



### **Draft minutes of CEJAs General Assembly 2003 14<sup>th</sup> April 2003 in Brussels**

#### **1. Approval of the Agenda**

Paragraph 7.5 of the internal rules states that:

Decisions relating to membership and to financial matters require a three-quarters majority of votes of representatives present at the meeting. For votes on such topics, a quorum of three-quarters of all potential votes must be present.

Organisations not participating in the meeting: LJJ (LUX)

The Scottish Association of Young Farmers Club (SAYFC) had given written proxy to another organisation from the same Member State beforehand.

The 23 organisations have a total of 118 votes, with the organisation absent without having given proxy, 116 votes were cast at this general meeting. Therefore a minimum of 87 votes (75% of 116 votes) was required to take decisions on financial matters.

#### **2. Approval of the Report of Extraordinary General Assembly held in Santerem on 29 September 2002**

The report of the Extraordinary General Assembly held in Santerems (PO) in September 2002 was unanimously approved.

#### **3. Treasurer Financial Report 2002**

CEJAs vice president, John Martin, presented the 2002 accounts first for TELLUS and since for CEJA. John Martin also presented the external accountants report of the verification of the 2002 accounts of CEJA and TELLUS. After having recalled the members owing most money to CEJA about their outstanding duty, [CEJAs Secretary General suggested the activation of the internal rules in relation to paying interested on late payments, with the reason that it should be the members who paid late who should help CEJA to cover potential interest costs for being in negative. This suggested generated a debate but at the end the member organizations decided not to apply interest rates to the member organizations with payments to CEJA late because if they do not pay is because they also have financial problems and are not able to pay, the applications of interest rates would only contribute to make it worse and not solve CEJAs problems.](#)

After the presentation of the CEJA account, which contained written explanation to each post in the balance as well as an overview of the 2003 budget, the Danish delegation called on the need to reduce costs linked to interpretation and translation costs within CEJA. CEJAs

Secretary General explained that the costs linked to interpretation were not covered through subscription fees but covered partly through Commission Cofinancing partly through the member organising a seminar, without no real costs for CEJA. CEJA promised to present in the next presidium a one page overview of the real translation and interpretation costs of CEJA. Finally, it was stressed that the CEJA accounts had now recovered former years losses and that it was now time to rehire a half time secretary to help overcoming the high work load in the Secretariat.

#### **4. Report of the revisers**

Jari Rouvinen (MTK, Finland) and Eric Trochon (JA, France) presented their report. The accounts were approved by unanimity by the general assembly.

#### **5. Presentation of this years activity report**

CEJAs president, Hans-Benno Wichert, presented the main activities of CEJA 2002, which are to a large extent explained in this years activity report.

#### **6. Have the priorities 2002 been fulfilled?**

CEJAs president, Hans-Benno Wichert, presented a paper indicating the 2002 priorities fixed in last years general assembly and containing an analysis of to what extend the priorities have been fulfilled. Furthermore, CEJA distributed a complete package of updated CEJA positions and CEJA factsheets taking in 2002 early 2003. [CEJAs Vice-Presidents presented the work developed by them during 2002 including the events in which they participated in representation of CEJA.](#)

CEJAs president presented a proposal for the 2003 priorities along the lines set in 2002 and the assembly accepted these priorities.

#### **7. Election of CEJA president**

BDL had within the fixed deadline forwarded the nomination of Hans-Benno Wichert to the Secretariat. To obtain the post as presidency 50% of the votes were needed, in other words 58+1 votes (the Scottish young farmers and the Luxembourg organisation LLJ were not present, but the Scottish had given proxy to the Northern Irish Young Farmers to delegate their 2 votes). An oral vote was made. Oliver Knab (CEA) took over to chair the voting.

Result: 116 votes in favour, 0 abstain and 0 against.

#### **8. Election of CEJA Vice presidents**

All candidates for vice president has transmitted their candidature in written on headed paper, showed their Identity card to the CEJA Secretariat before the election. Oliver Knab (CEA) took over to chair and informed the presidium about the rules provided for a ballot where the ballot paper contained the names of all candidates. Each organisation would have to nominate four vice presidents by indicating a cross for each one of them. Those four candidates who received the highest number of votes would be elected. The seven candidates for the vice presidency were: Giacomo Ballari (I), Firmino Cordeiro (P), Albert Falip (ES), Sirpa Lintunen (SU/FI), Sylvain Marnier (FR), Michele Rossi (I) and Spiros Tsotos (EL/GR).

In the vote that followed 13 votes were considered non-eligible because at the beginning of the voting Oliver Knab's explanations were not very clear and some member organizations did not understand that in each voting card they had to choose 4 candidates or the vote would be considered non-eligible. Of the remaining 103 votes the candidates received the following votes:

Giacomo Ballari (I)	46 votes
Jose Firmino Cordeiro (P):	35 votes
Albert Falip (ES):	36 votes
Sirpa Lintunen (SU/FI):	94 votes
Sylvain Marnier (FR):	85 votes
Michele Rossi (I):	33 votes
Spiros Tsotos (EL/GR):	83 votes

The Presidency is therefore composed as follow: Hans Benno Wichert (President) sirpa Lintunen (1<sup>st</sup> Vice President), Spiros Tsotos (2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President) **(please correct the vicepresidents order – with 85 votes Sylvain Marnier is 2<sup>nd</sup> vice president and Spiros Tsotos 3<sup>rd</sup> VP with 53 votes)** Sylvain Marmier (3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President) and Giacomo Ballari (4<sup>th</sup> Vice President).

## 9. CEJA activities 2003 including

- TELLUS

The teacher seminar which was hold in Brussels, the 11-12 April has been a great success. Both teachers and young farmers asked to have again the possibility to meet together in the future.

Each member organisation presented the situation of the dissemination of Tellus in their country. Many members insisted on the quality and the success of the Tellus material.

- World Congress: Jérôme Despey JA's president gave a short update about the good proceeding of the organisation of the World Congress of young farmers in Paris from 11<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> of June but outlined the lack of registration of European participants. Despey stressed the fact that his organisation decreased considerably the participation fee for the european participants and called on the european organisations to register as soon as possible.
- CEA Congress: Oliver Knab, CEA's Youth Committee president informed the participants about the CEA Congress that is going to find place in Athens, Greece form 25<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> September 2003. Knab outlined that young participants should not pay subscription fee.

CEJAs president, Hans-Benno Wichert, presented the planned CEJA seminars 2003, and the draft programmes for each planned activity was distributed, with special attention to the CEJA seminar in Corfu to be realised as a parallel event to the informal agricultural council in Corfu.

#### **10. Election of revisers**

The internal rules foresee that one of the advisors must be a farmer and one must be sufficient fluent in French.

Eric Trouchon stepped down as revisor to allow Sylvain Marmier to candidate for a post as CEJAs vicepresident. Tania Vogels, Dutch young farmer, was appointed by unanimity to take over Erik Trouchon's post for a one year term.

Marc Fiedler, CPL, Luxembourg was appointed by unanimity as the new revisor of CEJA for a period of two years.

#### **11. Intervention of the President of CEA Rural Youth Mr Oliver Knab**

Oliver Knab presented shortly the organisation and the work realised over the last year.

#### **12. Intervention of vice president of European Committee of Young Farmers and 4 H Club (ECYF 4H Club)**

Franz Fenzl presented shortly the organisation and the work realised over the last year.

#### **13. Reports of member organisations**

Due to lack of time this point was cancelled.

#### **14. all other business**

The French Young Farmers, JA, called on CEJA to reach on the fine that the French agricultural organisations, including JA, has been condemned to pay by the European Commission for having interrupted the European free market in France on beef during the BSE crisis. CEJAs president promised to look into the matter.

Due to lack of time in the CEJA seminar in Eisenstadt CEJA had not adjusted its position on quota, modulation and decoupling taking into account the publications of the legislative proposals of the CAP reform from the European Commission in January 2003. Hans-Benno Wichert, CEJA president, presented shortly the reason for having to turn back to these positions and called on the members to approve the minor changes for CEJA position on milk quota and modulation. The changed position on decoupling was a more complex matter and due to lack of time was this discussion delayed onto the CEJA seminar in Corfu.