



**General Assembly 2017
7th November 2017 - Brussels**

13.30 Welcome and opening of the meeting by Mark Wentein, Chairman of EHN

26 persons attending (see attendance sheet)

3 observers:

Jan Rogers, Head of Equine Development, British Equestrian Federation

Constanze Winter, Legal adviser, German Equestrian Federation

Marc Paoloni, legal adviser, GESCA, France Galop, Cheval Français

• **Legal topics – report from EHN Legal group by Constance Popineau**

Consumers' sales proposal, Veterinary product, Identification and Future CAP were discussed. An update of the Table will be sent to all.

Data Protection rules is a new topic for the Legal Group to look at - Proposal from Icelandic horses to examine database, use of names, owners

Roly Owers and Nancy de Briyne reported on the EU Animal Welfare Platform – they will also send a report of the second Platform meeting on 10/11.

• **Review of the EHN Presidents' meeting last July**

Good networking, efficient meeting.

Involve leaders and share good practices was important.

EHN was asked to increase activities.

Proposal of EHN email group address.

1. Approval of the agenda and minutes

Agenda and Minutes approved

2. Report on activities 2017 from the Chairman and the Board

- EHN has improved its network by organising meetings in various location to learn more about the reality of the horse industry
- EHN has invited top speakers to conferences and lunches in the European Parliament
- The EHN Presidents' meeting had the objectives to engage top management and look for new ideas on how to promote the Equine industry – participants have shared their success stories
- The Legal Group launched in June, had its second meeting yesterday with around 15 active participants that are also pilots on the 7 topics to watch in order to coordinate and improve EHN advocacy
- Gratifying for EHN to be named in a parliamentary report adopted in March, thanks to Julie Girling and her report on Responsible Equine Care voted at a very large majority
- Proud as well to have cooperated to the publication of IFCE looking at national and EU laws on equine – a reference book for all of us – the EN version in PDF was distributed to all members.
- Also, important to note that EHN was presented at International Events:
10th February in Hong Kong - Animal Transportation Association Conference
23rd March in Antwerp – European Equine Health & Nutrition Congress

3 Board meetings in different location with specific thematic

- **February 2017 in Brussels** at the new location of CBC – The meeting discussed the organisation of EHN lobbying: meet EU Commission and MEP on Consumers sales, create the EHN legal group, prioritise topics
- **September 2017 in Chantilly**– Look at Aftercare issues with a presentation of the International horserace aftercare and French Aftercare initiatives, Au dela des Pistes
- **November 2017 in Brussels** – short meeting to finalise the preparation of 2018 Action Plan for AGM

2 MEP Horse Groups with the publication of 2 leaflets

- **May 2017 on Agriculture Policy After 2020** – important to discuss the place of Equines at a early stage of the discussions on future CAP – EHN has contributed to the European Commission consultation and has given its position on the widely distributed leaflet.
- **July 2017 on Equestrian Tourism** – the opportunity to look at this growing activity and the launch of the first European Equestrian Route, Route d'Artagnan

An important additional meeting in July in Brussels - EHN Presidents' Meeting:

18 EHN members were represented – 13 representatives with a Chair position – the first time for some of them

Essential to engage top management in EHN activities and discuss new ways to communicate on the Equine industry.

It was also a great opportunity to visit the Palm stud and learn more about the breeding and importance of working horses

2 Newsletters - March and July Newsletters to details our activities

Proposals for 2018:

Work on the findings of the Presidents' meeting

- Collect experiences and initiatives from members
- Be more professional in what we do
- Work on forward-looking communication messages: Horses are the Future, Horses and Welfare

Continue our valuable collaboration with EU Commission and MEPs

- MEPs Horse Group meeting – on Insurance topics, on Aftercare, on Identity/Passport?
- Prepare lobbying issues inside the Legal Group
- Annual Equine Conference in October/November

3. Financial report for 2017

Expenses around €18 000.

Loss of € 8.136 paid by savings from past years.

Financial report approved.

4. Election of the Board

EHN sent a call for candidates for Board members on 20/10.

No new application was received.

Current Board members are all candidates for 2018. They confirm their support to Mark Wentein as Chairman.

EFTBA (thoroughbred breeders) wants to stay member of the Board together with EMHF (galop authorities). Joe Heron, Chairman of EFTBA has expressed his position to continue to share practices and lobbying ideas particularly on topics such as the future CAP.

Therefore, thoroughbred will be represented by both the Breeders and the Racing organisations - equivalent to the representation of the Equestrian Sport with WBFSH and EEF.

The article 7 of EHN status says the Executive Board should have minimum 5 members and maximum 9 representing 5 areas listed in Article 2.

Mark Wenten, CBC

Roly Owers, WHW

Erica Lindberg, HNS/LRF

Joe Hernon/Nick Elsass/Tim Richardson/Constance Popineau, EFTBA

Paull Khan, EMHF

Nancy de Briyne, FEEVA

Florence Gras, EPMA

Audrey Aussibal, Hippolia

Bo Helander, EEF

Klaus Miesner, Nadine Brandtner, WBFSH

Board members recommends to ask Hippolia to step down from the Board and bring forward its expertise every time it is necessary.

Proposal approved.

Board members elected.

5. Membership Application

De Brugse Koetsiers, carriage riders in Touristic cities - approved

EHN will ask Animal Transport Association and Farriers Association, European Arabian Horses association to join us. Producers of Equine Feeds are also contacted by Mark Wenten.

6. Priorities of Actions and budget proposal for 2018

Budget approved.

Setting the annual membership fee for 2018: Increase of membership fee to 600€ was accepted, but a reflexion around categorisation of membership fees will be on the next Board meeting agenda.

7. Other issues

Impact of Equines in Agriculture – Claire Cordilhac is collecting data and asks all members to send national studies – Wallonia, FNRS (Environmental Label).

For future events, EHN should name a 'pilot' in each country to contact national MEPs – in order to increase MEPs' participation

Prepare MEP elections 2019 by starting to draft an 'EHN Manifesto'

Brexit: An important topic for next year (UK should leave EU in March 2019)

FEEVA made an assessment on impact of Brexit (Animal health, Animal welfare, food safety)

EFTBA is collecting data from EU countries to write a position paper on the importance of trade and movements of horses in EU.

To Do

- **Send minutes and updated table from the Legal Group to all (FG)**
- **Report from the Animal Welfare Platform meeting (NB and RO)**
- **Contact potential members: Animal Transport Association (MW), Farriers Association (RO), European Arabian Horses Association (AvV), Producers of Equine Feeds (MW)**
- **Next Board meeting in February (TBC) Agenda: Prepare next MEP Horse Group, Categorise membership, start thinking about EHN manifesto for next election,**

End at 3.40 pm