

EUROPEAN SCIENTIFIC DIVING PANEL
(ESDP)

23rd Meeting – 25/10/2019

Laboratoire de Cryptogamie
Museum National d’Histoire Naturelle, Paris

MINUTES

		ACTIONS
1. Welcome and Present	<p>PRESENT: J-P Féral (J-PF; France), M Sayer (MS; UK), A Norro (AN; Belgium), P Fischer (PF; Germany), J Leinikki (JL; Finland), M Asplund (MA; Sweden)</p> <p>W Plaiti (WP; Greece) for short times by Skype</p> <p>Apologies from: P Balazy (PB; Poland), M Ponti (MP; Italy), M Waldey (MW; Norway)</p> <p>No responses from: D Badovinac (DB; Slovenia), Borut Mavrič (BM, Slovenia), D Paulo (DP; Portugal), D Petricioli (DP; Croatia)</p> <p>The participants were welcomed by Pr. Alain Couté, chairman of Colimpha (French SD association).</p>	
2. Adoption of the agenda	Agreed – no changes were proposed.	
3. Approval of minutes from the 22 nd ESDP meeting	<p>The revised minutes were discussed and accepted. Some discussion about item 8 (“Reports: joint training”) regarding how different countries accept the ESD certification. Accepted for mobility but some countries do not accept it as a qualification for long-term vocational diving – just for visitors. Other countries do accept ESD as a permanent vocational qualification.</p> <p>Agreed that the course joining instructions should make it clear as to how the ESD is accepted in their own country.</p> <p>Item 9: to contact UNESCO to ask what the status of the UNESCO-CMAS Code of Practice for Scientific Diving. UNESCO were not aware of any revision. Still unknown who “owns” the CoP</p>	J-PF: to circulate the <u>final</u> version of the minutes from the 22 nd meeting

	<p>The final version of the minutes, when modified, was approved and will be circulated.</p>	
<p>4. National updates</p>	<p>Belgium – nothing new to report. In the process of renewing certification that was valid for 5-years. Some difficulties related to the number of dives needed to renew certification (12 dives a year). Some teams may need to close if they are not diving enough.</p> <p>Bulgaria – no report</p> <p>Croatia - no report</p> <p>Finland – New examination for SD – equal status with commercial diving. Follows AESD for most of the course but diverges depending on whether science or archaeological diving. NC is producing the ESD and AESD certificates but need also work experience for AESD (and some education credits). Working to get new equipment into universities for SD; SD to be specifically represented at the University level.</p> <p>France – 2011 regulations have been signed off (May 2019). All research institutes now need common standards under the new laws – a convention will meet to agree the new text. Also in a period of revalidating certificates which ends 2021 (every 5 years) – only 5 centres (list dated 26th September 2019) that can revalidate (CAH mention B). Supplementary specific scientific training will be needed due to the fact that this aspect is no more taken into account by the current certification.</p> <p>Germany – No major changes; two new members of KFT. Almost completed minor revisions to their guidance rules. Update should be published by early 2020. Main changes are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Guidance on when roped diving is necessary - Change decompression tables – still cannot use dive computers as primary method of planning / controlling dives <p>New guidance rules being developed for offshore SD</p> <p>Greece – (Wanda) No major changes. Still some issues with SD joining programmes from other countries. A new government is changing a lot of working regulations – unsure as yet how this will impact SD. Contact with</p>	<p>ALL: It should be policy that contact is made with ESDP national representative if joining courses in other countries to ensure that the certification will be</p>

	<p>diving archaeologists in Greece continues but no more progress with establishing a NC. Some divers from Greece are undertaking the DE/SE/FI ESD course. It should be policy that contact is made with ESDP national representative if joining courses in other countries. Possible to run a course for divers in Greece in the future? Wanda to examine the possibilities and produce a plan including a forecast of costs.</p> <p>Italy – no report</p> <p>Norway – New diving rules put in force now over a 3 yrs period. The SD NC will meet on November 12th to clarify what the situation now is. MW will stand down as chair – to be replaced by Pernilla Carlson</p> <p>Slovenia – no report</p> <p>Poland – no report</p> <p>Portugal – no report</p> <p>Sweden – Working on new website for the Swedish Scientific Diving Committee. Link will be sent when completed. Going to develop SD training for Sweden only (currently relying on DE to provide this).</p> <p>UK –SDSC continue to revise their Guidance Notes (recognised as industry best practice). Presently at fourth draft level (meeting with the national regulator on 5th November 2019 to discuss again). New SDSC website but still needs a lot of updating (straight transfer to new platform with little update).</p>	<p>recognised</p> <p>WP: to examine the practicalities of running a SD course in Greece in Sep/Oct 2020</p>
<p>5. New members</p>	<p>Gibraltar – trying to establish an NC and will make an application to ESDP in the future. NB – although a UK territory there is no need for Gibraltar to adhere to UK diving regs.</p>	
<p>6. Relation with MARS network</p>	<p>Annual report to MARS for publication in next newsletter (November).</p> <p>Should be a call (through MARS network) to encourage more ESDP membership at the national level.</p> <p>High IF factor publications – need to update. All SD-supported papers with IF>5 to be sent to J-PF. Also enter into Zotero (make sure add the box for IF>5</p>	<p>J-PF: To collate papers IF>5 for 2015-2019 ALL: to send papers to</p>

	EMBRC would be interested in hosting if MARS doesn't work? EMBRC will part-fund the 7 th ESDC	J-PF
7. Update to ESDP website	Sweden update needs to be included. UK updating SDSC website DE producing an English version	
8. Consultation document – medical examinations	Presentation provided. Intention is to write the document as a paper for the journal <i>Diving and Hyperbaric Medicine</i> . Also, to have a version online (so need to purchase open access). MS to write and circulate a draft in next 3 months for comment and ensure accuracy. Need to add a question on x-ray. Revise Sweden – medical must be current within 12 months	MS: To write and circulate first draft of paper
9. Consultation document – CCR workshop	One-week workshop planned for Corsica 14-18 Sep 2020. The main topics for review are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The scientific CCR diver - New and limited operations with CCR - The equipment to be used - The training scheme applied to CCR science diving (two levels: diver and supervisor) - Safety and dive planning etc - SOP review for CCR scientific diving Need representatives from as many ESDP countries as possible. Also a CCR manufacturer present. Aims of the workshop: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Share experiences and practices - Create a European network of experts 	ALL: National representatives to recommend <u>expert CCR divers who dive for science.</u>
10. Consultation document – National rules	Aim for a summary table of national rules and regulations will be completed and published online. Some discussion on what information was needed and in what format.	ALL: Each NC must add a webpage to their own websites providing information on what is required for visiting divers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Qualifications - Medical - Insurance - etc.
11. Co-ordination of a European network of scientific diving training courses	Aim: A presentation providing an overview of the benefits of advertising and co-ordinating “ESDP” SD courses under one umbrella – within the MARS network. Co-ordination would prevent overlap, would permit students to pick courses that fit their timetables, it would provide the opportunity to ensure the courses attracted a	JL: to produce a short article providing the overall scope that can then be presented to the board of MARS.

	<p>suitable number of students.</p> <p>Needs a form of assurance that any course that is “branded” as an ESDP course meets appropriate standards and provides suitable qualifications / certification. Needs a template and then all courses should be circulated within the ESDP to accredit the courses.</p> <p>VISION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - constant availability for students - courses on techniques generate new science - can introduce ESDP SOPs into working practices through associated training - promotes collaboration between MARS members 	
12. 6 th and 7 th ECSD	<p>6th ECSD – Freiberg April 2020 Organised by the Scientific Diving Center of the Technische Universität Bergakademie Freiberg</p> <p>7th ECSD – Roscoff April 2021 Organised by the French National Committee for Scientific Diving and CNRS/Paris VI University. Some funding from EMBRC already in place to reduce the price. Hope to publish proceedings from the Conference.</p>	
13. AOB - WSDTC	<p>World Scientific Diving Training Council has been established. ESDP acknowledged the WSDTC exists and are in contact with Derek Smith. However, some of the intended WSDTC qualifications will be below the level of ESD. So some certificates will be “entry level” only and will have to take additional training in many countries.</p> <p>Agreed to remain in contact with Derek and WSDTC.</p>	
14. Date of next meeting	<p>Spring 2020: Video conference meeting (PF to arrange again?) – Doodle last week February 24-28?</p> <p>Autumn 2020: To ask MARS network if they have a candidate to host our meeting.</p>	<p>PF: to host the VC again?</p> <p>J-PF: to ask MARS for a host for our Autumn meeting 2020</p>