

### Entente Européenne d'Aviculture et de Cuniculture

Europäischer Verband für Geflügel-, Tauben-, Vogel-, Kaninchen- und Caviazucht European Association of Poultry, Pigeon, Cage Bird, Rabbit and Cavy Breeders Association Européenne pour l'Elevage de Volailles, de Pigeons, d'Oiseaux, de Lapins et de Cobayes

## Minutes of the General Assembly of 11 May 2024 in Kecskemét / Hungary

President:	Gion Gross
Secretary:	Jeannine Jehl
Excused:	Ehrenpräsident: Urs Freiburghaus Ehrenschatzmeister: Willy Littau Ehrenmitglieder: Detlef Duus, Graham Giddings, Esther Huwiler, Peter Mickmann, Slavibor Petrizlika, Joseph Rey-Bellet, Adi Rudolph, Hans Schipper, Karl-Heinz Sollfrank, Hermann Stroblmair, Hans Ulrich Schmid, Henri van Oers
Gests:	
Beginning:	08:42 am

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#### Introduction

Gion Gross: "Barack Obama is probably a household name, but how many of you know Barack Pálinka? The city of Kecskemét is known for its rich culture, traditions and architecture. The city is also known for its fruit brandy production, especially the famous apricot brandy called "Barack Pálinka". I wouldn't be surprised if some of you have already savoured this brandy here.

Of course, we are primarily here to work. But you can certainly get to know the country and its people as well.

A turbulent year lies behind us. On the one hand, bird flu once again prevented poultry shows from being held in many places and, on the other, we were and are all extremely disappointed that the European show for rabbits and Cavies was cancelled despite the great efforts of the Presidium and a contract signed by the Czech association. After there had also been some back and forth regarding the organisation of the European show, we had lost confidence in the Czech association. The fact that we were nevertheless able to experience a well-organised and worthy conference is thanks to Istvan Rohringer and above all his daughter Nori. She organised this conference practically single-handedly in a very short space of time. We are infinitely grateful to her for this and thank her with a warm round of applause!

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all to the 85th General Assembly of the Entente Européenne! With around 110 delegates and accompanying persons from 28 countries, the number of registrations is not overwhelming, but in view of the long period of uncertainty and the short registration deadline, it is satisfactory. I would like to thank everyone who has come to this meeting, and I am pleased to declare the 85th General Assembly of the EE open.

The agenda for today's General Assembly has been sent to everyone or can be downloaded from the website. It is a somewhat unusual agenda. Luxembourg law, to which we are subject with the Articles of Association, requires that a separate meeting must be held for a revision of the Articles of Association. We will therefore close the first part of the General Meeting after agenda item 13, then discuss the revision of the Articles of Association in an extraordinary General Meeting, then close the extraordinary General Meeting and continue with the ordinary General meeting."

#### 1. Opening, welcome

The President also warmly welcomes the honourable members, delegates and friends of Entente Européenne who are present.

Unfortunately, some of our comrades are unable to attend this year's General Assembly for health reasons. We wish them a speedy recovery and look forward to welcoming you back in good health at the next meeting.

Unfortunately, death once again tore gaps in our ranks last year. Members who have been committed to our cause for years, even decades, have left us forever We remember all our deceased members with gratitude and rise briefly from our seats.

## We can't put a stop to death, but we can keep the memory of loved ones

He would like to thank our translators Urs Lochmann and Jean-Louis Frindel. Thanks to them, simultaneous translation is once again possible!

#### 2. Confirmation of attendance

The voting cards and ballot papers have been distributed at the entrance.

There is one voting card and one ballot paper per section of a country Voting proxies and ballot papers may only be used for the sections of one's own country.

The President asks whether all delegates entitled to vote have received their voting cards and ballot papers.

As we have an Extraordinary General Assembly, the quorum of 2/3 of the members must be present or represented.

The EE has 110 associations from 65 countries.

Voting cards distributed: 90

Absolute more: 46 Total votes: 90

Total attendance:110

At the same time, the EE medals were handed in at the entrance.

Up to 5000 members per division = 1 medal

Over 5000 members per division = 2 medals

If anyone has not yet received these medals, they are requested to do so immediately after the meeting.

The following are proposed as scrutineers:

Igor Cegovnic; Anthime Leroy; Jan Schrötz; Jan Pocket

Decision: the four nominees are elected without dissenting votes.

#### 3. Minutes of the EE-General Assembly on 20.05.2023 in Sofia

The minutes were written by Jeannine Jehl and published on the website. There were no questions or comments.

#### Resolution: the minutes are adopted unanimously.

Many thanks to Jeannine Jehl for the prompt completion.

#### 4. Report of the president

"As always, I am focussing my thoughts on the future and leaving the review to our Secretary General.

Looking into the future? Who can do that! Looking into the future means wishing and hoping. Just as in the breeding of our animals, where we want to influence nature as far as possible, so it is with looking to the future. We can influence the future of our organisation by making wise decisions, but we cannot determine it.

Fifty years ago, no one was talking about RHD, 30 years ago animal welfare already existed, but it didn't cause us any headaches back then. And 20 years ago, bird flu was hardly an issue. These examples could go on and on. So we don't know what's in store for us, but we can guess at it in terms of animal welfare and legislation. Our focus can therefore not be on possible epidemics and disasters where we do not know if and when they will occur. We must concentrate our efforts on those activities where we can make a difference and have a chance of success. "Wie immer richte ich meine Gedanke in die Zukunft und überlasse den Rückblick unserer Generalsekretärin.

I consider three points to be central to the future of the EE:

- We must do everything in our power to ensure that general European shows are possible again
- We must fight with all our strength and all the means at our disposal against even tougher laws that prevent small animal breeding.
- We must stand up to the animal rights activists by refuting their forgive the expression sometimes "inane" demands with all our might.

I assume that everyone in this room agrees with these three points, which could of course be expanded on. However, this is not nearly enough. Neither the Advisory Board nor the Executive Committee will be able to realise the three points mentioned on their own.

We are all called upon:

The countries, the standard commissions, the judges, indeed, each and every one of us!

- Are we prepared to organise a European show and help out there?
- Do we not only keep our animals in accordance with the law, but even better?
- Have we gathered enough arguments to defend ourselves against overzealous animal-humanising animal rights activists?

Each and every one of us must ask ourselves these and many other questions. Only if we can answer most of these questions with a convincing "yes" will we succeed in preserving and developing small animal breeding in Europe. It cannot be denied that we will also have to make sacrifices or concessions. We have created overtyped animals - not nature. So let's make sure that over-typification disappears again. Because some of us do not abide by the current laws, they are being tightened up. So we are again giving the legislators and animal rights activists arguments. However, we have enough reasons to make our hobby appear positive to the outside world. Words such as biodiversity, genetic resources and living cultural assets are words that are often used by politicians and the former even by animal rights activists. We must always remind our critics of this when we are unjustifiably attacked.

We stand together, fight together for our cause and don't just leave it to the "higher-ups". Small animal breeding has a future, and we want to continue to build on this in the future and do everything in our power to achieve it.

My short report would be incomplete if I did not thank you all properly, because I am convinced that you could answer the three questions here in the hall with a yes. Thank you for your work in your countries, your organisations and in your communities!

I would also like to sincerely thank my colleagues on the Executive Committee. They do a huge amount of work - and without a salary or attendance fees. We are not always in agreement, but we always endeavour to find a consensus, because one thing is certain: not only everyone on the Executive Committee, but also everyone here in this room only wants the best for small animal breeding and our association.

Many roads lead to Rome, as the saying goes. Finding the shortest or most efficient route is not always an easy task. It seems important to me that we simply look for this path and can say afterwards that we did everything we could to find it. Then the disappointment is a little less great when it is not found.

So let's look positively to the future, which we want to influence or rather shape together with all of you!

Thank you all very much for your help!

Istvan Rohringer, Vice-President, asks the meeting if there are any questions or comments. As there were none, he asked the meeting to approve the President's report."

### Decision: The president report is unanimously approved.

#### 5. Report of the secretary general

Jeannine Jehl:

"Dear delegates,

It is a pleasure to see so many of you here in Kecskemét and to be able to exchange ideas with you.

More exhibitions could now take place, and with the rather large exhibitions it was amazing that more animals were exhibited.

The balance of the past year

EE Congress, which took place from 17 to 21 May 2023 in Sofia, Bulgaria. A big thank you to Sasho Sarandev, Monica and the members of the Bulgarian federation for the smooth organisation of these days. 128 delegates were present, who met again after the various sessions and spent wonderful moments in great conviviality. Willy Littau stepped down from his post after 28 years of loyal service. He was appointed Honorary Treasurer for his many years of service.

Hansjörg Opala was appointed to this office.

Croatia rejoined the EE with voting rights. New members joined the EE: the FASAD association of San Marino, the Cavia section of Norway and the association of Kosovo.

Many meetings took place within the office and its members traveled to the Czech Republic to meet with local leaders, both because of the organization of the European Exhibition which was to take place this year 2024 and which, after numerous discussions with them, was canceled in the home stretch. That for this year's EE general assembly, which was to be held in Prague, was moved at the last minute here in Kecskemét, because the registration fees in Czechia were too high for the participants.

Personally, I visited many shows and represented the EE at the national show in Turkey, which the EE would like to integrate into the rabbit and pigeon divisions. A big thank you to the Turkish team led by Özcan Cetin. My heart goes out to his family and to all who knew him, as he left us forever just a few weeks ago. He was a man of conviction, characterised by great charisma and kindness. Thank you to all those responsible for the shows I was able to attend, the word sociability is always very important to our breeders.

#### Member administration

With the new website, we no longer have the intranet service that allowed you to enter your board changes directly. In recent years, very few people had signed up. Last year, at our congress in Sofia, I gave you a list of contact details to fill in. Unfortunately, many of them were very difficult to decipher, so there were errors, especially with the e-mail addresses, which prevented documents from being sent. I have therefore sent you the Excel spreadsheet so that you can fill it in directly, which avoids many errors.

Many thanks to all those who regularly send me their changes. Unfortunately, other associations have stopped updating, so there are still more than twenty responses due to undelivered emails when I send them to delegates.

Do not hesitate to inform me of any changes throughout the year.

I have contacted you to give me the contact details of your federation so that I can forward them to the Trade and Associations Register in Luxembourg together with the articles of association. Many thanks to all those who have already forwarded them.

Finally, I would like to thank Nori Rohringer for all the work she has done to ensure that this AGM could take place under good conditions, and in a very short space of time. And they were very good. Thank you, Nori, I think she deserves a big round of applause.

Many thanks to you all and I am at your disposal at any time."

The president asked the meeting if there were any questions or comments. As there were none, he asked them to approve the Secretary General's report.

Decision: the Secretary General's report is unanimously approved.

#### 6. Report of the section Chairs (Poultry, Pigeons, Birds, Rabbits, Cavies)

#### **Poultry: Andy Verelst**

The poultry section had a very good meeting with lots of interaction among participants from 19 countries. Many themes were discussed, of which the European exhibition was one of the most important. The report of the 2023 meeting in Sofia was amended and then approved. Urs Lochmann is re-elected as vice-president of the section. The meeting of poultry judges in Jagodina in September 2023 was positively evaluated. The 2024 meeting will be organized by our friends from Fesacocur from September 13 to 15 in Mallorca. Two new European breed championships have been approved to still take place in 2024.

### **Pigeons: Gustl Heftberger**

"Dear Executive Committee and delegates.

The pigeon section also had a very extensive agenda with 16 items. The attendance of 38 delegates from 20 nations was very pleasing. We were able to welcome guests from Ukraine and Turkey.

In 2023/24, 5 breed-related European shows were organised. Some had to be cancelled due to bird flu and veterinary conditions. The demand for the organisation of RBES is still very good and therefore another 6 were approved by the delegates. The Intern. Judges' Seminar was very well organised by our friends from Serbia in 2023 and was accordingly well attended.

This judges' seminar is planned for 2024 in Germany (Thuringia, Suhl) from 20 September to 22 September and preparations are already well advanced.

The agenda of the ESKT meeting was also quite extensive; the minutes will be published on the EE website.

Secretary Sattlecker and breeder friend Hudry have resigned from the ESKT for professional reasons. Jan Schrötz (D) has applied in writing to replace them. Young people are our future.

As Chairman Jean-Louis Frindel announced his resignation in 2023 with effect from 2024, Lars Van Droogenbroeck was elected as the new ESKT Chairman.

Special thanks go to Jean Louis Frindel, who led the ESKT for over 30 years from its foundation in 1992 until yesterday.

Dear friend Jean Louis, on behalf of the pigeon division, a big thank you for your decades of highly valued work for European pedigree pigeon breeding. He was presented with a certificate of honour at the division meeting.

I am also stepping down as chairman of the division in 2025, applications for suitable persons (judges and bilingual (German + English) can be submitted by the national associations until 31 December 2024.

The minutes of the division meeting and ESKT will be published in three languages on the EE website."

#### Birds: Klaas Snijder

Birds section met yesterday in large numbers with 13 people representing the following countries; Germany, Belgium, Austria and the Netherlands and after two

years Switzerland is back. Kosovo attended for the first time and joined the EE family last year.

Our division also welcomed a new member this year: Hungary. After being guests for two years, they are now taking the plunge and becoming EE members. They presented themselves well in the section and the section fully supports the admission of the Hungarians to the EE family.

We also discussed various technical and political topics relating to bird sport at length. A topic that will certainly be discussed more often and not only in our section.

Our section hopes that the breeding show that took place in the Netherlands last year will find a good continuation in Hungary, where a breeding show for zebra finches may be organised in 2024.

Austria guarantees a European breeding show in 2026 and beyond. But first we hope to meet in Slovakia when a general European show is organised there. That would be a very good thing for our division and the EE in general.

In order to be well prepared for this, we need to establish good contacts with the Slovakians and are confident that we will succeed. We are also organising a price leader training course in Austria. The standards committee already has good ideas for this.

The Vogel section is looking forward to presenting itself well at the next European trade fair.

#### **Rabbits: Wolfgang Vogt**

Unfortunately, the year 2024 did not go well at first with the final cancellation of the first European show for a specific division, especially as this back and forth caused a bit of unrest among breeders. If the blame ultimately lies with the Czech organisation, whether with the general association or the rabbit division, we will all be unable to understand, especially as one blames the other. But so be it, it had to go on.

Thank God we managed to convince some responsible national breeder organisations to bridge this vacuum by agreeing to organise breed-related European shows and immediately creating the formal conditions for this. As a result, it has been possible to organise a total of 11 breed-related European shows for breeders. Let us hope that as many of them as possible will make use of this opportunity.

The judges' training course was also held in Solenice, Czech Republic, from 26 to 28 April 2024. It was a great success with 156 participants from 20 nationsIt was also really well prepared by our Czech colleagues. There were PowerPoint presentations on the main innovations in the new standard, as well as on the breeds light-coloured large silver and large Siamese. The practical examination then focussed on the two aforementioned breeds.

The large number of participants may also be due to the fact that the new standards were available for the first time at this training course. Almost 500 units were requested. Those responsible for the Standards Commission were more than

satisfied with the result. The demand also ultimately confirmed the work of the standardisation committee and was valued accordingly.

We hope that the new standard will help to guide our hobby into the future. Thank you for your attention!

### **Cavies: Lena Tysk**

At our meeting, several countries participated online, a good way if the club is not able to send someone. Many cavia clubs are small with limited finances. We discussed a future EE and the needs that the section has, a lot is about finances and then shortened meeting days and places near airports.

The meeting was also about our next special exhibition in Horsens, a collaboration between Sweden and Denmark. the same weekend is also the judges' seminar. in order for so many people to come, there is the option of staying for free at the exhibition.

We also decided on some changes to our standard, including a breed. Finally, a big thank you to our secretaries Andrea and Eva who have already fixed our minutes, ready to post.

The President thanked the division chairmen, their secretaries and the members of the standards committees for their great and important work.

# **7. Report of the Chairman of the Advisory Board of animal health and welfare** Erik Apperlo:

"Dear Chairman, dear colleagues on the Board, dear fellow breeders,

As you all heard yesterday in the various sections, we on the Advisory Board are continuing to work on issues within our speciality. Progress is being made, but we are not there yet.

In the area of over-typing, which leads to harmful external traits, it is important for the standard commissions to remain critical and make adjustments where necessary. When it comes to animal welfare, we are at your side in an advisory capacity. We live in a time in which public opinion and social developments also play a role in deciding on adaptations to breeds or breeding traits with a long tradition. A difficult task for the standard committees, but one that should certainly not be avoided.

With regard to animal diseases, we need to be aware that bringing large numbers of animals together rightly represents a risk from a legislative perspective. We must also take this into account with regard to animal diseases by taking a proactive approach, for example by making vaccination against RHD 1 and 2 mandatory for rabbits. This shows that we also attach great importance to animal welfare and animal health.

With regard to European legislation, the efforts we have made appear to be having an effect. Following an initial public consultation and a discussion in Brussels, some relaxations have been made to the TRACES certification, making it much easier and cheaper to register groups of animals at a European exhibition. It is also possible to sell animals to other countries. This ensures that there are no longer any major regulatory obstacles to organising a European show.

The recent consultation carried out by the European Union to evaluate the legislation on animal transport has again resulted in a good response and contact with EU officials shows us that they will work with this information again. This result is positive, but also opens the way for more. For an organisation with millions of breeders as supporters like the EE, 900 responses to a public consultation is not overwhelming. Even if it is perhaps less relevant or necessary for your organisation, we as EE deserve the confidence that you will still participate.

A second, even more important comment here is that we are hearing from the European Union that it greatly appreciates having one or a few points of contact. In our conversation in February 2023, the EE presented itself as such and the communication from Brussels recently confirmed that we are now seen as such. The call is therefore to involve us as EE, especially the Advisory Board, every time you want to take action on European legislation. We as the EE Advisory Board have the opportunity to properly coordinate, harmonise and thus engage with the steps taken by the EU in an effective way, without causing frustration among the officials concerned due to the number of repetitive responses. The foundations for this have been laid and can be further developed.

In this third message that I am sending to you as President of the Advisory Board, it is my most important appeal for the third time: take an active part in our joint mission and share your own experiences with us and with each other as much as possible. Together we are stronger!

Thank you for your attention."

### 8. Report of the treasurer and the auditors

Hansjörg Opala presents the financial report for the 2023 financial year. He had already shown it at all section meetings yesterday, so the members could already discuss it.

With € 18,832.00 income and € 28,777.96 expenses, the result shows a loss of € 9,945.96.

Sonia Carter / Turkey asks what the € 14,000 for the meetings means. The treasurer replies that the expenses for the meetings for the presidency are higher than usual, because there were extraordinary meetings in the Czech Republic for the planned European EE exhibition, which was ultimately canceled, and in Hungary for the preparation of the EE congress, which was also moved from the Czech Republic to Hungary. As well as the presidium meeting in Budapest. In a normal year, presidency meetings are held online.

The President gives the floor to the auditors. As the two auditors were unable to be present, last year's auditors, Tom Laming and Klas van der Hoek, audited the accounts.

Thom Laming reports: during the cash audit last night, they checked all the documents, everything was clear and the cash register was correct. They request the discharge of the treasurer and the presidium.

# Decision: The cash report and the discharge of the Treasurer and the Executive Committee are adopted unanimously.

Many thanks to Hansjörg Opala and the auditors.

Hansjörg Opala shows the liquidity plans for the next three years. If there is no general EE European Show, we will have an annual loss of 9 to 10 000 €.

If a European EE show is organised in Slovakia, we would return to our current cash position.

There are no questions or comments.

#### 8.1 Power of attorney for the President und the Treasurer

According to Luxembourg law, the General Meeting of EE must authorise the President and the Treasurer to manage the treasury during the performance of their duties. This authorisation is renewed at each election.

The Secretary General asks the delegates whether they wish to authorise the President Gion Gross and the Treasurer Hansjörg Opala to manage the cash register.

Decision: in favour: 90 against: 0 abstentions: 0

Decision: the General Assembly thus authorises the President and the Treasurer to manage the treasury.

#### 9. Votes:

#### 9.1 Vote of the vice-president

Two nominations have been submitted to succeed Istvan Rohringer, who is stepping down. Edin Jabandžić, Honorary President of the Association of Bosnia-Herzegovina and Sasho Sarandev, President of the Bulgarian Association. We know both of them as organisers of the European meeting in their countries.

The President first offers a representative of the Bulgarian Association to introduce Sasho

And Edin Jabandzic from Bosnia-Herzegovina introduces himself.

As there are two candidates for the office of Vice President today, the election is held by secret ballot.

The ballot papers were distributed with the voting cards. The two names are listed on the ballot papers.

In accordance with our Articles of Association, a relative majority is required for this election.

The tellers and one representative of each of the two candidates are called to the election office, which is chaired by the Secretary General, to count the votes.

Vote result:

Voters: 90 Vote cast: 90

Edin Jabandžić: 74 Sasho Sarandev: 14

Not valid: 1

Blank voting card: 1

#### Election: Edin Jabandžić has been elected as Vice President.

The President warmly congratulates Edin Jabandžić on his election and looks forward to a pleasant and fruitful collaboration.

He thanked Sasho for standing for election. He will have the opportunity to stand for re-election the next time there is a vacancy on the Executive Committee.

Edin Jabandžić thanks the delegates for their trust and will always be there to answer questions and pass on information.

#### 9.1 Vote of the secretary general

Jeannine Jehl works like crazy and is always highly reliable. She is standing for reelection today. There are no other candidates for this office.

#### Decision: Jeannine Jehl is unanimously re-elected

The President warmly congratulates Jeannine on her election and looks forward to a continued good and friendly working relationship.

#### 9.2 Vote of a substitute auditor

Georg Sattlecker becomes first and Willy Littau second auditor

We propose the following as substitute auditors:

1st substitute auditor: Roland Olinger, 2nd substitute auditor: Istvan Rohringer

#### Decision: the vote of the two subsitute revisors is adoptet unanimously.

#### 10. Honors

This is, of course, the best part of our General Assembly.

As you know, we are very reluctant to honour people. And yet we have to honour someone today:

Laudatio Istvan Rohringer

"Today we are honouring a man who has dedicated himself to feathered animals for decades. He was and is not only an outstanding breeder and judge, he has always been fully committed to small animal breeding in his country and far beyond. And he did the same in the EE. The proof of this is that he became an honorary member of the EE 18 years ago.

He has always been the link between Eastern and Western Europe. Whenever there was a need to research, clarify, help and mediate between countries in Eastern Europe, he was there to help.

He did and still does this today - and I am convinced that he will continue to do so. The fact that he was elected to the Executive Committee 10 years ago and held the office of Vice-President with us also shows how close EE is to his heart.

You will have realised by now that I am talking about our friend Istvan Rohringer. He was never the man of big words in our company. But whenever he had something to do or clarify, he did it promptly and more reliably than a Swiss watch. Dear Istvan, we can't make you an honorary member today - you earned that honour almost two decades ago. But we can thank you, on behalf of all those present, for everything you have done for the EE, small animal breeding and racing pigeon breeding in particular.

Yes, what do you give someone who has already received all the honours at home and abroad? You ask his daughter Nori. She said: "It was his idea last year to have a special pin made for Willy Littau, and he really enjoyed it.

So it was once again our honorary member Zdsizlaw Borawski who had such a pin made in Poland. And he is now to pin this pin on you to great applause. Jean-Louis Frindel had already announced his retirement in 2023 for 2024. Arnold Tuider paid tribute to him on behalf of the Pigeon Division for his more than 30 years as Chairman of the Standard Commission of the Pigeon Division. He summarised Jean-Louis' many years of work at the head of this commission and presented him with a commemorative gift.

The EE President also thanked him warmly for his many years of translating during the many main meetings.

#### 11. Application

The poultry section submits the following motion:

That a working group with representatives from all sections be set up to consider the future of EE.

Andy Verelst presents his motion.

" In the poultry section, we have already discussed the legislation on animal welfare, transport and EE European shows several times. We can bring them up at the General Assembly, but we think it would be better to set up a working group with the other sections where we can exchange ideas."

The Presidium recommends rejecting this motion, as anyone can ask questions or request information at any time, either through the divisions or directly to the Presidium.

Vote on this motion:

Voters: 90 In favour: 55 Against: 17 Abstentions: 18

### Decision: the proposal for a working group is adopted by a majority.

#### 12. Admission of new members

The Bulgarian umbrella organisation makes a motion to accept the rabbit division into the EE. A presentation is shown.

## Decision: the proposal to accept the rabbit section from Bulgaria is unanimously accepted.

The bird section from Hungary applies to be accepted into the EE. The delegates present their organisation.

## Resolution: the motion to accept the birds from Hungary section is adopted unanimously.

The Ukrainian Pigeon Federation wants to join the EE as a member.

The pigeon section from Ukraine would like to join the EE as a member. The delegate presents his association.

Resolution: the motion to accept the pigeon section from Ukraine is accepted unanimously.

### 13. Informationen on EE-meetings

The next EE-meetings will take place in:

2025 29.05.-01.06. Juni/juin/June Rumänien/Roumanie/Romania

2026 13-17 May Spain Mallorca / Espagne / Spain

The delegates of Romania give information to the General Assembly about the European Meeting 2025. The President of EE points out that the hotel in Brasov is three and a half hours away from Bucharest airport, which is not acceptable, but a new airport should be opened near the place. Otherwise, they will look for a hotel near Bucharest.

So the European meetings from 2027 are still available. We look forward to receiving applications. It is important that the conference hotel is close to the airport to avoid long shuttle journeys. Prices should not be higher than before.

# **11.10 am.** The president closes the first part of the Ordinary General Meeting and opens the Extraordinary General Meeting on **11 May in Kecskemét**

There is only one item on the agenda:

#### Revision of the Articles of Association.

The EE has 110 members, 90 of whom are present.

According to the Articles of Association, the quorum of two thirds of the members has been reached. We can therefore proceed to the vote on the adoption of the new Articles of Association.

The revision of the Articles of Association has been delayed because it required various clarifications with Luxembourg. And since the law was also changed there

during the same period, the delay was even greater. However, we have now reached the point where we can discuss it.

The President would like to thank our Secretary General Jeannine Jehl, who carried out the extensive clarifications.

We have not planned any ground-breaking changes but have tried to streamline the Articles of Association and make them simpler. We also had to include various articles so that they comply with Luxembourg law.

All delegates received the amendments to the Articles of Association by email and were able to make their suggestions. Each article is projected individually in a PowerPoint. Any desired amendment to an article must be proposed immediately. Amendments are voted on immediately. At the end, there is an overall vote on the Articles of Association. This requires a two-thirds majority in accordance with the still valid Articles of Association.

The statutes are read out paragraph by paragraph. There are no amendments

# Decision: The amendment to the Articles of Association is unanimously approved

The president expressed his thanks for the swift handling of this business.

# 11.43 am: The Chairman closes the Extraordinary General Meeting and Reopens the second part of the General Assembly

#### 14. Suggestions and wishes

The Slovakian Association submits a proposal to organise an EE-European show in Nitra at the beginning of November.

The Slovakian delegates give a short presentation of the city and the exhibition halls, which many breeders already know.

The EE President thinks it is a good thing that a general European show can be organised again and hopes that it will be a success. If there are difficulties with poultry, the other sectors will be present.

More information will be available once the contract has been signed.

#### 15. Miscellaneous

Before closing today's Annual General Assembly, the president has a few more concerns:

"Time and again, we realise that not all the information you have received here is actually passed on. It is not helpful if you simply spend a few pleasant days here. Take the information you have received here to your associations, write a report in your association's newspaper and organise meetings of your associations. Be sure to support our advisory board in its endeavours to ensure that laws and regulations are suitable for small animals and respond to its questions. Visit www.entente-ee.eu regularly, where you will always receive the most important information.

Yes, our website is only as up to date as the information we receive from the sections. You have to invest some time if you want to keep it up to date.

Our membership administration is a perennial favourite, and it too is only as up to date as you keep it up to date. Dozens of e-mails are always returned because the address is incorrect, the person is no longer in office or has even died. Nobody is allowed to complain if they have not received a message. Then the address is incorrect.

I'll come to the end.

If there are delegates who are attending a meeting for the last time this year because they are stepping down from office, I would ask them to stand up now so that we can bid them a dignified farewell.

Once again, I would like to thank you for the numerous invitations to your events, which I accept if possible or pass on to a member of the Executive Committee. The earlier such invitations arrive, the greater the likelihood that a member of the Executive Committee will be able to attend. Such meetings are important, they promote mutual trust and also offer the opportunity for bilateral discussions.

And of course, I would also like to thank you very much for sending me your association magazines. I read them carefully, even though I don't understand every language. But I always enjoy the many beautiful pictures

Finally, I would like to ask if there are any objections to the conduct of the meeting or the organisation of the votes.

Let us now look forward to hopefully many and promising young animals, which I hope we will be able to show in the coming show season. May we be spared epidemics and other events that prevent us from showing. And please give some thought to the possibility of organising another European show in your country. There are no objections or comments to this General Assembly.

I will be stepping down from my position next year. I am pleased that a candidate is available, and his name is Hansjörg Opala, and I support him."

And now, on behalf of the Executive Committee, I wish you all the best, good luck in the henhouse, the bird aviary, the dovecote, the rabbitry and the Cavia enclosure and, above all, the best of health."

The 2024 General Assembly is closed.

**End of the Annual General Assembly: 12.38 pm** 

President:

Gion/Gross

General Secretary:

Jeannine Jehl