko (Sweden) – we have experience with assisting and "sponsoring" neighboring communities. The EDM was the contact point. It was also important to involve local members to keep up the contacts. We can use the FD committee as a resource to make these connections.

Miko (FD chair) – take it to your regions as delegates and encourage your regions to discuss how you can help your neighbors. FD can assist. But it is great if it comes from your region.

Jovanka (Slovenia) – the neighboring communities are connecting very well, we are helping each other and have organized a convention together. We connected with Hungary, we visit each others' conventions.

Members from UK come regularly to our conventions. They even held a workshop for us and payed their own expenses. All our communities together are about 60 people. If we had an FD workshop, a lot of people would attend. Countries like Serbia cannot travel anywhere without a visa. So we need to bring NA to them. We are not placing a request now. We needed some information first. We will discuss it and bring it with our report.

Aga (Poland) – our community connected with the Czech fellowship at the workshops in Budapest. But we did not keep the contact. Can FD help with how to do that?

Ilona (Lithuania) – we have contacts with Estonia

Discussion about eligibility in the guidelines:

Joao (FD) – new communities need more help. The eligibility criteria don't always make sense. The body decides what we want to do.

Miko (FD) – most communities present in this room have received FD at some point. Guidelines don't need to be rigid, we can be flexible.

Toby (chair) – it is only one option to change the guidelines. It is also possible that FD makes a suggestion to have an FD trip to a certain areas. Or the communities just ask for it themselves. We have taken note of all this input. This is an input session now, not for decision of specific requests.

Simon (Malta) – we are a new region. The guidelines say we need to be an area for two years. So we registered as area. But some new communities don't know that, so they loose time.

Toby (chair) – it is a clear feedback that eligibility is a problem in the guidelines. FD will discuss this and see if they come up with a new wording.

Pavlos (Greece) – changing the guidelines is not the solution. An FD trip is not always the solution, there are lots of other possibilities, such as connect them with the neighboring community. This is cheaper and possibly a lot more effective.

Serhad (Turkey) – intimidation can be a problem with these guidelines.

Natalia (Western Russia) – EDM has a long history of exceptions to guidelines and rules. A member from Russia who wasn't even a delegate came to the EDM and asked for help, many years ago. EDM sent someone. Longterm result was, we now have a service structure.

Further suggestions

Niall (Ireland) – suggestion to put together a workgroup with more members from the EDM to discuss ideas on FD between the meetings. This would help FD find more vision and direction Also, train members from the HRP. The money is there. Maybe this needs a larger committee too.

Sergio (Portugal) –A strategic planning for FD would be good, how to support new communities. The first step should come from us, because the new communities don't even know what to ask for.

Iver (Denmark) – small group discussion is such a great tool to create a vision. Can we do that at the next EDM?

Joao (FD) – the vision of FD should be the vision coming from EDM. We are already doing a lot of the things you are suggesting. The committee has already been enlarged, we have a large HRP. But we receive very little response. We sent emails to the whole HRP and got only 5 answers out of 58. We keep asking you to please give ideas, suggestions, contact us. It is not the task of FD to do the job alone, you have to tell us what to do and help us to do those things.

Miko (FD) – I have a list here of your suggestion.

- * Create a database of treatment centers where there is no NA and approach them
- * Encourage neighboring communities to visit other communities and maybe partially fund them
- * Create a working paper for reports after FD visits
- * Create a working group that will study and do training for FD work
- * Create a vision.

We can maybe sharpen the vision, but basically our vision is the EDM vision! Last year we had a joint event with NAWS in Budapest. Participants were funded by NAWS but FD EDM did all the work. We can do another workshop like that, for example in Italy. If we have money, we can also contribute. It is up to you to ask us to do this.

Niall (Ireland) – please give us recommendations. A workgroup would be very helpful to find focussed ideas.

Konstantine (Greece) – reports from the passed FD workshops are very valuable for planning and not to loose the experience. We need to focus on tools.

Toby (chair) – FD could give us some plan for the next six months. Will FD be open for workshops and other ideas to carry FD work forward? There is a proposal to form a work group to work with FD during the next six months on new ideas for FD.

Consensus to form a workgroup to look at suggestions and ideas for FD. Members of the workgroup:

Kenneth (Sweden), Pavlos (Greece), Niall (Ireland), Janne (Finland), Marco (Portugal), Christin (Norway), Jovanka (Slovenia), Ana (France), Ilona (Lithuania) and Simon J. (UK) as former EDM member. Chairperson of the workgroup: Niall

Short break

Questions from Community reports

Frenchspeaking Swiss: received a lot of responses about how to reach governments and how to have a PI committee. Professionals do not recognize NA yet, that's why we don't grow. We have now designed some postcards that members can use to send to their old treatment centers, doctors, professionals and tell them how they got clean with NA.

Egypt – They were asked by a TV channel to do a short TV series about NA. Experience asked about how to deal with TV channels.

Ana (France) – a TV channel came to this Convention

Joao (Portugal) – we have a small video clip that was on a TV channel for a couple of years.

Toby (chair) – in Quebec, they had even a sitcom where one of the personages went to NA.

South Africa – The local area committees are investigating shortening the message and the time it takes to go through the selection process before ending with a telephone number. We are also experiencing a high percentage of dropped calls. If you use a similar helpline system, please share your experience with us.

Miguel (Spain) – we have a lot of drop out calls. If the number given is a private or mobile number, people call back.

Ana (France) – we have two numbers. One is a mobile which is personally answered every day from 18-20.

12.00 – 13.30 Meeting sum up & close

There will be elections in Barcelona: FD committee Chair and Vice Chair. Vice Treasurer and Secretary.

Time for farewell of outgoing delegates and a sharing

Draft decisions taken during the weekend:

- Minutes of the last meeting approved
- **Orientation pack** – ECCNA Guidelines: revised guidelines document approved by consensus.
- Change to the Election guidelines: a sentence is added: "If a delegate is elected, they should be outgoing, so have relinquished their regional commitment by the next EDM". Approved by consensus
- Amended SC and FD guidelines document approved by consensus. It will replace the old section in the Orientation Pack.
- C. EDM Guidelines: paragraph "Funding" renamed to "Funding of the EDM" and paragraph b) removed.
- **Winter EDM 2010** to take place in Egypt. Hotel preference Grand Peramids hotel
- **ECCNA 2010** to take place in Israel
- **Budget:** Consensus to leave the amount of 6000 Euro set aside for (after) Barcelona in the budget and decide about it at the next meeting in Barcelona
- **Elections:** webmaster – Stephane (France) is elected
- **FD** : Consensus to form a workgroup to look at suggestions and ideas for FD. Members of the workgroup: Kenneth (Sweden), Pavlos (Greece), Niall (Ireland), Janne (Finland), Marco (Portugal), Christin (Norway), Jovanka (Slovenia), Ana (France), Ilona (Lithania) and Simon J. (UK) as former EDM member. Chairperson of the workgroup: Niall

Requests for funding

Poland to summer EDM

Lithuania to summer EDM

Western Russia to summer EDM 2009

Hungary partial funding for delegate and for alternate to summer EDM

Finland to summer EDM for delegate and alternate

Egypt to summer EDM 2009

(Egypt to winter EDM 2010)

already approved: FD trip to Malta in April 2009

Addendum A

NAWS workshop for EDM - "Our Freedom, Our Responsibility"

1. How did someone else's efforts help you find freedom in NA?
2. How do you exercise your sense of responsibility for NA?
3. How can we inspire others to become willing to share responsibility for NA service?

1. Someone's elses efforts

There was a meeting when I needed it
 Friends called me every day for the first ½ year
 Took my number and gave it to many members to call me (the called!)
 Called me and picked me up each day
 Tricked me into service at one month
 Warm welcome and love
 At the first meeting in my country – communication with NAWS
 Commitment of older members
 Man helped me and wanted nothing back
 In treatment counselor sent me to NA
 Travelling, I found NA in other places
 --> welcoming atmosphere, invite people to service, personal contact, the incredible value of one addict helping another

2. My sense of responsibility

Took some time doing service to see benefit and do it for the right reasons
 Be available and present
 Keep homegroup a safe place
 Sponsorship and service
 Choose to make time for service
 Have sponsees do service
 Serve with love and make it a safe place for others
 Be a role model in service positions
 Share a clear message of NA, encourage sponsees
 Give back what I was looking for and had a hard time finding

3. Inspire others – feedback from small groups:

Making substantial cleantime approachable and attractive, don't scare newcomers
 Share our gratitude for doing service
 Help sponsees get through hard times and conflicts in service
 Synergy is miraculous
 Diffuse conflicts in service (don't glorify them)
 Support people through conflicts, don't be afraid of conflicts
 Have a service sponsor

Tolerance for people making mistakes, give them a chance to continue
 Give willingness by involving members
 Tell others about events and personal experiences
 NA is something bigger than just one group
 Be an example
 Be aware of what and how we share in meetings
 Carry the message
 Talk about what is going on in NA at a wider level
 Be available
 Loving and kind atmosphere of service meetings
 Share about service, become a part of "we"
 Give others the opportunity to step into service
 Involve sponsees, take them to area meetings
 Bring information back to the groups
 Share happiness and serenity
 We got so much by giving it away
 There are faces behind services, create awareness for that

Be happy in service and make service attractive
 Be visible and accountable for your work
 Lead by example, lead in sponsorship
 Knowing the needs of NA
 Be yourself in recovery, take care of yourself
 Speaker meetings about service
 Be reliable and take action, follow through with projects
 “guilt trip” people into service
 Make people feel a part of, by including them into any kind of decisions
 Share about the benefits of service
 Educate people about service
 Invite people personally into service, see their potential and help them find their niche
 Make room for others in service positions, enforce rotation
 Nudge people into service
 Have faith and show faith

 Be welcoming and inclusive
 Creative emotional and personal reporting
 Everything we do in NA is service, not only elected positions
 Go to service meetings and participate, even without having a position, shows willingness

Addendum B

EDM Workshop “Regional Assemblies”

Large group activity:

Members are asked to share about their experiences with regional assemblies. What ideas, agendas, scenarios, etc do you have?

Short brainstorming session– call out what comes into your mind concerning “Regional Assembly”?

Answers: Rotation – budget – antipathy – unity – information – opportunity – inspiration – workshops – decentralisation – leadership – decisions – CAR – fun – formation – logistics – enthusiasm – topics – understanding – sellability – consensus – Learning – process – communication – demand – courage – how to guide – priorities – motivation – tolerance – scalability – service – leverage – forgiveness

Small group activity

So, there is no definite answer for what a regional or group assembly is. It can be many different things. This workshop is about investigating some of them. The body is divided into four small groups. Each small group is asked to set up a plan for a regional or group assembly scenario: Choose a fictive community. Plan for it a scenario for the assembly, set up an agenda for it, some ideas on funding and any other ideas you might have. Responses from small group activity are presented to the body.

Community “Anonymous”:

Area assembly for 20 groups. Distance is 200 km from one side to the other.

Purpose: we want people to meet, learn about service, the service structure and about their role as GSRs, make friends, and have fun.

Agenda: 1. a gathering meeting to break the ice
 2. a workshop on the role of the GSK
 3. a presentation what World Service is about
 4. decision making session about conventions, elections, budget, literature
 5. party

Funding: GSRs are funded by the groups, unless there is a request to area. Area pays for rent, refreshments etc.

Organisation: 3 committees will take care of a) the program, b) communication and outreach, contact to the groups, invitations and c) host committee to deal with venue, logistics etc. All will be guided by a Steering Committee.

Community "Mimiangesia" from Per City

4 areas, 120 groups. Service structure is 4 areas join in a region.

Purpose: Unity, share information, gather feedback from the groups, learning and formation, shorten the distances for information, learn about the groups' needs

It is a Regional assembly, 1 day stand alone event.

Agenda: - some icebreakers

- introductions of the trusted servants on regional level
- workshop about "what works/ what doesn't work in GSR service"
- have an box to anonymously put Questions in, Q+A session
- Lunch
- some fun

Community Narnia

Large community: 1500 groups, 15 areas, 1 region. They have one annual assembly as a two-day event

Purpose: Unity, share experiences, information, training, workshops

Agenda: Saturday

10.00 welcome with shares
 11.00 areas presentation (14 min. for each)
 12.00 Lunch
 13.00 areas presentation (continued)
 15.00 training session
 17.00 shares, pies and coffee
 20.00 NA meeting and party

Sunday

10.00 sharing session
 11.00 training session
 12.00 break
 13.00 training session
 15.00 summary
 16.00 Party on the beach ☺

Funding: We are rich! The region, areas, groups will pay together. There will be merchandise and jewellery

East-West-Everywhere Community

The assembly will be: central, have workshops, provide training specifically to the GSRs like knowledge of concepts and traditions, effective communications

Finances: costs for venue covered by the region. GSRs support themselves by group organised by a structured ad hoc committee to organize venue, communication, send invitations etc.

What is it for: Training of trusted servants and providing leadership. listen to the needs of groups and GSRs, produce a vision and action, provide a link from group / Area / Region / EDM, pass on skills, train the trainers, inspire alternative solutions and openmindedness, Unity, making it attractive

How to get the GSRs there: Fun, provide communication effectively like by mailings, offer support to those who need it.