



European Delegates Meeting

Summer EDM Barcelona / Spain, 15.-18. August 2009

Attending:

EDM Chair	Toby
EDM Vice-Chair	Sisko
EDM Secretary	Sigrid
EDM Treasurer	Jim
FD Committee Chair	Miko
FD Committee Vice-Chair	Joao
Webmaster	Stephane
Croatia	Sanda
Denmark RD	Iver
Denmark RD alt	Erik
Egypt RD	Mohamed
Egypt RD alt	Karim
Finland RD	Janne
Finland RD alt	Tomas
France RD	Ana-Luisa
France RD alt	Jean-Claude
Frenchspeaking Swiss RD	Sophie
German-speaking RD alt	Martina
Greece RD	Pavlos
Greece RD alt	Konstantine
Hungary RD	Eszti
Ireland RD	Niall
Ireland RD alt	Michael
Israel RD	Yuval
Israel RD alt	Oded
Lithuania RD	Ilona
Malta RD	Ian
Norway RD	Christin
Norway RD alt	Per Einar
Poland RD	Aga
Poland RD alt	Agnieszka
Portugal RD	Sergio
Portugal RD alt	Marco
Slowenia	Jovanka
Spain RD	Miguel
Sweden RD	Veronica
Sweden RD alt	Kenneth
UK RD	Nina
UK RD alt	Liz
Western Russia RD	Andrey
South Africa RD	Dion
<u>NAWS</u>	
WSO-Chatsworth	Travis
WSO-Chatsworth	Anthony
WSO-Chatsworth	Becky
World Board	Ron B.
WSO-Europe	Paul

Several international guests and members from the local fellowship

Saturday August 15th
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9.30 – 10.20 Opening of the meeting and Orientation session

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 start with some introductions about how the EDM works.

Sisko (vice-chair) –EDM started in 1984 – this year we celebrate 25 years! It started informally, with the purpose to further carry the message in Europe. Then it became the European study group and went through a development process to become the EDM of today. We have an Orientation Pack developed from that and we have formulated a Mission statement. There are about 13 different Zonal Forums today. EDM geographically is all of Europe, and potentially all of Africa. Today we are having discussions about where EDM will be going, about our geographical boundaries and how we can fulfill our purpose and be supportive of each others.

Jim (treasurer) – One way of working in the EDM is our decision process by consensus, which was adopted by the EDM, several years ago. There is a diagram of how it works in the 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.

Sigrid (Secretary) – there is a paragraph in the Orientation Pack “1. The Role of the Delegate”. It gives a good overview of what we are here for. Please be considerate to people whose first language is not English. Speak slowly, clearly and digestible. This also helps 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..

Two members share about their experience about being at EDM with English not as their first language (Martina, Germanspeaking Region) and of being an older member of EDM (Nina, UK).

Meeting booklet was given out

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

Explanation and approval of the agenda

10.40 – 11.30 Steering Committee Report

Page 4 of meeting booklet. Report is presented by Toby.

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

There has been a lot of correspondence with members and communities, within and outside the EDM.

Emails have been sent to communities that don't usually participate at EDM and we have received some responses, for example from Italy.

We had a number of requests for attendance to this EDM (Lithuania, Hungary, Egypt, Poland, Malta, Russia, Finland) which were all approved, as funds were available this time. We also decided to invite our webmaster Stephane to this EDM.

FD visit in Malta was carried out. Report during the FD report session on Monday.

Open positions to be elected during this EDM: Secretary, alt. Treasurer, FD chair, FD vice-chair

We will also be supporting nominations for World Service positions

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

Sisko gives some personal information. She will get married and move to America. It is up to the body to decide how to deal with her position as vice-chair of the EDM. The elections for chair and vice-chair are scheduled to be at the next summer EDM.

BOD proposal: Paul WSO-E suggested to create a Board of Directors for the EDM. Currently, the Steering Committee members are also the members of the Belgium legal association. The legal association deals with any signatures for bank account, tax declaration etc. It always takes a lot of time to change the registrations for the new members of the Steering Committee every two years when they are newly elected. Therefore, Paul suggests to have a separate BOD as a longer-term commitment. There will be time to further discuss this later.

Thanks to NAWS, and to the host committee in Barcelona who is doing a great job organizing the World Convention.

Questions and remarks:

Questions about the position of the vice-chair. Sisko intends to stay on as vice-chair and is willing to run for chair. There are no limitations in our guidelines regarding the geography where candidates must come from.

11.10 – 11.30 Treasury Report: (Report in the booklet page 7)

Jim (Treasurer) – the treasury report is in the booklet. Some of the figures have changed, due to mistakes and also because some transactions took place after the booklet was printed.

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 €
Total	13 000,00 €
Savings account after transfers	35 561,98 €
Ring-fenced money	13 000,00 €
Amount accessible	22 061,98 €
Current account for expenses	6 754,52 €
Treasurer's account (cash)	2 500,00 €

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. Travel costs for Egypt have been payed in cash instead of by transfer, because he received his visa last minute. For this, cash had to be transferred to the treasurer's personal current account, in order to be able to take out sufficient cash from the cash machine in Barcelona.

Donations: there were not many donations since last EDM. UK sent the donation to the current account instead of the savings account. There was also a big donation from Norway. Usually a thank you note is stent to acknowledge the donation.

Coffee breaks: we have a reduced rate of 6,- € per day per person. Coffee has been ordered for 45 people. Members from outside can have coffee but please donate for the coffee.

Questions and remarks

Ana (France) – there should be a transfer of 2000 Euro from France, made in March. It is not in the spread sheet. It was sent to WSO-E.

Jim (treasurer) – then it has not been received. WSO-E is not the EDM account.

Sergio (Portugal) – would like an overview of donations coming in for each period of EDM.

Don't feel comfortable about having to donate for the coffee.

Toby (chair) – we get the room for free and we could not refuse the coffee. This is a special rate already, they asked twice as much. We could order the coffee as part of the room costs for the EDM. Will set aside time to discuss this further.

Short break**11.45 – 13.30 Community Reports Workshop**

The reports will be presented in small groups, as we did at the last EDM. For this, the delegates split up in four small groups. The alternates, when present, can chose a small group as they wish. Reports from absent communities will be presented by Miko (Italy) and Joao (Iceland). The discussion from the small groups does not have to be minuted. But each group should chose a facilitator to make sure that everyone has an equal chance to participate.

The delegates will each present their reports to their small groups. Then you will have time to discuss your reports, questions and issues that came up in the reports. In the afternoon, there will be a large group session for more issues from the reports.

Lunch break

Toby (chair) – there was some discomfort about delegates having to pay a fixed amount for the coffee breaks. This time, we did not have to pay for the EDM meeting room. But we were obliged to order the coffee from the hotel. At other EDMs, we payed for the meeting room but we could organize coffee ourselves. The proposal is to include the costs for coffee breaks as venue costs for setting up the EDM. Is anyone against that? No.

Consensus: to include costs for coffee breaks at EDM as costs for setting up the EDM.

15.30 – 17.00 Community Reports sum-up session

Groups come back together and report back from the small groups.

Sisko (vice-chair) – Each community is asked to briefly report the most important points from their reports. Please also bring up issues that have not been dealt with in the small groups and that you would like more input on from the body.

Poland (Aga) – we still have problems with organising areas and the region. One area is the size of half the region. It is in competition to the services of the region. We want to start an open discussion to find a solution.

We are planning to create a Fellowship Development committee for the region. We want to encourage new groups to join the service structure and get into contact with them.

A “Czech committee “ has been created to contact and support the Czech meetings. We receive much support from Swedish region.

Spain (Miguel) – 80 groups hold 150 meetings. 8 meetings are English speaking. Region meets in internet chat meetings. We do outreach to the isolated groups in the north of Spain. We have asked for legal advice about bookkeeping for the legal association. We have a savings account that gains interests.

We are thrilled to have the World Convention in Barcelona! Spain is also bidding for ECCNA 2011.

Ireland (Niall) – Number of meetings is increasing in all four areas. The RDs offered workshops to the areas, which helped the areas with their services. One area had service breaking down. By using the Area planning tool, more unifying events were set up and area gained strenght again.

30 years of NA in Ireland to be celebrated on October 7, 2009.

NAWS price increases of literature was a big issue in Irland. We appreciate more discussion about this.

Question “under 18s”:

- We asked for feedback about under 18s attending meetings, specifically if they are required to have a guardian with them at the meetings. We will contact the workgroup who formulated the new youth pamphlets for their input. Any further experiences?

Nina (UK) – a request was made to have an extra forum on the website for young people. This is still being discussed.

Norway (Cristin) – we have 6 areas now, the region is growing. We have a new FD workgroup that holds workshops and NA events. PI takes place in the police academy. Service conference will take place next year.

Frenchspeaking Switzerland (Sophie) – we are a small but strong fellowship. Website: every group and the Steering Committee members have an email address. 20 years NA in Switzerland will be celebrated in Ocotber in Germanspeaking Switzerland.

France (Ana) – 4 areas and 91 meetings. A service conference is planned. H+I and PI are working well. The outreach committee has links between groups in Paris and the Provence. We had a service meeting with NAWS and members from Quebec, speaking about translation projects such as 6th edition Basic Text. A request has been made to ask NAWS for professional translation.

After the EDM in Aix-en-Provence, the south area is growing. There was a TV clip about NA. There is a new PI pamphlet in French.

We have problems between areas and the region, so we will start an inventory process.

Money is not passed on from the groups to areas and region. Communication needs to be improved.

Israel (Yuval) – Israel will be hosting ECCNA in 2010. Next week a regional convention will take place in the same hotel. 60 inmates from the prison will come to convention! And there will be a video broadcast from the convention to the prison.

Step Working guide is finally approved.

Finland (Janne) – Financial situation has been difficult, but we have been working on it. Donations from areas have increased.

Sergio (Portugal) – we struggle in Portugal about how funding to attend the EDM is decided on. How is the financial situation of the regions/areas that are funded? Is this discussed at the EDM?

Tomas (Finland) – we have been struggling financially. In the last months we have been doing better.

Greece (Pavlos) – the only greek speaking group in Cyprus asked to join Greece region.

5 % of each regional meeting budget will be donated to EDM and NAWS.

Portugal (Sergio) – a working group will start translating the 6th edition Basic Text.

H+I discussed if men should be allowed to share in H+I-meetings held in female prisons.

We have a lack of trusted servants on all service levels.

Angola is a former Portuguese colony and they have now opened a meeting there!

We had a question how to handle young addicts coming to the meetings.

We had a TV clip giving contact information for NA, it is now on YouTube.

Question “other addictions”

- People with other addictions come to the meetings (food etc), how to deal with that?

Nina (UK) – members from other fellowships come to meetings and sometimes influence the group conscience to change the meetings. We use a clarity statement, asking to share the NA message. If a group deviates too much from that (for example other literature on the tables), it can be taken off the meeting list.

Jovanka (Slovenia) – NA is very new and very small. Most AA meetings sent people away when they identified as addicts, only one group accepted us. But they then suggested we open our own meetings. We would not have found recovery without AA.

Malta (Ian) – please do send more FD trips to new, emerging communities. We were so inspired by the FD visit to the regional convention in Malta.

Malta has 7 groups that form a region now. We have a new PI committee, a new H+I committee. We hold H+I in 3 treatment centers and plan to hold H+I in the prison.

We have finally published IP # 1.

Question to Malta – why did Malta form a Region and not an Area?

Ilona (Lithuania) – we are a small community and we have a regional service structure functioning for several years now.

Yuval (Israel) – we formed a region before we formed an area. When the region got too big, it was very difficult to work the process backward and split it up into areas afterwards.

Decision made: to give the remaining community reports on Sunday afternoon.

Comments on the format of community reports session:

Concerns are expressed about the way the community reports are given. Some points mentioned:

It is difficult to select only a few important points for reporting to the body.

Members would like to hear more feedback from the questions discussed in the small groups.

When everyone reads their entire report out loud, it is difficult to listen.

Reports are all available in written form, so it is also necessary to be efficient when giving information.

Short break

17.15 – 18.00 Zonal Forums

South Africa is participating at the EDM as a guest. Also, other Zonal Forums have been invited to give their reports to EDM, if they like.

South Africa (Dion) – South Africa is growing rapidly. For a long time we were very isolated. Only recently we are gaining contact with NAWS and also with the Zonal Forums. We would like to learn about EDM.

The Region exists for three years. We meet monthly by telephone conference call and two face to face meetings annually. One of them is a Regional Assembly. We have regional and area conventions.

Fellowship Development is new for us. There are hardly any meetings in the continent of Africa. Some meetings are opening now, but it is slow. Most addicts come to NA through treatment centers, but most addicts can't afford to go to treatment centers.

With football world championship next year, we have increasing calls over the website and the phoneline. Lots of PI activities. Meeting lists are distributed at police stations and hospitals. Some meetings take place in prisons in Johannesburg and Capetown.

We want to keep and benefit from the experiences of the RD, so the RD will then rotate into being the FD chair, to make use of the contacts gained through NAWS and the World Service Conference.

Asia Pacific Forum (Danny and Kimmy) – APF consists of 23 communities in Asia, from Hawaii to the Middle East. APF meets once a year. Regions that cannot afford to come are funded. Usually the meeting takes place in an affordable place in Asia – next year in Calcutta, India.

The Steering Committee consists of three people. Strategic planning is discussed for the APF, some workshops have taken place around this issue in the past few years.

Iran is part of the APF and is growing incredibly. One area had their ASC with 700 GSRs attending.

We have many different cultures, religions and experiences and it is a great boost for our unity.

We are thrilled to learn about Fellowship development from the EDM. We had our first FD trip to the Maldives, the next trip is planned to Bhutan. We are in the process of setting up some guidelines for FD.

Website www.apf.org has information, meetinglists, a newsletter, our minutes and contacts in the APF zone.

Autonomy Zone (Lea) – we are a small geographical zone in the United States, which started in 1992.

Purpose of this zonal forum is to share experiences. There are no financial discussions and no motions, we did not want another formal service structure. Meetings are twice a year. The last Meeting focussed on PI, phonelines, answering services and experiences around that. The participating regions give their reports and usually there is an open forum at the end of each meeting. All Regions of our Zone except one are seated at the World Service Conference.

Chessapeake+Ptomac region has been supporting the EDM for years, a big thanks from the EDM for that!

Midwest Zonal Forum (Luis) – 8 regions in the upper Midwest of the United States. There has been increasing interest from areas and our participating regions, wanting for us to share with them. We work with consensus. We have a two-year planning cycle and we hold a CAR workshop during each cycle.

Western States Zonal Forum (Matt) –We are on the Pacific side of the US, 12 regions of which 6 are in the state of California. We are similar to the other American zones, so nothing new to add.

Southern Zonal Forum (by email, Nina) – 10 regions in the south of the US, all except 2 are seated at the World Service Conference. Some changes are being discussed, such as holding their meeting at a convention and holding workshops there.

Toby (chair) – some members could not attend. Serhad from Turkey didn't get a visa, but is sending is report. Andreas from Germanspeaking region had to cancel his trip very short-term. And Siamac from NAWS Iran and Paul from WSO-E aren't able to attend.

Tomas from Finland is making a little video clip for service purposes. There was also a suggestion to video tape the FD workshop sessions, which we try to do.

Sunday August 16th

Meeting starts with reading of the 12 Concepts for NA Service

9.15 – 10.15 Website report (report in meeting booklet)

Stephane (Webmaster) – I was elected at the last winter EDM in France.

The codes have been handed over from the previous webmaster. Problem was that the interface of the webserver was in German, from former webmaster Roland from Germany. Communication was not fluent. Codes and registration details were changed now. A copy of the details are kept in the EDM archive. Official owner of the domaine is Paul from WSO-E.

I am writing a log-book of all changes and important information about the website to facilitate the hand-over to the next webmaster.

EDM Steering Committee sends or forwards any additions to me, I add it and then it is checked by Steering Committee. Several documents have been added.

Some suggestions:

Have a web interface in English

Write a manual / tool book about the website

Elect an alternate webservant

Questions and discussions:**Forum / wiki page**

The FD workgroup is currently working via a google group, but would like a possibility to communicate via the website. For example a webgroup, forum or a chatroom. Some suggestions and experiences:

- suggestion to have a forum, for example as an Intranet, only for registered servants.
- An open forum is hard to moderate
- the World Board has a workgroup working on a "Wiki" page. Only the servants have a password. It is like a discussion page, members can edit the page, add their comments.
- Frenchspeaking Swiss Area has an email address for each group. There is one password, so that all groups can read the answers.
- Germanspeaking Region has a forum with different sections. There is an open part of the forum for all registered members. Then there are some closed sections for different workgroups, like literature translations, forum administration. Only members of the respective workgroups have access. It is closed discussion. It works very well.
- UK region website has a general section with information for professionals. Then there is a discussion forum. Restrict a forum only for members of the EDM, it is a lot easier to moderate.

Stephane (webmaster) – we need to clarify what objectives the forum should have. Does this have to be open to everyone, or closed only for members. Objectives can be: Spread information, facilitate contact and communication between EDM members, transmit experience of service.

Toby (chair) – we have this discussion to find out how the website can be more practical for us. Workgroups usually don't have a very clear idea how to actually work. Some work by messenger, by email groups. Now we have new suggestions like a forum or a wiki page. These are suggestions that can be worked on.

Contents on the website

- EDM website has no general information about Narcotics Anonymous, the steps and traditions.
- EDM could have email addresses for Steering Committee, such as chair@edmna.org etc.
- Suggestion to put an anonymized video clip about EDM.

Other discussions

Ilona (Lithuania) – there is not much information about EDM and FD on the website. Who is the website targeted to? Members cannot find out a lot about NA through the information on the website. The website should be used to promote NA, the EDM and ECCNA to the general public.

Aga (Poland) – the goal of this website is for EDM service, not to generally inform about NA. There is sufficient information for this purpose.

Toby (chair) – the webmaster does not change the contents of the website on his own. We need to tell him what to do and what to add.

Sanda (Croatia) – Why is the website registered to Paul, not to the legal association?

Toby (chair) – Paul is the one fixed point at WSO-Europe. The members of the legal association change.

Stephane (webmaster) – it would be good to have an alternate from a country with a different culture and language, maybe also a different alphabet, to help with the encoding of for example Hebrew, Russian, Greek.

Per (Norway) – question about technique. HTML is a problem, because it needs maintenance by a skilled person. There are different systems that can be maintained by everyone.

Stephane (webmaster) – there are different systems, but it is better not change the current system now.

Summary of input given:

Have an alternate

Change the interface into English

Possibly modify or change the technical system to something simpler

Webmail services of the interface

Service tool Forum or wikipedia

Put more information on the page

Add some promotion" (video, info on ECCNA)

Check chapter 10 of PR handbook

Toby (chair) – we have two options. First, Stephane can check the suggestions and technical ideas and see what is possible. In a next step, a workgroup can work on the contents and what we want the website to be.

Consensus

10.30 – 12.10 EDM events

Final report Winter EDM Aix-en-Provence

Ana (France) – There was some controversy in France about having the EDM in Aix-en-Provence. But in the South of France, we were very happy and enthusiastic about it! We now have two new meetings in the South. Members from Switzerland helped us organize the convention and we put on a workshop about PI together. NA in France exists for 25 years, but in the South we do not have much experience with PI. There was a spot on TV on a local news channel. A newspaper had an article about NA. We had a lot of enthusiasm to carry on with the message of NA. It was a very good experience for us!

Winter EDM Egypt 2010

Mohamed (Egypt) – Date for winter EDM is **25.-28. February 2010**.

As requested at the last EDM in France, we booked at Grand Pyramid Hotel in Gizeh www.grandpyramidshotel.com. Lower prices for the rooms have been negotiated 40,- Single, 47,- for double including breakfast, 8,- Euros more for half board.

Meeting room is free, but we have to pay coffee breaks.

Airport is Cairo. Gizeh is a part of Cairo. We can arrange airport pickup service, please give arrival times as soon as possible (**set deadline mailing #1**).

Visa are not needed for most countries and can be received at the airport.

Booking for the room by email, with reference to “EDM”. All details about booking will be in mailing #1

ECCNA Israel 2010

A nice little video clip is shown ☺

Yuval (Israel) – A full ECCNA committee with 7 subcommittees and Steering Committee were elected.

Date is **2.-4 September 2010** in the Royal Hotel on the Dead Sea. For the World Convention, some merchandise has been prepared (T-Shirts and little stickers). The video clip will be shown. We have prepared a big map of Europe and members will be asked to sign on it.

Price of the hotel went down. Prices **per person (check that!)** in the double room: 91,- Euro during the weekend, lower price for weekdays (during EDM). Other hotels cost 60 to 65,- Euro per person in the double room. There is a youth hostel about 20 km from the venue. There is no public transport in the area, but we are planning to organise a shuttle during the convention.

A website is being set up and we have opened a bank account. Transactions in Europe are expensive. We are working to find a cheap way to offer for pre-registrations.

Registrations will probably be 20,- Euro for pre-registration and 25,- Euro on site.

The hotel has a small convention center, this includes facilities for EDM. All the convention halls, including the rooms for convention, will cost 2000,- Euros. If more than 250 rooms are booked, then the convention rooms will be free. Usually, the regional conventions have 700 people attending.

Audio and video equipment are included in the EDM room, for the ECCNA, a bigger system will need to be rented.

Bids for ECCNA 2011

Two bids are presented. Time for questions and discussions after that.

Sweden

Some information is handed out and a video clip is shown.

The location is Malmö, which is in the very south of Sweden. There is a road bridge to Denmark. Malmö is 20 minutes to drive from Copenhagen.

ECCNA would be a cooperation between Sweden and Denmark. Sweden is the sponsor region for Denmark.

There are 11 groups holding 32 meetings per week in Malmö. Area has 18 groups

Convention hall has been prebooked for **12-14. August 2011**.

The main hall seats 4000 plus there are other rooms. Cost for the hall is 15.000 Euro, plus sound and light.

A prospective budget is given. Projected costs about 30.000 Euro. Break-even would be with 1000 registrations.

Conventions in Malmö in the past had between 700-1000 persons registered, the last Swedish Regional convention had 2000 attending.

Ibis-hotel about 700 beds plus several hostels and camping sites. Camping site close to the convention is planned. Prices of hotel would be about 50,- Euro (**per person?**) in a double room.

Malmö is the cheapest city in Sweden Malmö is “city of parks”. There is a big free music festival in August.

Spain

Some information is handed out.

Location is Marbella, in the south of Spain, 16.-18. September 2011

Airport is Malaga, 45 minutes from Marbella. There are frequent bus services (4,50 Euro), taxi 60 Euro.

Conference center main hall seats about 1500 people. It can be divided into 3 rooms. 5 other rooms for max 95 people. One room will be reserved for EDM.

Costs for convention center is 11000,- plus translations equipment (6000,-) and audio-visual (3000,-). No further financial calculations yet. Planning is for about 1000 people.

Two possibilities for open-air party in the evenings.

Hotels: Hotel Sultan**** is across the road, costs for double room with kitchenette 135,-

Appartments 165,- Euros for 4-6 people.

There are many other hotel, appartments, pensions and camping options in Marbella.

Spain has held ECCNA in Barcelona 1989 and in Sitges in 1999 and World Convention in Barcelona 2009.

Spain has meetings mainly along the cost, but large parts of Spain without NA. The WCNA experience needs to be followed up!

Questions and discussions

Break even point for Sweden is 1000 attendees. Spain has no budget yet.

Remark: ECCNA does not have to be in high season because of prices.

5 minutes decision time for discussion with the alternate

Vote: 21 voting communities present. simple majority is 11.

ECCNA will be held in Malö, Sweden

Short break

12.20 – 13.45 Community reports (continued)

UK (Nina) – we have prison sponsorship in the UK. Three areas in the UK have sub-committees, now a regional committee is in the process of being formed. Inmates can contact the committee. They are given a sponsor and can work the steps by writing to the sponsor.

UK region has lots of questions and discussions about literature pricing and other literature issues.

Parents and carers committee had many phone calls why the World Convention does not offer crèche and child care services. The parents and carers committee organises child support at conventions and events, helps meetings to organize creches during the meetings, chose creche workers, offers support by email and phone to people who can't get to meetings because of child care. The committee produces some merchandize (T-shirts etc) to finance itself and receives a budget from UK region. **Add webadress from Nina's email**

Questions:

- UK website suggested to have a paypal facility for online donations. Any experiences?

Kenneth (Sweden) – we have an online group that accepts donations. Referred to NAWS.

- Please share experiences about service offices: what services do they offer, how are they financed?

Kenneth (Sweden) – the service is mainly supported by literature sales. They distribute email/mail and support services of other committees with administrative works.

Oded (Israel) – the israel office has 28 % profit from literature sales. 15 % of this profit goes to the areas. We hire a special worker as a secretary. The office offers services to all the regional committees.

Sergio (Portugal) – we take profit from the literature, it's the main income for our services. The office is like a committee of the region. No payed workers.

Ana (France) – we pay an accountant.

Denmark (Iver) – Denmark region has worked for a long time towards unity and it is bearing fruits. The PI committee plans to attend a music festival. They also plan to do a march through the streets of Copenhagen to show NA is there!

Areas sell the literature themselves, but with no profit. The regional services depend only on donations from the areas.

Hungary (Eszti) – some meetings closed down. Translations are slow, IPs are being revised. We had a question on how to sell literature and got good feedback in the small groups, for example to include the postage price in the bill, and to make a small profit in the sales.

German-speaking Region (Martina) – an international convention took place in Berlin, which was a great success, with 180 members from 14 different countries. It is planned to make it an annual event, on the first weekend of May.

Question “online meetings”

- A group has started to hold online meetings. They asked to be part of the service structure. Any experiences?

Nina (UK) – we have 3-4 online meetings on the UK website. They are part of the webcommittee. That is the way they can be accountable to the service structure. The online meetings attract a number of newcomers.

Egypt (Karim) – one Englishspeaking and 3 womens meetings.

PR has held a lot of presentations, to a TV program, to the Ministry of foreign affairs, to the ministries of health, social and sports club of Egypt etc.

Arabic Audio Basic Text is planned.

There is an outreach committee that holds contact via the phone an offers support for new groups.

Legal association (NGO) has been set up and is in the process of being registered.

Questions on copyright issues:

- Is it possible to publish stories from the NA Way magazine in public newspapers, if the source is made clear?
- A treatment center promotes NA, offers the literature as download and have published the steps in an adapted form. They have their own copies of medallions and other items. They also have their own book “an NA way of life”. Any experiences?

Travis (NAWS) – the NGO will help to provide some legal protection for the name of NA. First, it might help to speak with them. It is a copyright issue. Becky and Anthony have more experience with that!

Publishing something from the NA Way magazine might possibly be good PR, but needs to be selected carefully.

Andrey (Russia) – we have several treatment centers in Russia that use the steps in adapted form. The PR committee sent them a letter and asked them to use correct wording of the steps. Some treatment centers now use the correct wording. Others did not respond. We try to talk and inform.

Croatia (Sanda) – 40-50 members. The service structure is being build up. We registered as an area. We have good contacts to Serbia, Bosnia and Montenegro. It was considered to form a region together, but decided against it for the time being. We have a yearly convention together, at the last convention we held a workshop on “our freedom our responsibility”. We would like request an FD visit to this convention next year. An NGO called “Club of recovering addicts 12 steps” receives money from the governement (40.000 Euro last year!). It does not follow the traditions. It is led by a doctor who started meetings in Croatia. NAWS has offered assistance.

Slovenia (Jovanka) – we are very similar as Croatia and we are closely linked to them. Our fellowship is even smaller than Croatia! 3 meetings a week, in total about 15 members

Sweden (Veronica) – we are happy to have ECCNA in 2011!

We got very inspired by the experience shared by Norway about the phonenumber. We now have a phonenumber that offers personal response during 4 hours a week, our goal is a 24 hours hotline service.

The translation group was in Stockholm, then in Malmö. Now we also have 5 satellite translation groups in other towns as well. They work with guidelines and communicate with the “main” group in Malmö. Each group needs to have a minimum of 5 members.

Western Russia (Andrey) – inspired by Finland, we had our first “sponsprship day”, it was like a little convention with the theme of Sponsorship. It was a big success and will be repeated next year. It was mainly sharing sessions and speaker meetings, and workshops about sponsorship and recovery. There were also some fun events, disco and a boat trip.

We have a new website team and an English version of the website online now.

The Region has started an inventory process in order to identify problems and improve our sevicees and communication.

The Western Russia region is getting too big, but we haven’t decided how to deal with this yet. A new region has formed in Siberia 2 years ago.

Questions

- We would like to hold workshops to train trusted servants. Please share experiences and session profiles.

Sergio (Portugal) – we use sponsorship for service. We also held a learning day about PI and H+I. We prepared 2 powerpoint presentations about PI and about H+I. Then we had question and answer sessions about each one. One of these powerpoints was also translated in English for the Malta FD activity.

Niall (Ireland) – we used the Service system workshop session profile from NAWS.

Liz (UK) – we hold workshops at our regional service committee meetings. We used material from the World Service Conference “Thank you NA” and “How to become an effective RCM (Regional Committee Member)”. All regional subcommittees hold workshops at the regional convention, as well as separate learning days.

Lithuania (Ilona) – thanks to the training we received through FD visits and the EDM, we now organized our first workshops by ourselves. One was a Living Clean workshop, about 20 members participated. We also organized a regional assembly with combined service and fun activities as mid-summer camping.

H+I had some problems because there were so many people in the committee!

Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia hold the Baltic States convention together each year.

The Membership survey has been translated.

We have a funding request to winter EDM. We try to donate to EDM and to World Services.

Question about H+I in prison

- We regularly hold an H+I meeting in a prison. The prison has changed the regulations and sends anyone with drug charges to the NA meeting as mandatory. Now 200 people attend, it is getting to big. Also the prison didn't want to give us an adequate meeting room. Input we received was to split the the meeting into a general information for everyone and the second sharing session for only those that are interested to hear more. We will also re-negotiated with the prison.

Yuval (Israel) – prison authorities respect you as you respect yourself. They need us too! For example, we request coffee. They know it is important for us to come and give us good conditions.

Jim (UK) – there were many efforts to bring NA into prisons in the UK. The prisons favor NA because we take no money. Not all prisons are alike, some have strange requirements. We don't go at all costs. When we go to prisons, NA should be seen as something that is working well!

Lunch Break

15.15 – 16.50 NAWS Report

NAWS news was given out.

Pricing issue

Becky and Anthony (WSO-Chatsworth) inform about the change of prices – the prices needed to be adapted to the exchange rate \$ to €. It came as a shock to many members what this meant in practice and there were a lot of angry reactions about it. The World Board has elaborated a revised pricing proposal which now is about 50 % increase of Euro prices.

The Euro prices were not adapted to the dollar prices for the past 11 years, even though the exchange rates changed very much. Also, there were no price increases during all this time. NAWS was making a loss from literature sales in Europe for many years and the losses have been strongly increasing. Some reasons for that: Expenses in WSO-Europe are also in Euro, but the pricing and the income were in Dollar. Also the prices were not reflecting the real expenses. NAWS has to pay V.A.T., but is not charging it from any communities. Prices for resources such as translating have gone up enormously and NAWS has always been absorbing all these and other costs related to literature. Effectively NAWS is losing very much money and cannot continue to do this. Because of economy, NAWS had to postpone several activities, such as the Middle East Conference. The World Service Conference takes place next year which is a huge expense.

For some communities it is easy to deal with this increase, other communities have always received literature at subsidised prices. The price on the literature sales list for WSO-Europe is the same for all regions. Discounts and subsidies continue to be negotiated and given, as they have always done.

Questions and discussions about this:

Jim (UK) – Perception in Europe is that the increase was only for Europe, not for the whole fellowship. Europe did not ask for a European sales office through WSO-E.

Anthony (NAWS) – the other perception might be that Americans have been supporting literature for Europe for many years. WSO invested almost 1 Million Dollars to make literature available in Europe, before any income was made for it. It is less expensive to ship literature to one office WSO Europe instead of shipping it separately to all the different Regions. When WSO-E was installed, there was no “European” fellowship, there were many different and separate fellowships. It was practical to have one central office and from the overall financial point of view, it is more economic. VAT occurs for sales from goods and services. Europe has much more favorable discounts than in the US.

Michael (Ireland) – this is an overall cost issue. People felt the increase was imposed on them. Do you have more examples on cost issues where reductions have been discussed?

Becky (NAWS) – NAWS travel budget has been reduced by half.

We have decreased the costs of existing publications (such as NA Way) by shortening them.

Literature including translations is one of the major expenses. Priorities in literature translations needed to be changed when considering which items need to be translated.

Other major cost issues are services like FD, the World Convention, travel, free literature, projects and expenses approved by conference, and the World Service Conference. All these areas are being investigated, where it is possible to spend less.

The office overhead costs are fixed (lease), the only option would be reducing the staff and offer less services to the fellowship.

Toby (chair) –The price of the Basic Text in the US is 7,50. In Spain we buy the Basic Text for 3 € and we sell it for 7 €. We gained 4 € and to keep this, we would have to ask for 11 €. Maybe our regions need to find new ways of self-supporting, instead of relying on literature income.

Anthony (NAWS) – many people in the communities have no idea what the literature costs and how the income in their region is generated. This might hopefully set off a discussion about the 7th tradition. NAWS spends 8 Million Dollars on services, 6 Million of those do not come from donations (**check this!!!!**)

Liz (UK) – suggestion to have a workshop and issue discussion topics about self support.

Question from UK region: Can UK have a license to print the literature ourselves?

Anthony (NAWS) – just for today: No. Decentralisation of literature distribution is being discussed. This involves licensing and royalties. Many regions had licenses and many of them did not work well, communities forgot that they were part of a worldwide fellowship. This was a prime motivation to get rid of all the licenses and this took us 10 years. Today we can think of everyone's literature needs and take it from a centralised pot.

Ron B. (WB) (Australia) – Literature in Australia has been subsidised for a long time. Now it might be time for us to subsidise others. The fluctuations between US \$ and Australian \$ has been quite large. There was an outcry when literature prices had to be increased. Sometimes it might be cheaper to order directly in the US; but we chose to support our local office and order there.

Anthony (NAWS) – North American sales policy was changed 11 years ago. Service offices' 40 % discount was reduced to 20 %. People were not happy at all, but it was necessary. We have to adapt to this. It is necessary to stop bleeding financially. NAWS will continue doing the possible to make literature available in all communities.

Barcelona World Convention:

4024 members from 59 nations have pre-registered until July 1st.

Support committee from all over Spain was incredible. Little ad-hoc committees in Barcelona have set up meetings and are doing a great job to make members welcome and comfortable.

EDM has helped a lot to spread information about the convention.

World Service Conference in April

We will put out a questionnaire and ask each community to name the 3 most important issues that you need to be discussed. Discussion will be as good as the feedback received.

Questions from communities:

- Is it possible to publish stories from the NA Way magazine in public newspapers, if the source is made clear?

Anthony (NAWS) – this is a Public Relations issue. It is in principle possible, but it needs to be considered carefully if this is a good idea, which contents, what opinions are expressed. If you want to choose an article for publishing, please check this with Jane and Anthony and NAWS.

- Questions from Egypt and Croatia about treatment centers using the NA name, publishing the steps with different wording, offering literature as download and selling coins reprinted from NA.

NAWS – There are hundreds of treatment providers that refer to NA in some way on their websites. They use the steps, they have small excerpts of literature on the website, they use the NA program to base their treatment program on. We need to look at the specific case. We do not prohibit people to use our name, if the use is appropriate. We need to examine this. Then we would try to communicate with them in a friendly fashion. In the last resort we would need to go to the length it takes to make sure the use of the NA name is appropriate. It's hard to define when the line of appropriate use is crossed. NAWS spends a small fortune for copyrights and trade marks, because many people would like to use the literature in slightly amended forms.

- UK would like information on online donations via the website
NAWS – the online donations portal at na.org is not used much. It is mainly used by members or groups that were not able to donate before, because of high bank charges to make the transfers. On the portal, you can avoid this, you can donate using a credit card. It is a convenience to people outside of North America. We have found no philosophical conflict with having a portal that explicitly says: if you are not a member, do not contribute. The 7th tradition is clearly illustrated and we expect that people can read and understand that.
- Ireland need experiences around members under 18 attending, especially if they need to be accompanied by a guardian.
NAWS – It is a challenge. NA is not trying to take over responsibility for adolescents, but sometimes this is what happens. It is specially an issue for conventions and social events, such as camp-outs. Someone does take responsibility for the under 18, by letting them register, even if you aren't aware of it.
AA created young people's AA as an entire separate fellowship, so that they can avoid facing issues with young people mixing with adults. We as NA don't have any experiences or answers to it yet.
It helps to have more open meetings to deal with such special circumstances. Then guardian or other accompanying people can attend without problems.

17.15 – 18.00 Issues arising from the meeting that need to be discussed.

Sharing session: on Vice chair situation

Some communities wished to have a sharing session on the information given about changes in personal situation for the vice chair and how that could affect the EDM as a service body. All were given the opportunity to share thoughts, feelings and opinions.

There was no urgency to take immediate action. Vice-chair will stay on and is willing to stand for chair at the elections next summer. That will be the moment to take a decision. All delegates need to take back the information to their communities that there will be elections for chair and vice-chair at ECCNA next year.

Toby (chair) – two communities have approached me and expressed the need to discuss the vice-chair situation. Sisko as our vice-chair is moving away from the United States, but she is willing to continue as vice-chair and run for chair at the next election at summer EDM 2010 in Israel. We have the opportunity now to discuss how to deal with this situation.

The issue is intensely discussed. Points brought up:

- Financial implications: Flights found online to the next two EDM locations were around 800 - 900 Euros. From Stockholm about 350 Euro.
- We must be very careful about the way we manage our fundings.
- A number of delegates don't see money as the problem.
- How will it be possible to follow the work with the Steering Committee while living in another continent?
- Most Steering Committee communications are online, that is still possible.
- Moving to America does not make you an American. It is a matter of where the heart is and if you are familiar with Europe.
- Being the chair takes more than just being present. It is about a lot more than money. Training, personal skills and the long experience in the EDM are a very valuable resource.
- The guidelines don't say anything about where on the planet you live.
- EDM is a fast growing community. There might be other resources within the EDM zone. America is not only a different country, it is another continent.
- Some communities don't feel comfortable with a chairperson of the EDM in another continent. It would be better to have someone from the EDM.
- What implications would this have on EDM, would this set a precedent? Can people that don't live in the EDM Zone stand for positions in the EDM?
- We had a vicechair from Canada.
- For a delegate, the place of origin would make a difference. This doesn't seem to be the case in the Steering Committee
- I am a delegate living in a different country, and it is not really working. This is my last EDM, if it weren't, I would resign. My fellowship gives me all the information, but I'm not there in the heart.
- We are Europe, but it is very enriching to hear the Zonal Forum reports and the report from NAWS.
- For EDM, it might be an opportunity to benefit from service experiences from the United States. On the other side it would be good to have members from Europe on the EDM.

- Moving to another continent is a big change of life, but it is a personal decision what the consequences are.
- If I moved to another zone, I would do service there.
- I think the chair should be on the same continent. I would resign.
- The decision what to do should not wait to long, because the training period for another chair/vice-chair would be very short.
- Elections will be next year at EDM in Israel, the decision will be made then. No need to decide it now.

Toby (chair) – we all had the chance to express our feelings. From what we have heard, there does not seem the urgency to take immediate action. Sisko is willing to stay on as the vice-chair and this seems to be commonly accepted by the body. The moment to take a decision will then be during the elections next summer. All delegates can take back the information that there will be elections for chair and vice-chair in Summer. From the resumes we get then, a decision can be taken.

Resumes for elections are given out. There are a lot of resumes. These are confidential information! Delegates are required to treat them confidential. Please hand them back to Steering Committee after the election.

Monday August 17th – “FD-Day”

Meeting starts with reading the Just for Today meditation.

9.15 – 10.45 FD report (report in the meeting booklet)

Miko (FD chair) – this day is dedicated entirely to Fellowship Development. It will give you a great chance for active participation.

It was a very successful interim period. We started sending emails to absent communities. Iceland, Liechtenstein, Montenegro. There was some response from Iceland, including an informal kind of request. There was also a request for a Fellowship Development activity in Italy.

FD Malta activity report

Travel team (Veronica, Sweden and Sergio, Portugal) – the report is in the booklet.

Sergio (Portugal) – When we prepared this FD visit, first we asked Malta about their concerns and what they need. Then we started preparing three workshops and a PI presentation to professionals: All this was prepared and ready before going to Malta, communicating by email all the time.

The first workshop was about “how to do a PI presentation”. We prepared a Powerpoint presentation, people asked a lot of questions. We informed the members, asked them to not give interviews themselves but leave that to the PI presentation team.

The next day, we did the PI presentation, together with the local fellowship. We also had a powerpoint presentation for that. A great number of participants came, about 27 professionals and 10-12 members from the fellowship. The professionals were very interested and respectful to us.

The next two workshops were focussed on the topics the fellowship of Malta had asked for: “The 12 Concepts” and “Sponsorship”.

Members in Malta were very very interested and welcoming, asked lots of questions during the whole time we were there. FD is not only doing the workshops, it is communicating with the members. With this one activity, we touched many members, it gives impact to the whole fellowship.

Veronica (Sweden) – it was an overwhelming experience. There was so much willingness and interest. We received many many questions, also very personal ones. I want to express my gratitude for entrusting me to do this service. It was fantastic.

Simon (Malta) – for us it was a very big learning experience. Before, it was usually difficult to entice people to do service. When we prepared this trip, we created a committee and a number of new service positions. All of them were filled and they still are. That is a fruit of this visit.

From the PI presentation, we now see members being referred to NA from treatment centers, that before would not consider us. We received good response from probation officers.

So many things happened in the short time after the visit and it was all positive. We are a very small community and we know each other very personally. This sometimes causes difficulties, even resentments. By hearing outside views, we managed to clear the water between us. Two women’s meetings have opened in the meantime, women are starting to sponsor each other.

We are so grateful for this visit. EDM should make more of these visits, especially to small and new communities. In developing, we have the most questions and things we need to understand.

Miko (FD chair) – every time we do this kind of activity, we learn and do better. We get more experiences and trained members. Good preparation leads to good results, it is essential. To do a good and effective visit, we need time and preparation. The team for Malta prepared some nice and simple powerpoint presentations. They can be downloaded on the website. Please also ask the travel teams about their experiences on how they did the workshops, and take that back to your regions. Have a sponsorship day, or different workshops at your own region! That is the essence of FD.

Questions and discussions

Ana (France) – we have the powerpoint presentations also translated into French.

Sophie (Frenchspeaking Switzerland) – how did you prepare the PI presentation? How many letters were sent, did you do any follow-up? How did you prepare the FD visit?

Simon (Malta) – we sent 130 letters, about 3 weeks before the event. We called some people by phone before the event. We also sent letters after the presentation, thanking them for their interest.

Sergio (Portugal) – we met online and by email. We set up the schedule, we had everything set up before we arrived. The Powerpoints were all ready. This type of activity needs months of preparation. We also need to hear what the fellowship wants and prepare for that.

Karim (Egypt) – how important is it to do the workshops in the local language? We do the PI presentation in Arabic language.

Joao (FD vice chair) – EDM language is English, so workshops have to be translated during the FD visit. By training the members, maybe the next workshops then can be held in the local language.

Report from Iceland

Joao (FD vice chair) – at our last EDM in France, it was requested that FD be a little more proactive and reach out to isolated communities. We have sent a number of emails to communities such as Iceland, Montenegro and also to Italy, who have not been participating in the EDM for a long time.

We have received communications from Iceland and from Italy.

This was an outreach activity and now we need to go further.

Iceland is a very small community, they are very willing to do service, but they are very isolated. They do not feel ready to participate in EDM yet, but they would appreciate a visit by members from outside. It is not an official request. The person corresponding is a member and we don't know much about their service structure at all.

Toby (chair) – the funding guidelines are meant to be a guide for members that wish to put in a request, and already know that they have the possibility. They give information how they can put in a request. But especially very new and small communities would not even consider putting in a request, because they don't even know about that. I understand the FD committee to be trusted servants that have our trust to initiate activities themselves.

Eric (Denmark) – I went to a meeting in Iceland once. I was the first visitor from outside that ever went there. The meeting was in an AA clubhouse, they were very influenced by AA. They have no input from NA from outside. They need support.

Ilona (Lithuania) – this is a real life case like we have discussed in the workgroup, who is eligible, how can we give support.

Ron (World Board) – our experience with contacting communities that are in the very early development can be tricky. Sometimes, for example in the Asia Pacific, we blundered in and set up conflicts, when it is too early to set up a service structure or have delegates that travel abroad.

Italy request

We had communications with one contact person in Italy, who has referred us to the Regional Chairperson. After some emails, they worked out a request to invite the EDM to an FD activity to their regional service conference in Bellaria, in October 2009.

Italy had a delegate in the EDM for years, but for a few years now they are not coming any more. They have problems with service position and finding a delegate. Their newsletter was discontinued. But they are still a strong community in Europe. We should consider doing this activity.

Short break

11.10 – 13.00 FD workgroup

Niall (Ireland) – I was the chair of the FD workgroup. FD is a primary purpose of the EDM and it is growing. This workgroup was formed at our last EDM in France, with many members from a number of different communities in the EDM. We took some time to find a good way of working. At first we used Skype, but it was difficult because people kept going offline. So we changed to meeting in an online chat, keeping minutes of it. We also communicated with FD committee.

We started off with a number of ideas brought up at EDM in France and went on brainstorming on them. Some of the issues discussed were funding and our present funding guidelines, keeping a database, outreach, a non-bureaucratic approach to outreach, human resources, training members to become involved, involve former EDM participants and involve other members. Communication was another big topic: how can we share information, how can other people use it.

The workgroup had a meeting one evening during this EDM. We feel the process of FD is changing and we need input from everyone. Some members will share about their experiences now.

Jovanka (Slovenia) – here is my experience with outreach. We were 5 people in the beginning and were very excited to start our own NA meetings. But as we didn't know about NA, we copied the format of the AA meetings. We didn't have any literature. The meeting struggled, AA was quite strong and people went back to AA. We were very close to giving up, when we received an invitation from NAWS to participate in a workshop in Ukraine. This was an overwhelming experience. There were 200 people there. We got the feeling that we were part of something really big. It was a miracle to see faces of other members.

We also met members from Croatia. It is only 1,5 hours apart but we didn't know of each other. This workshop gave us the opportunity to connect and now we are supporting each other in many ways. We are holding conventions together. We support each others' meetings and take newcomers to other meetings, so that they learn about NA being something bigger than our small meeting.

Being invited to this workshop in Ukraine was essential for us. Before, we had no idea what there is out there and what we might ask for. We could never have asked for anything, because we didn't know it exists. It was not about the contents of this workshop, but that it gave us the opportunity to connect and to identify, and that someone puts up the effort and cares about us.

We should have more precise guidelines about what help there is on offer, what different possibilities there are. For example Serbia: they are growing now, but they will never ask anything from EDM, because they don't know what to ask for. We don't need to tell them what they should do. But we can show that that we are there and we care.

Wolfgang (Germany) – our idea for this session was to give you as many open questions as possible and to involve you in discussing them. This session is to bring up questions! This afternoon will be dedicated to the answers.

One big issue is human resources. How can we start better communications with former delegates or members of the EDM. There is so much potential and experience out there, but it is difficult to stay involved when you are not seated at the EDM. How can we use the members of the resource pool better, what ideas can we give them about how they can participate? How can we stay in contact? How can we give training? For example we might have open email groups or mailing lists. We can think about an online Forum, so that questions from fellowships and members can be posted for other members also to give input.

Many of the past outreach activities have been started through personal contacts. But we can only help people if they want help, if they are ready for it.

Ilona (Lithuania) – we have tried to investigate experiences and guidelines related to funding. The current guidelines say that the communities need a service structure for two years, and that they are unable to fund themselves. Some very small communities do not fulfill this (only) requirement that we have. Do we really need this requirement? In the workgroup, we had the idea that there might be other, more spontaneous possibility for funding. For example, someone might visit the Montenegro convention. Or Iceland, they probably don't fulfil the requirement to have a service structure, but they ask for help now. We need to think anew about what a developing community is?

Discussion about the funding guidelines. Some points mentioned:

Why was the eligibility criteria of having 2 years of service structure added to the funding guidelines? It made sense when it was set up. We had limited funds. But it does not follow our hearts. Maybe this requirement can be overcome.

Trust has grown in the EDM. As the EDM has become bigger, we experience more trust into the trusted servants from Steering Committee and FD.

Guidelines are "alive" and should not be restrictive.

Kenneth (Sweden) – We had lots of ideas in the workgroup and this brought up the idea of strategic planning, first for the workgroup and then also for the work that will be done after that.

Questions and discussions:

Dion (South Africa) – suggests to extend the workgroup to consider the needs of the African continent

Yuval (Israel) – EDM means European Zone, but we don't have any clear defined boundaries. This should be talked about too. Where are the limites of the EDM?

Wolfgang – We in Europe were encouraged by other service levels to form the EDM. Maybe this can be an encouragement to eventually start developing other Zonal forums.

Sergio (Portugal) – there have been a lot of ideas for FD and for this workgroup. What is needed now is a direction where to proceed with the workgroup. For example the issue of the guidelines and funding. We need to focus on that and come up with practical solutions.

Michael (Ireland) – does the workgroup feel they need more time for discussion? Or does the workgroup like to receive specific tasks? The workgroup might set up a strategic plan about what possibilities and limits there are, and what is achievable.

Niall (Ireland) – that is what we will be working on in the next sessions.

Joao (FD vice chair) – we have big difficulties to manage the FD resource pool. We sent emails to everyone and we receive very little response. We don't know $\frac{3}{4}$ of the people registered there. We don't know if they are still available. Maybe we should restrict the resource pool to this body, so that we can train members.

Miko (FD chair) – How to continue with the workgroup? We now have three different important issues to work on: Outreach, Human Resources and Strategic Planning. The FD workgroup should be open, if new people would like to join. The workgroup might split up and each group focus one one of the issues.

Lunch Break**14.30 – 16.45 FD workshop**

The outline of the workshop is given out.

Joao (FD vice chair) – the body is split up in 6 groups. The topic of the workshop is “What kind of FD activities do we want to have?” please discuss two questions: “What activities do we want” and “How to do them”. Bear in mind the issues we have identified: Outreach, human resources and Funding.

Time for small group discussion is 35 minutes.

For reporting, each group is asked to select the two most important points they have found.

(Responses see addendum A)

Toby (chair) – we have now heard the results of the workgroup and in this session we have collected a lot of input. The need for the workgroup to receive directions was expressed. We now have the proposal to ask the workgroup to continue, with the following issues to work on:

Vision statement

funding: review guidelines and come up with new potential changes

outreach: ideas and implementations

human resources: study options

communications: ways to share, strategy.

Consensus for the workgroup to continue

The workgroup would have the same members. All members of the workgroup agree to continue.

Some members ask to join. Some discussion about this. The workgroup would need to discuss if it is manageable to work with 4 more members. Maybe there could also be some space for other members to give input without having to be an active part of the workgroup. Members who wish to participate are asked to contact Niall as the chair of the workgroup. The workgroup will then decide how to handle this.

Another proposal is to give the members of the workgroup (as they are to date) the opportunity to meet face to face on the day before the next EDM in Egypt. This would mean one day of extra costs for one night and per diem for approx. 8 members (800 – 1000 Euro). This does not include any additional or new members.

Consensus for the workgroup to meet one day before EDM in Egypt. Budget for one night and per diem for approx. 8 members is 800-1000 Euro.

Tuesday August 18th

Meeting start with reading the Just for Today meditation.

9.15 – 10.00 Closing treasury report and approval of budget

Jim (Treasurer) presents new budget figures

Before the meeting (see first day of EDM)

Savings account before the meeting	35 561,98 €
Ring-fenced money	13 000,00 €
Amount accessible before the meeting	22 561,98 €
Current account for expenses	6 754,52 €
Treasurer's account (cash)	2 500,00 €

Expenses and income during the meeting

Cash donations received (Greece, Lithuania, Croatia, Slovenia, Malta)	658,00 €
Cash expenses during EDM (egyptian delegate and other things)	-2 689,55 €
Cash donations coffee	76,98 €
Expenses current account (photocopies, coffee breaks to hotel)	-945,00 €
ECCNA 26 Israel seed money transferred from current account	-5 000,00 €
Treasurer cash after EDM	545,43 €
Current account after expenses	1 354,98 €
Amount accessible from the savings account, after ring-fenced monies	22.561,98 €
Amount accessible after the meeting	23 916,94 €

Budgets for further expenses:

The following requests have been received

To next Winter EDM:

Malta - full funding

Lithuania - full funding

Finland – full funding

Poland – partial funding (transport costs)

Hungary - partial funding

FD funding:

Italy - Request for FD visit to Regional Service Conference in October 2010

Croatia – 4. NA convention of former Yugoslavia countries. in May 2010

FD workgroup

meeting one day before the winter EDM, per diem and one night for approx 8 people (800-1000 €)

At our last EDM in France, there was a decision to set aside 6.000,- Euro for the next winter EDM in Egypt, as we do not have an ECCNA this year to provide funds for winter EDM. This was forgotten in this breakdown. Suggestion to not add those 6000,- but change this to 2000,- Euro.

Questions and discussions

Questions around the ring-fenced monies (13.000,-). These are for expenses for legal entity, SC and FD travel to the next EDM, emergency travel and a prudent reserve. Details are in the meeting booklet.

Discussion around the prudent reserve. This was set aside to maintain an amount for emergency cases.

Further questions about what the accessible amount should be used for.

There will be extra time on the agenda to discuss this at winter EDM in Egypt.

Consensus to set aside 2000,- Euro for next winter EDM (instead of the 6000,- approved last EDM)

10.00 – 10.45 – Matters arising from meeting

Community report Turkey

is read out, as the Turkish delegate is unable to attend. EDM says “Hey” to Serhad ☺

Toby (chair) – some further items

Website:

Our webmaster has received a lot of input for the webpage, and many suggestions about how to handle a forum or some kind of intranet for the EDM. Stephane also needs to change the web interface to English language. Consensus to give Stephane go-ahead for all necessary works on the website.

Agenda for next EDM

Community reports session: Our idea for the next agenda is to have two morning sessions for community reports on the first two days, instead of one, and one session for small group discussions of further questions arising from the reports.

There will be time on the agenda for funding and money matters.

There is also a suggestion to have a longer lunch-break.

Funding requests for EDM attendance:

It has been suggested to have further discussions about the criteria applied for funding of delegates and/or the alternate delegates to the EDM. We ask delegates to be very conscious about the purpose of the EDM and our communities' own responsibility when we ask for funding. We now have money but we had times when there hasn't been any money. It is a sign of growth for the community itself to be able and willing to provide funding and training for the alternates. Purpose for funding delegates is to have the voice of communities present at the EDM.

Board of Directors (BOD) proposal

Together with Paul WSO-E and the treasurer, the Steering Committee has set up some information for a proposal to have a "Board of Directors" for the EDM. This is handed out and read out to the body.

- The idea behind this proposal is to save time and paper work for Paul at WSO-E
- Currently, the BOD are the members of the Steering Committee. That means that each two years, the registration of the legal association have to be changed, the new names have to be registered and published with the Belgium authorities.
Then the bank sends new forms which need to be sent to all the new directors to sign.
All of this takes 3-5 months to change.
- The people operating the bank account in practice are Paul WSO-E and the treasurer.
Currently the signatories to the bank account are like this:
Paul and Jim can separately sign for current account
Paul and Jim together need to sign for savings account
This could stay like that.
- The BOD is needed for administration of the accounts. Any access to our accounts by BOD would be in case of emergency. Their access would require the signatures of two BOD members. This can be fixed with the bank.
 - There is a software needed for the electronic signatories.
One member of the BOD could have this software, as a backup for an emergency.
 - Tax declaration and accounting documents need to be signed by one of the BOD members.
 - Annual general meeting of the BOD is formally be required. Issues: accounts need to be approved.
According to our bylaws, this can be done by phone and needs to be minuted.
- Duties of the BOD:
 - have a software pack for emergency
 - Issue the proxy for treasurer
 - check the accounting documents and sign the tax declaration once a year
 - Annual general meeting by phone
- Length of time – suggestion 6 years.
- Terminating the term of a BOD member:
legally, a BOD member that walks out will still be in charge until he replaced
Formally, by the way treasury is organized (two signatories, Paul and the treasurer practically operating the bank account) a functioning of bank matters will still be assured.
- 3 BOD members are required. Suggestion to have 4 BOD members, so that there will always be 3 present for the work on hand.
- Members of the BOD suggestion
 - keep the current Steering Committee as BOD for the first / transition period
 - then elect new members as BOD, eg. old experienced Steering Committee members
 - BOD members can or cannot be on the Steering Committee

Questions and discussions

"Issue a proxy" means, that a permission needs to be issued to the treasurer, which allows him to operate the bank account.

Questions about the length of time. The suggested 6 year commitment seems very long. Opinion expressed that if the BOD is not a member of the EDM or the Steering Committee, then people will not know who is behind the administration. It is better to have someone we know. Another voice says it would be good if the members of the BOD were *not* members of the Steering Committee.

At the moment, the current Steering Committee is doing exactly what the proposal says the future Board of Directors should do. It is very time consuming to do the legal registration for the new Steering Committee, each time new member of the SC are elected. The main purpose of separating the BOD from the SC is to save this legal registration work.

This proposal does not have to be decided today. We welcome any input and experiences that you have in your communities about having a Board of Directors, such as they exist for example in France and in Germany. **There will be time in Egypt to further discuss it.**

Short break

11.00 – 12.40 Elections

roll call: 21 delegates present. Simple majority is 11.

Before each election, the job description is read out.

Each candidate needs a proposer and a seconder.

(Only) if all candidates are present, delegates will have the opportunity to ask questions of the candidates.

Then the candidate(s) are asked to leave the room. There is a little time for discussion.

Vote will be by secret paper vote.

Abstentions: If you do not want to vote for any of the candidates, it is possible to write "no-one" or leave the paper blank. Abstentions will be deducted from the simple majority.

Some discussion if it is necessary or spiritual to discuss candidates in absentia. Some delegates feel uncomfortable with it. Other delegates feel it is important to be able to ask questions of people who know the candidates and have worked with them, and maybe also say uncomfortable things. This might need to be discussed and revised in the future.

Secretary

One candidate: Natalia

Proposer: Ireland, Secunder: Lithuania

As Natalia is not present, no questions can be asked. There is room for discussion.

21 voting communities. Simple majority is 11

Natalia is elected.

alt Treasurer: Four candidates:

Göran, Sweden - Proposer: Sweden, Secunder: UK

Jussi, Finland - Proposer: Greece, Secunder: Western Russia

Mohamed, Egypt - Proposer: Egypt, Secunder: Poland

Lena, Sweden - Proposer: Sweden, Secunder: Croatia

Not all candidates are present, no questions can be asked. There is room for discussion.

21 voting communities. Simple majority is 11

After the first round of voting, there is a draw between two candidates.

Vote is repeated with the candidates Jussi and Göran

Göran / Sweden is elected.

FD chair

One candidate: Joao

Proposer: Portugal, Secunder: Germanspeaking Region

As Joao is present, questions can be asked. There is room for discussion.

21 voting communities. Simple majority is 11

Joao is elected.

FD vice chair Three candidates:

Wolfgang, Germany – Proposer: Germanspeaking Region, Secunder: Malta

Nina, UK - Proposer: UK, Secunder: Israel

Achmed, Egypt – Proposer: Egypt, Secunder: Lithuania

As not all candidates are present, no questions can be asked. There is room for discussion.

21 voting communities. Simple majority is 11

Wolfgang is elected.

Supporting nominations for World Service positions

The EDM has the possibility to support candidates that wish to nominate for World Service positions. This is not an election. We have procedures how to do this set up in our Orientation Pack. The procedure is very similar to how our elections for EDM are done.

Two candidates have asked for support of their nominations:

Sigrid, Germany for HRP Proposer: UK, Seconder: France

Miko, Israel for World Board. Proposer: Ireland, Seconder: Frenchspeaking Switzerland

Resumes have been given out together with other election resumes. The description of requirements for the relevant positions is read out. Both candidates are present. There is time for questions to be asked. For the vote, members can write both names in the same vote. It is not a "competition" vote, both can be supported.

Candidates leave the room. There is time for discussion.

21 voting communities. Simple majority is 11

both nominations are supported

Short break

13.00 – 14.30 NAWS Workshop "Communication"

Communication is a central issue in most of our relations within the service structure.

Workshop starts with two questions to the body

* What is working well (in your local service structure)?

* What areas need improvement?

During the feedback, three main communication areas are identified:

1. communicating to members
2. communicating level to level (EDM -> region, Region -> groups)
3. communicating within a service body

The body then splits into small groups to discuss, how improvements can be done. Each area is discussed by two of the small groups. Then feedback from the small groups is collected (see Addendum B).

Solutions found include a number of different aspects, referring to personal level, structure, communication tools and others. The NAWS project currently dealing with this is the "Service System Project". This is valuable input. In Fellowship development activities, much runs down to matching talents to tasks, finding the right people for the jobs and being flexible.

Short break

14.45 – 15.30 Meeting sum up & close

FD workgroup has briefly discussed how to deal with interested members that wish to additionally join the workgroup. The Consensus within the workgroup is that the workgroup wants to continue as the core group, with no new members at this point. But the group wants to ask interested members to give their input and contribute their ideas.

Sum-up of decisions is presented.

Time for farewell of outgoing delegates and a sharing

Draft decisions taken during the weekend:

- Minutes of the last meeting approved
- **Coffee breaks during EDM** – costs for coffee will be included in the venue costs for setting up the EDM.
- Winter EDM Egypt 2010 (information): 25.-28. February 2010, at Grand Pyramid Hotel in Gizeh
- ECCNA 2010 Israel (information): 2.-4 September 2010 in the Royal Hotel on the Dead Sea
- **ECCNA 2011** will be held in **Malmö, Sweden 12.-14. August 2011**
- **FD workgroup:** Consensus for the Workgroup to continue, with the directions to work on the following issues: Vision statement, funding, outreach, human resources, communications.
- Consensus for the members of the FD workgroup to meet one day before the next EDM in Egypt. Prospective budget for 1 night and per diem for approx. 8 members is 800-1000 Euro.
- **Website:** Consensus to give the webmaster go-ahead for all necessary works on the website.
- **Budget:** Consensus to set aside 2000,- Euro for next winter EDM (instead of the 6000,- approved last EDM)
- **Elections:** Secretary: Natalia, Western Russia
alt. Treasurer: Göran, Sweden
FD chair: Joao, Portugal
FD vice-chair: Wolfgang, Germanspeaking Region
- **Supported nominations for World Service positions**
World Board nomination: Miko, HRP nomination: Sigrid

Requests for funding

To next Winter EDM:

Hungary - partial funding

Malta - full funding

Lithuania - full funding

Poland – partial funding (transport costs)

Finland – full funding

FD funding:

Italy – Request for FD visit to Regional Service Conference in October 2010

Croatia – 4. NA convention of former Yugoslavia countries. in May 2010

Poland – FD workshop in February 2010

Continued contact with Iceland

FD workgroup

meeting one day before the winter EDM, per diem and one night for approx 8 people (800-1000 €)

Addendum A

FD workshop “What kind of FD activities do we want to have?”

Responses from the small groups

What kind of activities?

- [group 1] past actions were efficient
- needs development: documentation, follow-ups, be open to new ideas
- [group 2] Service structure planning
- Needs analysis of the community
- Guides on Minutes and Administration
- Workshop on traditions and concepts
- Definition of service position
- NA outreach road trips (informal)
- [group 3] organize links between neighbouring communities
- how to respond more quickly to urgent requests for assistance
- follow-up activities after FD event
- Human resource pool
- [group 4] Have a strategic plan to reach out to communities we have no contact with.
- Communicate with isolated communities and sponsor them & pray
- [group 5] Money spending activities. Assign an in between budget for outreach
- contacts in any form, informal visits
- make changes to guidelines
- HRP list and training
- Communicate more
- Learn from others
- Outreach on a personal level
- Emphasize spontaneity
- [group 6] PI becomes PR – emphasise public relations
- offer help actively
- strategies for support activities

How to do them?

- [group 1] Training: workshops
sponsoring
involve and invite the local communities
- Communication: presentations (video, powerpoints)
follow-ups (maintain contact, be present)
easy access to resources
be proactive in outreach
- [group 2] Inviting and visiting other countries’ service conferences
- Explaining why we are doing Fellowship Development to our communities
- “Promoting” FD trips on the website, to invite other members to attend
- sharing personal experience of how it was at the beginning, build a record of personal “service stories”
- have a European Newsletter
- [group 3] have clear definitions for communities as to what activities are available
- get the best from the human resource pool by identifying special skills of the members
- provide learning days on FD at EDM meetings
- email or web forum helpline link, where people can get answers for their questions
- [group 4] develop clear criteria and
- Have a list of countries where NA dos not exist and have a procedure how to contact people/service bodies. Actively get in touch in a structured way
- Use the knowledge of AA for contacts in small communities
- [group 5] HRP have a taskforce for quick travel and bringing back information
handpick HRP members from our communities
training to specific roles
- Outreach encourage communities to form their forum
more structure for sponsoring of neighbouring communities
more spontaneity, flexible and informal visits, report back

- Funding Use the money, have a working budget for the HRP
 emergency budget
 more doing, less talking
- Structure strategic plan
 effective communication by working online
 reporting back is vital
- [\[group 6\]](#) set up a structure how to actively contact and support
- have a list of all communities in the Zone and use it! Create a routine and timeline how and when to contact them.
- List the needs of the communities.
- Reach out – communication - support

Addendum B NAWS workshop “Communication”

Large group questions

*** What is working well (in your local service structure)?**

Clear sessions at EDM
 Areas <-> region <-> EDM
 Delegate can soften the tone but ask hard questions
 Regional website
 Steering committee communicates directly to the members
 Structure works well
 Trusted servants can be the challenge
 Fellowshiping with trusted servants
 Written and verbal reports
 Show WSC movies
 Have an email for all trusted servants
 Less fighting
 Personal communication by SMS and phone

*** What areas need improvement?**

Communication up and down from level to level
 GSRs have too much responsibility to communicate and understand
 Web services, including na.org, need to offer more ways to communicate
 Reporting in recovery meetings
 Regional meeting process
 Service structure is like a car (vehicle): we need to work on the engine
 How can we refresh the structure?

Three main communication areas are identified:

1. communicating to members
2. communicating level to level (EDM -> region, Region -> groups)
3. communicating within a service body

Feedback from small groups:

Communicating within a service body

be creative! Find creative, interesting, visual ways of presenting the information
 keep it simple when communicating
 summarize decisions. sum-up at the end of every meeting
 elect chairperson that has conflict resolution skills
 communication skills more important as election criteria

Communicating level to level (EDM -> region, Region -> groups)

Bullet points in reports (keep it simple)
 Don't push, but be available, lead by example.
 Be humble
 Ask / solicit information from the GSRs to bring to the EDM
 Communicate directly
 Prioritise when reporting
 Split up the mass of things to report
 Have simple, short reports, followed up with detailed information for interested members
 More objective view, less selective response

Communicating to members

Create a service oriented magazine with fun stories in them
 Follow-up mailings with phone calls
 Ask for feedback
 Build good relationships with respect and trust
 Social events
 Share emotional experience, create identification
 Be clear, simple language
 Regional assembly – personal contact
 Rotate meetings to different places