

Minutes of the Extraordinary General Assembly of CPOLOL May 6th 2006, in Athens, Greece

1. Opening

The president Birgitta Rosén-Gustafsson welcomed all the delegates to the Extraordinary General Assembly 2006. A special welcome was expressed to the representatives from Latvia, Baiba Trinite, and Croatia, Draženka Blaži, Darija Hercigonja Salamoni and Katarina Pavičić-Dokoza.

The president hereafter asked the Assembly to approve two amendments of the distributed agenda, namely items 3: General information, and 9: Miscellaneous.

The definitive agenda was approved unanimously.

The General Secretary then performed a count of voting delegates: 33 voting delegates were present.

2. Approval of minutes

There were no objections or comments to the minutes of the G.A. in Graz 2005 as published by email to all delegates. The minutes were approved unanimously by verbal agreement.

3. General information

The president informed that the vice president for Scientific Committee, Tina Faber, has announced that for personal reasons she will have to step down. Because the Scientific Committee has finalised its work, and the congress is soon to be held, and not least because Hanneke Kalf has taken over the responsibility for any remaining tasks concerning the congress, the Executive Committee have decided not to ask for replacement.

The president encouraged all associations to think about candidates for the elections 2007.

The president then announced that CPOLOL has acquired the rights to the domain cplol.eu. With some efforts of the Secretary General and good help from the dot-EU registrar Speednames, we succeeded in being included in the list of 'secondary pre-registrations' which are only for domain names that correspond with various "rights that are protected under the national law of the member state where they are held such as company names, business identifiers, distinctive titles of protected literary and artistic work, etc."

The new address will become effective as soon as technically possible.

Hanneke Kalf informed about the congress web site – www.cplol2006.de . All information about the venue, the program, registration, accommodation can be found on this site.

4. The French proposal – Setting up the working group

The president recapitulated the situation and presented the procedure decided upon in Graz 2005. The working group is to be constituted by five delegates from different associations and the President, the Secretary General, and the Treasurer.

The president asked for candidates. FNO announced their candidate, but no other proposals were brought forward.

Bauke Leijenaar (NVLF) stated that he found it inappropriate to question the structure so soon after it was decided and initiated.

Jean-Marc Kremer (FNO) stated that the French proposal is about more than structure. After some discussion it was decided to postpone the issue to the ordinary G.A. in 2007.

5. Vote on admittance of new members (Latvia and Croatia)

The President welcomed the representatives of the two applicant countries and asked Baiba Trinite to present the Latvian association.

Baiba Trinite addressed the G.A. saying:

*« Dear President, Dear Members of the Executive Committee, Dear Colleagues!
This is a significant day for speech therapy of Latvia. With its roots in Western Europe, having enriched itself in the schools of Moscow and St.Petersburg speech therapy of Latvia has developed its own traditions and now is on the threshold of Europe. I hope that the doors of CPLoL will be open for us so that we could strengthen the prestige of a speech therapist's profession and our positions among other professions. »*

The *Latvijas Logopēdu Asociācija* was founded in 1994. The population in Latvia is approximately 2.3 million and the number of SLTs is 350.

Aileen Patterson mentioned that it had been a pleasure having the Latvian delegate in the commission for the day's meeting, where she already had taken an active part.

The vote for admission of the Latvian association as a full member of CPLoL was unanimously expressed – by a loud applause.

The vice president of the Croatian Logopedic Association (*Hrvatsko Logopedsko Društvo*) Darija Hercigonja Salamoni then presented the association and the education of SLTs in Croatia.

In Croatia there are about 700 SLTs out of which 380 are members of HLD. The education of SLTs in Croatia is remarkable in the way that it is already running in full accordance with the Bologna agreement – and that the graduates only are allowed to practice in the full range of the profession after 5 years of study, i.e. the MA.

The president recommended admittance of the Croatian association as an observer member of CPLoL. And another loud applause expressed the unanimous decision of the General Assembly.

6. Vote on establishing a 'common platform' for the profession of SLT in Europe

Aileen Patterson informed about the idea of 'common platforms' and the procedure for achieving the recognition of the EU Commission. After a short discussion and some clarifications in plain words as to what the implications will be for the members of CPLoL, a vote was taken on this statement:

The General Assembly of CPLoL, gathered in Athens on 6th May 2006, wants to establish a 'common platform' for the profession of speech and language therapy / orthophonie / logopaedics, as defined in paragraph 1 of art. 15 in the Directive 2005/36/EF of 7th September 2005.

The result of the vote was a unanimous adoption.

7. Congress 2009

The president explained about the actual situation: At the moment the Executive Committee had received no concrete information from Spain and Portugal as to venue, budget, etc.

Ana Mendes (APTF) stated that Portugal is willing to assist in planning and organizing as originally offered and decided.

As an answer to the President's request for alternative host associations, in case the Iberian attempts would fail, Slovenia offered to host. And Croatia declared that they would be willing to assist.

The General Assembly expressed its appreciation of the alternative offer.

8. G.A. 2007

As the previously given offer to host the 2007 G.A. has been withdrawn, the President asked for proposals. Baiba Trinite announced that, provided the board of her association would approve, the Latvian association would be willing to host and pleased to invite CPLoL to come to Riga.

The President and the delegates applauded the offer.

9. Miscellaneous

A. On behalf of the DBL, Karin Mueller-Romheld proposed a revision of the Prevention Report and asked for this revision to be included in the plan of projects for the next mandate.

B. Croatia informed about and invited to the 7th International Conference on Research in Education and Rehabilitation Sciences in Zagreb in June 2007.

C. The President reminded about the 'call for poster' sent to the member associations in February, encouraging them to present their association at the congress in Berlin. The call will be re-sent to all delegates.

D. Irene Vernerio (FLI) inquired for the result of the questionnaire on continuing education. The Italian association needs this paper for their national discussion with various authorities.

Finally, she suggested having fewer coffee breaks during the day.

10. Closure of the G.A.

Thanking all delegates for a good meeting in an orderly manner, the president closed the Extraordinary General Assembly at 6.28 PM.

Keeper of the minutes: Bent E. Kjaer