

Minutes of the Regional Executive of Emmaus Europe
Thursday 30 April 2020
(Video conference)



PRESENT	REGIONAL EXECUTIVE MEMBERS
	Carina Aaltonen, president of Emmaus Europe Simon Grainge, member of the Regional Executive Aurore Querel, Emmaus Europe secretary Jean-Philippe Légaut, Emmaus Europe treasurer Eduardo Sánchez, member of the Regional Executive Rosa Gil Elorduy, member of the Regional Executive Leïla Thouret, member of the Regional Executive
	GUEST MEMBER
	Maryse Faure, member of the Emmaus International Executive Committee
	EUROPE REGIONAL SECRETARIAT
	Véronica Acevedo-Caro, admin-finance assistant Marie Tixier, events coordinator Théo Robin, solidarity coordinator Eve Poulteau, chief executive

- PREAMBLE	<p>Carina Aaltonen welcomed all the members of the executive.</p> <p>The world has changed completely since our last meeting in early March in Paris because of the Coronavirus pandemic. Things have evolved quickly and it is quite surprising, because working methods have totally changed.</p> <p>Carina thanked the EE Secretariat for ensuring that things move forward and for being a real source of support at this time. She particularly greeted Véronica Acevedo Caro and Eduardo Sánchez, who both contracted Covid-19 but have now recovered.</p>
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AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION / DEBATE	DECISIONS
1. PRESENTATION OF THE 2020 BUDGET	<p><u>Presentation of the amended 2020 budget</u> Jean-Philippe Légaut, the EE treasurer, presented the 2020 budget, which has been amended to take into account the Covid-19 crisis.</p> <p>He went through each of the spending reductions, notably for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Salary social security contributions</u>: The secretariat has been working reduced hours since 20 April. Government funding for short-time working has been included in the budget until late November. The outstanding membership dues need to be paid in order for the secretariat to get back to normal before that date. - <u>General administration</u>: rent reduction. - <u>The Regional Council of Emmaus Europe (RCEE)</u>: In light of the Coronavirus crisis, the spring RCEE was postponed but the intention is to hold a regional council meeting in the autumn. - <u>Regional Executive of Emmaus Europe</u>: In light of the Coronavirus crisis, the executive will meet three times by videoconference and hopes to hold a face-to-face meeting towards the end of the year. - <u>Training</u>: The 2020 <i>Emmaus in all of its facets</i> training course scheduled to take place in Cologne was cancelled due to the Coronavirus pandemic. 	<p>The Regional Executive of Emmaus Europe approved the amended 2020 budget.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Group monitoring</u>: Expenditure has been reduced, as it is difficult to travel around Europe at the present time. - <u>International event</u>: A considerable reduction under this budget heading as the EI World Assembly has been postponed. - <u>Collective and peer training</u>: A budget for a single collective or a potential themed meeting/peer training session in autumn has been retained. <p>Regarding income:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Membership dues</u>: The drop is caused by the current context and has been re-estimated at €250K. It was stated that membership dues will also undoubtedly be down in 2021 because they are based on the previous year's sales figures. <p>There are no plans to send out a reminder about paying dues at the present time. The matter needs to be reviewed, probably in autumn, when things start returning to normal. Discuss with EI and the national organisations in order to potentially coordinate the sending of reminders.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>EI contribution for decentralised coordination</u>: The executive decided not to accept the balance of €25K to be paid by EI in order to enable this sum to be allocated to coordination in other regions if required. - <u>Provisions</u>: Provisions will be reviewed before the end of the year in order to see if we have balanced the books. There will be a reversal of provisions if this is not the case. 	
<p>2. 2020 SOLIDARITY</p>	<p><u>Projection of groups' needs - estimate as of 23 April 2020</u></p> <p>Théo Robin, the solidarity coordinator, summarized talks held with EI over the past few days.</p> <p>EI has set up three emergency funds:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Fund 1: Emergency support</u> with €438K available. - <u>Fund 2: Cash advance</u> with €300K available. 	

	<p>- <u>Fund 3: Recovery fund</u> with €265K available.</p> <p>EI is meeting every fortnight in order to take decisions on applications for support. Carina and Simon are representing the EE executive and are involved in these decisions, having firstly obtained the opinion of the whole EE executive by email.</p> <p>Two applications for support have been received from the European groups, one application is expected, and support has been granted to Oselya (€4,979.37).</p> <p>The Regional Executive praised the effective coordination between EI and EE on solidarity.</p> <p><u>Appeal for solidarity donations</u></p> <p>Emmaus International and Emmaus Europe have worked on an appeal to help Emmaus groups in difficulty around the world during this health and economic crisis. The appeal will be sent to the European groups in order to supplement the budget currently being distributed by EI (drawing on the donations made to EI last year). Any funds raised will be transferred to EI and will be allocated based on the criteria currently being used.</p>	<p>The executive agreed with the principle of a joint EI/EE solidarity appeal. It approved the proposed wording for the appeal.</p>
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<p>3. SCHEDULE</p>	<p><u>Emmaus Europe team reduced working hours schedule from 20 April to 31 May 2020</u></p> <p>All of the full-time staff have switched to part-time working calculated based on a 35-hour working week divided by two. TOIL (time off in lieu) cannot be built up during the period of part-time working.</p> <p>Véronica Acevedo Caro: will work a seven-hour week. Marie Tixier: will work a 17.5-hour week. Théo Robin: will work a 17.5-hour week. Eve Poulteau: will work a 17.5-hour week.</p> <p>A working hours table is updated at the start of each month. The hours can be changed if required, for instance in the event of an emergency, or a meeting with external partners or elected representatives. In this scenario, the employees will adapt their working hours on other days.</p> <p><u>Upcoming EE meetings</u></p> <p>In June, an executive meeting will be arranged on VoiceBoxer. Date to be arranged.</p> <p>In September, another executive meeting will be arranged on VoiceBoxer.</p> <p>The EE executive hopes that the Coronavirus crisis will have ebbed by the end of the year and that they will be able to attend a face-to-face meeting in the shared Emmaus building.</p>	<p> Issue raised for discussion purposes.</p>
<p>4. SITUATION IN THE GROUPS AND OUTLOOK</p>	<p><u>Round table session</u></p> <p>All of the elected representatives fed back about the situation in their groups and countries during the Covid-19 crisis. They focused on solidarity in each country: France, Italy and the UK have pooled resources and made solidarity appeals to support the groups in difficulty in their countries.</p> <p>Easing of lockdown: This is scheduled to take place in most countries in mid-May apart from the UK where no date has yet been set. Measures have been taken in the groups but everyone is worried about how things will go when they resume work. We may have a better idea in early June. Groups that have made use of government schemes to defer tax</p>	<p> Issue raised for discussion purposes.</p>

	<p>payments are concerned about whether they will be able to pay their arrears if they do not see a good upturn in sales. Everyone thinks that it will take time to get back to the levels of the past.</p> <p>Quick discussion on lessons to be learned from this crisis</p> <p>Carina suggested continuing the discussion in writing with members of the Regional Council, notably drawing on the work got underway via Simon in the UK. He has been asking the groups what they are thinking of keeping from their "pre-Coronavirus" lives and what they have changed during lockdown. We also need to discuss what Emmaus' role can be in tomorrow's world.</p> <p>At least one video conference discussion would be best but it would be difficult to organise with 40 participants.</p>	
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As there were no further items on the agenda, the president closed the meeting.

Carina Aaltonen
President of Emmaus Europe

Aurore Querel
Secretary of Emmaus Europe