

40th Ordinary Session (Part II)

Agenda item 4

**SUMMARY OF THE MAJOR DECISIONS
OF THE 40TH ORDINARY SESSION (PART I) OF EMBC**

held at the EMBL Operon, Heidelberg, on 29 June 2009

Conference is asked to take note of the document.

- The provisional summary record of the second part of the 39th ordinary session of EMBC, which had taken place in Hinxton (UK) on 24 November 2008, was approved.
- It was agreed that in future the Director of EMBO would give a concise oral report on the execution of the EMBC General Programme during the annual summer meeting of EMBC. A more detailed written report including comments from all of the programme managers will be provided for the annual autumn meeting of EMBC.
- The accounts for 2008 were approved and the External Auditors' reports on the accounts were noted.
- The revised EMBC Rules of Procedure were adopted unanimously and the revised EMBC Financial Rules were adopted unanimously with Switzerland abstaining. The text will be optimised from a language point of view by the EMBO staff and then circulated to all delegates for comment. The final versions will be circulated for the November meeting.

The revised Rules of Procedure clearly define the governance of EMBC, i.e. the roles of the President of EMBC, the Secretary General of EMBC and that of EMBO. In this context, it was also decided that in future an EMBC delegate would be part of the search committee that is set up when a new EMBO Director needs to be recruited. The EMBC delegate will have an advisory function. The EMBO Rules will be modified accordingly.

As a consequence of the revised Financial Rules the Audit Committee was abolished and the Financial Advisory Group was renamed "Finance Committee". The Finance Committee's core membership will consist of the five major contributors and another seven Member States to be selected by the Conference, while attendance of the Finance Committee meetings is open to all delegates and advisers. The committee will normally meet once a year, i.e. on the morning before the EMBC summer session.

- The resolution permitting EMBO to establish a voluntary private pension scheme for EMBO long-term fellows was adopted unanimously.
- A decision on the revised draft Indicative Scheme 2010 – 2014 was deferred until the November meeting. It was decided that two new scenarios calculated with an annual increase of 2% and 3% should be prepared by the EMBO management and circulated to the delegates for discussion with their ministries as soon as possible so that a final document could be prepared for adoption at the November meeting.
- A decision on the budget 2010 and the stipend rates for fellowships was deferred until the November meeting, when these items will be discussed in the context of the new Indicative Scheme proposal.
- The proposed scale of contributions was approved unanimously.
- The EMBO|EMBC annual report 2008 was approved unanimously with Switzerland abstaining.
- The application for EMBC membership received from Bulgaria was discussed. Conference decided that the Secretary General should write a letter in reply to the application suggesting that Bulgaria increased its expenditure on R&D, and once a noticeable improvement was seen, the application would be considered again. In addition, representatives from Bulgaria would be invited to attend the November meeting of the EMBC as observers and to make a presentation highlighting the science carried out in Bulgaria.
- Ms Entringer (LU), who in November 2008 had been appointed as a member of the Strategic Working Party, confirmed her availability.
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- The next EMBC meetings are scheduled as follows:

40 th Ordinary Session, Part II	23 Nov 2009	Rome (IT)
41 st Ordinary Session, Part I	28 June 2010	Heidelberg (DE)
41 st Ordinary Session, Part II	22 Nov 2010	Heidelberg (DE)
42 nd Ordinary Session, Part I	27 June 2011	Grenoble (FR)
42 nd Ordinary Session, Part II	21 Nov 2011	Heidelberg (DE)