

ERA EWV FERP

42nd Member's Meeting
October 11, 2011

Meeting documents





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GDF SUEZ

Partner ERA-EWV-FERP



Agenda

**Member's Meeting, Monday the 11th October 2011, at 9.00 a.m.
Almeria, Spain**

No	Item
1	Opening and welcome
2	Approval of the Report of the Members' Meeting of October 9th, 2010 at Foligno, Italy
3	The President's annual report
4	Reports from the Presidents of the commissions
5	Finances 2010
6	Auditor's annual report
7	Approval of the Presidium's activities
8	Approval of new member organizations Exclusion of member organizations
9	Election of 1 st Vice-president, 3 rd Vice-president, 1 st Assistant and Presidents of Walking and Path commission
10	Nomination of honorary presidents and members
11	Plans for coming years
12	2011-2012 Budget
13	ERA Foundation
14	EURORANDO 2011
15	Proposals 2. Review of the ERA Constitution 3. Leading Quality Trails –Best in Europe
16	Information about the Members' Meeting 2012 in Stavanger, Norway
17	Location and dates of the Members' Meetings in 2013, 2014 and 2015
18	Any other business
19	Closing speech

AGENDA

ERA Walking Commission, October 10, 2011

1. Welcome and President's Remarks
 2. Apologies
 3. Minutes of the last meeting in Foligno / Italy, 2010
 4. Activity. Report of the Commission President
 5. Elections of the President and the Secretary of the Walking Commission
 6. Long-term planning (Results and consequences of Workshops in Foligno)
 7. Revision of ERA and Foundation constitutions
- Reports of Working Groups:**
8. Eco – Award 2011
 9. European Quality Paths
 10. Internet pages on «Enjoyable Walking»
 11. Training of honorary Hiking Guides within ERA, Phase 2
 12. Right of Access
 13. Any other business
 14. Date and place of the next meeting

AGENDA

ERA Path Commission October 10, 2011

1. Welcome and retrospection of 2010/2011
2. Approval of the Minutes of the last session
3. Informations from the presidium's meetings
4. Elections of the Presidents and the Secretary of the Path Commission
5. Renovation of the ERA Website about E Path
6. Presentation of E-Path pilot project
7. E Paths network in S-E Europe
8. Actual problems of the E-Paths E1 to E12
9. Date and place of the next meeting
10. Any other business



2.

Report of the Members' Meeting 2010 in Foligno

http://www.era-ewv-ferp.com/upl_files/2010_am-protokoll_en191210.pdf

3.

President's annual report 2011

*Walk to lose weight, feel great and ease joint pain in just 12 weeks!
Walking is one of the best forms of exercise for your health. It's simple, free and helps keep your weight in check – a boon for already stressed joints. What are you waiting for? Use this walking planner to get fit in just 12 weeks.*

You find advertisements like this in many papers and magazines - and they are right – walking is a healthy exercise. But we, as walkers, know it can be a lifestyle and not only an activity in 12 weeks.

We need a longer plan.

At my election 2 years ago I promised to start a process to get ERA “fit” so we can meet the challenges walking organisations are facing today and in the coming years.

The **First step** was the Questionnaires sent to member organizations in spring 2010 followed by workshops at the annual meeting in Foligno last year. The results are the paper “Long term Planning” and the associated action plan.

Next step. is to upgrade our political lobbying - we have already started.

Third step will be a revision of both the constitutions of the ERA and the ERA Foundation that process will take 2 years.

And then.....

I feel we are already on the right track and have over the last year increased the pace of change.

Long Term planning.

The results from the workshops in Foligno and the questionnaires we received from the member organisations were presented on the webpage shortly before Christmas. The results were used as a basis for our strategic planning for the coming years.

The presidium has tried to keep the projects realistic - both regarding the economical aspect and the limited capacity of manpower we can draw on. Our partnership with GFD SUEZ is an enormous help and it is also the reason we can run all these projects and services.

It has been a long process with a lot of discussion and finally in spring 2011 it was possible to present the Plans on the webpage to let everybody know the directions we are proposing to take.

Communication

Exchanging knowledge and experience through communication was very important to everybody so that is where we started to improve our services. It is one thing to bring more information and news – another thing to get people to read it. The presidium often hears that no one knows what is going on in ERA. This is usually because only a few see our Newsletters or the ERA-representative forgets to bring the news back home after meetings. Please tell as many walkers as possible about our homepage and the possibility to get our newsletter directly into their mailbox. You are also free to use the information from the home page on your own pages or in magazines.

We have re-designed the front page of our home page and made space for more information and news.



We have invited a small group of people to find information and knowledge on members' web pages and have had several very positive responses to this action. In connection with Eurorando have we produced several info-letters with FAQ about the most important topics. We are discussing the use of Facebook and other social networking media, but hesitate a little as it is important to make the right approach with these networking methods and to consider "value for money/effort".

E-Paths

E-paths – our most important asset – must be reviewed and the information on the homepage must be updated and this will be an enormous task for the Paths commission in the coming years.

Network

It is important to form networks to support and to learn from each other.

Regional meetings

There is a growing interest in walking - not only in mountaineering - in South East Europe. ERA has in the last years recruited new members from this corner of Europe and has experienced more and more ministries and tourism organizations contacting ERA regarding the development of walking in the region.

The regional meeting in March had participants from most of the countries in the area and a good basis for developing the E-paths was created. Uros Vidovic, as President for the Path commission, is the coordinator for this work. A new network was created and new contacts established.

There is huge potential for walking in this area. If you go away from the heavy industrial areas there are kilometer after kilometer of almost untouched nature and where there are very hospitable inhabitants.

We introduced the theory behind the German "Qualitetwege" and I am sure they will be fundamental for establishing many new paths in the region. Thank you very much to the Serbian organization for hosting this meeting.

The presidium plans to invite members and walking organizations in North East Europe to a similar meeting in the beginning of 2012.

E12

The E12-network has already been working for several years. In May they had a meeting in Argelés-sur-Mer, France to discuss the plans which are now more detailed. A Spanish company (IDEO) presented the possibility to obtain money from an EU-program. It was very interesting but at the end all agreed, that the conditions were too extensive for what we normally do in our voluntary work and that the cost for the EU-money could be too high.

Youth

At the annual meeting 2010 in Foligno we received a short report from the youth seminar KCT arranged in September 2010. The participants expressed a wish to continue the cooperation and to keep each other informed about youth-events going on in their area.

KCT took up the initiative again and in March 2011 they invited all interested to the next youth seminar (November 2011).but this time too few youth-organisations showed any interest and the seminar are cancelled.

The presidium had hoped the young walkers at the November-seminar would be able to form a working group to establish and maintain a more formal network between the walking organisations for young walkers.

ERA is willing to create a special section on our homepage to display ideas and knowhow regarding Young Walkers. The content will depend on what we receive from the youth and their organisations.

The presidium decided that the desire for a youth network must come directly from the youth with suggestions in what way it can be done before the presidium will take further actions.

Member organisations

All member organisations have during the year been contacted to update their basic information, addresses etc. We also asked how many walkers they have in their organisation. In the end we can say, that ERA now represent 2.7 million organised walkers in Europe.

I have during the year visited member organisations in Hungary, Romania, Serbia, Czech Republic, Germany, France, Spain and Morocco. Members of the presidium have been in personal contact with more of our less active members and will continue that work in the coming years.

Eurorando 2011 **Eurorando Europe**

Many member organisations have participated in Eurorando and arranged walks on local or regional level. ERA has received information about more than 350 walks, but has heard about more. It has been possible to follow the programs on the homepage and see the many places Eurorando walks have taken place. It looks like Spain, Czech Republic and Denmark are countries with the biggest number of walks. France, Slovenia, Italy and



Germany have also been very active. In addition there have been cross-border walks involving Switzerland, Poland, Belgium, Luxembourg and Slovakia.

Everywhere water has been collected for the final event in Andalusia.

I have taken part in Eurorando walks in Antequera, Ceuta and Cabo de Gata in Spain, in the border region between Czech Republic, Poland and Slovakia and in Denmark.

Eurorando Andalusia

I have been in Andalusia to participate in planning meetings in November, March, May and July. It is a huge undertaking and the preparations demand a lot of work. I know many organisations have called for more information at an earlier stage, but that has unfortunately not been possible. The homepage – which looked very promising at the beginning - almost stopped being updated from January to July. We began instead to bring news and FAQs as fast as we received them from Spain on the ERA homepage.

Eurorando 2016?

While Eurorando 2011 is still running, we are getting questions about Eurorando 2016. Where and when is it going to happen? Will it happen? Nothing is decided yet.

ECO Awards

The Presidium decided in cooperation with our partner GDF SUEZ to create a special European award for the best proposals for the improvement of the environment for our paths and our walkers. This is the first GDF SUEZ Eco Awards ever created for the walking activity organised by the ERA.

We wanted to start a discussion about how ERA can encourage walkers and local organisations to focus on the environmental questions regarding walking. We see the partnership with GDF SUEZ as a great opportunity to develop our work in this field.

The first prizes will be awarded in connection with Eurorando Andalusia.

“Leading Quality Trails – Best in Europe”

Deutscher Wanderverband has the last 10 years done a lot for developing walking paths and to increase the quality of the paths. It is not easy to obtain the German Quality Seal. The responsible organisations behind a path must do a lot of work before they reach the qualification so Deutscher Wanderverband can be proud that so many have taken up the challenge. Today, there are more than 65 qualified paths in Germany.

Other European countries have asked for a similar qualification on a European level. That is why ERA in October 2010 started a working group, which in close cooperation with Germany has developed a European concept. The "Lechweg, von Quelle bis zum Fall" in Germany/Austria has been a pilot project and one of the subjects for our discussions. The working group will present the results at the annual meeting in Almeria – but I am sure we will end with a good offer for our member organisations and other “path-owners” in Europe.

Presidium

The presidium has had 1 weekend meeting in January and phone meetings in April and August. Between the meetings we have been in close contact via e-mail and smaller meetings.

The new working groups have been very active in developing different tasks in the long term plan. It is a great pleasure for me, that in this way we can engage more people in the work for ERA.

It is for the presidium to plan the future direction, but only if the member organisations get engaged in the work it gets real meaning.

I made it clear at my election 2 years ago that we must work in teams - nobody must stand alone with the tasks – I feel we are coming closer to that goal.

I want to thank the presidium for their tremendous work and engagement and a special thanks to Jörg Haase and Juan Mari Feliu who leave the presidium in Almeria. They have both contributed with a lot of ideas and work for ERA.

I participated in the “EU Sports Forum 2011” on the 21st - 22nd February in Budapest where I established the first contacts with people in different areas of Sport.

We were presented with many projects supported by the EU and I got a lot of inspiration for our work in the coming years.

Working groups

A working group is a short term group with a specific task to accomplish within a limited time scale.



There will always be at least one member from the presidium in the group together with experts from different member organisations. Thanks to our partner GDF SUEZ it is possible to pay most of the travel costs for the members of the groups.

We have until now established the following working groups:

- Eco awards, running until 2013
- Regional meeting South –East Europe, ended March 2011
- "Enjoyable Walking", running until 2013
- Workshops, Long term planning, ended January 2011
- Eurorando 2011, ending 2011
- Access, running until 2012
- Quality Paths, ending January 2012

New groups will be started after the annual meeting in Almeria: Health, new ERA constitution, new constitution for the ERA Foundation, political issues, new home page

We will try to bring news from the working groups in our Newsletter every time they have had meetings.

ERA-office in Prague

The staffing situation at the Office has changed several times since last year in Foligno.

Katerina Husova finished her employment on the 1st November 2010. Jana Harnochova decided that her maternity leave would continue until spring 2013, but from time to time she would be able to find time to do some freelance work for ERA.

I functioned as General Secretary from 1/10 2010 until 1/2 2011 when Magdalena Klimovicova started as new temporary General Secretary until Jana Harnochova returns to work. I have opened and answered all the mails, this has given me a good knowledge and insight into the sort of correspondence the office receives.

Jana Harnochova has maintained the book-keeping and finished the finances for the year ending 31/12/2010. She has also worked as translator of documents from English into German. I have also used her to introduce some of the ERA topics to Magdalena Klimovicova.

Phillippe Rouche from France is now translating many of our documents in all 3 languages.

We have also got a great voluntary help from Walter Sittig, Germany, for correcting our German documents.

Robert Strobel, our auditor was at the office in June and confirmed the finances were in order.

I have been in Prague every second month to discuss and coordinate the office work.

I have also used a lot of time to sort the rest of the old papers, to update the archives and to prepare the office and PC for the new employee.

We have a good cooperation with the General Secretary of KCT Mojmir Nováček and his staff and are very grateful they will accommodate our office.

The KCT office (and the ERA office) is situated in a badly maintained concrete shopping mall in the suburbs of Prague. The Mall has recently changed ownership, but at the moment we don't know what this change it will have for the offices – but something will happen.

In 1998 came Mobilix – the later Orange to Denmark. They left the market again in 2004 but the slogan introduced by the director Monique Moullé-Zetterström is still very much alive and will be my slogan for the coming year.

“Conversation deepens understanding”

Lis Nielsen, August 2011



4.

Annual reports from the Presidents of the Commissions

Walking Commission

Since the last meeting of the Walking Commission in last autumn at Foligno in Italy the President of the Commission has focused on the following points :

Meetings of the Presidium

Attending meetings of the Presidium in Munich (29 to 31 January 2011) and by phone / Skype April 7, 2011 and August 23, 2011.

Current status and future development of ERA

As part of the survey carried out on ERA concerning its possible developments for the future and the work achieved by the workshops set up at the Annual Conference in Foligno, a working group met in Copenhagen last November to analyze the questionnaires received and made a synthesis of the workshops. Under the chairmanship of Lis Nielsen Alison Mitchell, Marcel Grandjean, and Sabrina Gerekens (Comité Régional Aquitaine de la Randonnée Pédestre) have stripped and analyzed all the results during their three days meeting. It is unfortunate and disappointing that only 19 out of the 55 member organizations have returned the completed questionnaires given the importance of the survey. However, the responses of those who have sent their forms are important and have allowed the working group to draw some conclusions for the future strategic direction of the actions of ERA.

The working group has tried to synthesize the answers that have been sent (in several languages) to achieve joint action plan spread over the coming years. A draft of the working plan and actions for the years 2011 - 2013 was proposed and discussed at the Presidium meeting in Munich January 2011 in order to improve it, make it complete and finally adopted it. The final version will be on the agenda for the meeting of the Walking commission and at the Member's Meeting in Almeria.

Website-check by third parties

As part of the survey "current situation - future development of ERA" and the question about the support ERA can rely on from its member organizations, a study was undertaken by a working group on the possibilities of sharing know-how and exchange new ideas.

Since we from our member organizations unfortunately only receive patchy information about ongoing activities and projects, we need to find the facts by ourselves on the websites of our member organizations. The practice shows that this work can hardly be done by the Presidium members alone and we need help from others. Therefore, several members of our member organizations were asked in writing if they would be willing to visit twice a month the website of some of our member organizations, number of which would be given in advance, to identify new projects or interesting actions that are on line. This information would then be forwarded to the office in Prague and appear on the ERA website. This should encourage others and be an incentive for all our member organizations to provide us with better and regular information about their activities. This action started in January 2011 for a test period of one year and will be possibly extended.

"ECO Award"

The working group, chaired by Armand Ducornet, assisted by Reinhard Wolf (Schwäbischer Albverein) and Marcel Grandjean has already started its work. A first draft of the presentation and participating conditions written in German was prepared during the session in Stuttgart in January the 13th in order to submit the proposal to the Presidium. Members of the Presidium adopted the concept in Munich at their meeting in January 2011. The official announcement of the first "ERA Eco Award" was posted on the website of ERA in all three languages. All member organizations were informed about it through our newsletter. The jury, composed of Patrick Marcel (GDF SUEZ), Armand Ducornet (ERA), Reinhard Wolf (SAV), Domenico Pandolfo (Federazione Italiana Escursionismo), Marcel Grandjean (ERA) and Lis Nielsen (ERA), will in September review the received applications.

South-Eastern regional ERA-meeting (18 - 20/03/2011 in Serbia)

Delegates from 10 walking Federations took part in the first regional meeting that ERA has ever organized. During the two very informative and active days Lis Nielsen and the two Commission Presidents, Marcel Grandjean and Uros Vidovic discussed the E-Paths and the ability to create the missing links in the South-East Europe. Next year several bi-and trilateral meetings will be organized aiming to solve some of the regional problems. This



first regional meeting of South-East Europe creates the basis for future cooperation to develop tourism and rambling in this part of Europe.

The Planinarski savez Srbije, with the help of various sponsors, had perfectly organized the venue in the pleasant surroundings of the mountain hut at Rajac about one hundred kilometers south of Belgrade.

Website "Enjoyable walking"

A working group chaired by Armand Ducornet, assisted by Gunter Schön (Deutscher Wanderverband) and Marcel Grandjean had their first meeting in Paris on 5 / 6 April 2011. It prepared the draft concept of this topic. The information which should be shared on this website should provide useful information both for both organized and non-organized walkers with the aim to:

- Share the walking best practice the rules of proper use of walking (planning, implementation, equipment, food, safety aspects)
- Walk with a club (why?, benefits, Euro card with links to member organizations, a list of walking paths)
- Provide training opportunities (for walkers being organized or not, guidelines Marcoussis, competence and training plan for volunteer walking guides, training centers)
-

During its second meeting in Freiburg in July the 20th, 2011, the first draft of the text was reviewed and improved. The final version will be issued in August at the Paris meeting and will be presented in Almeria.

Bonn, July 27, 2011 Marcel Grandjean

Path Commission

Our first task after the Commission meeting in Foligno was the preparation of the protocol and its publication on the ERA website. I wish to thank the third Vice-President, Rob Franssen for his contribution.

2. Updating ERA website - Pages about E-Paths

After the meeting of the Paths Commission in Foligno, we decided to update the E-Paths pages on the ERA website. I split all the countries involved in the E-Paths into 3 groups. The first group consists of: Slovenia, Austria, Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Serbia, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Romania, Bulgaria and Greece. The second group concerns: Portugal, Spain, France, Italy, Switzerland, Cyprus, Estonia and Malta. Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Finland, Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Germany, Great Britain and Ireland are in the third group. Uroš Vidovič is responsible for the 1st group, Pedro Cuica for the 2nd group and Rob Franssen for the 3rd group.

We collected the following information from our member organizations: the routes for each E-Path, their respective distances, information on the responsible organization, literature available for each E-Path (maps, guides, websites, etc.), and the types of marking and direction support. Part of this work has been already been accomplished.

3. South-Eastern regional ERA-meeting.

Delegates from walking federations from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Macedonia, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia and Hungary took part in the regional meeting. Among other information provided to the delegates it was announced that an ERA quality label for paths would implemented early in 2012. This first regional meeting in South-East Europe is the basis for future cooperation with the common goal of develop walking in this part of Europe.

4. Meeting with the Siebenbürgischer Karpatenverein in Romania, 7-8 July 2011

Accompanied by the President of the ERA - Lis Nielsen - I visited Romania to meet with walkers from the Siebenbürgischer Karpatenverein from the vicinity of the city Brasov / Königsberg. Together with the representatives of the Ministry of Tourism and various nature protection and tourist organizations we discussed the issue of the possible cooperation between ERA and Romania on the E-Paths topic. The project of the ERA qualification of paths was raised at the discussion with the indication of its implementation early in 2012.

5. Miscellaneous

At the beginning of February, I attended the meeting of the Presidium in Munich. In addition to the various reports submitted, including those of the Path Commission, the topic of the development of ERA has been widely discussed. On the list of important tasks to be done within ERA E-Paths comes on top as a priority and major one. I am in regular contact with the President, Lis Nielsen, Rob Franssen and many other colleagues from ERA. This is an opportunity for me to express my gratitude for the team spirit that exists within ERA.

Uroš Vidovič, July 2011



5.

Financial report for the year ending 31st December 2010

In 2010 ERA started a 3 year partnership with GDF SUEZ (2010-2013) which resulted in an increase in activities during 2010 and this will expand in the coming years.

The statement shows that by the year end our surplus (balance of receipts over payments) was 21,154 euros, but 10,000 euros of this related to GDF SUEZ 2010 projects which started in 2011. This arose because the GDFSUEZ partnership was authorised too late in 2010 to have it finalised in that year.

Our receipts amounted 55,370 euros. The partnership with GDF SUEZ brought 20,000 euros and 2 new member organisations joined during 2010 which increased the members fee up to almost 30,000 euros. Thanks are due to The Deutscher Wanderverband, Federazione Italiana Escursionismo, Schwäbischer Albverein, Sauerländischer Gebirgsverein and FFRandonnée for their additional payments for member fees.

The world wide financial crisis is still affecting the traditional income from the 2 foundations which also support the work in ERA: the ERA-foundation and the Fahrbach-Stiftung which has meant a decrease in funds available from them.

Our payments amounted 34,216 euros. The Presidium has had 4 meetings in 2010: The first was in January 2010 in Munich, 2 phone meetings in April and August and a final meeting at the annual meeting in Foligno in October. The President has been in Prague 7 times in 2010 for meetings with the General Secretary and the staff in the KCT-office. A visit is normally on 2-4 days and the cost is about 250 euros for a visit. In between the visits there is a close communication via Skype and emails between Prague and Copenhagen, where the president has her home.

The President wishes the members of the Presidium to engage in more activities and to create working groups on special projects – that is why a new account is shown in the finances covering this sort of work.

The Staff costs for 2010 is not typical, because the office has been without a general secretary for part of the year. Jana Harnochova has been a great help in completing the financial work for 2010 and has also done a great job (when her baby is sleeping!) in translating documents from English into German. Katarina Husova has, together with her work as general secretary translated many documents and supported some of the GDF SUEZ project work. Thanks are due to Philippe Rouche from Paris who has improved the quality of our French texts, Walter Sitting from Germany for helping with German texts.

The GDF SUEZ projects in 2010 included the production of a new ERA-leaflet, new banners and the launch of other planned projects.

EURORANDO 2011 shows no financial activities, although there was quite a bit of travelling to meetings in Andalusia during 2010, all were financed by the organisation in Andalusia. Eurorando in Europe has mainly been focusing on presenting information on the homepage with no special meetings in 2010.

Alison Mitchell
August 2011



Financial statement by 31 December 2010

Receipts	2009	Plan 2010	Statement 2010
Membership subscriptions	29.002	29.500	29.958
Fahrbach-Stiftung / Donation	1.500	1.500	1.025
Income from Sales	97	100	313
Special donation to administration from VDGWV	2.500	2.500	2.500
Income from ERA Foundation	4.000	2.000	1.000
Income Sponsorship	-	0	20.000
EURORANDO	725	0	-
Various income	259	0	527
Interest	43	0	48
Total	<u>38.125</u>	<u>35.600</u>	<u>55.371</u>
Item through			15.764
Total Receipts			<u>71.135</u>

Payments	2009	Plan 2010	Statement 2010
Presidium meeting, Munich	2.781	4.000	3.669
Annual general meeting, Foligno	4.751	4.000	3.144
Travelling expenses, President	1.272	1.500	2.670
Travelling expenses, Presidium, Working groups	-	0	1.026
Path commission (E4,E5) patrons expenditure	497	250	497
Cost of Sales	0	100	0
Administration:			
Staff costs, General Secretary and Eurorando 2011	12.073	10.500	9.880
Travelling expenses	174	750	1.399
Office expenses (Print, Post, Phone, Homepage)	1.233	2.600	1.595
Rent	1.251	1.600	1.176
Translation costs	1.555	2.000	1.726
Miscellaneous Expenditure	414	800	1.008
Marketing and GDF SUEZ projects	-	0	6.205
EURORANDO	0	2.000	0
Exchange costs, Charge / Commission	366	700	220
Total expenditure	<u>26.367</u>	<u>30.800</u>	<u>34.216</u>
Item through			15.764
Total expenditure			<u>49.980</u>

Receipts (deficit) for the year	<u>11.758</u>	<u>4.800</u>	<u>21.154</u>
Total Funds Brought Forward	10.408	22.166	22.166
Net income (deficit) for the year	11.758	4.800	21.154
Total Funds Carried Forward	22.166	26.966	43.320



Development of financial year 2010

Position at 1. 1. 2010	22.166
Income 2010	<u>71.135</u>
	93.301
Expenditure 2010	<u>49.980</u>
Total	<u>43.320</u>
Sponsorship GDF SUEZ 2010 - income in 2011	20.000
State to 31. 12. 2010	<u>23.320</u>

Cash & cash at bank at 31. 12. 2010

Cash - EUR	0
Cash - CZK	158
Cash - President	2.239
Savings account Commerzbank Kassel	6.729
Commerzbank Kassel	14.954
KČT invoice for 2010, paid in 2011	<u>-759</u>
	<u>23.320</u>



6.

Auditor's annual report for 2010

The audit of the European Rambler Association was conducted on the June 25th, 2011.

I went to Prague for this purpose. President Lis Nielsen and the General Secretary Magdalena Klimovicova both took part in the audit.

During the conversation with the President it was revealed that the incorporation of the staff newly employed since February 2011 is well advanced.

We discussed the changes in the accounts being decided by the Presidium which make it clear how the funds granted by GDF SUEZ will be used.

During the audit the presented documents were checked randomly. There were no objections from my side whatsoever.

The audit showed that the first 10.000 € of the confirmed total contribution of 20.000 € for the fiscal year 2010 GDF SUEZ provided only in February 2011. The additional amount will be received in the second half of 2011. According to the President this is due to formal terms of the GDF SUEZ.

In anticipation of the expected revenues expenditures were already done in 2010. Only through savings in various other expense items, these expenses were made possible without leading to a reduction of the capital.

In summary, it can be stated that the annual financial statements have been prepared properly and no objections were raised.

It is therefore proposed to give approval to the treasurer and the Presidium.

I recommend and encourage, however, that in the future, contributions paid by the GDF SUEZ will be planned in the liquidity budget and the payment carried out in due time.

I welcome the decision of the Presidium to prepare a medium-term financial planning, which should result in the expenditure plan related to the expected revenue situation in order to avoid unexpected changes in the contributions.

Yours sincerely

Robert Strobel Auditor
July 2011

8.

«Exclusion of member organisations»

1. Federacion Navarra de Deportes de Montana y Escalada
2. Federació d'Esports de Muntanya i Escalada de la Comunitat Valencia

10.

Elections:

§ 6 Duties of the Members' Meeting

g) *electing the auditors;*

Robert Strobel, Deutscher Wanderverband was elected in 2008 for 4 years .

§ 9 Voting and Elections

The Presidium's period of office is 4 years. However, it shall remain in office until the next election. Every two years, half of the Presidium shall resign; in the first period the 1st and 3rd Vice-president and half the Assistants in alphabetical order, in the second half of the election period the President, the 2nd Vice-president and the other Assistants.

§ 12 Presidium

§ 12.1.

The Association's Presidium consists of the President, 3 Vice-presidents, the Treasurer and up to 4 Assistants.

§ 12.2.

No country may be represented in the Presidium by more than one person.

			Elected
President	Lis Nielsen	Dansk Vandrelaug (DK)	2009
1. Vice-president			
2. Vice-president	Armand Ducornet	Fédération Française de la Randonnée Pédestre (F)	2009
3. Vice-president			
1. Assistant			
Treasurer	Alison Mitchell	Ramblers Great Britain (GB)	2009

Candidates:

1. Vice-president: Aloys Steppuhn, Deutscher Wanderverband (D)

3. Vice-president: Domenico Pandolfo, Federazione Italiana Escursionismo (I)

1. Assistant: Rob Franssen, Stichting Wandelplatform - LAW (NL)

§ 14 Commissions

§ 14.1

The Presidium and the Members' Meeting can form commissions for particular purposes. The commissions shall adopt rules of procedure, which require the consent of the Presidium in order to become valid.

§ 14.2

They shall elect a chairman for four years. The term of office must correspond to that of the Presidium. The provisions of § 9 of the Constitution relevant to this matter apply.

§ 14.3

The chairmen of the commissions shall be invited to meetings of the Presidium, in so far as this is justified by the agenda, and shall take part in an advisory capacity. They are not members of the Praesidium by virtue of their office.

Candidates:

Chairman Walking Commission: Marcel Grandjean (CH)

Chairman Path Commission: Uros Vidovic (SLO)



Deutscher Wanderverband • Wilhelmshöher Allee 157-159 • 34121 Kassel

Deutscher Wanderverband

Europäische Wandervereinigung e.V.
Frau Präsidentin Lis Nielsen
c/o KCT Klub der Tschechischen Touristen
Archeologická 2256

Der Präsident

CZ-15500 Praha 5 - Luziny

Tschechien



**Antrag des Verbandes Deutscher Gebirgs- und Wandervereine e.V.
an die Mitgliederversammlung der Europäischen Wandervereinigung zum
11. Oktober 2011 in Almeria/Spanien**

7. Juni 2011

Der Verband Deutscher Gebirgs- und Wandervereine e.V. (kurz: Deutscher Wanderverband) schlägt für die Wahl des 1. Vizepräsidenten in das Präsidium der Europäischen Wandervereinigung

Herrn Aloys Steppuhn

Vor:

Herr Aloys Steppuhn, geb. 19.06.1950, ist seit 2010 kooptiertes Mitglied des Vorstandes des Deutschen Wanderverbandes.

In der 2. Wahlperiode ist Aloys Steppuhn Präsident des Sauerländischen Gebirgsvereins und somit seit etwas über vier Jahren in dieser Funktion regelmäßig und eng in die Arbeit des Deutschen Wanderverbandes eingebunden. Er unterstützt und fördert die EWV-Angelegenheiten seit einigen Jahren durch seine Teilnahme an den Jahreskonferenzen und bringt sich in den Dialog zwischen dem Deutschen Wanderverband und der Europäischen Wandervereinigung im Sinne der Europäischen Wanderbewegung ein.

Der Verband Deutscher Gebirgs- und Wandervereine e.V. nominiert mit Vorstandsbeschluss vom 22. Oktober 2010 Herrn Aloys Steppuhn für die Wahl des 1. Vizepräsidenten der Europäischen Wandervereinigung in Almeria/Spanien als offiziellen Kandidaten.

Für weitere Auskünfte stehen der Unterzeichnete und der Bewerber zur Verfügung.

Mit freundlichen Grüßen



Dr. Hans-Ulrich Rauchfuß
Präsident



Verband Deutscher Gebirgs-
und Wandervereine e.V.
kurz: Deutscher Wanderverband

Deutscher Wanderverband
Wilhelmshöher Allee 157-159
34121 Kassel
Telefon 05 61/9 3873-0
Telefax 05 61/9 38 73-110
info@wanderverband.de
www.wanderverband.de

Bankverbindung:
Volksbank Odenwald eG
Konto 1 805 681 (BLZ 508 633 13)



FEDERAZIONE ITALIANA ESCURSIONISMO

Ente morale – Associazione di protezione ambientale

CONSIGLIO NAZIONALE

Candidacy for the position of 3rd Vice President of ERA- EWV- FERP

Domenico PANDOLFO - Representative of the Federazione Italiana Escursionismo (FIE)

Born in **Rofrano (SA)**, Italy, **December 16, 1954**

President of the Campania Regional Committee and member of the FIE National Board

President and Founder of the Trekking and Hiking Group Association, CULTNATURA of Rofrano (SA), FIE Guide

Work experience in the field of sustainable development of protected areas; territory promotion; projects related to environmental protection and economic development (for example, networks of trails in protected areas, adventure parks, brochures and other informational material, both printed and digital, etc.).

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: The importance of working for ERA- EWV- FERP

Mr. President, Members of the Presidium, Delegates:

To be a candidate for the position of 3rd Vice President of ERA is an honor both for myself and for FIE, whom I have the responsibility of representing. I fully understand, however, the other side of this honor, which includes a commitment and dedication to this job. Whoever is elected to a position of this level is called to supply results. It is my intention, if elected, to continue on a path of duty and dedication; the same route I have taken in recent years while serving FIE.

My training and experience is infused with a strong European conviction. During my experiences as a young working student, I visited the then accessible European Nations. Later, as a working adult it contributed to my growing awareness that Europe is our common house that respects the cultural differences of the populations that it comprises. Hiking excursions can and must be a useful vehicle through which culture and tolerance is diffused during confrontation and cooperation towards the achievement of a common European identity.

Being part of the Presidium provides one with the opportunity to work at a high level in order to make a useful contribution to the achievement of this noble objective related to hiking excursions. The Network of European Paths, the 12 arrows in our bow, is the instrument through which we can give concrete life to the circulation of people, to meeting each other, and to the exchange of experiences and knowledge of places and their distinctive features. And for these reasons, it will be my duty and pleasure to continue to be responsible for trails, environmental protection, and organization of events, as I have done thus far for FIE.

Before concluding, I would like to underline the fact that, irrespective of the workload I will be assigned, I will continue to work in this direction because I am firmly convinced of the value of hiking excursions as an opportunity for socio-economic growth based on the requirement of sustained development.

Before I ask you for your consensus on my election, I would like to thank Mrs. Lis Nielsen for the empathy and understanding she has generated and Mr. Juan Mari Feliu Dord who I hope to have the honor of succeeding. I would like to thank Mrs. Elvira Bozzano, a veteran of FIE in ERA, who welcomed me with a true sense of friendship and complete collaboration. Lastly, my very personal thanks go to Mr. Vittorio Alinovi, previously Vice President of ERA, who I had the privilege of meeting. I consider him a master, a humble person who never showed off, but was always willing, and available to his community. Thank you for your attention.



Marcel Grandjean
Schmittgasser Kirchweg 1
53123 Bonn
marcelgrandjean@web.de

Bonn, 20. Mai 2011

An die Delegierten zur
Hauptversammlung der
Europäische Wandervereinigung
vom 11. Oktober 2011 in Almeria/E

Kandidatur für den Vorsitz der Wanderkommission für die Jahre 2011-2015

Sehr geehrte Damen und Herren,
liebe Wanderfreundinnen, liebe Wanderfreunde,

Seit acht Jahren stehe ich der Wanderkommission vor und vertrete diese im Präsidium. In dieser Zeit wurden im Schoße der EWV verschiedene, der heutigen Zeit angepasste Veränderungen und Neuerungen eingeführt. Zu diesen konnte ich mit meiner Arbeit und meinem Engagement auch einen Beitrag leisten. So wurden beispielsweise in der Kommissionsarbeit Workshops zu bestimmten Themen eingeführt oder für die Lösung von klar definierten Problemen Arbeitsgruppen gebildet.

Mit der Wahl von Lis Nielsen vor zwei Jahren zur neuen Präsidentin der EWV sowie der sukzessiven Erneuerung und Verjüngung des Präsidiums konnten auch die Ziele neu definiert werden. Die damit verbundenen Aufgaben sind im Arbeitsplan für die kommenden Jahre festgelegt und sollen an der Generalversammlung 2011 vorgestellt und verabschiedet werden. Es war mir vergönnt, im Rahmen dieser Neuausrichtung aktiv mitzuarbeiten. Dank der finanziellen Unterstützung eines Hauptsponsors konnten Aktionen in Angriff genommen werden, zu deren Realisierung bisher die finanziellen Mittel fehlten.

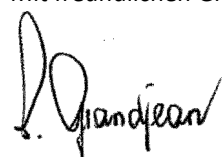
Die Umsetzung der gesetzten Ziele ist im vollen Gang und es liegt mir viel daran, bei der Verwirklichung der bereits in Bearbeitung stehenden oder geplanten Projekte (z.B. Umwelt-Preis „Eco Award“, Eurorando 2016, Internetauftritt „Genussvolles Wandern“, Wanderleiterausbildung, Überarbeitung unserer Satzung) weiter aktiv mitarbeiten zu können. Deshalb möchte ich mich hiermit für den

Vorsitz der Wanderkommission für eine weitere Wahlperiode (2011-2015)

bewerben.

Ich hoffe, dass meine Kandidatur an der Generalversammlung 2011 Ihre Unterstützung finden wird und danke bereits im Voraus bestens für das in mich gesetzte Vertrauen. Ich werde alles daran setzen, dieses zu rechtfertigen.

Mit freundlichen Grüßen



Marcel Grandjean



Uroš Vidovič
Hajdoše 1/f
SI 2250 PTUJ
uros@riso.si

Ptuj, den 30.06.2011

An die Delegierten
der Mitgliederversammlung
der Europäischen Wandervereinigung
am 11. Oktober 2011 in Almeria/E

**Kandidatur für das Amt des Vorsitzenden der Wegekommision
für die Jahre 2011-2015**

Sehr geehrte Damen und Herren,
liebe Wanderfreundinnen, liebe Wanderfreunde,

seit vier Jahren bin ich Vorsitzender der Wegekommision und vertrete die Kommission im Präsidium. In dieser Zeit wurden bei der EWV verschiedene, der heutigen Zeit angepasste Veränderungen und Neuerungen eingeführt. Dazu konnte ich mit meiner Arbeit und meinem Engagement auch einen Beitrag leisten. In den letzten vier Jahren haben wir zusammen im Bereich der E-Wege einige sehr wichtige Schritte nach vorne gemacht (neue Beschilderung für E-Wege vom E1 bis zum E12, neue E-Wege-Karte, Markierung von einigen fehlenden E-Wege-Teilen, neuer E-Weg E12, und einige andere). Bei dieser Gelegenheit bedanke ich mich für die große Hilfe und Unterstützung meines Vorgängers Frank Schlinzig und für die gute Zusammenarbeit in der Wegekommision bei Pedro Cuiça und Rob Franssen.

In der Wegekommision sind wir auch in Gebieten aktiv, die leider noch ohne E-Wanderwege (sogenannte „weiße Flecken“) sind. Wir haben große Fortschritte bei der Entwicklung des E-Wegenetzes in den neuen EWV-Mitgliedsstaaten gemacht. Dank der Konferenz mit unseren Mitgliedsorganisationen in Südosteuropa haben wir auch einen wichtigen Schritt nach vorne im Bereich der E-Wanderwege gemacht. In der Konferenz hatten wir direkte Gespräche über offene Fragen im Zusammenhang mit den E-Wegen in der Region. Eine solche Konferenz ist auch in Nordosteuropa geplant.

Mit der Wahl der neuen Präsidentin der EWV, sowie durch die Verjüngung des Präsidiums konnten auch die Ziele neu definiert werden. Die damit verbundenen Aufgaben sind im Arbeitsplan für die kommenden Jahre festgelegt und sollen bei der Mitgliederversammlung 2011 vorgestellt und verabschiedet werden. Dank der finanziellen Unterstützung eines Hauptsponsors konnten Aktionen, zu deren Realisierung die finanziellen Mittel bisher fehlten, in Angriff genommen werden.

Deshalb möchte ich mich hiermit um das

Amt des Vorsitzenden der Wegekommision für eine weitere Wahlperiode (2011-2015)

bewerben.

Ich hoffe, dass meine Kandidatur bei der Mitgliederversammlung 2011 Ihre Unterstützung finden wird und danke bereits im Voraus bestens für das in mich gesetzte Vertrauen. Auch in Zukunft werde ich mich für die gute Zusammenarbeit aller Mitglieder in der Wegekommision und für die geplanten Ziele einsetzen.

Mit freundlichen Wandergrüßen

Uroš Vidovič

12.

Long term planning 2011 – 2013

Communication		2011	2012	2013
Website	New layout and platform		x	
	Introduce more translation tools		x	
News	More news. 1-2 a week		x	
	Newsletter 4 times a year	x		
Reports	News from meetings in working groups.	x		
	Minutes from meetings published within a month		x	
Knowhow, inspirations		2011	2012	2013
Collecting knowhow	Pilot project. Visiting selected homepages	x		
	Database with persons with special expertise		x	
	List of members with expertise to share		x	
Presentation	Presentations of expertise at the annual conference	x	x	?
	Links with ideas and good practice	x		
	Database with info about important topics.		x	x
Seminars	Electronic fora		x	x
	Manual for new seminars.	x		
	Arrange a seminar about Health			x
	Arrange a seminar about Way-marking			x
	Arrange a seminar about European Quality Paths		x	
	Arrange a seminar about Access			x
Networks		2011	2012	2013
Regional meetings	Pilot project, South-Eastern regional ERA-meeting	x		
	North-Eastern regional ERA-meeting		x	
Tema meetings	Youth		x	
	Disabled persons			x
	European Quality Paths		x	
Electronic fora	E-paths in S-E Europe		x	x
	Introduce ERA on Facebook		x	
	Introduce ERA on Twitter etc.			x
E-paths		2011	2012	2013
Concept	Updating of criteria and rules for E-paths	x		
Waymarking	Presentation of known way-marking on the home page	x		
	Regional waymarking-seminars			x
Information	Pilot project to update the info on web	x		
	Updated info about E-Paths		x	x
	Produce Regional Leaflets			x
Maps	E-paths interact with Google Map		x	x
Inspiration	Collect stories from Long-distance walkers		x	
E-Path groups	Form regional coordinating groups	x	x	



European Union/Council		2011	2012	2013
Strategy	Establish a political working group	x		
	Contact relevant commissioners etc		x	x
	Investigate the correct position in EU	x	x	
	Pilot-Project with partner from EU Sport Forum			x
Presentation of ERA	Produce political info-material about ERA		x	
Council of Europe:	Participate in NGO-meetings	x	x	x
	Find relevant organs, working for the Council		x	
	Investigate the correct position in the Council		x	
The right of Access		2011	2012	2013
Seminar Malaga 2008	Suggestions from working group to new actions	x		
	Establish Electronic fora about access.			x
Good examples	Exchange of problems and successes		x	x
	Show examples for multi use of paths.		x	
EU	Investigate EU legislation		x	
Partners	Contact organisations with similar problems	x	x	
Environmental issues		2011	2012	2013
Eco Awards	Planning, introduction, Electronic Leaflet	x		
	Promotion of the Award	x	x	
	Competition	x	x	x
Forum	Establish a forum for environmental issues		x	
"Enjoyable Walking"		2011	2012	2013
Action	Working group define the project	x		
	Developing a new section on the home page		x	
	Updating the information			x
Health		2011	2012	2013
Action	Define our work in this field	x	x	
	Find examples of good practice and experiences	x	x	
	Publish our work with Health		x	x
	Organise a seminar regarding Health			x
Events		2011	2012	2013
Euroorando		x		
European Walking Day	Renew the concept		x	
Eco Awards	The event of awards	x	x	x
European Quality Mark	The first qualifications		x	x
Youth		2011	2012	2013
Actions	Forming a working group after KCT-seminar in November	x		
	Establish a webpage about and for young walkers		x	
	Encourage the youth to joint actions		x	x



Constitutions		2011	2012	2013
New ERA-Constitution	Introduced at Annual Meeting	x		
	Forming a working group	x		
	Presentation for the presidium		x	
	Discussion at AM with the MO		x	
	New constitution approved at annual meeting			x
Foundation	Forming a working group	x		
	Presentation for the presidium		x	
	Discussions in the Foundation Forum and Council		x	
	New constitution approved at annual meeting			x

13.

Budget 2011 and 2012

Receipts	Plan 2011	Rev 2011	Plan 2012
Membership subscriptions	29.500	30.000	30.500
Foundation / Donation	1.500	1.000	1.000
Receipts from Sales	100	100	300
Special donation to administration	2.500	2.500	2.500
Receipts from ERA Foundation	2.000	1.500	1.500
Receipts Sponsorship		25.000	25.000
EURORANDO	-		
Expens, administration - reimbursement	-		
Interest	-		
Total Receipts	35.600	60.100	60.800
Payments	Plan 2011	Rev 2011	Plan 2012
Presidium meetings	4.000	4.500	5.000
Annual general meeting, 2011 Almeria, 2012 Stavanger	4.500	5.500	5.500
Travelling expenses, President	2.000	3.000	2.500
Travelling expenses, Presidium, Working groups		2.000	7.000
Cost of Sales	100	200	100
Administration:			
Staff costs, General Secretary and Eurorando	11.000	12.000	12.000
Travelling expenses	750	1.500	1.000
Office expenses (Print, Post, Phone, Homepage)	1.600	1.800	1.200
Rent	1.600	1.600	1.600
Translation costs	2.000	3.000	2.500
Miscellaneous Expenditure	1.050	2.500	500
PR and GDF SUEZ projects	1.000	27.000	19.000
EURORANDO	3.000	3.500	1.500
Currency exchange costs/ Charge / Compensation	800	1.000	800
Total payments	33.400	69.100	60.200
Receipts (deficit) for the year	2.200	-9.000	600
Total Funds Brought Forward	26.966	43.350	34.350
Net receipts (deficit) for the year	2.200	-9.000	600
Total Funds Carried Forward	29.166	34.350	34.950



16.

Proposals

1. Proposal for review of the ERA Constitution

On the initiative of the president, the Presidium has decided to start a process to update and modernize the constitution and propose the Member's Meeting to form a working group to start the process

The last changes of the ERA Constitution were done in 1996, 2001 and 2004. As far as we can find, it was mostly about technical matters (changing the financial year to the calendar year, changing the member's fee from DM to euro, changing the number of weeks for the first invitation for an annual meeting etc.).

ERA has, since the founding in 1969, changed a lot and we find it is time to consider a proper updating of the constitution so it will meet the demands of the twenty first century and is according to the way an international organization as ERA has to work today.

As a minimum, we see the need for changes/ a discussion about the following paragraph in the existing constitution; which can be downloaded from the ERA home page

But the working group might find more subjects to change.

§2:

The objects were created in the year 1969; it might be time to consider if all the aims still must be there or if something is missing.

§3,2b:

We suggest removing the possibility for individuals to be a member of ERA.

§4:

We suggest taking away the total Paragraph. Not because ERA doesn't want to promote walking to young people, but because creation of a special European Association for Young Walker is not according to the ways young walkers are interacting today.

We suggest ERA support the work for young walkers by establishing network and working groups when needed. The definition of a young walker is very different from country to country and covers a range of ages between 10 to 35 years. Family walking might also be included in this area.

§6:

There is missing a point for election of the president

It is a very long time since an annual meeting has discussed the aims for the Walking- and the Path Commission. We think it is time to look at that subject too.

§9, 4 and 6:

The part (4) about electing the vice-presidents is not according to the way we elect the vice-presidents today (6).

§14:

Here must be added that the presidium or the Member's Meeting both can form working groups for specific time limited purposes.

We are missing something about:

- the possibility to engage in partnerships.
- the possibility to engage in real business (as Leading Quality Trails) with external partners.



2. Leading Quality Trails –Best of Europe

In many European countries high priority is given to walking. In some cases, the creation and maintenance of paths is part of a long tradition, or as is the case in recent years, walking is part of the process of developing tourism infrastructure. Europe has a diverse and rich palette of walking destinations. A large proportion of the population in the ERA-countries enjoys walking. For tourism and economic development, particularly in rural areas, walking-tourisme has an enormous potential for development.

The key word for regional success is "quality". To attract new holidaymakers and local walkers from the region, a choice of paths marked out correctly, as close to the nature as possible and meeting the walkers' needs should be offered. On the the Annual Meeting in October 2010 in Foligno the Presidium decided to work on quality criteria for trails in Europe.

This prospective decision is based on practical experiences initiated in France, Germany and other countries on the criteria of quality trails. The requirement of such systems to existing criteria has shown that countries like Belgium, Britain, Austria, Italy, Luxembourg, Denmark and the Czech Republic were also interested in the improvement of their trail network. In Germany, for example, the system "Qualitätsweg Wanderbares Deutschland" means that consideration of quality standards reflects the development of its network of paths and walking associations are involved as key partners for tourism development. In France the quality criteria for the long distance trails (GR®) are the base of what the quality level of the existing network of GR® is. The Presidium finds that all ERA members can get this positive effect.

The goal is to create a system of criteria, particularly for those countries where the trail system needs to be developed and would be used for guidance in a perfectly clear way and as a checklist. In countries that already have a network of paths such a system can help to strengthen the walking tourism. Indeed, walkers, when choosing their holiday-destination, can be guided by those quality standards.

It is important to state that such a criteria-system should be considered as a proposal to be used on a voluntary basis. There should be no requirement to apply these quality criteria, the system itself, as a tool, should be available to potential users for the those who want it.

Similarly it has no sense to assess or change the quality of the European longdistance-paths based on those criteria. It would mean a daunting and almost impossible task. On the contrary, this is more to encourage national and cross-border paths with an undeniable tourist incentive.

ERA has, after Foligno, appointed a steering group led by Lis Nielsen, assisted by representatives of the Czech Republic, Luxembourg, Austria, France and Germany.

The group met for the first time in January 2011 to discuss the existing systems and set goals of a European standard. The basis was discussed and it was underlined that a European system could never be a substitute for existing national standards. "Lechweg, - von der Quelle bis zum Fall", a new path between Austria and Germany will serve as a pilot project and will test the criteria to be considered for the future, on the basis of the concrete examples.

At the end of June a second meeting was held, this time to consider the model of Lech from a practical point of view. Here we first of all took a note of the features of the landscape (e.g. difficulty of different levels, security measures). The criteria were then recorded in a manual. Until early September 2011 they were adapted and adjusted so that in autumn 2011, after the Annual Meeting in Almeria, we begin to test the first path after the European criteria.

The criteria used in the system are based on years of experience and practice in various countries, which already have implemented quality standards as a means to develop, plan and improve their paths system. It is clear, that a small nature path is much more attractive as a path covert with asphalt.

The criteria are:

- Type of path (cover, measures, routes, etc ...)
- Walkers guiding (e.g. tagging, marking, crossing paths..)
- Environment (e.g. water, lakes, forests, views)
- Heritage (e.g. castles, churches, etc.).
- Civilization (e.g. food, transport, disturbances, miscellaneous, etc...)
- Security (e.g. difficulty levels, security measures)

A route is looked at in three ways: the basic section is a 4 km distance (corresponding to a walk of about one hour), on the basis of daily stage and finally on the entire route. It makes sure that the route is coherent and attractive, especially for walkers who want to be on a non monotonous route.



After the test phase, the system will be operational in spring 2012 and will open to anyone interested. It is important that the criteria are clear to any user and the system can be used in all European countries. Therefore, is the test system very flexible and has integrate in its assessment all sorts of different geographical features.

ERA will in praxis be supported by Deutscher Wanderverband, which successfully has practices the labeling of paths for over 10 years. With this new system, ERA provides the countries concerned with a European label "Leading Quality Trail - Best of Europe", which should enable them to check and improve their paths. This is an opportunity to promote cooperation with member states and member organizations. This standard can be an asset in discussions with partners, organizations of environmental and nature protection, tourist offices and institutional bodies. If necessary, the system can also be used to review and improve existing structures. The qualitative aspect is a full part of the development and optimization of paths.

Therefore we ask for your support and approval at the Annual Meeting the aspirations of ERA to strengthen walking in Europe and in that way also to get a very strong tool for the work. By your decision you will enhance both ERA and its members throughout Europe.

ERA Presidium
August 2011



17.

Annual meeting in 2012 and 2013

Annual meeting in 2012

13-16th September in Stavanger, Norway

Annual meeting in 2013

Proposal: Serbia