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**MINUTES OF INFORMAL MEETING
EFCE WORKING PARTY ON DRYING
Sao Paulo, Brazil
Monday, August 23, 2004, 18.00 – 19.30**

Present delegates and guests:

Dr. Odilio Alves-Filho (N)
Prof. Julien Andrieu (F)
Dr. Carl-Gustav Berg (FIN)
Prof. István Farkas (H)
Mr. Ian C. Kemp (GB)
Prof. Natalia Menshutina (RUS)
Prof. Zdzislaw Pakowski (PL)
Prof. Michel Roques (F)
Prof. George Saravacos (GR)
Mr. Christian Schwartzbach (DK)
Prof. Alberto Sereno (P)
Prof. Stig Stenstrom (S)
Prof. Ingvald Strommen (N)
Prof. Evangelos Tsotsas (D)

Other persons present:

Dr. Christopher Baker (GB)
Mr. Trykve Eikevik (N)

1. Opening remarks

The Chairman, Evangelos Tsotsas, opens the meeting and expresses – on behalf of all attendants – his gratitude to the Chairwoman of the organizing committee of the 14th International Drying Symposium, Dr. Silva, for providing all support necessary for the realisation of the EFCE-WPD informal meeting during the conference in Sao Paulo. The number of attendants shows that the policy of combining WPD activities with the IDS is very successful.

2. Minutes of 2004 business meeting in Nuremberg

The minutes of the meeting in Nuremberg (March 2004), which had been previously distributed, contain one mistake concerning the location of the 2006 business meeting, which

will be Budapest, during IDS 2006. No other remarks are made, so that the minutes are noted and will be officially approved during the 2005 business meeting in Paris.

3. Membership, Address list

Members, who have already been officially replaced or do not show activity due to retirement or other reasons should be removed from the address list. These are: Prof. De Las Heras (SP), Mr. Claudio (I), Dr. Faucitano (I), Mr. Jaakkola (FIN).

New guests will be: Dr. Avontuur, Glaxo Smith Kline (GB) and Dr. Baker, Drying Associates (GB).

The changes will be approved during the 2005 business meeting in Paris.

Furthermore, and until the meeting in Paris, the situation of additional delegates, who have not regularly appeared in the last years, should be checked. In case of missing interest or availability, the respective national organisations should be contacted in order to officially replace them. These delegates are: Prof. Dolinsky (Ukraine), Prof. Sazhin (RUS), Dr. Sorensen (DK), Prof. Marinos-Kouris (GR). Prof. Menshutina accepted to conduct the necessary contacts in case of the Ukrainian and Russian delegates, Mr. Schwartzbach and Prof. Saravacos will do the same for the Danish and Greek delegates, respectively.

Decisions will be met in Paris. The same holds for the membership of Mr. Eikevik, SINTEF (N), who expressed his interest in joining the WPD with a guest status.

4. Website

The WPD website has been installed at: www.uni-magdeburg.de/ivt/efce, but it has not yet been updated. Since the update will be conducted in the next weeks, it is now the time to send any suggestions, links, ideas etc. to Prof. Tsotsas.

5. EU projects

After the rejection of the DRYMNS proposal, a new activity integrating large parts of the European drying community in a NOE or IP appears improbable. Applications in programmes focusing on training and exchange might be one strategy for the future. Otherwise, individual members of the drying community may try to contribute their expertise to proposals with other relevant objectives (materials, food, energy etc.). The chairman asks to be kept informed about any activity of WPD members within EU projects or proposals, in order to be able to provide support and better represent the community.

6. Assessment of IDS 2004 and ideas for IDS 2006

The members of WPD see successes of IDS 2004 organizers in the consequent reviewing of submitted papers and in the avoidance of no-shows. They tear a positive balance of IDS 2004. However, they see deficiencies in low participation from industry and in the, still, relatively low quotient of submitted papers' rejection. The goal should be to continue the IDS series closely to industry and at a high scientific level. Stronger industrial participation may be attained by geographically more central locations for the event, an extension of the duration of the symposium from 2.5 to 3.5 days, combination of IDS with thematically focused drying courses, industrial sessions, and technical papers that might be accepted in the proceedings as

PowerPoint presentations without scientific reviewing. The IDS 2006 in Budapest could become a prototype of better consideration of industry. Furthermore, IDS 2006 should try to obtain a number as recognised EFCE event. Prof. Tsotsas would pass any respective request by the Chairman of the IDS 2006 organising committee (Prof. Farkas) to the EFCE office at DECHEMA and support it.

7. Business meeting 2005, March 24/25, Paris

After the positive experience of Nuremberg, the 2005 business and technical meeting of WPD will be held on Thursday, March 24, and Friday, March 25, in Paris downtown, jointly with the AFSIA. Prof. Andrieu, who is our French host and responsible for the organisation, gives some details. The practice of having part of the meeting in the local language (now French), and part in English will be continued. In spite of a focus on biomaterials and pharmaceuticals, other drying topics will also be accepted. The call for papers will come out at the end of September 2004 by Prof. Andrieu and Prof. Tsotsas.

Some criticism is expressed in regard of the choice of March 25, which is Friday before eastern and a holiday in almost every European country. Prof. Andrieu explains, why the meeting had to be set in this date. All attendants agree about the necessity of supporting the meeting to full success.

8. Other forthcoming meetings

- Informal meeting 2005 during the 3rd Nordic Drying Conference, June 15-17, Karlstad, Sweden.
- Informal meeting 2005 during ECCE-5 and World Congress of Chemical Engineering, July 10-14 Glasgow, Scotland.
- Possible further informal meeting 2005 during Polish drying symposium, September 13-16, Poznan, Poland.
- Business meeting 2006 during the 15th International Drying Symposium, August 20-23, Budapest, Hungary.

9. Closure of the meeting

The Chairman thanks the delegates and guests for their participation and valuable contributions.

Evangelos Tsotsas
Chairman of WP on Drying
September 2004