



Nigel Dennis

Head of Office.

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EURO COP – 59a Rue Principale L-5480 Wormeldange - Luxembourg

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DRAFT Minute ExCom Meeting

Thursday 14 January 2021 @16:30hrs CET via lifesize.

In Attendance

Calum Steele – President

Unn Alma Skatvold – Vice President

Mark Marshallsay - Treasurer

Nigel Dennis – Head of Office

Georgios Stamatakis & *Dimitrios Mertzanis (interpreter)*

Angels Bosch

Kirsteen Brown – (Note Taker)

Apologies for Absence

No apologies were received. Nigel opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

Draft Minutes of Excom meeting 9th December 2020

Minutes were approved.

Matters arising

Labour Lawyer – Calum gave a brief on the meeting that he and Unn Alma attended. He stated the meeting was interesting but it was largely beneficial to them that us. They believe that the Police unions in America have too much power. Calum introduced them to other Unions from New Zealand, Canada and Australia. He stated that they were willing to listen and the meeting was fruitful.

ETUI – The European Trade Union Institute have extended an invitation to EuroCOP Member Organisations to attend an online course relating to Active Learning Models . Calum confirmed that in the he past the information to those within the SPF training portfolio to look over.

Action Moving forward Nigel will look into engaging with the ETUI for training opportunities suitable for Member Organisations to participate in.

Book Cops Dammed Hero's – Nigel confirmed that this action is now complete.

Angels suggested that reference to the book be published on social media outlets over the coming months to highlight the violence on police officers when working.



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ACTION – Nigel to liaise with Martis Media to roll this out over the next few months.

Spring Committee Meeting 2021 – Unfortunately due to the new Covid restrictions that Government's have put in place across Europe, a face to face meeting of Member Organisations is now highly unlikely in March as had been advised at our Congress in November 2020. Nigel confirmed that the Spring meeting will now take place via Zoom in April and a meeting of Member Organisations will now take place in Gibraltar on 24 - 26 August 2021. He was able to confirm following negotiations that the hotel have honoured the price of the initial contract of 2019.

Treasurer's update

Mark confirmed he now has access to the Sage accountancy system along with the appropriate licensing in place and is currently in the process of filing all information into the accountancy software.

He said that the proposal to open a Santander bank is still ongoing, however due to the restrictions on face to face meetings contact with the bank has not yet been possible.

All membership subscriptions requests have been sent to Member Organisations to complete with a closing date of tomorrow (15 January 2021). A cross reference of contact details will be done with Nigel as the returns to date have been poor.

Mark will send out invoices for payments to be made in the coming days.

He also confirmed that the BTP Federation accountants are fully conversant that EuroCOP are using their banking facilities until such time as the new bank account is set up. It was reiterated our appreciation of this facility as it allows for payments that sit outside our regular monthly standing orders to be paid.

He confirmed that EPOL paid their fees for last year.

Mark gave a brief overview of the state of the accounts currently held in EurCOP'S name.

SPUERKEESS Luxembourg; General Account €xxx xxx xxx

SPUERKEESS. Luxembourg Reserve Account € xxx xxx xxx

VolksBank Germany Account €xxx xxx xxx

Nigel highlighted that these sums didn't include those deposit we have paid for holding the Gibraltar hotel for our meeting in August and the deposit that has been set aside for holding the November meeting in Edinburgh Scotland in November 2021

ACTION – Mark to invoice Member Organisations and liaise with Nigel in relation to contact list



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Recruitment

A full and detailed discussion took place on how best to recruit new members to EuroCOP.

Unn Alma asked for a breakdown of the members that have left and those that have joined.

Left

FSPFP – circa 23,000

VSPB circa 17,000

SPC – circa 3,000

SNPGL – circa 1,700

Equipe – circa 900

Guernsey – circa 90

Joined

Defence Police Federation xxxx. Calum confirmed that the Superintendents of England & Wales are very keen to join with a membership of around xxxx

Nigel made reference as to the rationale provided by the Polish Trade Union as to why that organisation left in 2011.

Calum stated that the explanation provided by the Polish Police Trade Union for leaving EuroCOP. has been substantially addressed in the new statutes. He said it would be remiss not to approach/advise them of the new statutes and action plans. He would welcome their membership and this was also supported by the rest of the Excom.

Unn Alma believes that we need to show off the work that EuroCOP does. She believes it would assist our EuroCOP profile if we we could achieve more visibity not just on social media but on a wider media platform

It should be noted that EuroCOP through its Communication consultancy Martis Media are providing European news agencies with regular suitable updates on the work of EuroCOP and have also provided profiles of the Principle Officers of our organisation. Building a trusted media platform takes time to create its not a quick fix.

Angels provided the following suggestion that a video be made to show the benefits of being a part of EuroCOP.

It was acknowledged that ideally any publication in this format needs to show that over the past year how we have established and embedded our active involvement with the European Commission and Parliament ,ETUC, and Council for Europe, relating to the challenges and demands the Police Service face across the



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European landscape . The work that has been done and is continuing to be done through our direct lobbying and through our strategic advisors who guide us through the parliamentary process of the European Commission/ Parliament and the Council of Europe.

Calum stated that the video needs to be as accessible as possible and that it also needs to be professionally subtitled into other languages.

ACTIONS –

1. Nigel to explore options along with a costing profile with not only Martis Media but also other potential producers of such productions.

2 Calum to speak to the Association of Scottish Police Superintendents to see if this is something they would be interested in joining.

3 ALL – research all Unions in their respective countries.

Meeting plan for the year

The following dates were discussed and unanimously agreed upon;

Spring Committee Meeting Via the Zoom platform 28th April 2021

Summer Committee Meeting 24th -26th August 2021

22nd – 24th November – Edinburgh Scotland

ACTION – Nigel to publish the date to all Member Organisations.

Bye Elections for ExCom.

The current challenge facing the ExCom is that the SPC have indicated through correspondence that it is not to remain members of EuroCOP. Unfortunately this directly impacts on one of the current ExCom members Angels Bosch.

The ExCom acknowledges that SPC has indicated its intention to leave EuroCOP. Given SPC current position Angels made it clear her intention to resign from her position from the EuroCOP Excom if that situation remains.

It is a matter of record that Angels had been recently democratically elected by the majority of Member Organisations at the 2020 Congress at which the SPC were represented.



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Angels reiterated her commitment in supporting EuroCOP. Calum would welcome that offer in an advisory capacity should the current situation with the SPC not be resolved

Nigel has responded to the SPC correspondence to address some of the matters raised within the letter, and inviting them to discuss their reasons further for exiting our organisation and to look at ways at which both parties come together and move forward.

Nigel is still awaiting an acknowledgment or a response from the SPC - he will give them a month to respond. In the event that the SPC decision remains the same, Angels will tender her resignation from the ExCom.

Angels stated that she would be very sad to leave the ExCom as she enjoys working with everyone and what they are trying to achieve. She confirmed that should the opportunity arise for the other organisation to become a member, she will put her name forward.

Calum said that it was a desperately sad situation to find ourselves in, he valued her insight tremendously and personally thanked Angels for her commitment over the years. All of the Excom echoed Calum's remarks.

Standing item – ETUC/ETUF update

Unn Alma stated that there was one meeting after Christmas but as it was HR based she didn't attend.

The next meeting would be on the 19th January and she asked if there was anything they would like to be added to the Agenda. Nigel asked for the EU roadmaps – gender based violence and the contributions EuroCOP are making to be added.

She confirmed that some topics on the agenda are not directly relative to the work that we do but there are some that are of interest.

It was confirmed that even if some of the meetings do not have direct value, having a contact through ETUC/ETUF was extremely beneficial

Financial Standing Orders – Next steps

Due to the pandemic a face to face meeting has not been feasible. When the first opportunity arises to allow travel Calum, Mark & Nigel will have a meeting to discuss

A.O.B

Thanks of appreciation were given to Angels by all of the Excom for all her hard work and efforts.

Unn Alma asked about the different seminars that EuroCOP were invited to. Nigel confirmed that unless there was real value for the membership of EuroCOP there was no need to attend to the invitations but would leave it to her discretion as to if to attend or not, and provided examples of invitation the office receive on a regular basis that our not focused on EuroCOP mission.



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Calum was pleased to be able to facilitate the new relationships in respect of the Labour Lawyer and colleagues from New Zealand, Canada & Australia. He stated that they were surprised by our openness as they had a very biased position on American Police Unions but hopes that after speaking with others it would soften their conclusions.

Calum closed the meeting by thanking the ExCom who have gone above and beyond in their commitment to EuroCOP. He is confident that Angels power of persuasion with regards to the new member organisation will mean this is not goodbye but a see you later.



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