12th General Members' Meeting / Minutes

Manfred Pohl, acting Chairman, opened the meeting and welcomed the members to the Twelfth General Members' Meeting stating that in accordance with the Articles of the Association a quorum had been constituted.

He also welcomed Gabriella Massaglia who has taken over from Alessandra Hack as assistant to Roberta Sneider, Gabriel Tortella Casares as Chairman of the Academic Advisory Council, Javier Santillán the new Treasurer, and the internal Auditors of the Association: Edwin Green and Luis de Abreu Nunes.

He announced with great pleasure the new memberships won during 2000 and 2001 (please see list in the Annual Report) and regretted that none of the representatives could attend the General Members' Meeting. He also invited the Members to look at the renewed Association's Homepage and asked for feedback and amendments. By the time of writing, the EABH noticed that the Bank of Cyprus was listed under 'Greece'. Since the master copy used for the Homepage was the same for the EABH Brochure, we regret that the same mistake was made there too.

1. Financial Report

Manfred Pohl apologised to the assembly for the delay of sending the documentation and asked Javier Santillán to present his report. The Treasurer offered a brief summary of the contents of the written financial report and accompanying tables on the balance sheet and profit and loss account of the Association, submitted to the General Assembly. For further details, please see the annual report.

The Chairman thanked Mr Santillán and announced that this will be the last report in Deutsche German Marks. Next year it will be presented in Euro. He then asked the Auditor to present his report.

2. Report of the Auditor, Edwin Green

Edwin Green thanked the Frankfurt office for preparing the accounts. He said that both he and Luis de Abreu Nunes were satisfied that the EABH accounts were being compiled efficiently and thoroughly. He remarked that the forecast deficit of DM 40,000,- is unlikely to happen. As a matter of fact, the budget for 2001 includes the buy back of all the past proceedings' publications. Edwin Green's opinion is that the publication of these volumes might not be possible by the end of the year. He concluded his report.

The members did not raise any further question.

3. Approval of the Balance 2000 and release of the Board of Management from responsibility The accounts for 2000 were unanimously approved by the Members and the Board of Management was released from responsibility.

4. Approval of the Budget 2001

The General Assembly approved by unanimity the figures for 2001.

The Chairman thanked Mr Santillán and Mr Green for their reports and for their work on behalf of the Association.

5. Annual Report of the Board of Management

Manfred Pohl asked the Chairman of the Academic Advisory Council, Prof. Gabriel Tortella to present his report to the Members.

Symposia

Prof. Tortella summarised the academic activities of the EABH as presented in the annual report. He thanked the hosting banks: Nova Ljubljanska Banka d.d. and Bank of Slovenia for also providing the Assembly with the possibility to hold the General Members' Meeting and the staff for the valuable advice and help in organising the event. He also thanked the academic committee for having constituted a very interesting programme. Prof. Tortella said that the editors of the proceedings of the Ljubljana conference have not yet been appointed.

He announced the additional conference hosted by the National Bank of Greece taking place in Athens on 8 – 9 October. Prof. Cottrell and Prof. Tortella have been involved in the devising of the academic programme. Prof. Gerrassimus Notaras, the Supervisor of the Historical Archives at the Bank, was asked to introduce the event. Prof. Notaras informed that the aim is to make a prospective of attempts to create monetary unions from the Antiquity to nowadays. Furthermore, it is a farewell to the national monetary currency. Prof. Notaras welcomed everybody to Athens in October. The Chairman thanked Prof. Notaras.

Prof. Tortella announced the workshop taking place in Corfu on 5 – 6 October organised by the Alpha Bank. He put that the intention behind the organisation of these two Greek events was to allow high participation by all the members. He asked Prof. Kostas Kostis who is currently working in the Library Department of Alpha Bank to extend some information. Prof. Kostis put that the topic of the workshop is *The Creators and the Creation of Banking Enterprises in Europe from 18th to 20th Centuries.* He informed that the invitations to the event had been sent out.

Prof. Tortella thanked Prof. Kostis.

Prof. Tortella announced the next EABH main conference. It will be held in Stockholm. The hosting banks will be Nordea and Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken. The academic committee is constituted of Youssef Cassis, Philip Cottrell, Annika Halldin, Claes Holmberg, Even Lange, Håkan Lindgren, KG Lindvall, Sam Litzing, Ulf Olsson, Anders Perlinge and Gabriele Teichmann. The programme is well under way. Gabriel Tortella asked Claes Holmberg – Nordea - to add some information. Mr Holmberg indicated that informative material has been included with the conference packages and that they look forward to meeting everybody in Stockholm. Prof. Tortella thanked Mr Holmberg.

The main conference in Bratislava in 2003 will be kindly hosted by the National Bank of Slovakia. It will be combined with additional workshops on Archives as related to the Archive Year 2003 project (please see annual report). The Archive Year 2003 workshops are being organised by a committee. Gabriel Tortella, Youssef Cassis and Marián Tkác – Head of Archives at the National Bank of Slovakia - will devise the conference's academic programme and additional events.

The main conference in 2004 will take place in Athens which is kindly hosted by the Alpha Bank. The conference topic will be an attempt to review the achievements in the history and archives of finance over the last fifteen years and, also, to review the challenges and opportunities of the next 15 years. Further details to the programme will be given in due course.

Prof. Tortella further summarised the past events as in the written annual report.

Projects

Young Scholar Prize: it will be joint awarded to Ms Laurence Américi and Ms Elena Martínez Ruiz. Both dissertations were of very high quality.

We kindly ask all the members to advertise this prize at their institutions. The next prize will be awarded in Bratislava in 2003.

European Central Bank Inventory: Maria Teresa Tortella put that this project is still under process. The EABH has sent out a questionnaire to all European Central Banks Archives and asked for financial support to set up a database on the Association's Homepage. Maria Teresa Tortella informed that this questionnaire will be discussed and improved during the upcoming Central Banks Archives Workshop.

We wish to thank those who have found the time to reply and sponsored the project. We will keep you informed about the development of this project.

Prof. Tortella thanked Maria Teresa Tortella.

Archive Year 2003: the Chairman of the Academic Advisory Council asked Luis de Abreu Nunes to introduce the project. Luis de Abreu Nunes informed the Assembly that it was decided to split the workshops into 4 events during the course of the years starting from Stockholm in 2002 and concluding in Bratislava in 2003. The topics of the workshops are to be found in the report. The details and invitation to the first event will be sent in due course.

Gabriel Tortella offered a brief summary of the past projects described in the written report.

Publications

Bulletin: the last issue has been included in the conference packages of the Ljubljana conference. Prof. Tortella thanked the Assembly for the interesting contributions. We kindly ask you to further send information on your institutions in form of articles to the EABH for the upcoming issues.

Studies of Banking History: there are many books in the pipeline. Prof. Tortella expressed the wish to finally see them published. The state of the single publications has been provided in the written report.

Financial History Review: Prof. Tortella thanked Youssef Cassis and Philip Cottrell – the editors - for all their commitment to this successful volume. He informed the Assembly that the editors, having worked in this function during the last 8 years, have decided to withdraw. They will not withdraw at the same time in order to ensure a smooth replacement and new candidates are being considered. We are all very grateful to the editors for their work.

The Bureau

A few years ago the Bureau was constituted. This is a small group of people belonging to the Academic Advisory Council. The Bureau should meet twice a year, preferably on the occasion of other major EABH events in order to reduce travelling costs. Their aim is to speed up the decision process of the Association's activities. The Bureau met last time on 6th December 2000. During this meeting the renewal and rotation of the members of the Academic Advisory Council as well as the future structure of the Financial History were discussed. The realisation of additional events submitted

to the EABH following the annual General Members' Meeting that took place in Warsaw were also considered and decided upon.

Gabriel Tortella concluded his report.

Manfred Pohl asked the Assembly if they wanted to raise any questions or make any proposals for future events. Christian Bosséno - Caisse Nationale de Crédit Agricole - Responsable de la Mission Archives/Histoire, put forward the proposal to organise a conference with the topic Mutualist Banks in Europe. He informed that both Roger Nougaret – Crédit Lyonnais – and Jean Borenstein are interested in this project.

Manfred Pohl put that this proposal will be discussed during the next Bureau meeting.

6. Elections

At this point in the proceedings, the Chairman continued, according to the Articles of the Association, few members of the the Board of Management stood for re-elections:

Sir Evelyn de Rothschild N.M. Rothschild & Sons Limited Chairman

Manfred Pohl Deutsche Bank AG Deputy Chairman Executive

Dr. Hans-Ulrich Doerig Credit Suisse Group Member
Peter Kalff ABN AMRO Bank Member

All nominees were unanimously re-elected.

Miscellaneous

Gabriella Tortella introduced to the Assembly a new member of the Academic Advisory Council: Juan Carlos Martinez Oliva. Mr Martinez Oliva is working at the Ufficio Ricerche Storiche at Banca d' Italia. We wish to express our warm welcome to Juan Carlos.

Edwin Green wished to pay tribute to the contribution of many years to two members who are no longer members of the Academic Committee: Mrs Christiane Logie and Mr Jean-Marie Thiveaud. Both of them were part of the original Academic Committee and we wish to express our thanks for all their work and commitment to the Association.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.

Manfred Poll

Manfred Pohl Roberta Sneider

Frankfurt am Main, 16 February 2005