



<b>34<sup>th</sup> CEPIS Council Meeting</b> <b>09 April 2005, 09:00 – 17:30 hrs</b> <b>Hotel CARO, Bucharest</b>
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**Source:** CEPIS Honorary Secretary, CEO-PB

**Title:** 34<sup>th</sup> Council Minutes

**Agenda item:** All

**Document for:**

Decision	X
Discussion	X
Information	

**1 Opening Address, Welcome**

President Jouko Ruissalo opened the meeting and thanked the delegates for their presence. He then explained that in light of the proposals made during the past he has initiated to make a change to the way on how to conduct the former Member Societies Meeting and Council meeting this time in a combined manner. He outlined that since 1999 many changes have occurred concerning CEPIS as a whole and CEPIS visibility to the public. He realised that membership meetings have become more valuable for all. By looking into the future he said that more changes and developments are to come such as moving the seat to Brussels.

The President then gave the floor to the host Prof. Vasile Baltac from ATIC who thanked the delegates for coming to Romania and passed the word to the President of the Romanian Business Association and chairman of the ECDL Romania, Mr. Florin Pogonaru. The latter presented the development of Bucharest and Romania from a historical and economical point of view. He explained that his country became increasingly of interest to the software industry. The GNP in Romania has an over 5 pct. growth rate. Finally he recognised the importance and merits Vasile Baltac has in the development of the ECDL business in Romania.

Guest speaker Mr. Gordon Davies, ACM, was introduced

The meeting was attended by the following delegates:

Yannis Manolopoulos	GCS/EPY
Wolffried Stucky	GI
Walter Grafendorfer	OCG
Volker Schanz	VDE/ITG
Vasile Baltac	ATIC
Tone Dalen	DND
Radoslav Joshinov	UAI
Petre Ghibu	ATIC
Peter Federer	GI
Peter Bumann	CEPIS
Panicos Masouras	CCS
Niko Schlamberger	SDi
Nikitas N. Karanikolas	GCS/EPY
Neophytos Spyrou	CCS
Nello Scarabottolo	AICA
Marijan Frkovic	CIT/HIZ
Jouko Ruissalo	FIPA
Jose Cardoso de Matos	PROFIN
John Chapman	BCS
Jim Friars	ICS
Jaan Oruaas	EITS



J. Antonio Esteban	ATI
Istvan Alföldi	NJSzT
Heinrich C. Mayr	GI/OCG
Gordon Davies	ACM, Guest Speaker
Giulio Occhini	AICA
Geoff McMullen	BCS
Francois-Louis Nicolet	SI
Francois Jaeger	ALI
Francisco Lopez Crespo	ATI
Declan Brady	ICS
Carlo Frising	ALI/CEPL
Byron Nicolaidis	IAT
Arjan van Dijk	NGI/VR1
Andreas Loutsios	CCS
Alexander Bojanowsky	CEPIS, Guest

Apologies were received from:

Poland, Czech Republic, Iceland, Lithuania, Latvia, Belgium, Serbia Montenegro, Malta, and Slovakia.

## **2 Meeting Agenda**

The agenda according to doc. CM/MSF 34(05)01rev3 was agreed with the following corrections and amendments: duplication of numbering concerning agenda item 4; item 6.8 eChallenge 2005 to be added; item 11 to be deleted and be discussed under 5.3. The actual agenda items are in line with numbering in these minutes.

## **3 ACM Presentation**

Dr. Gordon Davies from ACM, UK, gave a presentation to Council about the association by pointing out the importance of 30% of the members residing outside the US. He expressed the wish to receive comments and inputs on the educational sector from abroad because the ACM appears to be highly US centric. US influence could possibly be reduced, e.g. in curriculum reports. Inputs from CEPIS would in turn mean that the CEPIS logo shall be shown on ACM reports. Here lies one chance for a co-operation. The slides of the presentation are sent separate to these minutes. ACM courses are offered free course to ACM members; CEPIS members have a reduced membership rate; on the other hand, EUCIP could be an opportunity in US as it suits the fluency in IT requirements.

## **4 Minutes from the 33rd MSF and Council Meeting**

Minutes from the 33rd MSF and Council Meeting were reviewed and adopted as they have been proposed.

## **5 Financial Report 2004**

The Honorary Treasurer gave an overview of the projected financial outcome of the year 2004 for which he handed out copies to the delegates. The results for the year 2004 is expected to turn out better than budgeted because of money received for projects and a higher royalty payment from ICDL.

Mr. Volker Schanz asked in his capacity as an internal auditor to receive the financial report earlier in order to be able to perform his duty. An explanation was offered that due to the fact that the books were already sent to the auditors this report was only for information. Council confirmed that the second auditor should remain in place. The HT said that he expected the financial audit be finished in June which is in accordance with the Constitution. It was agreed that the "CEPIS Financial Year" should be determined after the new headquarters are installed in Brussels. Full report will be sent to all by June 30, this year.



## **6 Matters Arising**

### **6.1 Brussels Office, Admin. Tasks**

Council was informed that the VDE President had signed the sub-tenant contract on behalf of EUREL allowing CEPIS to use the new office as of April 2005. The CEO PB had a meeting with the EDCL Foundation in presence of the coming CEO AB, where the details of admin tasks were explained and discussed. A detailed plan about what can be handled by the ECDL Foundation needs to be agreed.

### **6.2 EUCIP**

The President Elect presented a status overview for which slides are provided separately. From the discussion it followed that a general presentation on EUCIP aim, content, present status, and future plans would be most welcome.

### **6.3 SW Patents**

Juan Antonio Esteban presented a report about the activities of the TF on software patents which is annexed to these minutes. He requested that the TF should continue its work and collaborate with the EU Study group working on the subject "Effects of Software Patents in Europe". The group was again advised to publish position statements under the individual names of the participants and not under the name of CEPIS without agreement of the Execom. Co-operation with the EU study will not be agreed as long as there is not a sufficient number of CEPIS member societies having an interest in the subject. All documents from the Task Force are available under [www.ati.es/DOCS/documents](http://www.ati.es/DOCS/documents). Council agreed to send out the questionnaire of the EU study to member societies. Juan Antonio Esteban said that the seminar on software patents could not be held for the time being because of internal disagreements within the TF on the themes. Peter Federer said that GI has installed a task force because a change of opinion has occurred within the society. A position paper is planned to be published in June 2005. It has been recommended that more MS take part in order to increase CEPIS visibility vis a vis EU Commission.

#### **SINs, TFs**

Arjan van Dijk gave a presentation report on the activities of the LSI SIN as per attached Annex. He explained that the last meeting was also attended by a member of the ECDLF to which LSI SIN had started to produce inputs on security. CEPIS LSI SIN is well recognised by the European Network and Information Security Agency (ENISA) and wishes to have more participation from member societies who should express their interest to Arjan

### **6.4 Harmonise**

CEO PB gave a presentation on the Harmonise project according to doc. CM/MSF 34(05)03 which was distributed prior to the meeting. He said that the most important aspect will be the participation of EUCIP as industrial partner for which CEPIS will carry the costs within the framework of the budget.

### **6.5 ECDL**

The ECDL Foundation board was represented by directors Jim Friars (who delivered a short presentation), Giulio Occhini, Geoff McMullen, Byron Nikolaidis, Jouko Ruissalo, and Niko Schlamberger. It is good to notice that ECDLF and CEPIS have come very close together. It was reported that the skills cards sales get to reach the 5 million mark. Presently ECDL and ICDL are carried out in over 40 different languages. The Foundation will focus on products and will start to work directly in countries where no computer society has been granted the license.

### **6.6 Elections to Execom in 2005**

There will be elections during Autumn Council because the second term of office of Tone Dalen will end after she had served for CEPIS as Vice President for five years. The Honorary Secretary will take care of all necessary preparations.



## **7 Relations with other Organisations**

Former President Wolffried Stucky gave a report on actions taken in co-operation with organisations in Brussels for which the contents will be made available. He also handed out brochures for a call of papers concerning the eChallenge 2005 conference to be held during October 2005 in Ljubljana where CEPIS will carry out a workshop together with CEDEFOP. CEPIS will publish a booklet on the workshop held in Vienna during the eChallenge 2004 conference. Copies will be sent to all member societies.

## **8 Publication and Communications Policy**

Nello Scarabottolo explained the progress of his work on CEPIS strategy on publications and communications. His presentation is contained in a separate file. He requested Council to agree to an amendment to UPGRADE showing a non-scientific part of the journal and to accept the budget plan comprising EUR 30,000. Council agreed with one abstention from Norway.

## **9 Strategy Matters**

Geoff McMullen gave an overview which is included in the attached presentation on where CEPIS stands at the moment. He suggested having a CEO Forum later in the year to be supported by professional help. He announced a MS survey focusing on what CEPIS constituency wants in the future. Francois-Louis Nicolet proposed to have an explanatory note written to the boards of member societies in which the details for the survey would be outlined in order to reach a better understanding and to provide for an active participation. He also proposed MS inputs to Execom which was agreed upon. Mr. McMullen informed the delegates about a strategy workshop that the Execom will hold in June and of which the outcomes should serve as a basis for respective decisions of the next CEO Forum.

## **Special Guest**

ATIC could achieve to invite Mr. Varujan Pambuccian, a MP and Chairman of the Information Technology & Communications Commission of the Chamber of Deputies of the Romanian Parliament and the chairman of the national IT Commission. Mr. Pambuccian emphasized that in his view that represents the Romanian IT policy it is necessary to maintain neutrality of technologies. To explain this he used the example of the third generation of mobile radio for which Romania applied various technologies like CDMA, FDMA, TDMA in order to reach the best technological results for the users. He continued in stating that first computers in his country were operated in the year 1957. At that time they were developing compilers; now the development has stopped as they have lost the market. He warned about outsourcing of software development as it does not develop competence and neither adds up to value added. Because of the fact that "technology means power" countries should rather shift to building up their own competencies instead. He expressed his concern because of decreasing understanding of detailed software knowledge that programmers have today. He also explained that professional programmers are exempt from paying income tax. Mr. Pambuccian said that CECs are starting to lobby for decreasing the VAT on the Internet for which he is asking other countries to join this initiative.

## **10 4<sup>th</sup> CEO Meeting**

President Elect Geoff McMullen has delivered a short presentation on actions arising from the CEO Meeting in Tallinn: secretariat matters, conduct of meetings, and strategic orientation so showing that the Execom is acting according to CEO decisions and expectations.

## **11 AoB**

The President gave the floor to Jose Matos whose society PROFIN attended a Council meeting for the first time in order to present the new society succeeding API.

Before closing the meeting President Ruissalo has thanked the present CEO Peter Bumann who will retire after April 15 but will remain available as the responsible project manager of CEPIS for the



Harmonise project. President Ruissalo has expressed his belief that as the first CEO Mr Bumann has done a pioneer job by establishing a professional attitude that CEPIS needed very much after its activities have become extremely rich and different in variety.

The meeting was closed at 16:00 o'clock.