

EUROPEAN SCIENTIFIC DIVING PANEL
(ESDP)

26th Plenary Meeting – 7th May 2021

Video Conference

MINUTES

		ACTIONS
1. Welcome and Present	<p>PRESENT: J-P Féral (J-PF; France), M Sayer (MS; UK), A Norro (AN; Belgium), P Fischer (PF; Germany), J Leinikki (JL; Finland), M Asplund (MA; Sweden), P Balazy (PB; Poland), M Ponti (MP; Italy), G Cervin (SE), W Plaiti (WP; Greece), B Kontny (BK; Poland)</p> <p>Apologies: M Frost (MF; MARS), P Carlsson (PC; Norway)</p> <p>Absent: HR-D Petricioli (DP-HR), PT-D Paulo (DP-PT), B Mavric (BM; Slovenia), BG-D Berov (DB)</p>	
2. Adoption of the agenda	Agreed – no changes were proposed.	
3. Approval of minutes from the 25 th ESDP meeting (+ISO)	<p>The revised minutes were discussed and accepted. No matters arising</p> <p>Flash meeting (ISO standard meeting) – 20/01/2021 No matters arising</p>	
4. National updates	<p>Belgium – CoVid: all training was postponed in 2020. Hoping to restart in Autumn 2021</p> <p>Bulgaria – no report</p> <p>Croatia – no report</p> <p>Finland – New coordinator for the Finnish Scientific Diving Academy is Edward Stockdale. The Academy is moving forward; it has initial funding for 3 years with a plan for it to become permanent.</p> <p>Because of CoVid – a series of webinars on SD. Of</p>	

interest to ESDP? Invites will be sent.

France – ESD and AESD are now mentioned in the draft of the instruction on the application of the decrees concerning the SD.

ECSD7 to be held in Roscoff is postponed 25-29th April 2022

Germany – Update of the new decompression tables is complete – DCIEM tables – at Federal level. Several new heads of the education establishments.

Status of GAUSS? no negotiations between KFT and the 'resistant' universities have been successful.

Greece – Still many restrictions because of CoVid but now returning to diving. The sciencediver.eu is being driven by Greece partners but this is creating a lack of clarity. May have to go back to professional diving qualifications (not SD) to satisfy the Coastguard. The sector of SD is still not formally structured. Some discussion on the difficulties of establishing a NCS in Greece. Several members gently reminded that for years it has been said that the way to the recognition of scientific diving at the national level was necessarily through the self-organisation of all partners, whatever their discipline. This led to the creation of a representative national committee that has a better chance of being listened to by the authorities than multiple idiosyncratic ways.

Italy – No news at National level. Webinar – SD in Italy and Europe for non-specialists and the ESD/AESD standards. Standards are becoming more widely use. Some need to clarify the application of the standards. [Malta/DAN (Alessandro Marroni) – developing BSc/masters in the management of scientific diving]

Norway – Pernilla Carlsson (maternity leave) – temporary representative is now Ivor Nesse-Aarrestad (marine archaeologist)

Poland – New draft of the law on professional diving includes maritime museums. This made maritime museum join the NSDC of Poland. Still drafting a legal agreement but getting closer and hope to establish a NSDC in Poland.

Portugal – no report

Slovenia – no report

Sweden – Commercial dive school has applied to teach SD education but lacks science modules. The school is teaching dive leader course but not to a good standard. The importance of scientific training for scientific diving was stressed. This can only be done by scientific peers (in association with the certification bodies if they are only "technical").

UK – CoVid: Medical and first aid extensions because of CoVid ended in March 2021. Most SD in UK is returning to normal. Still restrictions for working abroad. Increased efforts to extend the SDSC Dive Supervisor scheme (with HSE (legal regulator) support that this is delivered through our SD National Committee).

Increased demand for ESDP membership:

Gibraltar – now have NSDC. Hoping to apply to ESDP soon. On the right track with only one point to be clarified regarding the links with CMAS for training.

Netherlands - Hoping to apply to ESDP soon.

Monaco –expressed desire to join ESDP but nothing heard recently.

Estonia – ESDP meeting was due to be held in Estonia this time to educate and inform. Cancelled because of CoVid-19

Ireland – following now CMAS standards. There is a need to discuss with their national committee as soon as it will be launched.

Spain – SD now officially recognised, but no contact.

Austria - not replying after initial contact.

Cyprus – Several independent contacts from various institutes (marine sciences, oceanography, archaeology) demonstrate the interest in this approach to the ESDP. All these correspondents are now in contact. Hope that they will succeed.

WP and J-PF to find contact

<p>5. European events</p>	<p>ScienceDiver.eu online workshops: Three workshops:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional recognition of science divers (02/12/2020) • The legal framework (09/12/2020) • Scientific Diving (16/12/2020) • <i>3 presentations by ESDP members, as external advisers</i> <p>Poorly presented with limited knowledge but well-funded. Big confusion with citizen science.</p> <p>ScienceDiver.eu Newsletter #3 (online) – propose that they are experts in harmonisation. Large lack of knowledge but are ESDP at fault by not advertising more widely? ESDP does not have the funding that ScienceDiver.eu has (€ 2 million from Blue Economy programme).</p> <p>MP – global review of SD (by AOISS) received over 900 responses worldwide. National representatives should check for accuracy.</p> <p>6th ECSD – 21-22 April 2021. Hosted virtually by University of Freiberg (postponed from 2020 because of CoVid). Generated 37 talks and 16 posters. Recorded talks. Some participation by members of the ESDP. Mixed experiences – everyone would prefer to go back to face to face meetings but acknowledgement that an online component will continue for some time – should be facilitated to broaden the audience.</p>	<p>MP – to share anonymised data for checking</p>
<p>6. Consultation Documents</p>	<p>Medical spreadsheet – MS: for completion in the next 6-months. Still needs some more information.</p> <p>Rebreathers – AN: Document now ready. Sent to working group for reviewing with deadline at end of May. To go to MS after that for checking English.</p> <p>SD requirements in European Countries (J-PF). Add “Occupational” to the title. Document onto GoogleDocs/Sheets. Some clarification required. Network analysis or Multifactorial analyses may be useful tools to examine current and pending ESDP membership? (or not – some discussion)</p>	<p>ALL: Check the document and revise or correct if required <i>Not done: structure of the document too complex</i></p>

	<p>SD Bibliography (2015-2020) – to demonstrate the scientific value of using diving. Can Social Media be used to further increase exposure of ESDP? FaceBook, LinkedIn, Twitter etc</p> <p>A reminder to use the Zotero database: www.zotero.org/groups/423318/european_scientific_diving_panel</p>	<p>ALL: Update Zotero for IF>5 (at the time of publication) or send a complete "functional" DOI</p>
<p>7. towards ISO standards for European SD</p>	<p>ISO kickoff meeting 13th/14th April 2021 Although thought no need for ISO standards there may be value to be involved. The policy of “the empty chair” could not be an option.</p> <p>Again, this was an initiative from the ScienceDiver.eu group. Meeting was convened by Martin Dennison (Vienna University) who is the chair of TC228/WG1</p> <p>Work of ISO is not to “force” standards where they are not needed. ESDP was represented (Alain, Diogo, Martin), in addition to AAUS and Australia. Others were from CMAS, DAN and ScienceDiver.eu</p> <p>1st day was a broad discussion with no clear outputs. 2nd day was decided to go with ISO standards for occupational SD – Citizen Science standards were not supported.</p> <p>Agreed on three levels: Scientific Diver – capable of diving for scientific purposes under supervision (based on AAUS/WSDTC competencies?) Advanced Scientific Diver – specific technical or academic skills capable of diving for scientific diving (ESD competencies?) Scientific Diving Project Leader – capable of overseeing the conduct of a scientific diving project (AESD competencies?)</p> <p>If accepted by ISO, the work takes 3-4 years (time-limited) and ESDP <u>MUST attend all meetings</u> to ensure there is no dilution of what has been proposed.</p> <p>Any national representative can attend the meetings. All are encouraged to try and be national representatives.</p> <p>AN, MP, DP-PT and MS (and MA?) to continue to be the main ESDP representatives.</p>	<p>ALL – Attempt to become an ISO national representative.</p>

8. Any Other business	No other business	
9. Date of next meeting	Try to have a physical meeting? <i>(obviously CoVid permitting)</i> Return to Latvia? 29 th October?	

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