

Minutes of the Ecsite Annual General Meeting 2019

Friday, June 7th, 2019
15h45 – 17h00 CEST

Experimentarium

Tuborg Havnevej 7
2900 Hellerup (Copenhagen), Denmark
Room: The Eatery

1. Welcome by Herbert Mnder, President of Ecsite

Herbert Mnder welcomes delegates to the 2019 Ecsite General Assembly Meeting, henceforth referred to in the minutes as the Annual General Meeting, or AGM.

2. Verification of the quorum

The meeting is declared quorate by Herbert Mnder with 94 of Ecsite's 259 Full Members present or represented.

3. Designation of the Chairperson of the Annual General Meeting, of the Secretary, of the two Protocol Officers

The President of Ecsite designates Brigitte Coutant, Ecsite Honorary Fellow, as independent Chairperson of the Annual General Meeting.

Brigitte Coutant designates Cristina Paca as Secretary. She suggests Alex Verkade (Vereniging Science Centra Nederland, The Netherlands) and Thorsten-D. Knnemann (Swiss Science Center Technorama, Switzerland) as Protocol Officers, both approved by the General Assembly.

Lucie Steigleder of the Ecsite Head Office explains the digital voting system which is being used for the first time at an Ecsite Annual General Meeting.

4. Comments on the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2018 as approved by the 2018 Protocol Officers

There are no comments on the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2018 as approved by the 2018 Protocol Officers. The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2018 are adopted unanimously.

5. Activity report 2018

5.1 – Presentation by Herbert Mnder, President of Ecsite

Herbert Mnder presents the main activities of Ecsite during the previous year. He begins his overview by mentioning two successful Ecsite events held in 2018: the Ecsite Annual Conference 'Creative Collisions'

that took place in Geneva, Switzerland, on 7-9 June 2018 with a record-breaking 1,182 participants in attendance and the Directors Forum held in Barcelona, Spain, on 14-16 October 2018 where 68 Directors and Senior Managers of Ecsite Full Members explored 'Science engagement organisations as Citizen labs'.

Regarding EU-funded projects, the President of Ecsite notes that in 2018 Ecsite was involved in 11 projects alongside 52 of its members. He remarks that this situation was similar to that of previous years thanks to the continued existence of the Science with and for Society (SwafS) funding strand within Horizon 2020, the European Union's (EU) Framework Programme for Research and Innovation for 2014-2020.

In this context, he goes on to outline advocacy efforts related to the next Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, Horizon Europe: among others, the publication of a position paper, several meetings and events with representatives of EU institutions, and the co-organisation by Ecsite, at the request of the Portuguese Minister for Science, Technology and Higher Education, of the 2nd Gago Conference on European Science Policy in Vienna on 21 September 2018.

Herbert Munder thanks the Board Trustees whose three-term mandates are coming to an end, Cité de l'Espace - SEM SEMECCEL, Fondazione IDIS - Città della Scienza, and Norsk Teknisk Museum - Oslo Vitensenter, for their efforts and support.

To conclude, Herbert Munder invites members to consult the Ecsite Annual Report 2018, a publication for Ecsite members, for an in-depth overview of the main activities of Ecsite.

5.2 – Questions and vote

No questions are raised. The activity report 2018 is accepted with 80 votes for and 2 abstentions.

6. Financial report 2018

6.1 – Presentation by Tapio Koivu, Treasurer of Ecsite

Tapio Koivu presents the financial activity of Ecsite in 2018, as detailed for Full Members in the AGM booklet. He outlines the Income and Costs for 2018 according to the main categories. He notes that the three largest sources of income were the Annual Conference with its Business Bistro, collaborative projects, and membership fees. The three largest sources of costs were, correspondingly, the Annual Conference with its Business Bistro, collaborative projects and Head Office and Personnel costs (which do not include projects personnel costs). The Treasurer clarifies that the category of collaborative projects income shown on the graphs does not include financial support that goes directly to members acting as Third Parties or subcontractors and which amounted to €402.798 in 2018.

Regarding the percentage evolution of costs and income from 2015 until 2018, Tapio Koivu remarks that the categories of membership and the Annual Conference and its Business Bistro remained more or less stable across the years while income from EU projects fluctuates more significantly.

Overall, in 2018, the income was €2.258.847 while costs amounted to €1.992.805, resulting in EBITDA (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization) of €266.042 and a positive overall final result of €186.876.

The Treasurer also remarks that the budget was audited by the Statutory Auditors and received an assessment of good health. He expresses that the Ecsite Board is satisfied with the financial management carried out by the Ecsite Head Office team.

6.2 – Questions and vote

No questions are raised. The General Assembly approves the financial report 2018 with 81 votes in favour and 3 abstentions.

7. Election of the Ecsite President 2019-2020

In 2019, the Presidency of Ecsite is open.

Universum® Bremen (Bremen, Germany), represented by Herbert Münder, Director, presents its candidacy to the Presidency of Ecsite. He introduces himself and his motivation to stand for re-election for a second mandate as President of Ecsite, the first time that this option is available to a standing President. Looking back on his two-year mandate he notes that a lot of interesting discussions and work have been carried out. He sees two challenges ahead: the European Union's Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, Horizon Europe, and the elaboration of a new Ecsite Strategic Plan. Regarding Horizon Europe, he stresses the need to advocate for a Science with and for Society (SwafS)-like or similar programme and notes the opportunity to influence the Working Programmes of Horizon Europe in the coming months. He goes on to stress that the Ecsite community is currently active in a dynamic environment and that, given the scale and speed of change, continuity is important. The next Ecsite Strategic Plan has to consider this type of environment and offer agile responses. Herbert Münder is committed to involve members in its elaboration.

As a result of the voting process, Universum® Bremen (Bremen, Germany), represented by Herbert Münder, Director, is elected with 69 votes in favour, 14 abstentions and 3 votes against.

8. Election of the Ecsite Board 2019-2020

In 2019, eight positions are open on the Ecsite Board. Ten candidates stand for election:

Bursa Science and Technology Center,

Bursa, Turkey

Represented by

Nazım Enes Altan, COO

Copernicus Science Centre,

Warsaw, Poland

Represented by

Robert Firmhofer, CEO

Ellinogermaniki Agogi,

Pallini, Greece

Represented by

Aliki Giannakopoulou, Project Manager

Experimentarium,

Copenhagen, Denmark

Represented by

Kim Gladstone Herlev, CEO

focusTerra,ETH Zürich,

Zurich, Switzerland

Represented by

Ulrike Kastrup, Museum Director

Psiquadro,
Perugia, Italy
Represented by
Leonardo Alfonsi, Director

Rijksmuseum Boerhaave,
Leiden, The Netherlands
Represented by
Amito Haarhuis, Director

Stiftung Neanderthal Museum,
Mettmann, Germany
Represented by
Bärbel Auffermann, Director

Technopolis®, the Flemish Science Centre,
Mechelen, Belgium
Represented by
Stephane Berghmans, CEO

Universcience,
Paris, France
Represented by
Bruno Maquart, Chairman and CEO

The representative of the Bursa Science and Technology Center, Bursa, Turkey is not able to attend the meeting. The nine other candidates introduce themselves and their organisations in front of the General Assembly.

As a result of the voting process, eight of the candidates are elected. Brigitte Coutant therefore confirms the newly elected members of the Ecsite Board:

Elected:

Copernicus Science Centre, Warsaw, Poland, represented by Robert Firmhofer, CEO
Votes: 66

Experimentarium, Hellerup, Denmark, represented by Kim Gladstone Herlev, Director
Votes: 70

focusTerra – ETH Zurich, Zurich Switzerland, represented by Ulrike Kalstrup, Director
Votes: 63

Psiquadro, Perugia, Italy, represented by Leonardo Alfonsi, Director
Votes: 67

Rijksmuseum Boerhaave, Leiden, The Netherlands, represented by Amito Haarhuis, Director
Votes: 62

Stiftung Neanderthal Museum, Mettmann, Germany, represented by Bärbel Auffermann, Director
Votes: 57

Technopolis®, the Flemish Science Centre, Mechelen, Belgium, represented by Stephane Berghmans, CEO
Votes: 62

Universcience, Paris, France, represented by Bruno Maquart, Chairman and CEO
Votes: 64

9. Budget 2019

9.1 – Presentation by Tapio Koivu, Treasurer of Ecsite

Tapio Koivu begins by mentioning that the Budget 2019 has to be approved by the General Assembly as a requirement of Belgian regulations. He notes that his presentation will focus on some of the differences between the current outline and that presented to members at the AGM 2018.

Annual Conference and Business Bistro 2019 income is higher than foreseen in 2018 but so are related costs. Regarding collaborative projects, Tapio Koivu remarks that income is flowing to members in significant amounts, Ecsite having won four new projects since AGM 2018. Other income and costs categories remain broadly in line with expectations.

He also notes that the Board has approved the use of the Strategic Reserve for advocacy work and the Ecsite 30th anniversary celebrations.

Ecsite now expects estimated EBITDA (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization) of €101.450, and positive results of €85.750 with use of the Reserve.

9.2 – Questions and vote

No questions are raised. The General Assembly approves the Budget 2019 with 68 votes in favour and 6 abstentions.

10. Budget and membership fees 2020

10.1 – Presentation by Tapio Koivu, Treasurer of Ecsite

Budget 2020

Tapio Koivu presents briefly the categories of incomes and costs foreseen for 2020. He points out that the budget 2020 is very much still an estimate at this point. He concludes by outlining the expected situation is a positive final result of €55.420.

Membership fees 2020

Tapio Koivu remarks that the membership fees that will be applied in 2020 have to be approved by the General Assembly. He notes that a single adjustment is necessary: Internal Regulations (Article 3.5) index membership fees to the inflation rate of the Eurozone, forecast by the European Central Bank to be 1.5% in 2020.

Tapio Koivu proposes to the General Assembly to adopt the membership fees 2020 suggested by the Ecsite Board, corresponding to the membership fees 2019 to which this index has been applied.

10.2 – Questions on the budget and vote on membership fees 2020

No questions are asked on the budget or the membership fees 2020.

The membership fees 2020 are adopted with 67 votes in favour, 7 abstentions and 6 votes against.

Membership fees 2020

Turnover	NON-PROFIT		FOR PROFIT	
	FULL	ASSOCIATE	SUSTAINING	
			Company	One-person company
< €1 million	€770	€435	€870	€435
€1 million - €4.999.999	€1.545			
€5 million - €14.999.999	€2.060			
€15 million and over	€3.095			

11. Miscellaneous


Alex Verkade (Vereniging Science Centra Nederland, The Netherlands) raises a question that he considers to be relevant to a significant number of attendees at the Conference: what the Ecsite community is doing regarding diversity and inclusiveness – which are part of the core values of the network as presented in the Ecsite Strategic Plan 2016-2020 – and how those efforts are going. He further asks if the Ecsite Board can commit to finding a way to monitor and report back on these issues in the years to come.

Herbert Mänder, President of Ecsite, begins by remarking that Ecsite members are aware of these issues and putting in place activities in their individual organisations. He replies that diversity and inclusiveness will be addressed in the next Ecsite Strategic Plan which is due in 2020 and expected to reflect recent, rapid developments in the field on these and other questions of concern. Herbert Mänder also mentions that Ecsite members will be invited to discuss all these items.

12. Close of the meeting

Brigitte Coutant closes the meeting at 17h32.

Signed:



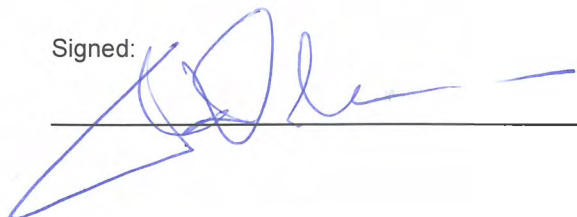
Date:

26.8.2019

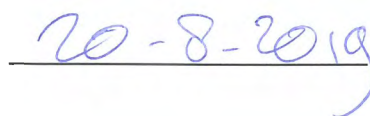
Herbert Münder

President of Ecsite

Signed:



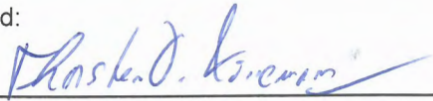
Date:



Alex Verkade

Protocol Officer

Signed:



Date:

12.07.2019

Thorsten-D. Künnemann

Protocol Officer

**Ecsite Annual General Meeting
Copenhagen, Denmark, June 7th 2019**

Present

No.	Country	Full member organisation	Represented by
1	Austria	Science Center Netzwerk	Barbara Streicher
2	Belgium	KU Leuven Science Communication	Lothe Ramakers
3	Belgium	Technopolis	Stephane Berghmans
4	Czech Republic	Středisko společných činností AV ČR, v.v.i.	Roman Ondracek
5	Denmark	Experimentarium	Kim Gladstone Herlev
6	Denmark	Natural History Museum, Aarhus	Henrik Sell
7	Denmark	NATURAMA	Thomas B. Berg
8	Denmark	Universe Science Park Foundation	Jonas Juhl Luttermann
9	Estonia	AHHAA Science Centre Foundation	Elmar Reinhold
10	Estonia	Energia Avastuskeskus - Tallinn Science Centre Energy	Krista Keedus
11	Finland	Heureka - The Finnish Science Centre	Mikko Myllykoski
12	Finland	Metsähallitus / Pilke Science Centre	Heikki Hepoaho
13	Finland	Tietomaa Science Centre	Jonna-Marleena Härö
14	France	Amcsti	Sebastien Soubiran (proxy)
15	France	Cap Sciences	Marianne Pouget
16	France	Cité de l'Espace - SEM SEMECCEL	Bruno Maquart (proxy)
17	France	Fonds de dotation Universcience Partenaires	Alain Coine
18	France	Le Vaisseau	Sabine Ischia
19	France	Musée de l'Air et de l'Espace	Dr. Anne-Catherine Robert-Hauglustaine
20	France	Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle de Toulouse	Francis Duranthon
21	France	Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle	Agnès Parent
22	France	Nausicaa - Centre National de la Mer	Manuel Cira
23	France	Quai des savoirs	Laurent Chicoineau
24	France	TRACES / Espace des Sciences Pierre-Gilles de Gennes	Matteo Merzagora
25	France	universcience	Bruno Maquart
26	France	Université de Strasbourg / Jardin des Sciences	Sébastien Soubiran
27	Germany	EUROfusion	Petra Nieckchen
28	Germany	experimenta - Science Center der Region Heilbronn-Franken gGmbH	Wolfgang Hansch
29	Germany	Landesmuseum Natur und Mensch	Dr. Ursula Warnke
30	Germany	Mathematikum e.V.	Albrecht Beutelspacher
31	Germany	phæno gGmbH	Michel Junge
32	Germany	Phänomena	Achim Englert
33	Germany	Science Center Spectrum - Stiftung Deutsches Technikmuseum Berlin	Dr. Christian Neuert
34	Germany	Stiftung Neanderthal Museum	Baerbel Auffermann
35	Germany	Universum Managementges GmbH	Dr Herbert Mänder
36	Greece	Ellinogermaniki Agogi SA	Aliki Giannakopoulou
37	Greece	Noesis-Science Center of Thessaloniki & Technology Museum	Vasilios Matsos
38	Ireland	Science Gallery, Trinity College	Ann Mulrooney
39	Italy	Associazione Apriticielo - Infini.to-Planetarium of Turin	Caterina Ginzburg (proxy)
40	Italy	Centro Siciliano di Fisica Nucleare e Struttura della Materia (CSFNMS)	Massimilio Trevisan (proxy)
41	Italy	Fondazione IDIS - Città della Scienza	Luigi Amodio

42	Italy	Fondazione Internazionale per il Progresso e la Libertà delle Scienze	Paola Rodari
43	Italy	Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare	Dr. Vincenzo Napolano
44	Italy	MAcA - Museo A come Ambiente	Caterina Ginzburg (proxy)
45	Italy	MUSE - Museo delle Scienze	Antonia Caola
46	Italy	Museo Nazionale della Scienza e della Tecnologia - 'Leonardo da Vinci'	Giovanni Crupi
47	Italy	Psiquadro scarl	Massimilio Trevisan
48	Italy	Science Centre Immaginario Scientifico	Raffaella Orzan
49	Italy	Sissa Medialab srl	Enrico M. Balli
50	Italy	Università degli Studi di Catania	Agata Copani
51	Italy	Xké? Il laboratorio della curiosità	Caterina Ginzburg
52	Luxembourg	Luxembourg Science Center	Nicolas Didier
53	Norway	Jærmuseet	Maalfrid Snoerteland
54	Norway	Nordnorsk Vitensenter	Mona Holmø
55	Norway	Norsk Teknisk Museum - Oslo Vitensenter	Jan Alfred Andersson
56	Norway	Vilvite, Bergen Vitensenter AS	Lars Leegaard Marøy
57	Norway	Vitensenteret i Trondheim	Arnfinn Stendahl Rokne
58	Poland	Hevelianum	Monika Mikolajczyk
59	Poland	Centrum Nauki Kopernik	Robert Firmhofer
60	Poland	EC1 Lodz - Miasto Kultury w Lodzi	Pawel Zuromski
61	Poland	EXPERYMENT Science Centre in Gdynia	Alicja Harackiewicz
62	Poland	Poznanski Park Naukowo-Technologiczny Fundacja UAM	Joanna Kiersztejn
63	Portugal	Centro Ciencia Viva de Bragança	Ivone Fachada
64	Portugal	Centro Ciência Viva De Lagos	Dr. Luis Rodrigues
65	Portugal	Exploratorio-Centro Ciência Viva de Coimbra	Paulo Trincao
66	Portugal	ExpoLab - Centro de Ciência Viva	João Paulo Constância
67	Portugal	Instituto de Tecnologia Química e Biológica ITQB NOVA	Joana Lobo Antunes
68	Portugal	Pavilhão do Conhecimento - Centro Ciência Viva	Rosalia Vargas
69	Serbia	Center for the Promotion of Science	Dobrovoje Lale Erić
70	Slovenia	Technical Museum of Slovenia	Natalija Polenec
71	Slovenia	Ustanova Hisa eksperimentov - The House of Experiments	Vesna Pajić
72	Slovenia	Zavod Kersnikova (Kersnikova Institute)	Klemen Kristan
73	Spain	Ciutat de les Arts i les Ciències - Museu de les Ciències Príncep Felipe	Miriam Atienza
74	Spain	CosmoCaixa, Fundació Bancària "la Caixa"	Dr. Lluís Noguera
75	Spain	Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales - CSIC	Pilar López García-Gallo
76	Spain	Museos Científicos Coruñeses	Francisco Franco del Amo
77	Spain	Museu de Ciències Naturals de Barcelona	Dr. Anna Omedes
78	Spain	Parque de las Ciencias	Ernesto Páramo
79	Sweden	Tekniska Museet	Peter Skogh
80	Switzerland	CERN – the European Laboratory for Particle Physics	Emma Sanders
81	Switzerland	focus Terra, ETH Zürich	Dr. Ulrike Kastrup
82	Switzerland	MHN – Muséum d'histoire naturelle de Genève	Alice Brighi
83	Switzerland	Swiss Science Center Technorama	Thorsten-D. Künnemann
84	The Netherlands	Athena Institute - VU Amsterdam	Dr. Frank Kupper
85	The Netherlands	Museon - Museum voor Cultuur en Wetenschap	Peter de Haan
86	The Netherlands	NEMO Science Museum	Marjolein van Breemen
87	The Netherlands	Rijksmuseum Boerhaave	Amito Haarhuis

88	The Netherlands	Vereniging Science Centra Nederland	Alex Verkade
89	United Kingdom	International Centre for Life	Linda Conlon
90	United Kingdom	Museum of London	Sharon Ament
91	United Kingdom	Science Museum Group	Helen Jones
92	United Kingdom	The Association for Science and Discovery Centres	Penny Fidler
93	United Kingdom	The Natural History Museum	Brad Irwin
94	United Kingdom	Wellcome Genome Campus - Connecting Science	Dr. Kenneth Skeldon