

MINUTES of POMSEBES EU members Working Meeting
Wednesday, 14 November 2007
Facolta' di Ingegneria, Via Eudossiana 18, 00184 ROMA
(near the church of S.Pietro in Vincoli): Sala del Consiglio,
Dean's Offices, First floor

Present:

Briassoulis Demetres, EU Coordinator
Ayuga Francisco, Spain
Comparetti Antonio, Italy
Douzals Jean-Paul, France
Febo Perluigi, Italy
Jean Paul Douzals, France
Nikopoulos Effie, Greece
Panagakis Panos, Greece
Scarascia-Mugnozza Giacomo, Italy
Wulfsohn Dvorajai, Denmark

Absent:

Ramon Herman, Belgium
Fehrmann Jens, German

1. Welcome and roll call of participants

Assistant Prof. P. Panagakis welcomed the participants and presented the items of the agenda to be followed during the one-day meeting.

2. Approval of the Agenda

The participants unanimously approved the agenda (Annex 1).

3. Information on the status and prospective of the project

3.1. Finalisation of the 1st Workshop Proceedings

The first issue of the agenda discussed was the finalisation of the unified version of the 1st Workshop Proceedings that was prepared and sent along with the Interim Report (on 31.10.2007). It was unanimously approved by EU members and moreover AUA took the responsibility of producing and circulating this deliverable. The possibility of distributing this deliverable-outcome to some specific target groups during the AgEng2008 Conference was investigated, as it was considered as an effective dissemination tool. This Conference will tackle the issue on "Agricultural Biosystems Engineering for a Sustainable World" and will take place on 23-25 June 2008 in Crete, Greece,

3.2. Topics related to the 2nd Workshop

The organisation of the 2nd POMSEBES Workshop came up right after for discussion. The attendants confirmed their availability to participate on 21-22 June 2008 in Crete, Greece and those dates will be finalised upon both sides unit confirmation. The need of inviting policy makers / professional societies / industry representatives, students / academics / national or international focal points (i.e. Prof. J. Dooley¹, Prof. A.

¹ ASABE President-elect acting as the projects' external evaluator

Jongebreur and Prof. B. Day², Prof. I. Naas³) to the Workshop was considered of great importance. Prof. P. Febo took the initiative of contacting and inviting representatives from some private companies and from the relevant industry. Furthermore partners will be urged to address an invitation to the academic society (e.g. Deans and Rectors of their Institutions). More specifically, Prof. F. Ayuga agreed to ask Prof. P. Aguado, Vice-Rector at the University of Leon in Spain, to participate and Prof. G. Scarascia suggested calling Prof. R. di Barbarella (Head of Deans of Faculties of Agriculture in Italy). AUA will attempt to invite a professional society - called PASEGES (Greek Confederation of Agricultural Cooperative Unions).

It is most possibly a special of the two-day Workshop to be devoted to discussions and presentations with various synergies, in terms of a dissemination and exploitation of results strategy. Another tool towards this direction will be the preparation of a leaflet to best communicate the results to the most important audiences in parallel with the end of the project's eligibility period. This will be discussed with the US coordinator, Prof. S. Mostaghimi, in case they could afford to support its development.

AUA will undertake the role of preparing the Workshop's Guidelines and distribute them around the consortium for finalisation.

The 2nd Workshop will tackle the following four tasks - objectives:

Obj 1. Develop a framework for compatible programs and identify desired outcomes

Obj 2. Describe the programs of study in the U.S. and EU

Obj 3. Identify needs of industry (current and future employers)

Obj 4. Case study comparison of individual U.S. programs with individual EU programs

A first attempt was made to allocate the above four tasks – objectives to the four working groups, as follows:

Obj 1. members: D. Briassoulis*⁴, S. Mostaghimi, P. Panagakis, E. Nikopoulos, G. Riskowski, D. Wulfsohn

Obj 2. members: F. Ayuga*, A. Comparetti, R. Kanwar, H. Ramon

Obj 3. members: G. Scarascia*, P. Febo, K. C. Ting

Obj 4. members: J. P. Douzals*, J. Fehrmann, M. L. Wolfe

Prof. F. Ayuga proposed to investigate the possibility of developing in parallel with Objective 2, a questionnaire to be addressed to the industry / private companies (based on the format of the USAEE questionnaire that was prepared and distributed in the framework of the previous USAEE-TN).

The aforementioned allocation will be communicated and finalised by the US partners. The unified paper-reports based on the four Objectives will be included in the 2nd Workshop Proceedings that will constitute one of the project's main deliverables, as described in the approved workplan.

3.3. Other issues / abeyances related to the 2nd year

It was reminded that provided that the extended abstract submitted to the AgEng2008 Conference organisers will be accepted, a full paper will be prepared and sent by March 14, 2008. The intention behind this is to present our work at the Education session during the AgEng2008 Conference. This conference will be a basis for a good outlet for dissemination of the project results across Europe and worldwide.

² Present and ex-president of EurAgEng

³ President of CIGR

⁴ EU Working Groups leaders

A sustainability strategy was planned. The prospect of submitting a new proposal under the EU-USA ATLANTIS 2008 call was examined.

The contribution to synergies and links with other projects, thematic networks, organisations/societies/bodies or the relevant industry and market (e.g. EUR-ACE IMPLEMENTATION, ARCHIPELAGOS-TECHNO TN, EurAgEng, etc.) will be taken into force during the second year (01.11.2007-30.10.2008).

By the end of this meeting all attendants were invited by Prof. G. Augusti to attend the Open Workshop on "*Scientific and Technical Education and the Bologna Process*". That Workshop was promoted by ENAEE (European Network for Accreditation of Engineering Education), COPI (Conference of the Deans of the Italian Engineering Faculties) and ARCHIPELAGOS (Science & Engineering Thematic Networks) in connection with the 2nd European Quality Assurance Forum.

4. Closure

The working meeting closed in early evening and partners promised to work intensively in preparation of the second year's deliverables and meet again next summer in Crete.

ANNEX1

WORKING MEETING AGENDA OF POMSEBES EU MEMBERS

Wednesday, 14 November 2007

Facolta' di Ingegneria, Via Eudossiana 18, 00184 ROMA
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Starting hour: 9:30 a.m.

Topics to be discussed:

Finalisation of the 1st Workshop Proceedings (actions steps and findings/conclusions on Objectives 1-5)

Administrative abeyances from 1st year – future activities

Topics related to the 2nd Workshop: “Developing policy measures to enhance the evolution of compatible high quality educational programs of study”

Preparation of Guidelines for 2nd Workshop

Submission of full paper (provided extended abstract is accepted) to the AgEng2008 Conference by 14th of March 2008

Evaluation plan for the 2nd year

Possible synergies and sustainability strategy

Invitation by Prof. G. Augusti to attend the Open Workshop on “Scientific and Technical Education and the Bologna Process” at 14:00h on the 14th of November 2007. This Workshop will be organised by ENAEE, the Conference of the Deans of the Italian Engineering Faculties and TechnoTN (same building with our meeting place).