

## Minutes of Management Committee Meeting

At The Technical University of Krakow, Poland.

20-21 February 2014

### 1. Welcome to the participants

Members of the MC were welcomed to Krakow by the local host, Professor Marius Maszlak, and by the University vice-Rector.

The following new participants were welcomed to the MC meeting:

- Professor Faris Ali (UK – University of Ulster),
- Professor Qiang Xu (University of Nanjing, China),
- Dr Miquel Casafont (Spain – Polytechnic University of Catalunya),
- Mr Ignacio Gonzalez (Spain – Polytechnic University of Catalunya),
- Mr Antonio Correia (Portugal – Instituto Politécnico de Coimbra),

### 2. Approval of the agenda

The Agenda was approved.

### 3. Approval of the Minutes of the MC meeting Aveiro, October 2013

The Minutes were approved.

### 4. Current budget available

The remaining budget was sufficient to fund the final planned activity, the Training School in Lulea, as well as a single extra STSM.

### 5. Short-term Scientific Missions (STSMs)

A single participant from Finland had expressed interest in this. It would be necessary to complete this STSM by mid-March, at which time the budget would be closed.

### 6. Introductory remarks on Work Packages

- a) WP4: Benchmark Studies: Two volumes of papers describing the benchmark studies had been published:
  - i. *Benchmark Studies: Verification of Numerical Models in Fire Engineering* (328 pages, 26 papers in 3 chapters),
  - ii. *Benchmark Studies: Experimental Validation of Numerical Models in Fire Engineering* (198 pages, 15 papers in 3 chapters).

The steps necessary to disseminate the benchmark studies, including the data and output spreadsheets hosted on the project's website, were discussed.

- b) WP6: Suggestions for amendments/improvements to the fire-related Eurocodes: The questionnaire devised by Jyri Outinen was discussed, and national representatives responsible for updating it were identified. Some of this work remained to be done.

- c) WP7: Educational dimension: An initial proposal for a Masters-level course was presented by Miodrag Drakulic on behalf of Dubravka Bjegovic. An initial draft syllabus of modules was presented and discussed. After considerable discussion the title “Fire Safety and Sustainable Building Design” was chosen for the course. Several national representatives expressed interest in participating as full Partners, with some others potentially participating as Associate Partners.

## **7. Plenary session on WP6: Suggestions for Eurocode upgrading**

Paulo Vila Real introduced and chaired the plenary session on WP6, in which contributions to the next phase of development of the Eurocodes were discussed.

Participants presented 24 suggestions for upgrades to the “Fire” parts of the Eurocodes, based on various research studies. These were discussed in some depth.

The national answers to the questionnaire, and these individual suggestions, will be published and subsequently passed to the relevant groups considering the upgrading of the Eurocodes. The deadline for receipt of final versions is 6 March 2014.

The WP6 output will be finalized by a small editorial group which will meet in parallel with the Luleå training school 12 – 15 March 2014.

## **8. Training school**

Florian Block reported on the development of a consistent building fire scenario to be used in the three software exercises during the Luleå training school.

## **9. Proposals for a subsequent COST Action**

Two proposals for subsequent Actions had failed to gain funding. These were:

- a) Resilience of building environment against disasters (Beatrice Faggiano)
- b) Smoke in fire in infrastructure and buildings (Szilagy Csaba and Guillermo Rein)

There was a discussion about submission of a revised version of the first of these. It was felt that the reviewers’ comments on the very wide-ranging nature of the original proposal should be addressed in the new proposal; in particular that it should concern resilience at a relatively local technical level rather than involving regional planning aspects. It was the intention to submit a new proposal before the March 2014 deadline.

## **10. Closure of the meeting**

Frantisek Wald  
Ian Burgess

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