

## **Report by the Honorary Treasurer for the Financial Year 2016, including Forecast 2017 and Budget**

### **Financial accounts 2016**

The accounts of the Actuarial Association of Europe for the financial year 2016 have been communicated in July of this year.

The accounts have been reviewed for the third consecutive year by Grant Thornton as agreed during the General Assembly in 2013. The Independent Practitioner's Review Report is included as annex to this report and concludes that "nothing has come to the attention that causes to believe that these financial statements are not prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with BE GAAP and the accounting policies disclosed with the financial statements". Grant Thornton, represented by Dirk Van den Broeck and Nico De Clerck, registered auditors, have presented and explained the report during a meeting on 30 June 2016 and confirmed the fair presentation of the annual accounts.

### **Summary of the accounts**

The net current assets of the AAE end 2016 equal EUR 605,888 a decrease with EUR 17,683 compared to 2015. All available assets are currently invested in a current account at BCEE and a second bank account was initiated late 2016 and effectuated early 2017 with BNP Paribas Fortis in Belgium. This corresponds with the investment principles of the association.

Income during 2016 was EUR 533,501 or EUR 109,201 more than in 2015. Expenditure for the year equals EUR 551,185.

#### *Income*

The number of qualified actuaries for whom the member associations pay the subscription to the AAE has increased in 2016 with 816 to 22,791 (the list with the number of qualified actuaries per member association as per 1 January 2017 is available at our website).

Based on the annual fees as agreed by the General Assembly at the meeting in Brussels on 1 October 2010, the income from members has increased to EUR 433,982.

Interest income is low as a result of the short term interest rate on savings accounts.

## *Expenditure*

### *European Congress of Actuaries*

The ECA 2016 took place in April, one month after the terrorist attack in Brussels. The participation was less than planned on beforehand also because of this unexpected event, so that the expenditure exceeded the income with EUR 52,079.

### *AAE Meetings*

The net costs for AAE meetings in 2016 are EUR 8,074, compared to EUR 2,368 in 2015. The 2016 amount includes the 2016 Presidents' Meeting, the Round Tables on Risk Management, reimbursement of travel costs for speaker at the General Assembly and the (external) handling of the Barcelona meetings.

### *The European Actuary*

The AAE has taken over the publication of The European Actuary, with positive reactions of members. The corresponding cost of EUR 12,557 has in 2016 incidentally been compensated by publicity income of EUR 3,500.

### *Salary/fee costs of Secretariat*

The new Executive Assistant, Monique Schuilenburg, joined the AAE on 1 November 2017, while Michael Lucas retired on 31 December 2017. The VAT due on fees of the secretariat has now been included in the costs of the secretariat unlike the previous years.

### *Chairman's/Officer's expenses*

The AAE is continuing to strengthen its presence at meetings with European institutions. The expense policy is strictly applied so that the costs are reflecting the increased activity.

### *Printing*

Several position papers have been published in 2016 with high circulation figures. The decision has been made to avoid printing costs in the future and to circulate electronic documents only.

### *Actuarial House*

The AAE office has moved in 2016, and agreed to keep the rent at the same level as before. Some costs linked to the move are reflected in the corresponding expenditure.

### *Miscellaneous*

Other income and expenditures are in line with the normal daily management of the organisation.

## *Result and Reserve*

The deficit of income over expenditure of EUR 17,683 is affecting the Reserves of the AAE resulting in an amount of EUR 605,888 at year end.

Following the AAE's finance policy it is the intention to hold a reserve allowing to continue the business for two years.

## **Forecast 2017**

The accounts 2017 have been registered up to the expenses and income of August. This allows for an accurate forecast for end 2017: the positive result is estimated at EUR 25,200. The composition of this result can be found in annex 2

The differences with the budget 2017 are:

- Income is at a higher level than expected in the budget, the number of members is growing faster leading to a membership number of 22,791 in our 37 member associations.
- The cost for the secretariats employment is lower than budget: in the light of the strategic exercise going on it has been decided not to recruit any new resources or to use any other external resources.
- The web site has been redesigned and will be launched soon. The cost has been fully registered in 2017.
- The Officer's expenses continue to increase. Officers and other delegates of the AAE are more and more present in meetings with European institutions. At the same time it can be observed that employers or local associations are less compensating travel costs. It can be confirmed that the Reimbursement Policy, as available on the web site, is applied strictly.
- Meetings are increasingly organised in the Brussels office, implying additional catering and facilities.

## **Budget 2018 and later**

### 2018

Based on the Forecast 2017 and assuming no structural changes in the light of the new governance structure, it is possible to budget for income and expenses in 2018. The result is included in annex 2.

A positive result of 27,045 EUR is expected in 2018 taking into account prudent assumptions of membership and combined with the contribution level as agreed in October 2010.

### 5 year projection

No structural changes have been introduced, the trends observed in recent years are extrapolated.

The projected income level creates a margin that is decreasing systematically: the projected income is stable as the number of qualified actuaries and the contribution level are not evolving, the expenses are indexation linked.

### **Approval of financial statements and budget**

In accordance with the Statutes, the General Assembly is invited to approve the audited financial statements for the year 2016 and the draft budget for 2018.

### **Annual Fee**

In accordance with the Statutes, the General Assembly is invited to approve to maintain the annual fee for 2019 at EUR 20 per full member per Member Association.

### **Postscript**

I would like to take this opportunity to remind the General Assembly that I shall be relinquishing my position as Honorary Treasurer at the Annual Meeting in Copenhagen on 22 September. I have served in this capacity for two years, and it has been a pleasure and a privilege to do so. I am pleased to be able to hand over a sound financial position to my successor.

Karel Goossens  
Honorary Treasurer  
September 2017