

## **Press Release**

21 March 2013

## General Assembly of AETTA held on March 21, 2013

The Association of European Travel and Tourist Agencies has held its annual General Assembly in Brussels on March 21, 2013. The majority¹ of the strategic members of AETTA have personally participated, the others have voted by correspondence. In a move to further promote a greater transparency of the Association, ten randomly selected associate members were invited to take part, of which seven have been present. The General Assembly has been chaired by Pekka Hakkonen, the President, assisted by Helmut Messner, Secretary General.

The agenda included the following principal items:

Review of the auditors' report for the financial year 2012 Budget for 2013 and pro forma budget for 2014 Agenda and Preparation for the IXth Biennial Congress of AETTA Appointment of auditors for the financial year 2013

Following the General Assembly Pekka Hakkonen commented: "On behalf of the Association I would like to express our gratitude to all our members for their continued strong support of the Association. This is a solid foundation, which allows us to develop. And we need to make sure that in difficult economic environment, most of our members operate in, AETTA continues to deliver a great value. Especially, this concerns boosting revenue generation opportunities of our members through strengthening of their cooperation and delivering to them value added services. The upcoming IXth Biennial Congress of AETTA in Frankfurt in November of this year will focus exactly on these topics. I would like to use this opportunity to invite all our members to this great event".

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Note to the Editor: Association of European Travel and Tourist Agencies (AETTA) brings under one roof over one thousand travel and tourist agencies working in Europe or serving European destinations. Each year these collectively serve 8.5 million clients, generate a total turnover of some €4.8 billion and employ directly 22 000 people.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 29 of the total of 44