EMTC GENERAL ASSEMBLY
At Maison d'accueil, Luxembourg

Saturday 17th May 2014
9.00am – 17.30pm

Present: Dr. Elena Fitzthum, *Austria*, Freya Drossaert, *Belgium*, Marketa Gerlichova, *Czech Republic*, Magda Papadopulu-Kantaris, *Cyprus*, Signe Dalgaard-Nielsen, *Denmark*, Dr. Alice Pehk, *Estonia*, Dr. Esa Ala Ruona, *Finland*, Dr. Nicole Duperret, *France*, Dr. Melanie Voigt, *Germany*, Christina Kalliodi, *Greece*, Elide Scarlata, *Italy*, Dzintra Zarina, *Latvia*, Dr. Vilmante Aleksiene, *Lithuania*, Marianne Wiltgen-Sanavia, *Luxemburg*, Ingeborg Neblung, *Norway*, Agnieszka Szymajda, *Poland*, Dr. Teresa Leite, *Portugal*, Dr. Ranka Radulovic, *Serbia*, Dr. Eva Kralova, *Slovakia*, Dr. Melissa Mercadal-Brotons, *Spain*, Rut Wallius, *Sweden*, Bettina Kandé, *Switzerland*, Albert Berman, *The Netherlands*, Tessa Watson, *United Kingdom*, Dr. Hanne Mette Ridder, president, Dr. Adrienne Lerner, vice-president general secretary, Ferdinando Suvini, vice-president treasurer.
Apologies: Bettina Kande-Staehelin (Switzerland), Dr Valgerdur Jonsdottir (Iceland)

1) WELCOME AND OPENING

Dr Hanne-Mette Ridder (President of EMTC) welcomed all to the meeting and declared the assembly open.
Action approved: It was approved that Tessa Watson would take the minutes for the meeting.

Approval of minutes
The minutes of the meeting in Oslo 2013 are on the website.
Action approved: These minutes were officially approved.

2) PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hanne-Mette Ridder (President) presented the President's report which included the following information:
Board activities 2013-2014

- Keeping the 'machine' running (running smoothly now, in contrast to our first term)
- Administration and organisation
- Member issues
- Activities (Vienna – 2016)
- Financial matters (Brussels)
- Developing and expanding
- Exchange; all newsletters are now on the website. They give information from EMTC and also allow you, as country representatives to share information; a two way exchange)
- Visibility (website)

- EMTR

The Board, during the next term will be develop and work further on these issues and tasks.

Tasks and roles in EMTC
Contact with national associations – to allow contact with each member, to mediate communication from EMTC to members, to share information, to support the work of the EMTC and the country representatives.

Country representatives
Play an active role through email exchange and at the GA, mediate collaboration through networking and working groups, discuss issues of relevance to EMTC, and take part in decision making at GA.

Board
Synthesize and filter information, maintain the organisation and structure of the EMTC, execute decisions, and promote a collaborative atmosphere.

Website
Bettina Kande-Staehelin (Switzerland) has been working hard on the website and there was a formal vote of thanks to her for this. Philippe Le Cocq is the paid website manager. Please send any additions to the website **to Ingeborg Neblung (Norway) and Soren Hald**. Please send general ideas about **developing the website to the core board and Bettina.** It is hoped that the website will continue to develop and that we will have more country representatives who are able to update information.

Sharepoint
Sharepoint is now closed down. The aim is to find a new system for internal sharing of information between country representatives. The requirements are as follows:

- Easily accessible
- Minimum of administration
- A forum for sharing information between CRs (eg not an archive)
- A forum for discussion
- A facebook group is a possibility

EMTR
Rut Wallius (Sweden) is the EMTR co-ordinator (she has taken over from Ilse Wolfram, who was thanked for her work). There will be new members on the EMTR commission (Melissa Broton, Spain, who was welcomed to the commission and 2 other applications in progress). In Oslo 2013 it was agreed that the registration procedure should change, and the categories will also change (eg the titles BA and MA will be deleted). This item is on the agenda for later in the GA.

Members associations

There are currently 28 member countries and 42 member associations, representing approximately 5,400 music therapists. This has risen from 4,268 in 2011, 4,726 in 2012 and 5,101 in 2013). There are new country representatives for Denmark (Signe Dalsgaard, replacing Soren Hald), Greece (Evangelia Papanikolaou, represented this weekend by Christina Kalliodi, replacing Giorgos Tsiris), and Norway (Ingeborg Neblung, replacing Kirsten Erdal).

Meetings

- A meeting was held relating to the situation in Israel. Hanne-Mette was pleased to inform the GA that Tali Gottfreid has been officially elected as the country representative, supported by the Israeli association, after Israel submits an official request to the EMTC.
- There has been a meeting with Monica Geretsegger and Christian Gold to discuss the possibility that the Vienna 2016 conference proceedings can be published in the Nordic Journal of Music Therapy
- There has been a meeting with the Australian association (president Felicity Baker and president elect Grace Thomson). This was helpful to think about the broader context for the EMTC.

Focus themes for EMTC

- Recognition – working towards accredited and recognised training programmes. There is likely to be a special issue of *Approaches* (Editor, Hanne-Mette Ridder and Giorgos Tsiris) about recognition
- Sharing – internal and external
- Collaborating over a definition of music therapy on the EMTC website
- Signing our own Schengen agreement about open borders between music therapists in Europe

Future dates and deadlines

- **June 1st 2014** – country representatives to update country information and country representative information, including music therapy definitions and photos
- **June 1st, September 1st, December 1st, March 1st** – deadline for mailing information to the core board to share in newsletters
- **January 31st 2015** – payment of fee for EMTC membership ***please liaise actively with your professional association/s to ensure that this is paid on time!***
- **May 15-17th 2015 GA** (dates to be confirmed)
- **May 4th, 2015** statement of intent to the core board if your country is interested in hosting GA 2017
- **4th April 2016 –** Proposals for next core board team.

3) Financial report 2013/2014 – presented by Ferdinando Suvini, Treasurer

- The financial report was sent together with the agenda 3 weeks before the GA.
- Ferdinando presented information relating to country fees and numbers of music therapists (available on the EMTC website). Ferdinando encouraged CRs to ensure that

their country fees are paid promptly to EMTC. **In 2015 all fees must be paid by bank transfer**

- Expenses for the core board (for Brussels 2013, Oslo 2013), and EMTC website, poster and other administration costs were presented and explained. The current EMTC balance is more than 10,000 Euros.
- The EMTR costs are kept separate. The balance for 2013 is euro 582,01, however with extra cost in 2014 related to meetings in Brussels (travel expenses for Rut Wallius) and accommodation for one extra night for 4 EMTR commission members in Luxembourg.
- Projected costs for income and expenses for EMTC for 2014-15 were provided.

Questions

There was time for questions from country representatives about these two reports. Christina Kalliodi (Greece) asked about the definitions of music therapy; what was wanted and needed. Hanne Mette (President) advised that this would be a long process and as a first step, definitions were requested from each country to be added to the country information (please include precise information concerning the definition such as author, approval by national association, etc.). For example is the definition from your professional association, or is it taken from a published work such as Bruscia, in which case also give the date of publication.

It was clarified that **Ingeborg Neblung (Norway) and Soren Hald should be contacted to correct mistakes on the website relating to individual countries.**

Action approved: The president's report was unanimously approved and a round of applause was made in grateful thanks of the work of the President, Hanne-Mette Ridder and the core board.
Action approved: The Treasurer's report was unanimously approved and a round of applause was made in grateful appreciation of the work of the Treasurer, Ferdinando Suvini.
Action approved: Melissa Broton was approved as the new member of the EMTR commission.

4) REPORTS FROM REGIONAL CO-ORDINATORS

Northern Europe – Alice Pehk (Estonia)

There are 9 member countries, Norway, Denmark, Finland, Sweden, Iceland, Latvia, UK, Estonia, Lithuania. Alice welcomed the new country representatives. Some important issues for this region are as follows;

- Authorisation versus legitimisation
- The relationship between creative arts therapists and music therapists
- The policy concerning VAT in private practice
- The establishment of more formalised co-operation between the Nordic countries

Middle Europe – Elena Fitzthum (Austria)

There are 10 countries in this region. In the last period 2 or 3 countries had difficulties, and Slovenia and Slovakia are not currently involved in EMTC. It has been difficult to contact these 2 countries. Marketa Gerlichova (Czech Republic) will assist in this process.

Southern Europe – Ranka Radulovic (Serbia)

There are 8 countries in this region. The tasks of this region set in Oslo 2013 were as follows:

- Collecting documents
- National presentation on EMTC website
- EMTR presentation on the national websites
- List of priorities for 1 year and 3 years
- Establishing an umbrella association (Italy and Spain)
- Establishing rulebook for education
- Establishing rulebook of MT activities
- Establishing national register of professional music therapists

Some of these aims have been met and others are ongoing. Ranka Radulovic (Serbia) presented a table of results with a 'traffic light' system for finished/unfinished or missing information.

BRIEF COUNTRY NEWS

FINLAND – Esa Ala-Ruona

Negotiations with the authorities around authorisation continue. Finland is seeking the professional title Music Therapist (within the health care professions). Considerable funds have been needed and the process has not yet succeeded. They have made an official complaint that the ministry are not processing the request correctly. The association is using every possible pathway to pursue this (approaches to ministries, through legal process, private contacts and media). There are very dynamic working groups within the professional association. The international Masters programme is going well (with trainees from 19 different countries all over the world).

SWEDEN - Rut Wallis

In 2012 the SAM (Swedish Academic Music Therapists) began to request professional registration. The request was rejected in 2013 with the reason that there was no need for more professional registration in Sweden. SAM has decided to work towards authorisation instead. This could be a good way forward. The national board of health and welfare includes 2 recommendations for music therapy (palliative care and schizophrenia). Since January 2014 music therapy is also visible within the health care system classification code.

ITALY – Elide Scarlata

The process of recognition is ongoing. Ministers of health are working with the associations on this, discussing a law that will recognise music therapy. There are 4 associations that are members of EMTC. Elide is striving for unification of these associations and has been able to arrange several meetings. The 4 associations have discussed a possible constitution, and three of the four are in agreement with this.

NORWAY – Ingeborg Neblung

Norway hosted the European music therapy congress in August 2013, which was a great success, and there was good collaboration between the 2 universities in Norway. There are 384 members in the association in Norway. The important issue this year has been the legitimisation of music therapy. An application was written to the health department, documenting the history and

training. Despite this, legitimisation was denied, and an appeal has been sent. There is a new chair of the association.

ESTONIA – Alice Pehk
There is much co-operation in Estonia and the professional association provides training/meeting days. The association is still working on recognition, this has been a long and complicated process. As part of this the association is working with creative arts therapists and there has been much discussion about how these can be brought together. On 26th May there is a music therapy information day for those interested in music therapy including people who are involved in the legal area to help with recognition.

LATVIA – Dzintra Zarina
Music therapy is doing well in Latvia. The profession is recognised and there are 2 universities training music therapists. There are new publications and articles. A summer school ran in 2013 and included professionals from related fields.

LITHUANIA – Vilmante Aleksiene
On May 15th the final version of the recommendation documents for Arts Therapists as professional groups was agreed by the Minister of Health. It is hoped that this will be finalised at the end of May. There have been some objections from the Art Therapy association (which covers all creative arts). The training courses are established. Unfortunately the planned project with Latvia has not been possible.

POLAND – Agnieska Szymajda
The issue of recognition is of concern in Poland, and the association is working on standards for certification. Trainings are at BA and MA level. The new board of music therapists association organised a one day seminar for psychologists, physiotherapists, and a future conference is planned. In 2016 Wroclaw will be European capital of culture and a music therapy conference is planned.

PORTUGAL – Teresa Leite
In Portugal the training programmes are growing and there is an increase in the institutions that have music therapists working with them. In this way the idea of music therapy is growing. The professional association hopes to make more contacts in the north of Portugal. An annual conference and a series of seminars will take place.

SPAIN – Melissa Broton
There are many music therapists working in different areas (some working collaboratively with other professions) but not many full time jobs. There are training programmes in universities and in private institutions. The association is beginning to think about minimum standards for training programmes. There are some people with a PhD in music therapy (who may not be music therapists). There are 26 associations in Spain. They have different objectives (some to do with

promotion, some to do with jobs). 10 are members of EMTC. The registration process has started. There will be a congress in 2014.

NETHERLANDS - Albert Berman
The second music therapy day took place with a theme (music, language of the heart). Workshops and events took place around the country. A private sponsor will provide money for the next 3 years to promote music therapy, including development of the website. Netherlands promote music therapy through the idea that 'music promotes health' and that music therapists are the specialists in this area.

DENMARK – Signe Dalgaard
The authorisation process is ongoing. The client groups chosen as examples of music therapy practice are autism, dementia and schizophrenia. The music therapy programme at Aalborg has done a lot of PR for these studies (and perhaps as a result applicants are increasing). Members chose a new name for the association last year and this required approval from the workers' union. This is still ongoing, and work on a new logo and website is also ongoing. There was a conference in Spring.

CZECH REPUBLIC – Marketa Gerlichova
In Czech music therapists work in different settings but are not recognised as a profession. Therefore music therapists often take another training first (eg physiotherapy). The association is working with the ministry of health and hope that it will be possible to work in social services. There are 3 music therapy associations - 230 members in total. Marketa has published a book of case studies in music therapy.

GREECE – Christina Kalliodi (representing Evangelia Papanikolaou)
The economic situation has been difficult and it has been hard to energise members, but the association continues to encourage. There will be a book published in the next few months about Arts Therapies by the University of Athens, and members are contributing chapters to this. It is hoped that there will be a music therapy day or a conference in the future. Recognition is difficult in Greece as the government appears not to be interested in this (or in recognition for other professions). The association is planning a new website and a code of ethics, and may bid to host the GA in 2017.

HUNGARY – Anges Vassne Varga (representing Anna Fekete)
There are 2 main training centres and each has its own association. Communication between the associations is not interactive but is improving. In the future a MA training may be developed. The profession of music therapy is not recognised in Hungary and the association is working slowly towards this. A new website is planned to be both inwards (members) and outward (public) facing.

LUXEMBOURG – Marianne Wiltgen
The association has been working hard on the EMTC GA. There is one association in Luxembourg which is now10 years old. There are recently new board members on the association. The

association offers some training (eg in supervision). Marianne recommends the experience of hosting the GA as a positive experience to promote music therapy – for example there have been interviews on television and radio, and 4 politicians attending the reception. Art and music therapists are working together to define their professions for the process of recognition, and are optimistic about this.

AUSTRIA – Elena Fitzthum
A PhD training course has started in the University of Vienna. A series of lectures has begun each Friday and this is open to the whole university and association. A book has been published from these lectures. There are 2 associations in Austria. Music therapy is recognised in Austria and national guidelines are nearly completed. The associations are looking at how to get music therapy funded by health insurance, and to work on VAT exemption for music therapists.

SERBIA – Ranka Radulovic
Music therapy is recognised as a medical service but not as a separate profession (this can lead to abuse of the practice by, for example, medics). The association is looking to collaborate with other Universities. There a new executive committee. Working groups will continue. There is a new government in Serbia and this has made a difference to regulation etc.

BELGIUM –
The training has amalgamated with the University of Leuven and this has brought benefits. There will be 25 students per year. Music therapy research is developing with new PhD students starting each year. Some financial support for a research project has come from an organisation that funds research in architecture and the arts (Jos de Backer is managing this). There is a new law involving psychology/psychotherapists and it is not yet clear what impact this will have on music therapy. Attempts to be in touch with government regarding recognition have been slow due to the elections in Belgium. Jos de Backer and Julie Sutton will publish a book soon titled The Music in Music Therapy.

FRANCE – Nicole Duperret
The core board of the association meets each month in Paris. They have been working hard on documents that will be presented to public bodies in the pursuit of recognition. Not all music therapists in France belong to the professional association although they are practicing music therapy. Some of these therapists have been trained in private programs not members of French Federation.

BULGARIA – Lilya Ahtarova
Music therapy is not a recognised profession. There is 1 association, with a new board. There is a new chairperson, and Lilya is one of the 3 board members. They took part in the 5th national conference of the psychotherapy association to promote music therapy (Lilya provided a workshop). The board have also been working on education and training of music therapists. There is a MA training programme but this does not yet have a thorough programme of practical work.

GERMANY – Melanie Voigt
The national register of music therapists is now published on the website (music therapists registered with the 4 national associations). Music therapists can choose to have their details published. There is 1 BA programme at the moment but 2 more are in development. 8 institutions have 9 Masters training programmes. There are 6 private courses who have a minimal content in their training.

UNITED KINGDOM – Tessa Watson
Music therapy in the UK is registered and regulated by the Health and Care Professions council (HCPC). Continuing professional development (CPD) for UK therapists is also monitored by HCPC. Every two years 2.5% of registrants are selected for audit at the time of renewal of registration. This audit requires the submission of a log of all CPD activities, evidence and a profile of how they have met the relevant standards. See http://www.hpc-uk.org/registrants/cpd/ for more details. This year the Arts Therapies professions (Art, Drama and Music Therapy) have been audited.
A new Editorial team was appointed for the British Journal of Music Therapy in July 2013 of Tessa Watson, Alison Barrington and Kay Sobey. BJMT are slowly moving to online publication and are interested in hearing from international as well as UK authors.
The next UK Music Therapy week will be 22nd-28th June 2015. This is the third such event.
The first BAMT national conference 'Counterpoints: Music Therapy Practice in the 21st Century' took place in February 2014 at Birmingham Conservatoire (abstracts available at http://www.bamt.org/bamt-conference-2014.html). The conference was a great success, with over 300 delegates attending. Social media was used to promote the conference (the twitter account is @musictherapyuk). It is hoped that papers from the conference will be published in due course.
Angela Harrison from the UK has taken on the role of European representative for the World Federation of Music Therapy and we hope that this will mean greater liaison and collaboration between European countries.

CYPRUS – Magda Papdopolou-Kantaris
Over the past year the focus of the association has changed. Music therapists in Cyprus have qualifications from abroad. Since 2008 the association has been promoting legislation and recognition with parliament. Over the last year the association decided to put this on hold as other groups don't want a new registered group. There are new work streams, including links with other associations, a code of ethics, a new website, and a public symposium with others arts therapies professions.

5) Report on the registration process in Germany (Melanie Voigt)

Melanie gave a presentation on the situation relating to registration in Germany (there is no legal recognition in Germany). This included a brief narrative of the history of music therapy in Germany, including the conflicts between approaches. As this is the experience of the more experienced generation of music therapists in Germany, it has made progress to a merged association difficult. However, there is now progress and this has included work with organisations of other creative arts therapies. This umbrella organisation is now working with the University

course in Augsburg towards recognition and to promote the interests of arts therapists across Germany. There has been work promoting music therapy as important in particular conditions/illnesses.
Different associations are certifying their members under their own criteria (for some associations criteria has existed for many years). These criteria were presented. A national register has been established, and to be part of this the music therapist must be recognised/certified with one of the 4 organisations.
Melanie ended her presentation by asking

- How can we in the EMTC work towards alleviating these problems without getting in the way of national regulation/trends in healthcare?
- Is it thinkable to involve representatives from the countries to the EU?

There was discussion about this topic, including questions about how associations can set up standards for music therapists coming from other countries, European law allowing European citizens to have the right to live and work in any EEA (European economic area). Countries where music therapy is regulated may require music therapists to go through an rigorous international route to their register.

6) ORIENTATION AND UPDATES

EMTR (Rut Wallius, administrator EMTR)

All EMTR applications were processed this year by the EMTR commission in order to speed up the process. For the time being, this is done once a year. The meeting went well yesterday and areas of work that are needed were identified (eg the application form and the process for submitting applications). There were 12 applications this year.
There has been a proposal to remove the BA and MA titles, and just keep EMTR. Rut explained the discussions that have taken place around this.
Esa Ala-Ruona (Finland) suggested that perhaps course training heads could be informed about the EMTR to increase awareness.

The Vienna Conference 2016 (Elena Fitzthum)

The EMTC GA will take place just before the conference. There is a useful website at www.emtc2016.at. The arrangements for the conference are well underway and there are different working groups considering a wide variety of issues (including scholarships, health and safety, refreshments, couch surfing). The call for papers will open in 1st July 2015 until November, and the early bird registration ends on 1st March 2016. It is hoped that the abstracts will be published in the Nordic Journal of Music Therapy, ready for when the conference starts. Poster sessions will be important for this conference, and these will be standardised, and published.

The EMTC website (Ingeborg Nebelund and Bettina Kande-Staehelin)

The website has been developed as follows:

- Clickable icon added for country information and training courses page
- Order has been added to the structure of the website, including design changes
- Bettina has more ideas to develop the website (including more music orientated pictures, and using the European colours, the structure of the website to be unified)

- General updates should go to **Ingeborg Neblung (ingneb74@gmail.com) and Elena Fitzthum [fronsburg@aon.at]**
- Any ideas about changes or development for the website should be sent to Bettina

7) PRESENTATION APPLICATIONS FOR HOSTING THE GA 2015

Melanie Voigt (Germany), made a presentation for the Federal Association of Music Therapy to host the GA at Wuerzburg, in 2015. The proposed dates are **15-17th May 2015**, at Wuerzburg University (jointly hosted by the University of Music and the University of Applied Sciences). The symposium will be held in the school of music, and the GA in the school of applied sciences. This university has a long history of music therapy, recently developed by Thomas Wosch (including a masters level music therapy training in work with people with handicaps and dementia). Melanie gave a thorough outline of the proposal, including the attractions of the area (wine and asparagus!).

Action approved: The proposal was briefly discussed and then was unanimously voted for by those present.

8) THEME DISCUSSION ON *Website, sharepoint and the visibility of the EMTC*

This was discussed, including the following:

- Please put **EMTC in the subject** when you email members of the core board and EMTC
- Please do not reply 'to all' when sending a message for one person. Rut Wallius (Sweden) suggested using 'cc' or 'bcc' functions to help with this
- Facebook could be a way of sharing – an open group and a closed group. Those present had different thoughts about the appropriateness of this, given the informality of facebook. It is possible that EMTC could develop guidelines for the use of social media as other organisations have done.
- Drop box could also be used to share documents
- Some professional associations have forums on their websites for discussion. Using the current website in this way may bring more people to it, rather than using a different site
- Tessa Watson (UK) raised the possibility of using some of the EMTC funds to invest in the website to make it more attractive and to have greater functionality

Approaches

Hanne-Mette (President) presented the idea for a special edition in 'Approaches' on recognition. She described the rationale for this decision, including the implications of recognition on practice, training, ethics, professionalization, etc. The country representatives were invited to let the core board know if they have an idea for an article, and are interested in contributing as a writer or a peer reviewer. The articles should be written in August/September, to be submitted soon after this (as there is a peer review system for this journal).

There was rich discussion about this, including the need to contextualise the work and explain broader structures (such as European Economic Area law, and how different countries interpret this in terms of recognition and different health systems).

It was suggested that other topics to be covered could include;

- Different areas of clinical work
- Research (including the use of Cochrane reviews)
- An exploration of professionalization

It was noted that it will be important to be clear about why we are embarking on this journal issue, our values and rationale for the project, and the style of the writing. Hanne-Mette advised that these issues will be considered by the editors who oversee the journal issue. If authors have other writing on this topic already they may wish to consider sending it for submission to this or another journal.

Overview of EMTC countries and recognition/regulation

- The three countries who have governmental state recognition/regulation are Austria, UK and Latvia.
- Countries who have another recognition system (eg organised by their association, but not regulated by government) are Germany, Bulgaria, France, Belgium, Serbia, Luxemburg, Greece, Czech Republic, Netherlands, Spain, Portugal, Poland, Italy, Finland, Cyprus.
- Countries where music therapy is funded through insurance/a national health service scheme are UK, Serbia, Austria, Netherlands, Estonia, Finland, Switzerland.

Those present were unanimously in agreement for the EMTC to work on and support this journal initiative.

8) REGIONAL MEETINGS AND REGIONAL REPORTS

Central Europe

Central Europe had discussed the issue of country delegates living away from their countries. They suggested that it could be at the discretion of the country, but they requested that EMTC and the regional co-ordinator be informed.

This group discussed how to be more connected as a group. Elena, as regional co-ordinator will email the group each month (with subject line 'EMTC middle europe'), encouraging news to be shared. Student and work exchange was also discussed.

This group talked about the role of the regional co-ordinator (please refer to the bylaws at the EMTC website for a description of the role).

Southern Europe

Ranka Radulovic (Region Co-ordinator)

This group discussed varied topics, including training issues, completing the collection of documents, issues of ethics, EMTR. They also considered possible directions for the group for the future.

Northern Europe

Recognition/registration

It was discussed that the terms 'authorisation', 'legitimisation' and 'recognition' can mean different things in different countries.

Rut explained that there are 4 associations in Sweden. These include an umbrella association FMS (which includes those who do not have a qualification), and a professional association (those with a qualification). Sweden has been looking to develop professional registration. Some health professions in Sweden are seeking regulation through the trade union association (but this union is currently working with curators and cannot take on music therapists as well). The union has recommended that in order to become a health care profession, the training should be within a hospital. Therefore the professional association is intending to apply for an authorisation, within the frame of a trade union. This would be a sign of quality, a recommendation by the trade union. But it will not be law. Ruth wanted to discuss this with the regional group and talk about what this might mean for other countries. There was a discussion about how this might help.

Signe informed the group that in Denmark the association is looking for authorisation; this sounds different to the situation in Sweden. In Denmark authorisation would come from the health authority and would mean that therapy was more frequently provided in some clinical areas. They had wanted authorisation with a protected title, but were informed that this would not be possible. Other countries gave information about registration/legitimisation.

Value added tax

Esa had asked for information about VAT and how music therapists are paid. In Finland, this is added to the fee for music therapists. In private practice, the music therapist pays the VAT fee. In Finland health care professions do not have to pay this, but this does not apply to music therapy. New guidelines have just been issued for tax/VAT. Esa was interested in hearing how this works in other countries.

Ingeborg reported that in Norway calling the service 'music education' means that VAT is not required to be paid. She felt that this is a problem in promoting the identity of music therapy (this is similar in Sweden). In Denmark, the answer is not clear. In Sweden, it is complicated and sometimes VAT is charged. In the UK, to pay VAT, you have to have a turnover of £81,000 in the previous 12 months. You can register to pay VAT if you earn less than this, but it's not essential. You might want to register if you're buying a lot of equipment for your business that a) incurs a large amount of VAT within the cost of the item (maximum of 20%) and b) if you know your turnover is going to rise to £81,000 or higher in the coming year. See http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/vat/forms-rates/rates/rates-thresholds.htm

In Lithuania VAT is charged according to wage (30% of all wages and if more than 30,000 euro, VAT is charged). In Latvia in the health care service there is no VAT, if it is private practice, VAT is charged above 30,000 euros.
Esa will pass this information pack to his association.

Relationship between music therapy and the creative arts therapies
In Estonia, Alice advised that there is a Arts Therapies Masters course (Tallinn University). However within this, the music therapy training is not felt to be adequate. This is a concern, as the BA training in music therapy will be closed (there is a post graduate specialisation course too). There was discussion about how standards are developed and maintained in other countries. It was suggested that the UK Health and Care Professions Standards of Proficiency for Arts Therapists may be a useful resource.

More formal co-operation between the northern European regional countries
Ingebord suggested that more formal collaboration would be beneficial. Those present were positive about getting together more often if possible (possibly at future conferences and using Skype if not all can attend).

Sunday 28th May 2014

9) PRESENTATION FROM THE WORKING GROUPS FROM 2013-2014

Working group European Music Therapy Day
Freya, Albert, Magda, Valgedur, Ranka, Nicole
Freya explained that music therapy day had come from the idea raised by Albert Berman (Netherlands) in Oslo 2013.
Goal – to increase the awareness of music therapy and its possibilities among;

- Institutions for mental health psychiatrists and psychologists
- Health insurance companies
- General public

Theme - Connection between music therapy and health

- Possibly – to create a broader and more realistic perspective on music therapy, to allow each country to focus on a specific health problem that is locally more persistent
- To make people think about the role of music and music therapy in times of illness and problems
- Separate music therapy and music medicine for strategic reasons
- In Netherlands, the last theme was 'Music, language of the heart'. Albert explained this briefly

Locations – possible partners to collaborate with

- Institutions for health, mental health and disability

- Private practices and community centres
- Public places: libraries, schools, train and bus stations
- Television and radio programs
- Social media: twitter, Facebook, YouTube

Methods and ideas

- Form a project working group
- Mobilise members of the professional association to organise activities in their working place: workshops, concerts, open day in practices
- Connect a national celebrity of artist to the day
- Invite people facing emotional problems to come in to a music therapy centre or practice for a free workshop, individual or group music therapy session
- Common European activity during which (while using Skype for example) we could have a synchronized improvisation out in the open, focusing on unity as a resource

Date proposals - symbolic date

- Not related to EMTC - blue Monday (third week of January)
- Related to EMTC - 23-26th August 1989 (summer holidays), or 15-17th November 1991, or 1-4th April 1992 (2nd April is world autism day).
- Related to international events – 1st October (Unesco international music day), 21st June (fête de la musique), 7th May 1824 (first performance of Beethoven 9 took place, European anthem).
- Events on previous days, escalating towards the European Music Therapy Day or the European Music Therapy Day as the start for a series of days filled with activities concerning music therapy

There was discussion about this topic. Melanie Voigt (Germany) noted that in Germany, workers are not permitted to offer free sessions in a setting where they would usually be paid. She suggested that each country would need to find out the legal and ethical limits related to this. Rut Wallius (Sweden) asked if we should register the day, it was suggested that EMTC could send a press release. Albert Berman (Netherlands) and Tessa Watson (UK) talked about music therapy day and music therapy week respectively in their countries. See http://www.bamt.org/about-british-association-for-music-therapy/music-therapy-week/music-therapy-week-2013-events.html for information about music therapy week in the UK in 2013. See www.dagvandemuziektherapie.ne for information about the Netherlands music therapy day. Ranka Radulovic (Serbia) encouraged the working group to plan this event as quickly as possible. Tessa Watson (UK) suggested that we could think of this as a long term plan, for example that the next 2 or 3 days could be planned in order to allow country representatives to work with their countries to plan schedules for the years ahead.

Continuing professional development
Albert, Freya, Magda, Valgedur, Ranka, Nicole, Alice

- This group is tasked to gather information about the current CPD systems in different countries
- A questionnaire has been sent out to all countries
- The next step is to draw conclusions, and develop recommendations for EMTR
- Future work will be to take first steps in developing CPD regulation

Vision and mission think tank
Esa, Marianne, Melanie, Rut, Albert
This group has not yet begun to work. It is going to focus on future directions and how music therapy is established at a European level. They will look ahead for 10 years or more. Esa is going to send an email to the group to ascertain the interest for initiatives and ideas. There will be a Skype meeting and presentation prepared for the GA in Germany.

Ethics
Elena, Adrienne, Spela, Agnieska, Rut
Elena reported that her group have begun to communicate.
Elena reported that she especially interested in this topic and its pertinence to the organisation of the EMTC Congress 2016 in Vienna. In February 2014, Elena and Adrienne did preparatory work in Paris.
Recognition group and qualification for music therapists
Magda, Melanie, Giorgos, Elide
This group has had some difficulty in thinking how to approach the topic; they will continue with their discussions.

Define new working groups and individual tasks
Ranka Radulovic (Serbia) suggested that an archive working group should be established, however Hanne Mette Ridder (President) suggested that this is a task for the core board. There was some lively discussion about this issue. This was particularly related to the Southern Europe region, where there are specific problems with the EMTC guideline that associations should not have direct links with a particular training program. This led to a discussion about training courses in Spain (reference to the Bologna agreement).
Action suggested – for Melissa Brotons (Spain) to contact the core board and Esa Ala-Ruona (Finland) for advice and with questions.

Following this discussion, Adrienne Lerner (core board) suggested that prior to the next GA in Germany country representatives should read the ethics code of EMTC (see the website).

Tasks
Certificate for the EMTC award – Signe Dalgaard (Denmark) will assist with this.

List of MA courses – Elena Fitzthum (Austria) has a list of all MA courses in Europe. This will be put on the EMTC website. Melissa Broton (Spain) requested that this be circulated to all country representatives first in order to ascertain that it is accurate.

Definitions – Please send definitions (**PLEASE NOTE** – these must be in English, with author and date) **to Ingebord Neblung (Norway).**

10) NEW WORKING GROUPS FOR 2014-2015

Music therapy day

Freya, Albert (Chair), Magda, Valgedur, Ranka, Nicole, Ingeborg, Dzintra

Albert gave a short report. The dated suggested is **15th November 2014**. This was the date that for the first time, European music therapists joined together in a GA in 1991. Albert will put together a map and country representatives can add in events in their country. A logo will be developed, and used alongside the EMTC logo, flyers will be developed. This group will set tasks and deadlines.

Website

Ingeborg (Chair), Bettina, Elide, Anna Fekete (tbc)

New sharepoint

Elide (Chair), Albert,

Vision and mission think tank

Esa (Chair), Marianne, Melanie, Rut, Albert

Ethics

Elena (Chair), Adrienne, Signe, Agnieska, Rut, Ranka, Evangelia

Recognition group and qualification for music therapy

Magda, Melanie (Chair), Elide, Evangelia, Lilya,

CPD

Freya (Chair), Tessa, Alice, Nicole, Teresa

There was a discussion about how CPD might be measured. Tessa explained how the HCPC CPD system works in the UK. CPD is not counted in hours. Instead there are standards that must be met. For example, what you did, how it developed you as a music therapist and how it benefitted the people with whom you work (eg your clients, or students, or staff who you manage). Here is the UK HCPC CPD page; http://www.hpc-uk.org/registrants/cpd/ On this page: http://www.bamt.org/british-association-for-music-therapy-resources/guide-to-professional-practice.html there is information about the BAMT (UK music therapy association) scheme, which involves peer discussion.

It was agreed to analyse the information obtained from Austria, Germany, Switzerland, The Netherlands, United Kingdom and Latvia.

The questions will be;

- ✓ Which fields of CPD are mentioned

- ✓ Is there a requirement for the number of hours undertaken? (are these differentiated by fields of learning?)
- ✓ Who checks or audits the CPD submissions
- ✓ Do music therapists have to write about how their CPD has served their development as a music therapist?
- ✓ Is there evidence required and what is it?
- ✓ Reflection (our ideas about what is useful, what is not useful and what we should use for EMTC)

Freya will make a form and circulate it to the group (by the end June 2014). The countries were allocated as follows: Alice – Switzerland, Teresa – Germany, Tessa – Latvia, Freya – Austria and The Netherlands, Nicole – UK. Please analyse the information using the questions above, and send the information to Freya when it is completed (by the end of October 2014). The group will put together some ideas and recommendations by the end of February 2015. A presentation will be made by Freya and Tessa to the next GA (presentation to be finished by end April 2015).

11 PLENARY DISCUSSION

EMTR meeting

Hanne-Mette gave an update about the EMTR. It is proposed that the different titles will be removed, and there will be only one category of membership. This will be EMTR which will allude to a requirement to have an accredited Master degree, additional self-experience, supervisory experience and clinical experience.
It is hoped that in the future, entry to the EMTR will include CPD (see the CPD working group project).

There was then discussion about EMTR as follows:

- Several country representatives felt that there was a lack of equity in the scheme, as not all have masters level training courses.
- Tessa Watson (UK) asked what the members get for their money (currently 250 Euros). It was acknowledged that perhaps people who are in countries where music therapy is registered may not apply because they will not get much for their money. Tessa strongly advocated for bringing the fee down in order to encourage membership for pioneers and senior members of the profession. This was supported by some others in the meeting. Rut Wallius (Sweden) noted that the fact that the EMTR is being discussed in other countries was proof of its visibility and value.
- Marianne Wiltgen (Luxembourg) suggested that EMTR is a long term aim, and that building up registers in individual countries as well as developing the register is not mutually exclusive.

Those present voted to take away the BA categories of the membership of EMTR. 15 voted for this. 3 abstained. **Action agreed:** The EMTR will change the membership categories and will work with the ideas suggested in the meeting

12) CONCLUSION

Hanne-Mette encouraged country representatives to contact the core board with any comments or suggestions regarding the GA.

A formal vote of thanks was given to the core board (Hanne-Mette, Adrienne and Ferdinando) for their hard work over the year, to Marianne Wiltgen (Luxembourg) for such wonderful organisation and welcome to her country, and to Tessa Watson (UK) for taking the minutes.