Minutes EMTC General Assembly (Pending acceptance at the GA 2020)

June 25-26 2019

Create Building, University of Aalborg

Aalborg, Denmark

Present:

Austria: Elisabeth Kaczinsky; *Belgium:* Anna Steelandt; *Bulgaria:* Teodossi Tzinguilev; *Cyprus:* Iosif Kartapanis; *Czech Republic*; Marketa Gerlichova; *Denmark:* Karina Erland Jensen; *Estonia:* Malle Luik; *Finland:* Kaija Tähtinen; *France:* Stephánie Lefebvre; *Germany:* Stefan Mainka; *Greece:* Eva Papanikolaou; *Hungary:* Ágnes Varga; *Ireland:* Triona McCaffrey; *Israel:* Tali Gottfried; *Italy:* Elide Scarlata; *Latvia:* Katie-Jan Roth; *Lithuania:* Vilmante Aleksiene; *Luxembourg:* Cathy Schmartz; *Norway:* Ingeborg Nebelung; *Portugal:* Rita Maia; *Spain:* Melissa Mercadal-Brotons; *Sweden:* Maiyanne Nielsen; *Switzerland:* Beate Rölke; *The Netherlands:* Albert Berman; *Turkey:* Özgür Salur; *UK:* Tessa Watson

Apologies:

Croatia: Ksenija Buric; *Iceland:* Valgerdur Jónsdóttir; *Poland:* Agnieszka Szymajda; *Serbia:* Ranka Radulovic; *Slovenia:* Claudia Knoll

Tuesday, June 25th 2019

14:00-14:20

Welcome and opening (Information)

Esa Ala-Ruona opened the meeting and welcomed all those present.

Apologies have been received from: Ranka Radulovic (Serbia), Valgerdur Jónsdóttir (Iceland), Agnieszka Szymajda (Poland), Claudia Knoll (Slovenia, observing member) and Ksjenija Boric (Croatia).

Melanie welcomed the new representative for Cyprus, Joseph Kartapanis.

The representative Özgür Salur (from Turkey) was welcomed to this GA as a full representative.

Melanie welcomed the following substitute country representatives: Triona McCaffrey (the substitute for Hilary Moss in Ireland), Maiyanne Nielsen (the substitute for Maria Munkesjo from Sweden; best wishes were conveyed to Maria), Anna Steelandt (the substitute for Rozemarijn Claes from Belgium).

President's report (Information)

Esa Ala-Ruona (President) gave the President's report. The Core Board have met 8 times since the last GA, with 2 of these meetings being face to face. There have been 8 full Board meetings (1 face to face).

Activities since the last GA:

- Consolidating the work and analytic reflection of the experiences from Trapani GA in 2018
- Conducting a survey of MT education programmes (a bottom up approach to developing suggested standards for safe and effective practice)
- EMTR (European Music Therapy Register) is on hold (for 3 years), and the EMTS-committee is working on developing the European Music Therapy Standards (EMTS)
- Renewal of the EMTC statutes and bylaws: analysing, revising and working through the found inconsistencies. Updating the content to meet the current and future needs of the organisation
- Improving ways of communicating within the Core Board and the Board
- Enabling a more active role for Regional Co-ordinators (and aiming for more input from Country Representatives)
- Collaborative meetings (3) with ECArTE (European Consortium of Arts Therapies Education) led network of European level associations of the other arts therapy modalities (EADMT, EFD, EFAT)
- Giving advice and consultation (including inclusive policy between professionals and national associations). Composing EMTC statements as guiding documents to be shared
- Improving the communication on the EMTC website and using info@emtc-eu.com address(es)

Proposed activities for 2019-2020

- To complete the analysis of the music therapy education survey
- To use the results of the survey in the work of the EMTS commission (with a focus on suggested competencies for high standards of safe and effective practice)
- Working towards standards of training
- Finalising the process of revising the statutes and bylaws of the EMTC
- Forming the strategy for EMTC communication (to include internal communication and external communication through CRs and on political/PR levels). Implementation of this strategy in 2020-2022
- Transforming the working groups to action teams
- Preparing the 2020 General Assembly

*Questions (*Discussion & Voting)

Albert Berman (The Netherlands) asked whether the online voting process had worked well for the next conference in 2022? Melanie Voigt (Vice President; Secretary General) responded that all countries had replied and had selected Edinburgh, Scotland. Melissa Mercadal-Brotons asked if it might be possible for bidding countries to make a bid sooner (eg several years earlier) to enable more detailed research and

discussion when selecting venues. There was some discussion about the bidding process. Elizabeth Kaczynski (Austria) asked why the conference was no longer moving around Europe and felt that it was inequitable that the venue had been located in northern Europe for several years. It was noted that a live discussion at a GA (rather than online voting) would allow for these points of view to be more fully discussed and all views considered.

Action agreed: The President's report was unanimously accepted.

14:20-14:25

Treasurer's report (Information)

The treasurer's report is included as an appendix. The current balance is € 13,984.56.

*Questions (*Discussion & Voting)

It was noted that the guidelines for host countries for the GA during the EMTC conferences now state that it is required to host CRs for 2 nights (not 1 as previously stated).

Action agreed: The Treasurer's report was unanimously accepted.

14:30-15:15

Tuning in 1 (Information)

Time was taken for the reflections of the Core Board and full Board about the work from 2018-2019.

Board meetings

Ingeborg Nebelung (Norway, European Region Co-ordinator North) noted that the skype meetings have been working very well. However, she feels that there is still work to be done in getting the information out to CRs. Ágnes Varga (Hungary, European Region Co-ordinator Middle) stated that communication between the countries in her region has improved over the past year, through skype meetings each month etc. These countries were able to communicate with the core board through Áges as Region Co-ordinator. CRs in this Region said this way of working has been efficient and the regular meetings have helped CRs to feel in the flow of the work. Elide Scarlata (Italy, European Regional Co-ordinator South) reported that the group have met on skype to talk about specific issues. She would like all countries in her group to meet face to face but this is difficult.

Report on EMTS

There has been useful work done at the EMTS commission meeting this morning (25/6). A skype meeting has been arranged for September 2019 and tasks have been allocated. Part of the meeting was to consider what is realistic for this group; to consider the power and influence that EMTC has in this regard, and to suggest training standards for safe and effective music therapy practice across Europe. The commission wants these advisory suggestions to be inclusive and supportive of all EMTC countries. It has been decided to end the EMTR scheme, and consideration will be given to the communication with existing EMTR members.

15:30-16:45

Tuning in II: Short reports and thoughts from the CRs (Information)

- **Belgium**: Anna Steelandt - no further update
- **Turkey**: Ozgar Salur noted that Music Therapy is officially recognised but you have to be a doctor in order to practice. This is challenging. Ozgar thanked the EMTC GA for accepting Turkey as a full member and he was warmly welcomed as such.
- **The Netherlands**: Albert Berman encouraged all to come to the Dutch documentary that will be shown at the conference about music therapy. This can be downloaded (for 5 euros) and used to promote MT in any country. The Netherlands, Belgium and Luxemburg (Benelux) are going to put in a bid for the world congress 2026.
- **Lithuania**: Vilmante Aleksiene noted that students are now taught collaboratively within an Arts Therapy programme. This change was made in order to ensure the survival of the programmes. This is going well. The programme is within the medical faculty and there have been successful conferences.
- **Latvia**: Katie-Jan Roth noted the inequalities across Europe in terms of MT wages and being able to access conferences etc.
- **Germany**: Stefan Mainka - no further update
- **Austria**: Elizabeth Kaczynski informed the group that the Association has a new board and there will be some changes. There will be a new government in the Autumn and it is hoped that there will be changes around social care because of this.
- **Portugal**: Rita Maia stated that the focus of the profession in Portugal this year has been professional recognition. There have been meetings with politicians in order to take this forward. There has suddenly been a great need for music therapy but not all the people working are qualified, which is challenging.
- **Bulgaria**: Teodossi Tzinguilev reported about some of the events for MT day. There were presentations etc. The association is trying to involve members more.
- **Cyprus**: Joseph Kartapanis reported that music therapy is seeking to become a registered healthcare provider in order to provide free services to users at the point of delivery.
- **Luxembourg**: Cathy Kane-Schmartz reported that there will be a new association website in order to provide good outward facing communication; this is a priority.
- **Finland**: Kaija Oivamaki-Tahtinen reported on the continuing attempts to achieve professional recognition, which are slow (partly because of the new government).
- **Sweden**: Maiyanne Nielsen described that there is currently no music therapy education in Sweden at the moment. MTs are working collaboratively with other colleagues.
- **France**: Stephanie Lefebvre reported that the association are organising a congress in June; this is the first congress with all associations involved. Stephanie talked about ‘music care’ which is in between music, medicine and music therapy - whilst this raises the profile of music therapy it is also confusing.

- **Spain**: Melissa Mercadal-Brotons spoke about 3 important topics for Spain. As Spain is divided into 3 areas (each with a government) this brings complexities. The associations are working towards certification and to create policies to give guidance about specific issues (for example how to set up and run a conference).
- **Czech Republic**: Marketa Gerlichova reported that music therapy is becoming better known, but there are still some challenges. There will be a Masters programme beginning, and there is an international conference in Prague in early July.
- **UK**: Tessa Watson summarised the situation in the UK, including noting the influence of political change and Brexit. Despite these challenges, music therapy continues to be settled and thriving.
- **Israel**: Tali Gottfried noted that there are 4 training programmes, one of which will end this academic year (due to financial concerns). One of the other training programmes is under financial pressures. Professional recognition is being developed within the Arts Therapists, and the next step is to sue the country through the high court because all the criteria have been met which should enable recognition.
- **Norway**: Ingeborg Nebelung described the association's strategic panel of Music Therapists with specific experience. These experienced clinicians represent their specific field, enabling specialist responses to queries from the public etc. This is working well.
- **Hungary**: Ágnes Varga talked about the difficult political situation in Hungary. She also noted how people who are not qualified are calling themselves Music Therapists, this is becoming a considerable problem.
- **Denmark**: Karina Erland Jensen shared that music therapy has been recognised as a possible intervention for the elderly with dementia for the first time. This is a result of the amount of large research studies in dementia care.
- **Greece**: Evangelia Papanikolaou added some detail regarding the complex and challenging situation in Greek music therapy. The professional association does not appear to comply with the EMTC policies. Evangelia is interested in hearing from others who have similar issues in their countries.
- **Italy**: Elide Scarlata noted some of the developments and challenges in moving forward with registration.
- **Ireland:** Triona McCaffrey described that music therapy is a growing field. The training in Limerick has been running for 21 years. One of the biggest challenges is the lack of statutory registration. The profession has been told that they are on the list to move forward for professional registration but it is a slow process. There is work developing but very few permanent roles, many graduates are creating their own work.
- **Switzerland**: Beate Roelcke noted that Switzerland is looking for a place within the Arts Therapies umbrella organisation and are having to work hard to maintain their position and standards within these negotiations.

Melanie Voigt (Vice President, General Secretary) read a letter from Monika Nocker-Ripeaupierre thanking EMTC GA for responding to her query for information.

There was lively and collaborative discussion about the issues presented in this part of the meeting, including the following:

- The importance of collaboration in moving forward (and the acknowledgement that all present are committed to this by their attendance)
- Whether EU funding could be accessed by EMTC
- Could marketing students look at the music therapy situation in order to help develop useful strategies for communication etc? (**Action:** this topic will be drawn into the European Music Therapy day group)
- Voting for the GA and conference was discussed. Melanie Voigt (Vice President, General Secretary) noted that the Core Board were clear about the deadlines going forward and will ensure that information is sent in good time. The idea of voting online was considered to be useful in allowing CRs time to discuss with their associations and therefore represent their members. However, it did not allow for consideration of other issues (such as equality of location). The idea of the conference or GA moving around Europe to provide equality was discussed. **Action:** The Core Board is to consider whether the following should be made formal: a) that the GA/conference should be rotated around the different regions in order to ensure equality of attendance and b) that CRs must discuss the bids with their associations in order to represent their members.

16:45-17:00

ConnAction of Music Therapy Students (Information + discussion)

Janine Gimpl, Friederike Kinne and Ronja Gangler presented their international working group for music therapy students and recent graduates. This was founded in Vienna, Austria in 2017. The group have been developing international networking, personal and professional exchange, opportunities to discuss training issues (including internships, careers), cooperation with institutions/organisations and have been exchanging information (such as literature, theses). The group wants to encourage students and graduates to participate in events. See the website: www.cmts.info

There was lively and positive discussion and the group was thanked. Ideas included making a link with WFMT, having a student representative at the EMTC GA, and ways to share information about the initiative across European associations and training institutions.

This presentation and the initiative were warmly received by those present.

17:15-18:00

Regional meetings took place (working meetings, voting for Regional Coordinators)

18:15-18:30

EMTC award - nominations and discussion (information, discussion, voting)

First nominee: Hanne-Mette Ridder

- Professor of music therapy at Aalborg University (teacher of the year in 2012)
- Head of the international school of research

- Many research projects
- Wide range of publications
- Talks and presentations worldwide
- President of EMTC for 6 years
- Leadership style and inclusive personality - embodies the spirit of EMTC

Second nominee: Heidi Fausch

- Former Switzerland EMTC delegate
- Contributed to the development of music therapy in Bulgaria
- Has worked towards the development of music therapy in other Eastern European countries
- Contributed significantly to the development of music therapy in her own country

Those present felt that both nominees were worthy recipients. There followed some discussion about whether there could be different awards; one which is for 'Lifetime Achievement'. This was agreed. This year it was unanimously agreed to give the EMTC award to Hanne Mette Ridder and the EMTC lifetime achievement award to Heidi Fausch.

18:30-18:45

Regional reports and organisational topics (information)

Regional meeting - North - Ingeborg Nebelung

- Communication with associations was discussed. It was shared that this can be problematic. The Core Board is requested to make clear when information should be passed to associations.
- European Union funding was discussed, and the possibility of lobbying MPs and seeking funding.
- Communication - skype meetings are challenging due to the time zones (there are 4 hours difference in this group) and instead this group will try google docs.
- Ingeborg Nebelung was re-elected as Regional Co-ordinator

Regional group - Middle - Àgnes Varga

- New dates were set for skype meetings, including Chair and note taker
- In the next meetings, the action group teams will be included
- Clinical guidelines were discussed, and the group intend to gather together information
- Àgnes Varga was re-elected as co-ordinator

Regional group - South - Elida Scarlata

- Skype meetings were scheduled for every 3 months (Zoom may be used if workable)
- Google drive will be used to share information

- It is hoped that a conference will take place in the southern region
- Elide Scarlata was re-elected as co-ordinator
- There was some discussion about why France is in the southern group

Wednesday, June 26th 2019

9:00-10:30

Statutes and bylaws (information, discussion, voting)

Article 2 - domicile

The domicile of the association is Fiscamar SCRL, Klauwaartslaan 3, 1853-Bever, Belgium

The domicile may be transferred to any other location with Greater Brussels by decision of the Board, adopted by simple majority and published in the same month in the annexes of the Moniteur Belge.

Melanie Voigt (Vice President) explained that following both discussion within the Core Board and advice, this has been left as it is.

Article 3 - social objective

- The recognition of the music therapy professional at a national and European level;
- The promotion of the quality and the practice of music therapy;
- The representation of the music therapy profession to the authorities of the European Union and to any other authority and/or organisation that deals directly or indirectly with issues related to music therapy;
- And any other activity that may support or favour the accomplishment of the objectives mentioned above

Following discussion point 4 above has been left as it is, as this allows room for a broad range of tasks and activities without limitation.

Article 7 - representation

7.1 Each member country must appoint its representative, who is a physical person, to the EMTC. The member association/s of the country must elect this national representative through a process of nomination, discussion and decision by the professional association/s.

The article was changed as above.

Article 8 - resignation and exclusion of members

8.1 To withdraw from the EMTC the member association must communicate this decision in written form. This official statement must be signed by the person (eg chairperson) who has that authority. The statement must be sent to the Board.

Following discussion and re-wording this article was amended as above.

By-Laws

1.3.6 The Country Representative Election form is returned to the Board.

1.4 Membership fee

Each member association (legal entity) deposits the membership fee to the EMTC for each member with voting rights as defined by the member association.

After productive discussion, relating to the differing categories of professional membership across associations, this was changed to read as above.

2.5 Candidates and elections for the Board

2.5.2 Core Board candidates should have at least 3 years of experience in the EMTC as a CR. It is recommended that the candidate have a doctorate, experience within a broader context of the profession, and leadership experience.

This is left as it is, because recommended means it is thought to be useful but not obligatory.

The proposed Statutes and By-Laws were accepted unanimously after the insertion of the above changes.

It was noted that these articles will need to be translated into English, French and German. **Action:** Melanie Voigt (Vice President - General Secretary), Stephanie Lefevbre (France) will assist Ingeborg Nebelung (Norway) to change this for the webpages.

Core Board election (information, discussion, voting)

The host Country Representative (Denmark) Karina Erland Jensen chaired this part of the meeting.

There has been one application for Core Board which has been sent to all Country Representatives; Esa Ala-Ruona (current President), Alice Pehk (current Vice President, Treasurer), and Melanie Voigt (current Vice President, Secretary General) have all submitted their applications to continue as the Core Board for another 3 years. Esa Ala-Ruona spoke for the group in support of their application, confirming the mission and vision of this Core Board. If elected, this Core Board would build on the work that they have undertaken over the past 3 years.

Questions were taken, and then the Core Board left in order to enable a confidential voting procedure.
Action agreed: The Core Board were unanimously voted in for another 3-year period.

Reports from working groups; short presentations of achievements 2018-2019 (information)

CPD

The members in this group are Stephanie Lefebvre (France), Marketa Gerlichova (Czech Republic), Vilmante Aleksiene (Lithuania), Rita Maia (Portugal), Elizabeth Kaczynski (Austria).

The group have been looking at CPD in 5 countries; UK, The Netherlands, Austria, Serbia and France. The questions were about the registration cycle, the credit system, the contents and any sanctions against those who do not complete CPD. Stephanie Lefebvre (France) presented the results. There was useful discussion which further articulated the picture across Europe.

Arts Therapies and Music Therapy

The members in this group are Claudia Knoll (Slovenia, Chair, not present at the GA), Katie Roth (Latvia), Beate Roelcke (Switzerland), Özgür Salur (Turkey), Malle Luik (Estonia),

This group undertook a survey across EMTC, asking how members felt about collaborating with the other Arts Therapies professions. Katie presented this survey and the results, which the group found interesting.

Teodossi Tzinguilev (Bulgaria) will join this group.

Ethics - this group is not active (1 member, Agnieszka Szymajda).

Recognition

The members in this group are Evangelia Papanikolaou (Greece), Anna Steelandt (Belgium), Karinna Erland Jensen (Denmark), Cathy Kane-Schmartz (Luxembourg). There is no chair. There has not been any work in the past year.

Triona McCaffrey (Ireland) and Joseph Kartapanis (Cyprus) will join this group.

Research

The members in this group are: Melissa Mercadal-Brotons (Spain, Chair), Tali Gottfried (Israel), Stefan Mainka (Germany), Elide Scarlata (Italy). This group have undertaken a short survey with HEI course leaders to find out how research is being conducted across the EMTC countries. Stefan and Tali presented and explained the poster that they will display at the Aalborg Conference this week. This was well received.

Maiyanne Nielsen (the substitute representative for Sweden) will join this group.

MT-day

The members in this group are: Albert Berman (Chair, The Netherlands), Ingeborg Nebelung (Norway), Ágnes Varga (Hunary), Tali Gottfried (Israel), Ranka Radulovic (Serbia), Ksenija Boric (Croatia), Cathy Kane-Schmartz (Luxemburg).

Albert presented the work that the group has done this year. The group have decided the European MT day theme (Beat the drum!), have designed the poster and the logo and begun the PR campaign. The flyer has been written and printed. The EMT-Day song has not yet been written.

The next action is to decide upon the skype event; what this will be and who will take part. It is planned to broaden the PR campaign across the year. The group will consider how to work with world music therapy day (1st of March). They will also consider how to use the Dutch documentary Miracles of Music and use this for PR across Europe (this film will be shown at the Aalborg Conference on Sunday).

There was discussion around the EMT-Day for next year and thanks were given to Albert and the group for continuing with this important initiative.

Small group work - how can working groups be transformed in 'Action teams' (Working meeting)

Esa Ala-Ruona (President) described how the Core Board have been thinking about moving forward with the small groups. He gave advice about how to move forward with these groups, and suggested that the Chairs and groups do the following:

- Re-define the aim of the group
- Define further the tasks of the group
- Define the specific responsibilities of group members
- Define the benefits of the group's work for music therapy
- Plan how will the results be implemented
- Consider how the results be made relevant and visible for music therapy in Europe
- Have a communication plan

14:00-14:30

Report and plan of procedures for Action Groups (information)

Research action group (presented by Tali Gottfried - Israel)

The main task is to gain information about research across the European community and create a network for exchange

Next steps for the group:

- To collect information about PhD dissertations
- To survey CRs to ask if they are aware of PhD work going on in other University departments (outside music therapy departments)

- To put together a contact form to allow CRs and others to contribute information to the group about research projects
- The website will be updated (by Maiyanne) to add information about research and studies in different categories, such as studies into music therapy work with the elderly, ASD, development disabilities/delay, learning disabilities, mental illness, neglected children, trauma patients, NICU, paediatric care, preventive/at risk families, palliative care, rehabilitation.
- The preliminary results of the survey will be published
- The group had an idea to develop a scientific committee which can review research projects and support them (this may be of use when researchers are applying for grants etc)
- How to become a researcher; this will be addressed in the future

CPD action group (presented by Stephanie Lefebvre - France)

The main task is to define and propose a recommendation about CPD to ETMC

Next steps for the group:

- To collect some more data and to ask 6 more countries to complete the spreadsheet
- Switzerland, Latvia, Estonia, Portugal, Germany and Israel will be asked next
- A schedule to collect this data has been organised
- The data will be analysed
- A skype meeting will be arranged
- The group will consider how to ensure that CPD opportunities, or people who can deliver CPD, are more visible to EMTC members and delegates

Music therapy and the other arts therapies action group (presented by Katie Roth, Latvia)

The main task is to promote collaboration between music therapy and other arts therapies in the service of clients. This group notes that there are overlaps with the recognition group; the group have decided to focus on clinical collaboration.

Next steps for this group:

- To find out what organisations are already encouraging and promoting collaboration and what the opportunities are for joining with them
- To make contact with the 12 countries who have combined Arts Therapies associations
- To plan how to gather and share information about collaboration

Recognition (presented by Karina Erland Jensen, Denmark)

The main task is to ascertain and consider the state of recognition across Europe.

Next steps for this group:

- To re-establish the group with new members
- To review the survey questions
- To analyse the data
- To collect information about progression to recognition in different countries
- To present the information at the next GA in 2020

EMT-Day (presented by Albert Berman, The Netherlands)

This action team is now called PR. Cathy Kane-Schmartz joined this group.

New aims

- To ascertain the target groups (so far; MTs, people intending to become MTs, clients, families and carers, general public, other colleagues and professionals, professional organisations, politicians)
- To formulate PR strategies (direct contact, public information etc)
- To implement PR strategies (the importance of giving the same message and communicating in the same way to these different groups)

Next steps for this group:

- The group will update the website
- EMT-Day will take place again
- A social media strategy (eg Facebook) will be developed

14:30-14:45 (information, discussion, voting)

EMTS update

Melanie Voigt (Vice President, Secretary General) gave an update from the European Music Therapy Standards commission.

The first item the EMTS discussed was EMTR and how to proceed with this. Melanie gave some of the history behind EMTR. The register had become unrealistic, having moved away from the original rationale and purpose and the profession also having developed. In 2016 it was put on hold and in 2017 it was decided to carry out a survey into standards and competencies for training across Europe to inform decisions about standards.

At the EMTS meeting there was sensitive and productive discussion about how to proceed and about the different options and possibilities for the existing EMTR registrants were considered. The meeting was productive and collaborative and reflects the growth and change of the profession in moving from individual credentials to the acknowledgement of diverse training and practice across Europe.

Melanie noted the following;

- That EMTC does not have power or capacity to maintain or ensure standards
- As professions develop (music therapy and other professions) standards and categories do change and initiatives may be ended. There are examples of this from Spain and The Netherlands

Work on the survey as so far as follows:

- The survey about training and competencies/standards has been completed. There were 78 responses.
- The data is now being analysed. Some of the data will be analysed by a student from Vienna. Other categories will be analysed by members of the EMTS commission.
- It is hoped that the outcome will be competencies and learning outcomes that EMTC suggests are required for safe and effective practice. Following this, next steps will be considered.
- The guidance will include a link/reference to CPD.

Action for EMTS commission:

- Legal advice will need to be obtained in order to ensure that it is possible to close the register without registrants having cause to take action
- The EMTS commission will analyse the data in order to work towards developing suggested standards/guidelines for safe and effective training and practice (these are likely to be expressed in terms of competencies and learning outcomes). The commission will be aiming to present a picture of what is included in training programmes across Europe
- There will be a skype meeting in September 2019
- EMTS plan to publish the project when complete

The following actions were voted upon:

- The commission proposes that EMTR be closed if there are no legal issues involved.
- The EMTS commission will work towards developing suggested standards for quality training and safe and effective practice across Europe.
- The EMTS commission encourages national associations to work towards national registers according to their standards if these do not already exist.

These were passed unanimously.

14:45-15:15

GA structure and length (Information and discussion)

Esa Ala-Ruona (President) spoke about how the GA has changed and developed, and noted the importance of having enough time to discuss issues and topics fully. He asked the group to consider a proposal to extend the GA to 2 whole days. The majority of the group were in favour of this, whilst noting barriers to delivering a longer GA. There was thoughtful discussion about this, including the following ideas:

- Ingeborg Nebelung (Norway) supported moving to 2 whole days but noted that this would involve 3 nights' accommodation, making it a significant financial consideration.
- Melanie Voigt (Vice President - General Secretary) asked if the CR's associations might be able to pay for 1 night. Tali Gottfried (Israel) and Ozgar Salur (Turkey) were clear that their associations would not be able to fund this.
- Cathy Kane-Schmartz (Luxemburg) noted that it would also be hard to take 3 days off work to attend if the GA was 2 whole days.
- The possibility of raising the EMTC fee was discussed (it is currently 1 euro per person for each association). Elide Scarlata (Italy) suggested raising the fee to 3 euros but others considered this might be too much.
- Cathy Kane-Schmartz (Luxemburg) suggested that EMTC could research EU funding. Stephanie Lefebvre (France) suggested that students/researchers could assist with this.
- Ágnes Varga (Hungary) suggested providing some CPD as part of the GA (this is the current model for the GA host country to raise money through a symposium prior to the GA, in order to pay for accommodation and food). Others were not sure that there were other possibilities to make money through CPD (and this would be considerable work).
- Another possibility is to make it possible for other related organisations to join EMTC in order to raise more funds.
- Joseph Kartapanis (Cyprus) suggested finding effective ways to work together online.

GA 2020 (information)

There are currently no bids for GA 2020. Melanie Voigt (Vice President - General Secretary) confirmed the new deadline for bids for 2020 GA is the 31st August 2019. Following this, Melanie Voigt will circulate the information and there will be an online vote.

15:30-17:00

Plenary session (information and discussion)

Membership fees

Membership fees have not risen from 1 euro per member for 8 years. Alice Pehk (Vice President, Treasurer) presented a proposal to raise the membership fee by .5 euro for the next year. .5 euro of the total 1.5 Euro fee would be put aside to support the financing of the GA (including accommodation).

Discussion:

- Tali Gottfried (Israel) was aware that in her country, the association (which is shared with the Arts Therapies) pay for Dramatherapy and Dance Movement Therapy too. She will find out the amount.
- Ingeborg Nebelung (Norway) noted that as all members in her organisation are eligible to vote, her organisation will now have considerably higher costs even before a raise in fees. This may make it prohibitively expensive for some countries.
- Özgür Salur noted the financial difficulties for Turkey and other similar countries.
- Stefan Mainka (Germany) noted that 50% is a high raise, and suggested a more graded raise, in line with inflation each year.

The proposal was not carried forward. Esa Ala-Ruona (President) asked CRs to communicate to their associations that there will be a raise in the next year.

Collaboration with World Federation of Music Therapy

The Core Board have continued collaboration with WFMT. There was a meeting last night and EMTC suggested putting forward a delegate for WFMT. The structure for WFMT has been adjusted, and will be in place from September 2019. The EMTC can nominate candidates for positions. There was time for questions and discussion about this.

16:15-17:00

Aims for the coming year (information and discussion)

Esa Ala-Ruona (President) encouraged everyone to work in their action groups towards achieving the planned outcomes. Beate Roelcke (Switzerland) thanked Melanie Voigt for her excellent communication and this was seconded by the rest of the CRs.

There were some discussions around:

- Transfer of fees and whether this could be done in a way that avoids large costs for small countries
- Continuing discussions about 2 days rather than 1.5 days over the next GA
- The collaborative and respectful atmosphere of work during this GA
- The Core Board and Board's obvious hard work and focus
- Vilmante Aleksiene (Lithuania) noted that this was her last GA, and she thanked the EMTC for the experience, and was thanked in return for her contributions

Esa Ala-Ruona (President) concluded the GA.

Responsible for Minutes: Tessa Watson