

MARINE BOARD - EUROPEAN SCIENTIFIC DIVING PANEL  
(MB-ESDP)

Second Meeting – 11 June 2009

ESF-COST offices, Brussels

MINUTES

		ACTIONS
1. Present	<p>JP Féral (France), P Fischer (Germany), M Sayer (UK), A Norro (Belgium), R Lindblom (Sweden), R Venema (Sweden), A Cattrijsse (ERVO-chair; for morning only), A Carbonnière (ESF-MB).</p> <p>Apologies from J Leinikki (Finland), D Tchernov (Israel)</p> <p>J Leinikki (Finland) joined by <i>Skype</i> for some of the meeting.</p>	
2. Introduction	<p>Welcome address</p> <p>Adoption of the Agenda</p>	
3. Minutes of the last meeting	<p>Minutes were circulated in January. Comments were received – no updated minute was circulated. Discussion of reciprocal acceptance of ESD/AESD and how the national regulatory bodies treat the standards and how the standards fit into national legislature.</p> <p>Minute was accepted as an accurate record of the meeting.</p>	
4. Updates on national situations	<p>Table of national certification routes and acceptance levels tabled by Philipp Fischer. Decided that it was useful to do a mapping exercise across states. It is a goal to fill in the table for each member. Also to add what is the minimum “dive team”</p> <p>Also need to be transparent on the make up of the national committees for scientific diving. Each member to submit an overview of how their national committee (of which they are the representative) fits into state legislature (what is it’s legal</p>	<p>ALL: To complete Philipp’s table for their own state.</p> <p>PHILIPP: To put the table on ESDP Forum for members to populate</p> <p>ALL: To produce an overview of the status, make up and membership of</p>

	<p>status) and how membership is decided/regulated.</p> <p><i>Portugal and Greece.</i> Now have a national committee for scientific diving.</p> <p><i>Spain and Norway.</i> Has shown interest and are examining the use of ESD/AESD.</p> <p><i>Italy.</i> A recent proposal has been initiated to organize the Italian Board for Scientific Diving. The main promoter of this is the University of Pisa, and hopefully more universities will join the project soon. This Board should be composed of representatives from universities, research institutes and training organizations that show an interest in underwater research, and should be officially recognized as the Italian National Scientific Diving Committee.</p>	<p>their national committees.</p> <p>PHILIPP: To collate information on national committees</p>
<p>5. Links with other EU initiatives</p>	<p>ERVO – presentation on ERVO by Andre Cattrijsse (present ERVO chair; andre.cattrijsse@vliz.be). Informal forum of operators of European research vessels. Creates a network that facilitates better use of research vessels across Europe. 28 members from 14 countries. Discuss national updates and initiatives. Some national differences as to how diving is supported by research vessels. Need to collate experiences of how diving is supported by research vessels to see if a common approach could be developed.</p>	<p>ALL: To feed in information to Andre about how diving is supported by research vessels giving contact information where possible. Information to be added to Philipp's spreadsheet</p>
<p>6. Use of students and volunteers</p>	<p>There are large differences across Europe over how students and volunteers are involved with scientific diving. Add volunteer and students to the spreadsheet.</p>	<p>ALL: To add national definitions for students and volunteers to spreadsheet.</p>
<p>7. COST Action networking activities</p>	<p>Example of the COST Action networking activities. Presentation by Carine Petit (COST Office, Brussels; cpetit@cost.esf.org).</p> <p>COST – European Cooperation in the field of Scientific and Technical Research (<a href="http://www.cost.esf.org">www.cost.esf.org</a>)</p> <p>COST funds networking activities to improve standardisation of procedures and protocols.</p>	

	<p>COST actions fund science management meetings, workshops, seminars, conferences, short term scientific missions (STSMs), training events, dissemination etc., plus exploratory/strategic workshops. Average cost and duration is about 100k€ per year for upto 4 years.</p> <p>Start to circulate ideas for exploratory workshop that adopts an approximate scientific theme but explores how scientific diving can bring a multi-disciplinary approach to the theme.</p>	<p>ALL: exploratory workshop ideas for COST proposal – biodiversity / MPAs for etc. for final agreement in Finland – to post on the ESDP forum</p>
8. Qualification issues	<p>Need to publicise the levels of acceptance of ESD and AESD by nation (see agenda item 4).</p> <p>ESD/AESD standards need to be updated with ESDP recognition and removing the draft status.</p> <p>How are ESD/AESD standards to be applied for. The standards must come from their own national representative board. There needs to be a standard text for the website / board members. The exception would be a course run by another state.</p>	<p>MARTIN: To update pre-ambule to ESD/AESD standards circulate for comment. To include the application process and refer to the Table</p>
9. Database	Ongoing	
10. Publication material and website	<p>ESF cannot cover publication costs. If there are well-defined requirements for publication then members will be asked to target funds from there own member organisations to cover design and publication costs.</p> <p>Discussion on the relative merits of ESDP and ESDC. In effect, the ESDC still exists but in the background but in its present form it exists as the Panel. This needs to be made clear on websites etc. There will be need to populate the ESDP site on the ESF site but retain the ESDC website as a link into the ESF webpage.</p>	
11. Miscellaneous	<p>1. ISOSD discussions – not everyone is receiving the information. The flyer is to be re-circulated. Possible special session for PhD students. A word document for</p>	<p>ALL: Promote the ISOSD</p>

	registration will be available. All to promote the meeting and re-circulate the flyer.	
Date of next meetings	1. Finland 5 <sup>th</sup> October 2009 (pm) + 9 <sup>th</sup> (possibly) (ISOSD 6-8 October) 2. ESF in early/mid-January 2010	

### SUMMARY OF ACTION POINTS

- ALL: To complete Philipp's table on national equivalencies for their own state.
- ALL: To produce an overview of the status, make up and membership of their national committees.
- ALL: To feed in information to Andre about how diving is supported by research vessels giving contact information where possible. Information to be added to Philipp's spreadsheet
- ALL: To add national definitions for students and volunteers to spreadsheet.
- ALL: Exploratory workshop ideas for COST proposal – biodiversity / MPAs for etc. for final agreement in Finland – to post on the ESDP forum
- ALL: Promote the ISOSD
- MARTIN: To update pre-amble to ESD/AESD standards circulate for comment. To include the application process and refer to the Table
- PHILIPP: To put the table on ESDP Forum for members to populate.
- PHILIPP: To collate information on national committees