

# Summary of the CEFEC Meeting Amsterdam 23/11/81

TOP: How to strengthen the CEFEC Organisation?

1) Looking back CEFEC has had good assets in

- Annual Conference
- Developing ethical guidelines (Turin)
- Setting up a Europeanwide recognized Association with Syllabus, Charter and Regulations
- Getting work groups going (research, new technology etc)
- Helping in current issues of Europeanwide matters to do with EC programs.

2) At this stage 1981 has brought some problems:

- No annual Conference.
- A number of meetings of EC programs will have drawn a lot of energies and develop their own dynamics, not always in favour of CEFEC and its identity.
- Not enough cross information between these bodies.

3) The persons/members present express their need for a strong CEFEC organization:

- to exchange information and staff <sup>Europeanwide</sup> by visiting and taking a 'fresh view' on own projects.
- to specify what a social firm/employment project is and how to set it up.
- to get to know about <sup>other</sup> national projects via CEFEC office (and international <sup>information</sup>)

which would not have been passed on otherwise out of competition and 'closed shop - policies'.

- To get support in their local/national activities on a political level
- To orientate psychiatric care and vocational training with the aim of employment

4) Problems in the present structure are:

4.1. CEFEC office (Worship Green) is financed by FAF (which might eventually withdraw its support)

There is a controversy whether to ask the national members more aggressively to finance the office, whether to ask for EC money or to require more personal help for it by individual CEFEC members. There is a plea by the NFMH representative to ask the members for stronger financial support out of their local support portions (e.g. EC programmes).

4.2. There is not enough written information exchange, neither on the newsletter level, scientific level (incl. books) or advertising level (leaflets, recruiting new members). The transfer of material from persons who work on this field (e.g. Brian Seyfried) in their non CEFEC role to CEFEC members is not sufficient.

4.3. There was a strong feeling, that CEFEC structure should work even if there are various EC programmes ending or not working & to be independent in its identity from the nature of the funding. This does not mean that EC funding whenever suitable to the aims/philosophy of the CEFEC aims should not be re-omitted. Priorities are important in this way.

### 5) Practical steps

to overcome some of these structural problems of CEFEC there were suggestions made and steps arranged:

5.1. A form should be sent to all members asking what know-how/competence they can offer to support the central duties (Christiane M. David Anderson will follow this up)

5.2. The Executive Committee will have to decide whether members have to pay more towards central services than they want. (members contributions or piece-rate-per-service system?)



5.3. The basic philosophy was agreed on  
w/ employment <sup>projects</sup> of psychiatrically  
disabled influence therapy and vo-  
cational training programmes and even  
influence national psychiatric programmes  
in this way. (Topic of Greece 1892 -  
Obituary letter to Athena)

5.4. To continue with some of these open  
points and problems of #4. —  
Paul Bateu wants to collect the present  
members during the research conference  
and spell out some more next  
steps. (incl. EC programmes and  
attitude towards it e.g. "Europsy")

Looking into the instruments of CEFEC

- ① The <sup>formal</sup> organisation (function on a minimum level)
  - ② The newsletter (has no staff group -  
own alone)
  - ③ The annual meeting (will carry on  
in '92 + '93)
  - ④ The funding programme (care going actively, but  
sometimes cross cutting CEFEC)
  - ⑤ Secretariat (heavy stressed) further steps of strengthening the resources  
have to be found.
- O. L. H. A. Berlin

**The importance of an employees status and a worker's role for people with psychiatric disabilities**

The CEFEC organization and its projects believe and experience that a good proportion of psychiatrically disabled people can earn their living on the open employment-market if conditions are supportive.

The employees role offers and promotes a number of advantages, which are worth looking into and pointing out. Not only do they improve the person's condition presently and for the future, - these points can be of value for the steps and programmes before this aim of a worker's role is reached, namely for vocational rehabilitation and psychiatric care.

Marie Jahoda an Austrian psychologist investigated the "other side of the coin" (unemployment) and has listed the main advantages of being employed in Western society. For psychiatrically disabled these reasons have even more existential meaning:

- Self-respect and status (against discrimination)
- Earning money leads to independence from carer/family and to choice of life style including being able to afford leisure activities
- Daily structure and sense of meaning in this world from being a useful member of society (producing for others)
- Sense of time
- Developing and channeling skills (instrumental and socio emotional)
- providing social interaction, being part of a group and creating a sense of belonging
- Caring for physical appearance and adequate behaviour (clothes, lifestyle)

These factors are provided 'free' as part of an employee's status if it is a reasonable firm/enterprise, eg: a social firm. In vocational rehabilitation (the role of expertise, pupil) and in psychiatric care/treatment e. g. work therapy, sheltered work, day care some of these factors are important and should be made conscious and explicit as part of the programme, even if in restricted ways.

Christiane Haerlin

ex archive: Chistine Haerlin

CEFEC  
Confederation of European Firms,  
Employment Initiatives and Cooperatives  
for psychically disabled  
a.s.b.l. (non-profit association)

Summary of the CEFEC meeting in Baarn/The Netherlands  
November 29th 1991

TOPICS: How to strengthen the CEFEC organisation

1. Looking back CEFEC, has had good assets in:

- annual conferences
- developing ethical guidelines (Turin)
- setting up a Europe-wide recognized association with syllabus, charta and regulations
- getting work groups going (research, new technology)
- helping in current issues of Europe-wide matters to do with EC programmes

2. At this stage (1991) there have been some problems:

- no annual conference in 1991
- a number of meetings of EC programmes which have drained a lot of energy and developed their own dynamics, not always in favour of CEFEC and its identity
- not enough cross information between these bodies

3. The persons/members present express their need for a strong CEFEC organisation:

- to exchange information and staff Europe-wide by visiting and taking a fresh view on own projects
- to specify what a social firm/employment project is and how to set it up
- to get to know about other national and international projects and information via CEFEC secretariat which, because of competitiveness and closed shop policies, would not otherwise be passed on
- to get support in their local/national activities on a political level
- to orientate psychiatric care and vocational activities on a political level
- to orientate psychiatric care and vocational training with the aim of employment

4. Problems in the present structures are:

4.1 The CEFEC secretariat is financed by FAF in Berlin (which might eventually withdraw its support for financial reasons). There is a controversy as to whether to ask the national members more offensively to finance the office, whether to ask for EC money, or to organize more personal help for the secretariat from individuals (CEFEC members). There was a plea by the WFMH representative (José van Remoortel) to ask the members for stronger financial support out of their local support portions (e.g. EC programmes)

4.2 There is not enough written information exchange, neither on the newsletter level, scientific level (incl. books) or advertising level (leaflets, winning new members). The transfer of material from persons who work in this field in their non CEFEC role to CEFEC members is not sufficient.

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4.3 There was a strong feeling that CEFEC structure should work even if there are various EC programmes ending or not working; and in this way be independent in its identity from the nature of funding. This does not mean that EC funding when ever suitable to the aims/philosophy of the CEFEC aims should not be resourced. Priorities are important in this way.

**5. Practical steps**

To overcome some of these structural problems of CEFEC there were suggestions made and steps arranged:

5.1 A form should be sent to all members asking what know-how/competence they can offer to support the central office's duties.

5.2 The Executive Committee will have to decide whether members have to pay more towards central office and establish how this payment be made, (member contributions or piece-rate-per-service system?)

5.3 The basic philosophy as agreed on is that employment projects for psychiatrically disabled people influence therapy and vocational training programmes and even influence national psychiatric programmes. (Topic of the CEFEC Conference in Greece 1992 - see enclosed paper)

5.4 To continue with some of the open points and problems of 4.) Paul Baten wants to gather together the present members during the Research Conference and spell out some more next steps (including EC programmes and attitude towards them, e.g. "EUROPSY").

**Looking into the instruments of CEFEC:**

1. The formal organisation (functions on a minimal level)
2. The Newsletter (has no staff group)
3. The annual meeting will take place in 1992 in Delphi/Greece and in 1993 in Northern Ireland)
4. The funding programmes (are going actively, but sometimes cross cutting CEFEC)
5. The secretariat (heavily stressed)

Further steps for (re)structuring the resources have to be taken during next CEFEC Conference and General Meeting October 10th - 14th in Delphi/Greece

Christiane Haerlin

This meeting has been possible with the kind support by the EC Commission, Bureau for the Actions in Favour of Disabled People