



# **MINUTES FROM MEETING WORKING GROUP “THE FUTURE ECRAF” IN NORWAY JANUARY 2009**

**Date:** 12. – 14<sup>th</sup> January 2009

**Place:** Norwegian Armed Forces, Norwegian Defence Logistic Training Center, Gardermoen Garrison.

**Present:** Oddvar Haagensen, Norway, chairman, Martin Faulkner, Great Britain, member, Georges Fuhrer, Switzerland, member, Robert Windischmann, Germany, member and Leif Agnar Ellevset, Norway, secretary.

**Excused:** Willfried Bernhardt, Austria, member.

## **1. AGENDA FOR THE MEETING**

### **1.1 Draft plan chapter content**

The following chapter content was presented by Norway and accepted as a working basic that might be changed later on during the process:

- 1.1.1 Introduction
- 1.1.2 Strategies
- 1.1.3 Action Plan
- 1.1.4 Following up
- 1.1.5 Evaluation

In accordance with this chapter content, Norway had written a draft regarding introduction containing a short historic review, existing topics for ECRAF, membership, appointment of working group “Future ECRAF” etc. This will be the introduction chapter of the group report which will be build out and extended between and after the meetings. For this reason the group report also will serve as a minutes in the coming process.

### **1.2 Conclusions to be drawn from the questionnaire**

The following questions posed were concluded:

- 1.2.1 Kind of document preferred
- 1.2.2 Strong and weak sides
- 1.2.3 Preferred three main strategies
- 1.2.4 Preferred three main activities
- 1.2.5 Presidency / executive committee
- 1.2.6 Use of working groups, committees etc.
- 1.2.7 Other remarks

The drawn conclusions can be read in the first draft plan report enclosed this document.

### **1.3 Principal questions discussed**

Since there was a clear majority of all the responding countries in favour of a combined Strategy- and Action Plan and the working group was of the same opinion, this was decided to be the new plan model.

Other questions discussed with relevance to the strategic part of the plan were:

- What kind of ECRAF do we want in the future?
- Does ECRAF need new alliances?
- Statutes to be revised/completed?
- Type of organization needed?
- Actual policy proposals?
- Etc,

The following questions with relevance to the action part of the plan were discussed:

- Basic activities to be implemented by ECRAF?
- Activities to be implemented together with other partners/alliances?
- Content of the yearly ECRAF congress?
- Need for working groups ?
- Etc.

After discussing these vital questions, the working group started to work out draft definitions for a vision, main goals, revealing and changing the Terms of reference to statutes. The conclusion of this work can also be read in the enclosed draft plan document.

### **1.4 New alliances**

Regarding alliances the group concluded that it is important to restart the collaboration with PRI to ensure better and sufficient contact with the NGO-side. In addition the group will find out the best and correct way to contact EU and NATO in this issue. The chairman will contact NATO and the secretary PRI and EU in the near future.

The working group will invite the president of PRI to its next meeting. It will also be considered to invite EU and NATO to the next congress and if they also should be given the possibility to give presentations in one common session. This will be further discussed at the next meeting.

### **1.5 Next meetings**

The next meeting will be held in UK or Germany 9. – 11- March. If there will be necessary with another meeting, this be held in Rome 5. – 7 May..

### **1.6 Social program etc.**

The first evening the host invited the group to a dinner in an old city hall not far from the garrison. The second evening the group was invited to Oslo to see a part of the old Akershus Castle, a sightseeing in the center of Oslo and finally have a dinner at restaurant in the harbour area. The group also visited the Armed Forces Truck Simulator and the CBS center.