



**Network Meeting  
17<sup>th</sup> September 2010 - Brussels**

**Attendees:**

Cathy McGlynn, EFTBA – European Thoroughbred Breeders  
Torbjorn Froysnes, UET – European Trotting Union  
Graham Cory, British Horse Society  
Roly Owers, World Horse Welfare  
Florence Gras, EPMA - European Pari Mutuel Association  
Frederic Chauvel, Pole-Filiere Equine representing the Network of European Equestrian Regions  
Philippe Casier, IFHA- EMHF - European and Mediterranean Racing Federation  
Manu De Meulenaer, European Draught Horse Federation  
Klaus Miesner, WBFSH – Sport horses Breeders  
Stefan Johanson, Swedish Horse Council Foundation

**Excused:**

Harald Muller, FEI – Equestrian Federation  
Marko Mazeland, FEIF – Icelandic Horses  
Bo Helander, European Equestrian Federation

**1. Minutes**

The minutes of the last meeting in June and the contents of the conference call in July were agreed.

**2. Member list**

The member list will be updated and sent out by Stefan Johanson.

**3. VAT issue**

Ms McGlynn updated attendees on the latest status of the VAT issue whereby the European Commission has referred those countries who apply a reduced rate for horses to the European Court of Justice. The hearing at the ECJ of the Dutch case was on the 9<sup>th</sup> September, the German and Austrian cases have yet to have a hearing date or opinion date set, and the French and Irish cases are with the Commission legal services awaiting to be officially referred to the ECJ. In the case of Luxembourg it has changed its legislation and applied full VAT so the case is to be closed.

A motion to support the possibility to keep the low rate is circulating and has been signed by Racing authorities.

**4. Future Structure**

There are 14 members in the Network today and more structures are showing interest. A proposal document for guidelines on how to define EHN structure was prepared by Stefan and Harald and commented on by Klaus and Marko by e-mail.

The proposal is to accept a European Association where it exists, otherwise International organisations – however, at a National level it is more difficult to define as ways to represent the sector are different in all countries.

Position of Klaus: Complete the areas of the horse sector and see who is missing.

Graham and Frederic: Stay as open as possible with a small management on top – could be changed every year.



Guidelines could be discussed further at the next meeting. Stefan, Harald and Klaus will continue working on the content.

#### **5. Conference in November 2010**

Florence announced the new location – Building Van Maerlant opposite the Committee of the Regions, Rue Belliard.

Date is confirmed on 17<sup>th</sup> November but in the morning – Starts at 10 am (registration at 9 am) – ends at 1.00pm.

- **Draft teaser message to invite participants**

Document modified and validated. (New version attached)

- **Complete the list of participants**

All members of the EHN should complete the list with e-mail details and send it to Stefan – should be sent from EHN e-mail – [conference@europeanhorsenetwork.eu](mailto:conference@europeanhorsenetwork.eu) (if possible)

Deadline to send list of participants on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September.

Invitations sent on 24<sup>th</sup> September.

- **Speakers/programme**

Opinion of Torbjorn: Invite a real practitioner who will make a live description of the sector developments – JP Kratzer? Tore Fyrand? Lutfi Kolgjini?

Florence will contact Mr Kratzer to check his availability.

Torbjorn will contact Mr Fyrand.

Stefan will contact Mr Kolgjini.

Graham and Roly will contact Mrs Crossman to test her ability to moderate the panel.

Cathy and Florence will meet the key speaker Julie Girling MEP again to prepare the content of her presentation.

#### **6. Equus 2013 – Irish Presidency**

Cost details from Equus 2009 could be a reference for the organisation of the next Equus in Ireland (around €110 000 – 50% funded by the government, 25% by the Swedish Horse Council Foundation and 25% by the Swedish Farmers Association).

The National University of Ireland has confirmed their intention to work with the EHN to organise the next Equus and are looking to organise a joint meeting at the end of October with HRI, Horse Sport Ireland and the Irish Government to progress the idea.

The idea is to include the Conference and horse issues in the programme of the Irish Presidency.

#### **Next steps:**

- **Complete the list of participants before 22<sup>nd</sup> Sept to Stefan - All**
- **Send invitation to the list on 24<sup>th</sup> September – Stefan**
- **Contact Mrs Crossman regarding the panel discussion – Graham and Roly**
- **Draft presentation document to be sent to participants – Cathy and Frederic**
- **Draft Press Release – Marc and Florence (to be validated and sent 3 weeks before the event with a reminder 1 week before)**



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**Next EHN meeting in Brussels: 16<sup>th</sup> November at 4.00 pm in EPMA office with a preparation dinner before the conference**  
**17<sup>th</sup> November – debriefing of the conference in EPMA office from 2.00 pm to 3.30 pm (lunch included)**