GENERAL ASSEMBLY
meeting in Brussels
(hybrid format)
Date: 5/12/2024

MINUTES

DRAFT

Note: the list of participants as well as all the presentations (including the one of the EIB displayed during the open discussion on Housing) are available on the FIEC intranet.

1. Welcome by the President, Piero Petrucco

The President opens the General Assembly meeting and thanks all the participants present in the meeting room and online.

2. Establishment of the quorum

The Director General explains that there are 340 active votes out of 348 (97,7%). Therefore, for the votes to be valid 171 votes are required for the simple majority and 227 for the 2/3 majority.

3. Approval of the agenda

The agenda of the meeting and all the related working documents were circulated in due course.

The agenda is approved unanimously (no abstention, no rejection).

4. Approval of the minutes of the last (hybrid) meeting: 16/5/2024 in Brussels

The minutes of the last hybrid meeting held in Brussels on 16th May 2024 were circulated in due course and the FIEC secretariat didn't receive any comments nor remarks.

The minutes of the previous meeting are approved unanimously (no abstention, no rejection).

5. Finances 2024

The Treasurer explains that all the detailed figures were shared among the working documents and presents the following information regarding the forecast of the financial situation at 31/12/2024 :

a) Presentation of financial situation at 31/12/2024

The overall situation is significantly better than the one that was initially foreseen and the main reasons behind this are :

- Concerning the subscriptions, almost all the due amounts have been received. The only one still missing is 50% of the subscription from the Romanian federation ARACO. But it is usually every year like this and ARACO always pays its subscription completely. The payment of the last share should arrive by the end of the year.

- The dispute that FIEC had with the Turkish federation TCA regarding a partly unpaid subscription from 2021 has now been settled. TCA has finally accepted to pay 25.000 EUR to FIEC and the amount was received.

- The forecast of the situation at 31/12/2024, indicates that at the end of the year there should be an overall surplus of around 226.000 EUR, including the income from the EU-funded projects.

- Taking a closer look at this result, it appears that without the EU-funded projects there would be a surplus of 57.000 EUR.

- The main explanation is therefore due to the income from the EU-funded projects, for which we had a maybe too careful approach when setting up the budget for 2024. This is not a bad news in itself, but the role of FIEC is not to make money, but to use it in the most adequate manner for our lobbying initiatives. The FIEC Secretariat has therefore revised its forecast regarding the income for the EU-funded projects for 2025.

b) Appointment of the auditors for the accounts 2024

For the appointment of the external and internal auditors who will check the accounts of 2024 the steering Committee proposes the following candidatures :

- **As external auditor:** Mr. Geert Keunen (VRC Réviseurs d'Entreprises)
- **As internal auditors:** Mr. Pasi Pitkänen (Rakennusteollisuus RT/FIN) and Mr. Maxime Verhagen (Koninklijke Bouwend Nederland/NL)

The proposals for the external and internal auditors are approved unanimously (no abstention, no rejection).

6. Finances 2025

As regards the budget and the subscriptions for 2025, the Treasurer presents on behalf of the Steering Committee the following proposal and indicates that all the detailed related documents were distributed with the working documents for the meeting :

- The overall budget remains unchanged compared to 2024, namely 1.385k EUR
- The share (of the amount that they would have to pay as Statutory Member) of the subscriptions to be paid by the Policy Members have been increased from a minimum of 30 to 40%, as was decided by the previous Steering Committee.
- The amounts above the 20% and 10% thresholds have not been redistributed, as was already the case for 2024.

By applying this approach, at the end of 2025 a deficit of 108k EUR is expected, but which should be compensated by an estimated income from the EU-funded projects of 210k EUR. This should allow to have an overall estimated surplus of 102k EUR.

The corresponding subscriptions are shown on the screen and were distributed in the working documents for the meeting.

The participants don't raise any question nor comment.

The proposals for the budget and subscriptions for 2025 are approved unanimously (no abstention, no rejection).

7. Task Force "Ukraine"

The Chairman of the Task Force, Kjetil Tonning, starts by giving an overview of previous Task Force "Ukraine" meetings. He explains that FIEC invited guest speakers from the European Commission and from EU companies already operating in Ukraine. He adds that Ukraine needs to continue building links with Europe and that their ongoing reconstruction efforts are under communicated.

KT also provides an overview of FIEC's participation in the Recovery Construction Forum 3.0. The Recovery Construction Forum 3.0, held in Warsaw on 13 November, focused on Ukraine's rebuilding efforts, highlighting key topics like sustainable recovery, green technologies, housing, and energy upgrades. Discussions emphasized the need for international support, infrastructure financing, and the use of recycled materials in reconstruction. The event also highlighted Ukraine's potential as a major raw materials supplier to the EU.

In addition to the Recovery Construction Forum 3.0, KT also mentions that FIEC will look to participate in the 2025 Ukraine Recovery Conference that will take place in Rome on 10/11 July 2025.

Lastly, KT encourages attendees to disseminate a questionnaire that was prepared by CBU on the prospects of investing in Ukraine.

The President explains that in the light of what KT presented about the Task Force "Ukraine" and of the financial results for the current year, the Steering Committee proposes to the General Assembly to use part of the surplus to make a donation for a reconstruction project in Ukraine.

As indicated in the note that was distributed with the working documents for the meeting, the President clarifies the following points:

- It is proposed to donate the amount of 25.000 EUR.
- The intention is to identify a specific and symbolic reconstruction project (school, hospital, etc..) at the local level. Our Ukrainian member federation CBU will help us in identifying such a project.
- It will be specified that the reconstruction works must be undertaken by a local Ukrainian company.
- In cooperation with CBU an adequate monitoring mechanism that would allow FIEC to check and ensure that the donation is effectively used according to the above-mentioned principles will be put in place.

The proposed donation would be a concrete sign of FIEC's involvement and commitment to the reconstruction of the country, at a moment of increasing geo-political tensions.

The proposal for a donation to a reconstruction project is unanimously approved as presented (no abstention, no rejection).

CBU thanks FIEC for its support. They mention that this initiative will take time and identify a possible project in which FIEC can participate. CBU also mentions that Ukraine lacks social projects (hospitals, schools, etc.).
CBU encourages businesses to start investing in Ukraine in the very near future. There could be an advantage for companies that arrive first, they explain.

8. Focus on FIEC's activities

Domenico Campogrande presents the new "Annual report 2024", which contains all the relevant information and presents the main activities and achievements of FIEC during the last 12 months. It is available online and all the member federations are kindly invited to disseminate it via their respective websites.

At the moment it is only available in English, but further languages will be made available in the coming weeks.

The President thanks the FIEC Team for producing this extremely useful report.

9. Focus on partners

The representatives of EIC, CICA and EFFC present their main on-going activities *(see presentations attached to these minutes and available on the intranet)*.

Philippe Dessoy indicates that CICA is looking for 2 persons to chair their "Construction 5.0" and "Housing" working groups.

10. Any other business

The participants don't raise any particular issue.

11. Next meeting

The next General Assembly meeting will take place on 15-17 May 2025 in Athens, where our Greek federation PEDMEDE will also celebrate its 90th anniversary.

Eleni Papagianni (GR-PEDMEDE) presents the overall programme of the events. The registration website will be launched in the coming days. She insists on the need to confirm all hotel bookings by the end of January 2025 at the latest.

Benedikt Fischer presents the structure and format of the conference, which will focus on the issue of "Water". It will be organised similarly to what was done in Rome in 2023, namely with a plenary session, followed by 3 parallel workshops on specific issues.

1 case study will be presented in each workshop and all the member federations are kindly invited to propose some cases as well as candidates for chairing the workshops to the FIEC Secretariat.

Before closing the meeting the President thanks all the participants for their participation and valuable involvement in FIEC, as well as the whole FIEC Team for the work done.

He also takes this opportunity to wish all the participants and their families all the best for the Christmas break and for the coming new year.

Items voted/ approved during this meeting		
	item	**agenda ref.**
1.	Approval of the agenda – General Assembly meeting 5/12/2024	3.
2.	Approval of the minutes of last GA meeting of 16/5/2024	4.
3.	Finances 2024 – approval of the proposed external and internal auditors for the accounts of 2024 (audit in 2025)	5.
4.	Finances 2025 – approval of the proposals for the budget and subscriptions for 2025	6.
5.	Task Force “Ukraine”: approval of the proposal for a FIEC donation to support a project of reconstruction in Ukraine	7.
Next Meeting of the General Assembly: **16 May 2025 in ATHENS**		

FIEC President, Piero Petrucco