EMTC GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Saturday 2nd June 2012
9.30-18.00 at Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre
Tallinn, Estonia

Present: 25 member countries (including one observing member; Cyprus)
Apologies: Iceland, Hungary
Absent: Portugal

WELCOME AND OPENING
Hanne Mette Ridder (President) welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted the countries that have given apologies and those absent (see above). She confirmed that the authority to vote is given by the number of EMTC members present. Hanne Mette outlined the agenda for the General Assembly (Saturday and Sunday morning). Special attention will be given to the theme of recognition.
Action approved: It was approved that Tessa Watson would take the minutes for the meeting on Saturday and Adrienne on Sunday.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
The minutes of the EMTC General Assembly in 2011 were approved.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT
Hanne Mette spoke about the following areas;
Organisation

- The core board has regular email contact and conference meetings (mainly by Skype/phone).
- There has been a meeting in Brussels in February 2012 to meet with the accountant.
- There have been 4 newsletters since last GA.
- The change of official domicile was voted at the GA 2011 to the Accountant's address, and no longer at the past president's private address. After the Accountant's move in February 2012 the official address is **now Fiscamar SCRL, Klauwaartslaan 3, 1853-Bever,** Belgium (this information is on the website).
- The core board has been working on; operational documents, geographical division (this is not yet finalised), fees, online voting for hosting GA 2012 (NB voting for 2013 will take place in Oslo), and the website. A process with updating operational documents has started, with the newly updated ones to be found on SharePoint.
- The role of the country representative has been discussed. Hanne Mette outlined the role of the country representative (to be discussed later in the GA). According to the EMTC statutes, country representatives are appointed for 3 years. The tasks of the country representative relate to maintaining a continuous link with the EMTC and their national music therapy organisations. These include updating information, briefing at meetings, attending the GA and providing information as required. (Proposal for bylaws to be voted at GA 2013 in Annex).

Exchange
An efficient process of exchange is important between national associations, country representatives and the EMTC core board and board.

- One important mechanism for exchange is the website. The administrator is Philippe Lecocq, with webmasters Søren Hald (Denmark) and Kerstin Erdal (Norway). Thanks was given to Pieter van den Berg for the great amount of meticulous work that he undertook on the website.
- Pieter van den Berg is still administrator for SharePoint. All operational documents are found on SharePoint. If any country representatives have mislaid their codes, they should contact Adrienne Lerner.

- EMTR: Hanne Mette noted that the first registrations are completed and there are more registrations in process. There will be a reduced fee in 2012/2013. There will be a certificate given to those who have been accepted for registration.
- Member associations: there are currently 27 member countries. Portugal has not been in contact with the EMTC for the past 2 years. 4855 Music Therapists are represented by EMTC. New country representatives are Giorgos Tsiris (Greece), Magda Papadopoulou-Kantaris (Cyprus), Agnieszka Szymajda (Poland) and Albert Berman (the Netherlands).
  Hanne Mette asked that information about member associations be included on the website.

Focus themes for the Core Board

- These have been - ethics and professionalism, training programs, research, recognition and registration, ongoing learning, revision of procedures and bylaws, EMTR, and maintaining links with clinicians and the EMTC.
- The EMTC does not become involved in internal politics and dissension. The EMTC is involved in facilitating further development of the profession, and giving official support from EMTC to the relevant governmental body.
- **Future deadlines**. Firstly in Oslo 2013; the election for the new board (in the regions), and the core board (between all delegates). After election of a new Core Board, there will be no transition year as last time. This means that the new board will take over after election (but the former board members will of course be ready to clarify things if needed). The members of the present core board are willing to be elected for one more mandate. The process for selecting a new core board is as follows; members should discuss and network together, and produce a proposal for a new Core Board. The election is for a triumvirate and not for individual positions.
  Deadline for nominations for the EMTC award will be on May 31, 2013.
  Hosting the EMTC 2014 General Assembly: Deadline for applications May 31, 2013.

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT WAS APPROVED.

FINANCIAL REPORT (2011 + budget 2012)

The EMTC Treasurer, Ferdinando Suvini presented the financial report (included in Agenda sent to all CRs).

Ferdinando reported that there are 25 countries and 39 associations (19 of these countries have 1 association). As is in accordance with being an AISBL, the accountant had prepared the professional balance and that was sent to every CR before the GA. In 2011, the balance was 1,000 euros in credit. EMTC fees are noted separately from the EMTR applications. Ferdinando showed the accounts for the EMTC fees (NB details for Serbia to be added). The income this year from EMTC fees has been 4,718 euros. In 2012, the balance is 1,608 euros in credit. In total, the balance from all accounts is 5,218.64 euros in credit.

Gerben Roefs (Netherlands) asked how the surplus balance will be used, and was informed that there might be further expenses for the EMTR over the next year, until this will run independently. Esa Ala-Ruona (Finland) asked if this is enough money for the EMTC to carry out all its duties and was assured that it was. The criteria for the EMTC membership fee (1€/member) were queried. Hanne Mette explained that each country should report the number of therapists within their country on the web site in the new subsection called 'Member Associations'. In those associations where students (as well as pensioners, honouree members, etc.) are counted as members, the association then pays a membership fee for them as well. Associations may decide on the status of their students, but the number of members officially put on the website must be equivalent with the membership fees. Giorgos Tsiris (Greece) suggested that there could be a link on the website inviting people to donate money to the EMTC. Ilse Wolfram noted that the organisation is registered as a non-profit making organisation.

ACTION APPROVED: The Financial Report for 2011 and the budget for 2012 were approved.

REPORT FROM REGIONAL CO-ORDINATORS
Reports were given from the following regions:

- Northern region – Kerstin Erdal said that there was no special news.
- Middle region – Heidi Fausch. Heidi reported that there is a new association in Czech (CZMTA).
- Southern region – Stefano Navone. Stefano welcomed a new country representative (Giorgos Tsiris – Greece) and new associations (in Spain AAMT and ADIMTE). He noted that there is no news from Portugal. Cyprus has been admitted as an observer member until December 2012, represented by Magda Papadopoulo-Kantaris for CyMTA. Stefano has emailed all country representatives in Southern Europe regarding suggestions, ideas and opinions re projects, but has received no response.

BRIEF COUNTRY NEWS (see annex 1)
The following country reports were given:
Finland – Esa Ala-Ruona
Patricia Sabatella – Spain
Mirdza Paipare Latvia
Vilmante Aleksiene – Lithuania
Teodossi Tzinguilev - Bulgaria
Marketa Gerlichova – Czech Republic
Freya Drossaert - Belgium
Nicole Duperret - France
Agnieszka Szymajda - Poland
Isabelle Dartevelle-Toussaint – Luxemburg
Alice Pehk – Estonia
Melanie Voigt – Germany
Magda Papadopoulou-Kantaris - Cyprus
Spela Loti Knoll - Slovenia
Elena Fitzthum - Austria
Ranka Radulovia - Serbia
Tessa Watson – UK
Stefano Navone - Italy
Heidi Fausch – Switzerland
Rut Wallius – Sweden
Kirsten Erdal – Norway
Søren Hald – Denmark
Albert Berman – Netherlands
Giorgos Tsiris – Greece

The full country reports can be consulted on the EMTC Web Site (http://emtc-eu.com/country-reports/)

REPORT ON EMTR - Ilse Wolfram, Administrator EMTR
Ilse gave a thorough explanation of the EMTR process. The email address for applicants is emtr.application@emtc-eu.com. The email account is now up and running. Communication with the registration committee has been intermittent. Ilse described the documentation that she has developed, and spoke about the first few registrants who have been accepted.
Elena Fitzthum (Austria) and Ilse Wolfram (EMTR) are writing some more details about the EMTR; this will to be translated into English. Those applying must be a member of a national organisation that is, or is working towards becoming a member of EMTC. A certificate will be provided for EMTR registrants; there is discussion to be undertaken about the titles EMTR-BA and EMTR-MA as it is important that these are not misunderstood to be a training qualification.

There was a discussion, relating to the criteria, and the rationale for EMTR. Tessa Watson raised 3 points from the UK which she hoped would be helpful, having firstly noted great appreciation for the hard work undertaken by the EMTR committee:

- The criteria (as more countries become regulated, it is likely that we will need these to be looser and broader in order to accommodate differences in regulation). Tessa was interested if other countries also considered the criteria were too high? Eg, newly qualified MA Music Therapists in the UK would not meet these criteria.
- Countries with registration – a question for discussion; should these countries have a waiver to automatic membership of EMTR. This is because we wish to encourage the growth of the EMTR numbers as well as the number of Music Therapists who apply to the EMTR.
- The European working directive says that workers in Europe can work on an 'occasional and temporary basis' in any part of Europe. Members do not need registration with EMTR in order to work in other European countries, so the Register will gain more members if it is as attractive as possible.

ACTION APPROVED: For all members to consult with their associations and gain feedback about the EMTR and to send this to Hanne Mette.

OSLO 2013 CONFERENCE AND GA – Kirsten Erdal (Norway)

Kirsten presented the website for the 9th European Music Therapy Congress. The website address is; www.emtc2013.no. The dates are 7-10th August 2013. Kirsten noted that Norway is expensive, and she is trying to obtain the best value for money for the conference fee.

The Chair for the Conference will be Professor Brynjulf Stige, University of Bergen. The organising committee is Kristian Ulyses Andaur and Kerstin Dyblie Erdal. The Chair of the scientific committee is Professor Gro Trondalen, Norwegian Academy of Music.

Kirsten noted that due to the conference, a symposium is not possible, and therefore financial costs are high for the professional association (accommodation may be with some Music Therapists' families).

REPORT ON WEBSITE – Soren Hald (Denmark) and Kirsten Erdal (Norway)

The website has been changed from HTML to word template. Søren encouraged everyone to send news items to him and to Kirsten to keep this page current. Søren noted that some country representatives still need to provide information (eg. photos, contact details). Søren plans to add a Research link on the website to include information about current European research in music therapy.

Ranka Radulovic (Serbia) noted that there should be some clear guidance about what information can be put on the website. For example, currently there is information on the website about music therapy activities in Bosnia that has been posted by non-members of EMTC. It was suggested that only country representatives should submit information to Søren and Kirsten. Information can be screened by country representatives and discussed with Søren and Kirsten if queries arise. The idea of a donation link was noted again.

ACTION APPROVED: All to look at the website and note if there is any information that they need to send to Søoren and Kirsten to add to the website; this includes: Country Reports, Delegates, Training Courses and News items.

APPLICATIONS FOR EMTC EUROPEAN CONFERENCE 2016

Estonia will be interested in hosting a conference in the future, but at the moment, it is not the right time. Alice Pehk has advised that the Estonian application has therefore been withdrawn.

Austria (Elena Fitzthum) presented the Austrian proposal for the 10th European Music Therapy Conference. The suggested title is 'A Symphony of Dialogues', with the idea of dialogue between many professions and many different styles of music therapy. Elena outlined the ideas for the focus and the

program for the conference. She spoke about some of the facilities and accommodation available, and the organisations that would support the event. The proposed dates are 5-9th July 2016.

ACTION APPROVED: Voting took place, and it was agreed unanimously that the EMTC European Congress would be in Vienna, Austria in 2016. Thanks were given to Vienna and to Estonia for their work on their proposals.

There was a brief discussion about the WFMT and the fact that there had been no collaboration with the EMTC representative for Austria about the next World Congress (also to be held in Austria in 2014).

RECOGNITION – theme discussion
Brief summary from the meeting regarding recognition/registration from each country (annex 2).

It was concluded that it is useful to share documentation about the processes for regulation/registration across Europe. There appear to be 2 different types of regulation; recognition/registration for the

a) title, or
b) the association.

ACTION APPROVED: All to send Hanne Mette their reports on recognition. There will be an edition of the newsletter on recognition this year.

REGIONAL MEETINGS
Northern Europe – Regional Coordinator: Kerstin Erdal
This group discussed recognition, and suggested it was a good idea to have documents relating to this topic on the website. The EMTR was discussed. Some ideas debated were as follows; that criteria could be competency based (developed by looking at European course content), not by amount nor academically defined (eg BA/MA). A certificate of training could confirm ability to practice. EMTR (MT) and EMTR (Supervisor) were suggested as 2 categories that could be useful. It was discussed that the register does not have legal weight in individual countries or as a European entity, and therefore it is important that the register is attractive for members.

Middle Europe region – Regional Coordinator: Heidi Fausch
It was suggested that more could be included on the website regarding European events and conferences. Hanne Mette suggested that the link from the EMTC website to the Voices and Approaches sites could be used for this information, as well as the 'News' area on the EMTC website. Sharepoint can also be used for sharing this type of information. Heidi suggested the idea of having a poster presentation for each of the European countries to present the work of music therapy in each country (possibly at Oslo). There may, however, be issues related to the amount of space available. Kerstin suggested that a country representative for the EMTC could send in an abstract for a poster presentation for the EMTC for the Oslo 2013 conference. Heidi's group also discussed regions and are happy with their region's structure. Melanie Voigt (Germany) suggested that country reports could be sent out with the agenda order to allow the assembly members to read through and understand the issues for each country. Elena Fitzhum (Austria) suggested the idea of having a middle Europe conference.

Southern Europe region – Regional Coordinator: Stefano Navone
There were discussions about promoting contact between the different countries in this group. They decided unanimously to make a list of Journals of music therapy in existence in the countries of this group (scientific, with or without impact factor). Three of the members of this group have been collaborating in a working group. Ranka is going to collect materials that can be posted on the website, and will send these to Søren and Kerstin.

EMTC GENERAL ASSEMBLY
continued
Sunday June 3, 2012, 9.00-12.00

The meeting only began at 9:15. In 2013 we shall try to avoid late starts as there is always much to cover and we always feel that we did not have enough time together for discussions.

THE ROLE OF THE COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVE (Annex 3)
Presentation and discussion of the draft of revised guidelines for the country representatives (see annex 3). All CRs are asked to send their ideas, additions, and corrections to the Core Board. The finalized form of the guidelines will be voted at the GA in Oslo 2013 and added to the bylaws.

The attached draft (annex 3) is to be worked on over the coming year and to be voted for change as a change Bylaws in Oslo in 2013.

THE ROLE OF THE EMTC AT A NATIONAL LEVEL
The board has formulated a structure and basic information for a letter of support that can be sent from the EMTC if the CR and the organizations in the country runs a specific process for approval or establishment and needs support from outside the country.

WORKING GROUPS: Time was allotted for working in small groups and the groups were constituted for work over the next year using internet facilities and/or the SharePoint facilities.

Giorgos, participating for the first time at the GA asked for a description of the functioning of the working groups, as well as the differences and overlaps between working groups' and region groups' functioning.
The functioning of the EMTC is complicated and it is important for new CR's to have clear explanations of all aspects of the functioning.

1) **Eastern European Working Group** has been the most active over the past year.

Ranka presented a very complete report of the work done and will post this on the SharePoint. Thanks were expressed to Gerben and a welcome to Albert Berman who will remain in the EEWG.
Question: Do we need this group in EMTC? EE does not exist in the EMTC. It is important to think about the symbolic value of the group and its aim to harmonize relations. EEWG now has 10 members from different regions of EMTC. The group works to analyze existing conditions in national countries. It was very active 1st year but in 2011 and 2012 the activity has declined.
2012-2013: Goal, perhaps too ambitious is to establish an international journal.
Priorities: Experimental group that can motivate rest of EMTC.
Pictures of books in local language/ Appear on Web Site
Tasks and Timeline.
List of all associations and national websites. Improves faster exchange.
International exchange:
For those in ERASMUS program it is easier to be aware of the programs. EE is not part of ERASMUS and this information is not available.
It is important to develop exchange possibilities with more precise information about ways to apply to programs for international students.
Ranka spoke of a plan for an EE conference as it is too costly to have individual conferences in each country. This plan is perhaps premature.
The group is looking for Euro funding as EE has more access than other European countries.

2) **CPD** Heidi (Tessa), Freya, Alice, Patricia, Nicole.

3) **WebSite** (Søren and Kirsten)
4) **Research** (Research editor important to choose what is on the page) Link to Cochrane review, Marketa, Vilmante, Giorgos, Hanne Mette, Søren)
5) **Ethics** (Stefano, Elena, Adrienne, Spela, Agnieska)
6) **Presentation in Oslo on EMTC** (Rut and Ferdinando; Adrienne gave PowerPoint presentation from Vilnius)
7) **Recognition group and qualification for MT** (Magda**,** Melanie, Patricia, Giorgos)
8) **EEWG (**Ranka, Mirdza, Ranka, Albert, Spela, Marketa, Nicole, Agneska, Alice)

PLENARY SESSION Plenary Session 11h15-12h

Report on Working Group: Website by Søren (Hanne Mette, Marketa, Vilmante, Kerstin, Giorgos)
New Buttons to be added:

Button: 'Member Associations'
Bylaws are missing and will be there soon.
Button: 'Upcoming events' linked to resources that are updated recently. Not new data base
Button: 'Research'
Cochrane review – link to all the reviews on music therapy
Phd Dissertations list and links
Literature Resource and link to data base that exist

CALL FOR ALL TO SEND INFO TO SØREN AND KERSTIN

Report on Working Group: Ethics: Elena (Stefano, Adrienne, Spela, Agnieska).

Focus for future congresses.

Statement proposed on call for papers for the Oslo EMTC European conference as regards confidentiality. This sentence and idea be conveyed to organizing committee and scientific committee as they are the ones who choose.

During congress, privacy of clients is important to protect. Be aware when you submit proposals.
It is important to remind all participants that any personal reproduction of Congress presentation is not allowed. In work-shops, permission to photograph is accorded or refused by leader of group.

Emergency health situations: At all GA and EMTC Congress a person needs to delegated as a telephone contact available 24 hours/day and ready to accompany for medical or psychological emergencies.

These recommendations need to be included in organization guidelines.

Report on Working Group EEWG (10 former members) Ranka (Mirdza, Ranka, Albert, Spela, Marketa, Nicole, Agneska, Alice).
The rhythm of activity needs to be discussed. Group plans to compile a list of PhD in EE.
There are plans for contacts with non-Europe countries.
Fund-raising is also an area to be developed.
Søren: The banners of Member associations will be on the Web Site (Logos) send to Søren and Kerstin.

Report on Working Group CPD Freya, Heidi, Nicole, Alice: Regulation. A questionnaire will be sent with 2 questions to be answered by all:

Do regulations exist in member countries concerning CPD?
If yes, who regulates?
How has your regulation been done? This leaves room for expression.

Report on Working Group Oslo Conference Rut, Ferdinando: EMTC Presentation in Oslo.

A common EMTC poster with small paragraphs with facts and photo of country representatives.
Research fields: n° of members and training centers.
Short history: past, present and something about the future. What EMTC is today; each person has an impact. Present working groups and commission.

Discussion on recognition of the profession:
A Data base of minimum standards needs to be constructed. Look for articles as well.
Can the EMTC collaborate with Training programs and approved courses? This information must be sent to the
EMTR Commission which, in accordance with the EMTC statutes, has the possibility of decision making.
EMTR is connected with recognition of professional career and not the recognition of training completed.
Patricia reminds us that Training programs in universities are normally the same throughout Europe since the Bologna Agreement. On the other hand, private training courses are not controlled in the same way.

What is initial level of training?
In South America and USA, BA is initial level of training. In Europe, the initial level is a Master's level.

Feedback on new organization of countries for the regional meetings
This redistribution according to strict geographic considerations gives a balanced number of countries in each group. At the GA there were 8 countries in each group. If all CRs are present, there would be 9 members in each regional group.
Feedback: Spela prefers to be in Middle group. She explains that for her identity, the south is too far away.
Spela was the only CR that expressed reservations about the revised regional grouping but colleagues in the regional group gave consent to her wish.
This organization is part of the history of the EMTC and assures that there is a geographical division in the board and that membership matters are administered with "neighbor" countries.

Board is formed of the Core Board and 3 Regional Coordinators. Other ways are possible to think about the composition of the Board. Albert observes that the work is done in working groups.
Regional coordinators have closer contact with the CRs in their region and it is logical to have an equal number of countries in each region to facilitate the work of the coordinator.

In the coming year the EMTC will work with the following regional division:
Middle Region: Austria, Czech Rep., Belgium, Luxemburg, Switzerland, Germany, Netherlands, Poland, Hungary, Slovenia.
South Region: France, Greece, Serbia, Italy, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Spain, Portugal.
North Region: Latvia, Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Norway, UK, Lithuania, Estonia, Island.

GROUP PICTURES were taken to be posted on Web Site.

Sincere thanks and big applause were made to **Alice Peck** for a fantastic and extremely well-organized GA in Tallinn with excellent accommodation and fabulous and unforgettable meals.

Adrienne Lerner
Vice-President Secretary

ANNEX 1

BRIEF COUNTRY NEWS
The full country reports can be consulted on the EMTC Web Site (http://emtc-eu.com/country-reports/)

Finland – Esa Ala-Ruona reminded us about the upcoming Nordic Music Therapy conference taking place in June 2012. It will be international and of high quality. The Finnish Society for Music Therapy is growing, including student members. The FSMT has sent a letter and evidence to the Minister of Social and Health Affairs to apply for recognition as a Health Profession.

Patricia Sabatella – Spain
Patricia reported that for 5 years there have been 2 working groups looking at professional recognition. Several associations are working together on this issue. Some of the documents produced are guidelines for Music Therapy Postgraduate Training Programs (2008), Standards for Music Therapy in Spain (2009), and the Spanish Music Therapy Register (adapting the EMTR criteria to a national level – this was approved in 2010 and is now operational). In 2011 the Spain Commission of Music Therapy Accreditation was begun. The first calls for accreditation will start in June 2012. In 2011 an Ethical Code of Music Therapy was established. Patricia distributed a copy of the proceedings of the Cadiz conference to all EMTC members present.

Mirdza Paipare Latvia
This has been a significant year for Music Therapy with programs being approved at a higher level. Music Therapists are able to work in healthcare. Latvia has been working in collaboration with Germany.

Vilmante Aleksiene – Lithuania
The academy of musical theatre has hosted some credits in music and health for several courses (at BA level). This year the association has applied for money for a Joint International Music Therapy Master's program between Latvia and Lithuania. Regulation is on-going; in 2009 the project was prepared, based on the UK and Latvian documents.

Teodossi Tzinguilev - Bulgaria
Heidi Fausch's book on music therapy and psychodrama has been published in Bulgaria. Concerts and creative events have been held, including EMTC members presenting work. 8 new students have been accepted onto the new programme, and 12 students are certified to work under supervision. A national conference (November 9-11 2012) is planned, open to international presenters (with translation into English). The theme is theoretical and practical aspects of music therapy. The National Academy of Music has a Master's degree in Music Therapy; there are concerns regarding the amount of music therapy specific expertise available to students on this programme.

Marketa Gerlichova – Czech Republic
The 2 music therapy associations (CZMTA and CAMAD) are now merged into CZMTA (Czech Music Therapy Association). The number of members currently remains the same, but new members will be accepted and it is hoped that numbers will increase. There was an International Conference of Expressive Therapies which took place in March 2012 at Palackeho University in Olomouc. There have been difficulties between the CZMTA and MAUT (Moravian Association of Expressive Therapies) associations regarding recognition of the profession, with MAUT trying to rank music therapy as "services". CZMTA together with other institutions and universities sent letters of protest to relevant ministries and they succeeded. The programme for Music Therapy at Charles University in Prague will lengthen from 2 years to 3 years next year. Open Space 2013 conference will take place in Prague – all welcome.

Freya Drossaert - Belgium
The professional association has a new Chair (Freya). The professional association website has been renewed and it is currently work in progress. The ethics commission has been up-dated; it will monitor the complaints procedure. Music Therapy training in Leuven is working well, 6-8 students graduate each year.

The training received recognition for being the best training in the general field of music education. Further new research has been set up concerning music therapy and personality disorders.

Nicole Duperret - France
The members of the French Music Federation are working towards recognition for Music Therapy. All members are urged to become members of the FMF to help this process. It is hoped that the French government will speak with the association when there are enough members. It is hoped that a new doctorate programme will be approved in 2013. There were several conference and study days in 2012.

Agnieszka Szymajda - Poland
There are 2 associations in Poland that represent professional Music Therapists. There is a research journal and the association is also publishing books in collaboration with the academy. The National Council for Music Therapy works to establish professional standards for Music Therapists. In October 2011 there was a forum for Music Therapy, celebrating the 15th anniversary of the association. There will be another forum in March 2013.

Isabelle Dartevelle-Toussaint – Luxemburg
The register is operational since February 2012, together with Art Therapists. A meeting is prepared with the minister. A congress is organised for March 2013.

Alice Pehk – Estonia
Alice began by thanking the speakers at the symposium. She noted the importance of this event for Estonia and showed those present a newspaper article. A new advanced level course will start next autumn.

Melanie Voigt – Germany
Germany is also working towards qualification. The largest organisation has established criteria for qualifying music therapists, and equivalency is being discussed. A national register is planned. One course is being closed (Frankfurt) due to financial reasons.

Magda Papadopoulou-Kantaris - Cyprus
Magda reported that Cyprus has a small association. The focus for Cyprus has been to create new jobs, for a small association of 16 members. A new association was formed in 2010, with proposals for legislation put forward to the parliament body.

Spela Loti Knoll - Slovenia
Slovenia has a new board with a new president, with different areas for Art, Music, Dance and Drama. There was recently a symposium with the topic of cultural issues, with 40+ participants. The next symposium is planned soon. A new MA in Arts in Health will start. The financial situation for music therapy in Slovenia is challenging at the moment.

Elena Fitzthum - Austria
The Austrian Music Therapy law has now been in effect for nearly 3 years. Associations work with the ministry of health and are currently working on Ethics. There are 2 new BA training courses, and the contact between the training courses is good. The ninth book of the series “Viennese Contributions to Music Therapy” was published this year.

Ranka Radulovia - Serbia
New music therapists are approaching their final examinations, it has been financially challenging for them to train. Music Therapy has been recognised since 2008 as a health service for the Republic Health Insurance Fund – however some people are working as Music Therapists despite having no training. Lobbying is continuing to the government. Ranka asked for a letter of support from EMTC regarding this issue.

Tessa Watson – UK

The new association, launched last year, has continued to develop its work with a new website. BAMT has continued to work with the department of health and other government organisations. The recession has affected some posts and BAMT is working to provide a strong service to members. Members were required to undergo an audit for their Continuing Professional Development in 2012 (regulated by the Health Professions Council). Music Therapists in the UK continue to miss Tony Wigram greatly, and there are memorial events planned for 2012 and 2013.

Stefano Navone - Italy

There is a draft law in recognition of Professional Associations, currently not recognized in Italy, including those dealing the protection and the professional quality of music therapists; this draft law represents a step toward professional recognition. The AIM has also worked extensively on writing a draft law for the recognition of the role of the Music Therapist (training and application). There is considerable interest from government members. There have been a number of conferences and more planned for the future.

Heidi Fausch – Switzerland

All training courses are running well, and there are possibilities for advanced study (in different languages). Heidi described the EMR, and explained that there is also recognition through the professional association. There are new publications. There is a new President for the professional association.

Rut Wallius – Sweden

There have been 3 music therapy training programs, but only one remains (located in Stockholm). There are other private GIM training courses. 2 doctoral dissertations have been submitted. There are 3 music therapy associations in Sweden, and a recently started professional organisation for psychodynamic music therapists.

Kirsten Erdal – Norway

Training courses are running well, with full intake. There have been conferences organised this year, and some work on recognition.

Søren Hald – Denmark

Søren reported that Alborg University were missing Tony Wigram, and that several music therapists were working with the University to take on his role. Few students have applied for the training course but there is another round of applications before the deadline. The Danish Music Therapy journal is going well. The association has hired a communication expert to advise on registration; his advice has been to increase knowledge.

Albert Berman – Netherlands

Albert was welcomed as the new Country Representative for the Netherlands. He is the Chair of the professional association. There has been a symposium in March with workshops and lectures, and another day focusing on the recession and the impact on jobs. The association has been publicising music therapy, having had several items on the radio etc. There are 5 PhD students and research is beginning to grow.

Giorgos Tsiris – Greece

Giorgos was welcomed as the new Country Representative for Greece. Giorgos is living and working in the UK at the moment but he is heavily involved in the life of Music Therapy in Greece, and is the founder of the Greek journal, Approaches. The proceedings of the Greek conference (2008) have been published. The website has been updated and will be translated into English. Other conferences/events are planned for the forthcoming year. The financial situation in Greece is difficult, with job cuts (23 out of the 33 members have not paid their subscription to the professional association). The code of practice for the EMTC is being translated into Greek, and professional recognition is being sought, however this is likely to be a lengthy job given the economic situation.

(*Anna Fekete – Hungary.* See ANNEX 4**)**

ANNEX 2

RECOGNITION – theme discussion
Brief summary from the meeting regarding recognition/registration from each country:

Information from United Kingdom regarding registration. In 1996 State registration of Music Therapists was formally ratified in Parliament; meaning that only Music Therapists having qualified on one of the approved training courses can be registered. This meant that the title became protected by law. At the time, the process was that professions had to work with the Department of Health to show they were ready to apply for state registration. Once evidence was collected that promoted their efficacy as a health profession, apply to the Health Professions Council (http://www.hpc-uk.org/), and once accepted would wait for formal parliamentary ratification. Once this was done, they would become State Registered. The whole process could take several years and involved much work for senior members of the profession.

More recently the HPC considered applications for entry to the 'Statutory Register'; once agreed by the HPC these were submitted to parliament. However, now the HPC will not accept any more professions applying for entry to the Statutory Register. This is because it is likely that the HPC will change to become the HCPC – the Health and Care Professions Council, in the near future. There will be a Voluntary Register instead of a Statutory Register. This change is linked to changes in government.

Information from Austria regarding registration. Registration was gained in 2009, and formally ratified in parliament. This meant that the title became protected by law. The association (OBM) works with the Ministry of Health to maintain ethics. The register of Music Therapists is kept in the Ministry of Health. The Austrian Association works closely with the Ministry of Health on issues relating to Music Therapy training and practice. In Austria, Music Therapy training courses have to fulfil the standard of the law.

Information from Serbia regarding registration. The Serbian Association of Music Therapists of Serbia is registered by the Ministry of State Administration and Self Administration, and the Agency for Business Registries. In order to become registered the Music Therapists had to write by-laws and other documents. In order to register with the SAMT, Music Therapists in Serbia must have a BA degree, and then undertake the Postgraduate Music Therapy training course (4 years). Ranka explained that because in Serbia Music Therapists are not 'health practitioners' they cannot work in hospital or care settings with ill or disabled people (but can work in counselling/therapy centres). The Association is working to change this.

Information from Latvia regarding registration. Latvia has a law to protect Arts Therapists (including Music Therapists), established in 2009. There is a complicated history around this process which was shared at the meeting. Money from health insurance can be used to pay for music therapy.

Information from Norway regarding registration. Norway has sent a document to the Government to start the process of regulation.

Information from Sweden regarding registration. Sweden has sent a document to the Government to start the process of regulation.

Information from Lithuania regarding registration. In Lithuania, in order to start a training program, there has to be recognition, but there cannot be a training program without recognition. It is therefore difficult to move forward.

Information from Denmark regarding registration. Denmark has been advised to spread the word about music therapy to potential supporters. There is also work being done at University level.

Information from Spain/Finland/Greece/Netherlands regarding registration. This group discussed the consequences of having/not having registration (e.g. issues relating to private practice; the tax office does not recognize the profession of music therapy, and salary negotiation). Finland collected some statistical information about clinical sessions and suggests that this is useful in making an argument for registration.

Information from Poland regarding registration. There is a project that has been put before parliament. Previously there was a group of professors of music therapy. In 2011 there was a forum and from this, information went to parliament. There is a small paragraph in law which regulates music therapy in psychiatry, but Poland wishes to have recognition across all areas.

Information from Luxemburg regarding registration. A formal presentation has been made to the Ministry of Family with other Arts Therapists. They have been told that they do not need a special accreditation to work in this area. They will now approach the Ministry of Health. Some contracts with the Ministry of Education are now being offered to Music Therapists. They have a register, but are not pursuing a law at the moment.

Information from Estonia regarding registration. Creative arts therapists reached the final stage of registration. This is mainly for students who are taking BA or MA studies. They will be Creative Arts Therapists/Music Therapists. Music Therapists are working for the registration of music therapy as a profession. Alice noted that she works privately as a Music Therapist and charges under "other health care professions".

Information from Germany regarding registration. There is private and university training. Other institutions also provide short training courses, and this is a source of concern. It is hoped that equivalency will be developed. There are different associations in Germany and some register Music Therapists. A voluntary national register is planned. A professional profile for creative therapists is being developed.

Information from France regarding registration. There is a training that is recognised but the title is not. The French Federation of Music Therapy, grouping the 4 recognized training programs has a register and is working actively towards government recognition.

Information from Cyprus regarding registration. An association has been formed and they are working on a proposal for parliament.

Information from Slovenia regarding registration. There is recognition as Arts Therapists as a health profession but this does not always result in payment for services. There is some concern about the quality of the therapeutic work undertaken.

Information from Italy regarding registration. There is approval under Camera law for the professional association for music therapy. This gives a kind of recognition for Music Therapists.

Information from Czech Republic regarding registration. The MT profession has not yet been recognized. Practising music therapists must have studied another recognized speciality, such as a psychologist, speech therapist, or a physiotherapist. The process of recognition has started with the Moravian Association of Expressive Therapies (MAUT) who arranged co-operation with the Ministry of Education in the situation of the emerging National Framework of Profession Qualifications, which is supposed to establish a definition of the profession of a music and art therapist. The head of MAUT promised the Ministry to co-operate with a wide range of Czech music therapists. However, the advisory board did not include any respected Czech music or art therapists. The Music Therapy Association of the Czech Republic and the Association of Art Therapy of the Czech Republic wrote an official protest and sent it to three Ministries. Many universities, colleges and important culture institutions joined our protest. In the previous weeks, we received positive responses from the ministries and the work of the advisory board was stopped. They share our concerns for improving the quality of the education in the Czech Republic. Currently, our main effort is to guarantee the level of the profession by university education. We are forming a new advisory board. However, our work is complicated by many lawsuits that Akademie Alternativa, MAUT and people around them are initiating against CZMTA as well as all organizations involved, including universities, suing them for lost profits, slander and many other things. In the process, we have been supported by many international organizations. Thank you very much for your support.

Information from Belgium regarding registration. The music therapy Master training course is recognised, but the title is not, nor is the profession legally regulated. Mixed feelings exist about recognition: protection is good, but there is a fear of losing therapeutic freedom. Currently a new attempt is made: the Ministry of Healthcare and the national insurance body are contacted in order to gain up-to-date information on the course of the procedure, since things got blurry because of the Belgian governmental crisis. Discussions on the regulation of psychotherapy in Belgium are also taking place, which might be interesting for music therapists to take part in. Unfortunately it is not easy to be allowed to take part.

ANNEX 3
ROLE OF THE COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVE

The country representative must be a trained music therapist, whose role is to maintain continuous contact between the EMTC and the national music therapy organizations. This includes the following tasks:

- To share pertinent national information with the EMTC on the WebSite, on the internal SharePoint and at the EMTC General Assemblies.
- To assure that all official EMTC news and any relevant information about music therapy in Europe is transmitted at a national level to members.
- To assure that any EMTC papers, questionnaires, and requests to pay annual dues are distributed and returned.
- To work actively to influence the country standards to the EMTC level of practice.

Giorgos: When the CR is not part of the country's association Executive Committee (as it happens, for example, in Greece), communication between EMTC and association members may take longer and be more complex. Giorgos sends information to the Executive Committee. It seems that many CRs are in fact members of Board/Executive Committee. This has both advantages and disadvantages.
Rut: "Does EMTC level of practice refer to the EMTR or to the ethics code? A more precise definition may be important.
HM emphasizes the fact that the Bylaws need to be stable and cannot be changed every year.

- To be aware of information relevant to the profession (research, publications recognition) and to facilitate exchange.

Specific tasks that Country delegates needs to assure:

- Present short country report at the annual EMTC GA
- Answer e-mails within a week.
- Presence and punctuality at General Assembly meetings.
- Update on EMTC site any changes in national country.
- Participate actively in a working group during the months between the annual GA
- Send approved minutes from GA to all member associations in the country

Even if the minutes are long (10 pages), the information is relevant to share as the associations pay their dues and are entitled to have feedback. Gerben reminds GA that the minutes are only sent out AFTER internal approval but as rapidly as possible.

The CR is elected for a three year period. It is crucial for the EMTC functioning that the CR accepts the principle of continuity and attendance at the annual EMTC GA

Signature of election for delegate: annually or send scanned copy for the 3 years?
Giorgos: Transition period. How to coordinate the change of CR?
Heidi: Every country must facilitate this change in the best way possible.
Patricia: CR needs to send short summary in national language for those members who do not understand English.

ANNEX 4 Mail from Anna Fekete

Dear Colleagues,
This is just a short note to send my love to you to Tallinn and to wish you a very nice, very useful and very enjoyable GA. :-) Unfortunately, I cannot be there with you this time and cannot represent my colleagues from Hungary either, but I do hope that by next year my/our situation turns a little better and I will be able to make it to Oslo. I am hereby attaching a short state-of-art report about our country. It is not a very happy little piece to read, I am afraid, but that's what we have.

Music Therapy in Hungary. State-of-the-Art Report, 2012

The situation for music therapy in Hungary is very difficult at the moment. In fact, the whole profession is fighting for sheer survival.

The economical, financial, and international political situation is extremely severe at the moment in Hungary. The country is being under an unprecedented international pressure to reduce expenditure in all areas - mainly government financed areas - of life. This means a drastic, internationationally enforced reduction of finances in both the health-care system and in education.

For our profession this means, that thousands of medical doctors, nurses, psychologists, university professors etc. have already left the country and thousands of others will be forced to do so in the next few years. This is partly because their jobs have been removed, partly because the general salary of all these professions (ca. 300,- Euros per month [three hundred Euros per month] with our daily-life-prices equalling, sometimes even surpassing normal European averages) does not make it possible for them to make a living. Music therapists earn even less.
Hospitals are being closed down, costs are reduced at all levels, the personell is reduced everywhere to a bare minimum - consequently jobs for music therapists have also become a rarity.

As regards the professional training courses, the situation is similar. The training course at the University of Pécs has terminated two years ago - partly for financial, partly for personal and professional reasons. On the training course at the ELTE University in Budapest the last course finished in 2011 - there have been only two so far, so this was the second one. Ever since it has not been possible to open a new course. One of the reasons is that most applicants cannot afford the tuition fees. Also, for economical reasons and the international pressure mentioned above, financial reductions have swept over and devastated the whole education system as well. Thousands of university jobs have been eliminated - alone at the ELTE University in Budapest 1200 jobs have been cancelled. This means, that in the foreseeable future no money will be available for music therapy courses either. This can only be solved by raising the tuition fees, but they are already too high for most applicants to pay.
So, at the moment there are no music therapy training programs running in the whole country. Unfortunately, the official accreditation of the program is running out this year, the re-accreditation is extremely expensive, so it is possible that the ELTE University will not be able to finance the re-accreditation procedure and the training program cannot be offered any longer.

Efforts have been made to raise the standard of the music therapy training program of the ELTE University from "post-graduate" level to "MA", but the conditions are such that this plan does not seem possible for many years to come.

Katalin Urban Varga, the chair-person of the Hungarian Society for Music Therapy and the director/coordinator of the training program at ELTE University is retiring this year. There are so far no applicants for any of the two positions. At the University, her post will be most likely cancelled. The future of the Society is unclear at the moment.