

DRAFT MINUTES V1

WFEO Executive Board Members Meeting Tuesday 19 Feb 2019 VIRTUAL

Participants: M. Kanga (MK), K. Gong (GK), J. Spitalnik (JS), R. Vachon, C. Remec, SC. Tan, J. de Méreuil
Guest: T. Bélaud (Secretariat)

I. Opening remarks (Marlene Kanga)

MK thanked all participants for joining. All Board members were able to join.

II. Approval of the agenda

The Agenda was approved, with the addition of “Miscellaneous” item

III. Approval of the minutes of the last meetings

Minutes of meeting held on 20 Oct 2018 are not available. Draft minutes will be sent by the end of February.

IV. Review of Member Fee proposal by Task Force on Member Fees

Proposal for member fees attached including proposal for review of member categories and new category of Distinguished Fellow

GK explained that a task force was set to assess the fee system, and that several discussions occurred in this frame, including virtual meetings and a face to face meeting in Paris in January.

Following the implementation of the Rome fee system, based on UNESCO ratings, 70% of the lower income countries (rating < 0,006) have not paid, and 30% of the above category of countries have not paid either (among which many had not paid for years and are unlikely to pay). 90% of countries from higher rating categories have paid their dues, except some who had not for many years.

Secretariat proposed a new system based on the square root of UNESCO ratings, that would smooth the spreads from a category to another, but the simulation did not prove satisfactory and as it resulted in various increases and decreases.

SC Tan proposed to add the member size criteria to the current system in order to balance the country income with the organization actual capacities, but this system would raise administrative and political difficulties, as to collect and manage the appropriate data. However, this model may be considered later on.

The Task Force reviewed also the membership categories in order to rationalize it. The proposal is to simplify these categories a priori to design a new fee model, by merging some existing categories, redefining the Associate category with four sub-categories, and creating a new category for individuals (fellows).

There would be five categories: national, international and affiliated members with voting rights; associates and fellows without voting rights.

This proposal shall result in amendments to the Constitution, art. 3, section A, E, G, H, as per membership categories, and in RoPs annex G, as per membership application procedures.

Additionally, it is proposed to create a Membership Committee, by addition to the RoPs, art. 1.4.5.

For National Members with ratings <0,006, the fee shall be reduced to € 700 for 2018 and 2019.

For International Members the fee shall be a single category of € 2,700.

The new model fee for national members shall anticipate the future financial constraints of the Federation, and reduce its deficit even in the case of continuing non-payment from some members, while expenses are expected to continue to increase. Therefore, there is a need for additional sources of income. However, even with the new membership categories, there will be a small deficit, as simulations have shown, which needs to be covered by sponsors.

The approval process shall start with the Executive Board and Executive Council followed by advice to national and international members that have a reduced fee for 2018 and 2019. The new fee structure will be ratified by the General Assembly.

The Executive Council shall meet virtually to approve the revised fee structure.

JS suggested that the Distinguished Associates sub-category be changed in Sponsoring associates. MK proposed that the associates contributing additionally are acknowledged as sponsors on the website.

On reservations about the idea of having associations and corporate sponsors in the same associate category, MK answered that this is because the Federation needs to keep corporate associates paying every year, on a longer term as members. Sponsors only pay once. The proposal actually formalizes the existing practice.

The question of different categories of sponsors was mentioned, but it should be discussed another time.

The following motion was carried to support the proposal was accepted unanimously.

1. The membership fees for members with UNESCO ratings greater than 0.006 remains unchanged. This keeps most declared fees the same.
2. The membership fees for members with UNESCO ratings at 0.006 or less, will be reduced to €700 for 2018 and 2019.

The national members with reduced fees re:

SIERRA LEONE

SOMALIA

BELIZE

MALAWI

RWANDA

MADAGASCAR

FIJI

ZIMBABWE

MOLDOVA

MONTENEGRO

SENEGAL

MONGOLIA

CONGO (Democratic
Republic)

NEPAL

3. The International member fee will be € 2700 for 2018 and 2019 as agreed by the Executive council in London in October 2018.
4. Fees will be held constant for all members and associates, except for one - Archirodon - until 2021 when a further review will be done. This is to allow time for adjustment to the new fees by all members.
5. A new member category of Distinguished Fellow is proposed for outstanding individuals who have made a significant contribution to engineering. The proposed annual membership fees are:
 - a. Distinguished Fellows from countries with UNESCO category rating at 0.006 or less will pay €300 per year, Lifetime Distinguished Fellows: \$3000 (one-off payment)
 - b. Distinguished Fellows from countries with UNESCO category rating greater than 0.006 will pay €500 per year, Lifetime Distinguished Fellows: \$5000 (one-off payment)
6. The proposed amendments to the Constitution and the Rules of procedures for the revised member categories were approved.
7. A Membership Committee will be established as a new Board Committee to process all membership applications for organisations and individuals

Following the virtual meeting, the Ex Board clarified the fees for associates by email with the due date of 4th March 2019. The fees for associates were agreed as:

- Corporate for Profit Organizations: €5000
- Associations, educational, research or technical Institutions €2000
- Not-for-profit Organizations €2000

The Executive Council was requested to approve:

- a. The revised member fees for national and affiliated members
- b. The review of member categories including the additional category of Distinguished Fellow
- c. Amendments to the Constitution and Rules of Procedure for the changes to member categories

The proposal will be transmitted to the members with respect to the five months' notice to propose an amendment to the Constitution for the change to the member categories.

V. Miscellaneous

Crtomir Remec mentioned WCF2019 preparation is well on tracks, but there are not enough international participants. He thus requested the Secretariat to put a permanent advertisement on the front page of WFEO website during at least two weeks.

VI. Next Meeting: Ljubljana, April 6, 2019.
