



MINUTES OF THE 2007 EAERE ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MEMBERS

First convocation:

June 22nd, 2007, from 9.00 to 10.30
EAERE headquarters – Castello 5252, Venice, Italy

Second convocation:

June 29th, 2007, from 12.15 to 13.45
Thessaloniki, Greece – University of Macedonia

The first convened General Assembly did not reach the requested quorum to validly deliberate. The General Assembly was therefore held in second convocation.

The General Assembly was presided by the President of the Association, Anastasios Xepapadeas. He welcomed EAERE members attending and opened the meeting. The Assembly appointed Monica Eberle as secretary.

The President extended his gratitude, on behalf of EAERE, to the Thessaloniki conference Local Organising Committee, to the Co-Chairs of the Programme Committee and to the Programme Committee members for the great work they have done for the success of this year's annual conference.

The Assembly approved the minutes of the General Assembly of Members held in Kyoto on July 5th, 2006.

The President announced the winners of the Erik Kempe Award in Environmental and Resource Economics, Year 2007. They are Partha Dasgupta and Erik Maskin, for their article "*Uncertainty and Hypoerbolic Discounting*", published in *American Economic Review*, 95(4), pp. 1290-1299, 2005. The Erik Kempe Award Nominating Committee, composed by Thomas Aronsson, Aart de Zeeuw, and Michael Finus, gave the following motivation: "*The way in which we choose to discount the future is arguably one of the most important decisions that social scientists make in appraising many global environmental policies (preventing global warming, protecting endangered species, etc). The idea of hyperbolic discounting has found its way into cost-benefit practice, although its practice has been criticized on grounds of dynamic inconsistency. Dasgupta and Maskin provide an evolutionary explanation for hyperbolic discounting based on uncertainty over when in the future the impacts of alternative actions are going to be realized. Although the behavior predicted is dynamically consistent, it appears inconsistent. The authors show that the optimal decision means being relatively patient when the time horizon is long and impatient when the horizon grows short. Though the precise implications of this for social discounting remain for exploration, this paper written by two of the pre-eminent economists of our generation, and appearing in the world's leading economic journal - seems to offer an important foundation for attaching higher weights to the distant future than standard exponential discounting would suggest.*" The President extended the EAERE's gratitude to those members who participated in the nominations process, and to the Erik Kempe Award Nominating Committee.

The President, on behalf of the 2007 EAERE Elections Nominating Committee comprised of Frank Convery (chair), Karine Nyborg and Thomas Sterner, proposed to the General Assembly the set of candidates for the EAERE 2007 elections. Candidates for President (presidential term 2010-2011) are Partha Dasgupta and Michael Hoel. Candidates for ordinary Council Members (term 2008-2011) are Barbara Buchner, Anne-Sophie Crepin, Till Requate, and Matti Vainio. The Assembly approved the candidacies. The President extended the EAERE's gratitude to the 2007 Elections Nominating Committee for their work. The President informed the Assembly that this year the voting mechanism will be electronic and ballots will be collected via the EAERE website. The software developed to run the electronic elections will allow members to vote only once and guarantee anonymity. Elections will run from early September to mid-November 2007. By December 2007 the results will be announced.

Anastasios Xepapadeas warmly thanked, on behalf of the whole Association, the three members who are going to leave the Council on December 31st, 2007: Frank Convery, Nick Hanley and Katrin Millock. The Association is very grateful for the remarkable work they have been doing during their terms.

The General Assembly ratified the Council's acceptance of the applications for individual and institutional memberships received for calendar year 2007 and calendar years 2007-2008-2009, with no exceptions.

The President presented the EAERE Membership profile as of June 2007 (see enclosed slides presented by the President). In particular, the President extended the Association's gratitude for the financial support received from institutional members in calendar year 2007.

On behalf of the Board of Auditors, comprised of Johan Eyckmans and Cathrine Hagem, the President presented the final accounts for calendar year 2006 (see enclosed slides presented by the President). The Board of auditors and the General Assembly approved the accounts. The President, on behalf of the Council, recommended to extend the mandate of the current auditors by one additional year (2008). The Assembly accepted the proposal.

The President presented the preliminary budgets for 2007 and 2008 (see enclosed slides), which were approved by the Assembly. Aart de Zeeuw pointed out that EAERE is a no profit Association and asked the Council if the levy on the registration fee should not be reviewed if the positive trend of accounting continues. Thomas Sterner informed the Assembly that in this case the Council will certainly propose a way to use this extra money for the benefit of the Association's members and verify if the levy can be reduced or even abolished. Anastasios Xepadadeas pointed out that the funding received by the European Commission to run the Summer School will be available until 2009 and, if no other funds are raised, it might be necessary to use internal financial resources to continue the School. Michael Rauscher suggested that the profit be used to give travel grant for young researchers and researchers from developing countries attending the annual conferences. Eftichios Sartzetakis informed the Assembly that this year's Local Organising Committee received many requests of funding for the participation of these categories of EAERE members. Anastasios Xepapadeas and Thomas Sterner confirmed that the Council will take into consideration all these suggestions in the planning of next years' budgets.

As regards the membership fees for 2008, the President informed the Assembly that the Council is inclined to repropose the ones offered in 2007. However, the individual membership fees are conditional on the outcome of the negotiations with Springer. With this regard, Thomas Sterner asked the Assembly how many of them would like to receive the paper version of ERE bundled with their membership: 5 members replied affirmatively. He also asked how many of them would like to receive ERE in any format: 5 members replied affirmatively. Following a discussion, it emerged that many members are not interested in receiving ERE bundled with the membership because they already have access to the Journal via their universities.

Ian Bateman, ERE joint Chief-Director, presented to the Assembly the good state of the Journal. Details on his speech are available in the enclosed slides presented by Ian Bateman at the Assembly. The President, on behalf of EAERE, extended his gratitude for the remarkable work that Ian Bateman, the members of the ERE Managing Board, and the reviewers have been doing for the success of the Journal.

Felix Schlöpfer brought to the Assembly's attention the fact that critical papers on stated preferences rejected by ERE are subsequently published in other journals with a strong reputation. He asked Ian Bateman further information about the evaluation process of these papers submitted to ERE. Ian Bateman replied that further information on the general evaluation process will be given via the next issue of the EAERE Newsletter.

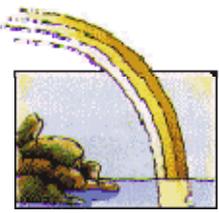
Trudy Ann Cameron, on behalf of Scott Barrett (American Country Representative) and in her position of AERE President, invited EAERE members to take advantage of the secondary membership with AERE they are entitled to obtain. She described some of the benefits secondary members are entitled to, as a discount on the JEEM submission fee, and the main objectives of REEP, the new AERE journal.

Tomasz Zylicz (Polish Country Representative) informed the Assembly that, following the EAERE's request, the group of Polish environmental and resource economists stopped using the EAERE name and logo. This group currently has over 200 members and only 10 of them are EAERE members. The reason appears to be that Polish environmental economists feel that the EAERE membership has no benefit for them. Tomasz Zylicz invited the EAERE Council to address this and to improve its efforts to involve more colleagues from Poland and East Europe in its activities.

Maria Antonieta Cunha-e-Sá (Portuguese Country Representative) informed the Council that the Portuguese environmental economists share the Polish feeling, probably because many of them do not belong to the academia. Maria Antonieta Cunha-e-Sá invited the Council to reflect upon how they can fit in EAERE.

Thomas Sterner announced that the 16th EAERE Annual Conference will be held from June 25th to 28th, 2008, in Gothenburg, Sweden, with Thomas Sterner acting as Chair of the Local Organising Committee and Co-Chair of the Programme Committee and Frank Convery acting as Co-Chair of the Programme Committee.

There were no other issues to be discussed. The President adjourned the meeting.



E A E R E

*EAERE members attending the
General Assembly:*

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|-----|----------------------------|-----|-----------------------|-----|------------------|
| 1. | ASHEIM Geir | 21. | SKONHOFT Anders | 44. | QUAAS Martin |
| 2. | BAUMGARTNER Stefan | 22. | SMULDERS Sjak | 45. | RAUSCHER Michael |
| 3. | BRETSCHGER Lucas | 23. | VERBRUGGEN Harmen | 46. | REQUATE Till |
| 4. | CAMERON Trudy Ann | 24. | XEPAPADEAS Anastasios | 47. | ROUSSEAU Sandra |
| 5. | CUNHA-E-SA Maria Antonieta | 25. | BATEMAN Ian | 48. | RUIJS Arjan |
| 6. | DE CLERCQ Marc | 26. | BREKKE Kjell Arne | 49. | SCASNY Milan |
| 7. | DE ZEEUW Aart | 27. | CAIRNS Robert | 50. | SILVA Emilson D. |
| 8. | ESCAPA Marta | 28. | DE WIT Martin | 51. | STEININGER Karl |
| 9. | FINUS Michael | 29. | EBERT Udo | 52. | VAN IERLAND Ekko |
| 10. | HANLEY Nick | 30. | ECKERMANN Frauke | 53. | WEI Jiegen |
| 11. | HEYES Anthony | 31. | FISCHER Carolyn | 54. | ZURN Marcel |
| 12. | HOFKES Marjan | 32. | FRIEDL Birgit | 55. | ZYLICZ Tomasz |
| 13. | LISKI Matti | 33. | GERLAGH Reyer | | |
| 14. | LOFGREN Asa | 34. | GOESCHL Timo | | |
| 15. | ROSETA-PALMA Catarina | 35. | HOEL Michael | | |
| 16. | RUBIO Santiago | 36. | CONVERY Frank | | |
| 17. | EBERLE Monica | 37. | JONSON Karin | | |
| 18. | SARTZETAKIS Eftichios | 38. | KOHLIN Gunnar | | |
| 19. | SCHLAPFER Felix | 39. | KVERNDOKK Snorre | | |
| 20. | SHECHTER Mordechai | 40. | LANGE Andreas | | |
| | | 41. | LEROUX Anke | | |
| | | 42. | NYBORG Karine | | |
| | | 43. | PERINO Grischa | | |

Auditors:

HAGEM Cathrine
EYCKMANS Johan

Anastasios Xepapadeas, President

Monica Eberle, Secretary