



## AIB – Western European Region General Business Meeting

Fribourg, 8<sup>th</sup> December 2006

From 18.00 to 19.00hrs

### Attendees:

		AIB Member	
		YES	NO
Danny Van Den Bulcke	University of Antwerp	X	
Peter Buckley	University of Leeds	X	
Torben Pedersen	Copenhagen Business School	X	
Tamar Almor	College of Management IL	X	
Tamir Agmon	College of Management IL	X	
Ulf Andersson	Uppsala University	X	
Niron Hashai	Hebrew University	X	
Carla Millar	University of Twente	X	
John Dunning	University of Reading	X	
Juan J. Duran	Universidad Autonoma Madrid	X	
Vitor C. Simoes	IESEG – Tech. Univ. Lisbon	X	
Klaus Macharzina	University of Hohenheim	X	
John Cantwell	Rutgers University	X	
Liliane Van Hoof	University of Antwerp	X	
Sushil Vachani	Boston University	X	
Pasi Sajasalo	University of Jyvaskyla	X	
Tiia Vissak	University of Tartu	X	
Claudio De Mattos	University of Manchester	X	

The meeting was chaired by Danny Van Den Bulcke, Chapter Chair AIB-WER. He welcomed the attendees and invited them to fill in the list of attendance. He reminded that all conference participants who were AIB members had been invited to this meeting by a separate e-mail sent out before the conference. The invitation was also printed in the booklet produced by the conference organisers which was part of the conference documentation package.

## Agenda

1. Opening remarks (Danny Van Den Bulcke, Chair West European Region AIB )
2. Proposal AIB-WE constitution
3. Election of Officers
4. Future AIB conferences
5. AOB (open floor)

### 1. Opening remarks

The AIB-WER Chair, Danny Van Den Bulcke, opened the meeting by reporting that all of the 350 conference participants had been invited to attend this important meeting, where a chapter constitution would be submitted to their approval. The members attending this meeting could be either:

- EIBA members who are also AIB members
- EIBA members who are *not* AIB members
- AIB members belonging to other Chapters

Only those attendees who were AIB members and did not belong to another AIB Chapter could be allowed to vote.

Danny also mentioned that he regretted that Thomas Hult, Executive Director AIB, was not able to be present. He had registered to the conference but had to cancel his participation at the last moment because of family matters.

Next the Chair reported that the minutes of the first meeting held in Oslo in December 2005 had been circulated beforehand to all the participants. As no remarks were made neither within two weeks after they were sent out nor during the meeting itself, the minutes were approved.

Danny then briefly recalled the history of the EIBA-AIB relationship, at the request of some of the participants.

EIBA was set up in 1974 while AIB already existed since 1959. In the mid '80s, the AIB Chair approached EIBA and asked Danny to be the Chair of the AIB-WE region and act as an intermediary between the two organisations. In fact EIBA was considered as standing in for the AIB-WER Chapter, while AIB and EIBA were partners.

Only a few years ago, AIB no longer recognised this partnership and wanted all regions to become regular Chapters under the centralised AIB structure.

For EIBA this meant that it either accepted the new AIB rules and would give up its independence, or go its own way and might even develop into another global IB academy.

During the Ljubljana annual meeting of EIBA in December 2004, Peter Buckley proposed a compromise which continued to reflect the autonomy of both organisations and meant that a business meeting should be held during the EIBA conferences to which the AIB members would be invited.

This compromise was accepted by Alan Rugman, President of AIB and Danny Van Den Bulcke, Chairman of EIBA and later confirmed by the Boards of AIB (Quebec meeting in March 2006) and EIBA (Oslo meeting in December 2005).

While it had been expected that the compromise would have settled this issue, AIB insisted that there also should be a constitution for the WE-region based on the sample constitution forwarded by the AIB secretariat.

## **2. Proposal AIB-WE constitution**

The AIB members of the EIBA Board discussed the proposed constitution during the meeting in Oslo in December 2005 and more extensively during the interim Board meeting in Fribourg in May 2006. On the basis of those discussions the AIB members of the EIBA Board formulated a proposal that was distributed during the meeting and was submitted for comments and approval.

The attendees were given the time to read through the proposed constitution and were invited to raise questions and if necessary propose amendments.

Several questions and remarks were made:

- Who will pay for the office and secretariat?  
Danny replied that EIBA will take care of this and not charge for it.
- Why is nothing mentioned regarding the voting procedure?  
Danny replied that there was a reference to voting in the bylaws under “membership”.
- It was pointed out that many of those present were already attached to another AIB Chapter and wondered how many would be interested to transfer from an existing chapter to this new chapter.  
Any AIB member is welcome to join and participate in multiple chapters, but they can only vote in one chapter.
- What is to stop an AIB member that belongs to multiple chapters from voting at more than one chapter?  
Although, in principle it would be controllable, it is likely to imply a high administrative cost (to the officers of the AIB chapters and AIB executive centrally) that almost certainly is not worth it in practice. The system would therefore have to rely on self-reporting by those AIB members that belong to more than one chapter.

Danny asked the AIB members present if they would approve the proposed constitution (see Annex). As no objection was made for each of the articles and the bylaws, the AIB-WE constitution was approved unanimously.

### **3. Election of Officers**

The Chair explained that based on the new constitution two officers should be appointed, i.e. the Chapter Chair and a Secretary/Treasurer. Danny mentioned that he did not want to be elected and proposed :

- Torben Pedersen as Chapter Chair AIB-WER
- Ulf Andersson as Secretary/Treasurer AIB-WER

After their candidacies were seconded, both nominees were unanimously elected.

### **4. Future AIB conferences**

The AIB-WER Chair was happy to announce the locations of the forthcoming AIB conferences:

2007 → Indianapolis  
2008 → Milan  
2009 → San Diego  
2010 → India

### **5. AOB**

EIBA has since many years made a link on its website to AIB and would hope that AIB would do the same.

No other remarks or questions were made. The meeting was adjourned.

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