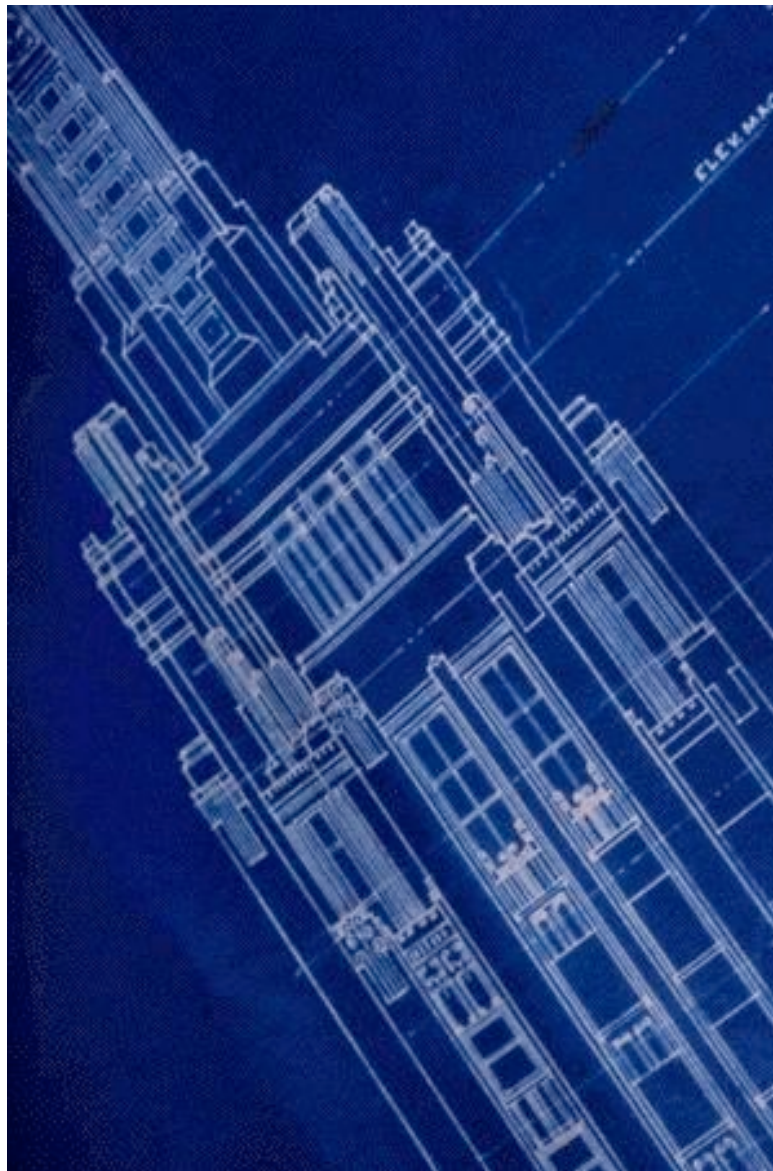

Blueprint of a dream

Leading the change towards a new E.F.C.C.A.

by MARCO GRECO

Formal Candidate for EFCCA Chairmanship



“I’m asking you to BELIEVE.

Not just in my capability to bring about radical change in EFCCA,

I’m asking you to BELIEVE in YOURS.

We have a project, We have a dream, We have the courage to pursue it.

We are a team, We have ideals

These are our diseases

This is our battle. This is our moment for changing things. Here and now.

Together We cannot fail.”

Index of Contents

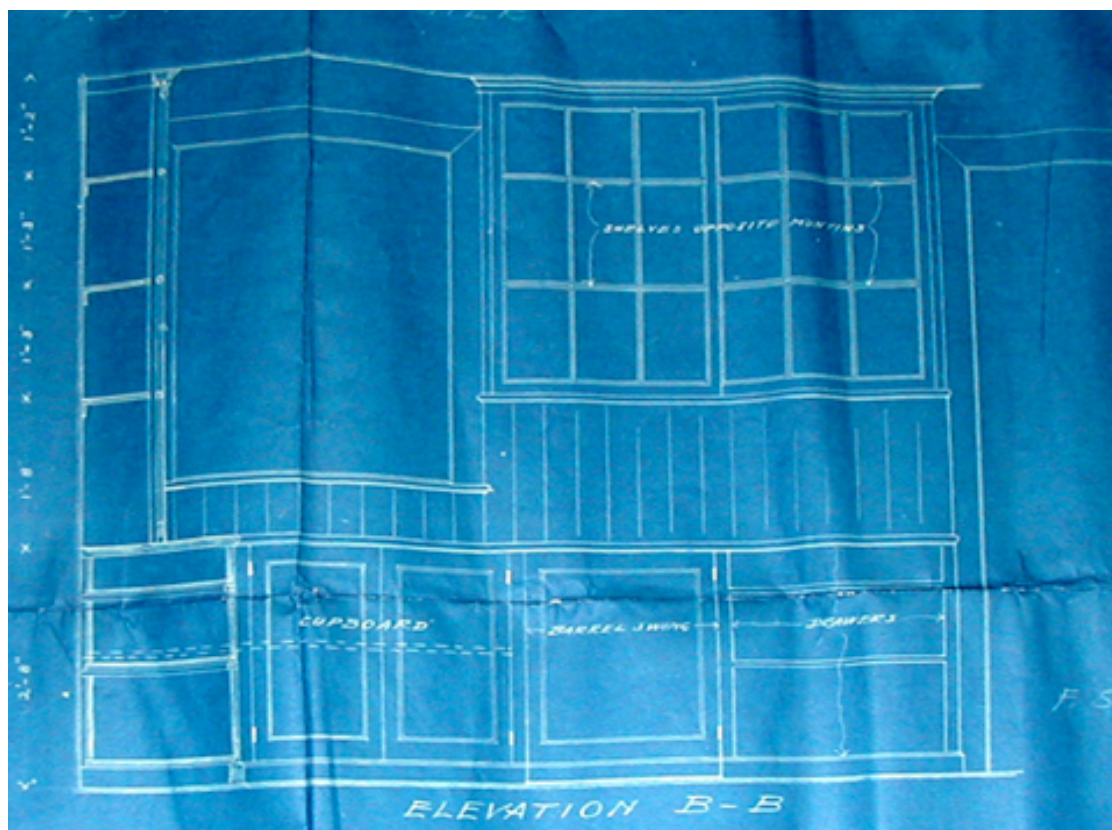


| | |
|---|-----------|
| Open Horizons | 2 |
| status quo and future perspectives | 2 |
| <i>Where we are, and what we are fighting for</i> | 3 |
| <i>Is it possible to postpone the change ? The paradox of excellence</i> | 4 |
| Five rings | 6 |
| drawing our own future: the new dream team | 6 |
| <i>Keywords: a guide to the new beginning</i> | 6 |
| <i>Proposal 1: A new structure and a new office. The new "team".</i> | 7 |
| <i>Proposal 2: a new way of communicating</i> | 11 |
| <i>Proposal 3: Code of conduct - the beginning of "a new delegate" and the new strategy plan</i> | 13 |
| <i>Proposal 4: Proactive approach with our stakeholders and innovative collaborative projects</i> | 15 |
| <i>Proposal 5: Transparency and Independence with the help of the Foundation "Research IBD"</i> | 17 |
| A two years challenge | 19 |
| What we will do in two years...and a bit more | 19 |
| ABOUT MYSELF | 21 |
| credits & contacts | 22 |

Open Horizons

Leading the change towards a new EFCCA

STATUS QUO AND FUTURE PERSPECTIVES



You must know who you are, then you'll know where you can go

Dear colleagues,

This is a key moment in the history of EFCCA. Each of us has the future of this organization in their hands, and I feel that we have a huge responsibility. The founders have given us a concept and powerful material to be developed. All those who have come before us in EFCCA's history have taken EFCCA to achieve its maximum potential, as is possible within the current organizational structure. In the future, it is necessary to choose a new direction, and transform this organization.

The seed planted 20 years ago by a group of idealistic people has in subsequent years become like a beautiful flower on a strong tree, capable of bearing fertile fruit, and able to survive every storm. To maintain this, we will have to accept some risk - maybe even the risk of de-

stroying everything. The only way to reduce this risk, and to strive together for a successful future, is to stay together. Together we can win every battle we fight, even with IBD. But we all have to work - no excuses.

There is no way back, because now more than ever, we must play as a team, and we will loose or win as a team.

Where we are, and what we are fighting for

All these years, EFCCA has been promoting work between united European Associations for people with IBD, in order to pursue an ambitious goal: improving quality of life (socially and medically), and helping to find a cure.

In the last ten years, under the direction and guidance of Rod Mitchell, EFCCA has reached its maximum possible potential, within the original structure of the Federation created by the founders. Although it is true that over the past twenty years many changes have been introduced, all of them can be easily related to the original structure and concept.

It is a firm conviction that EFCCA should maintain the principle of being based on the voluntary work of delegates.

It is important to realize that if EFCCA wants to evolve and grow, some change could be necessary.

The current structure is the optimized original model. In front of us we have two options: to stay in the traditionally cut furrow, or to evolve and grow.

The first possibility seems easiest and safest. However, it must be said that the field in which EFCCA operates is changing rapidly (as society is changing as well), and for the first time in EFCCA's history there is a chance that the Federation could be called to face competition from rivals.

The second option, means trying to evolve, **but without losing our historical identity.**

The second option is the greatest and most difficult challenge that any company, federation or association can be called to face. To achieve this, we need skills, professional vision, strong commitment and iron will.

This document was conceived in the belief that we have the structure and the management that we need to win this challenge. The path we choose will be our future, and this choice will be taken together. We always have to keep in mind the reason why we are here: fighting for all people with IBD. No matter what their age, their nationality, their gender, their beliefs, or any

other factor, they are all people like us. This is our battle, and together we will always be stronger.

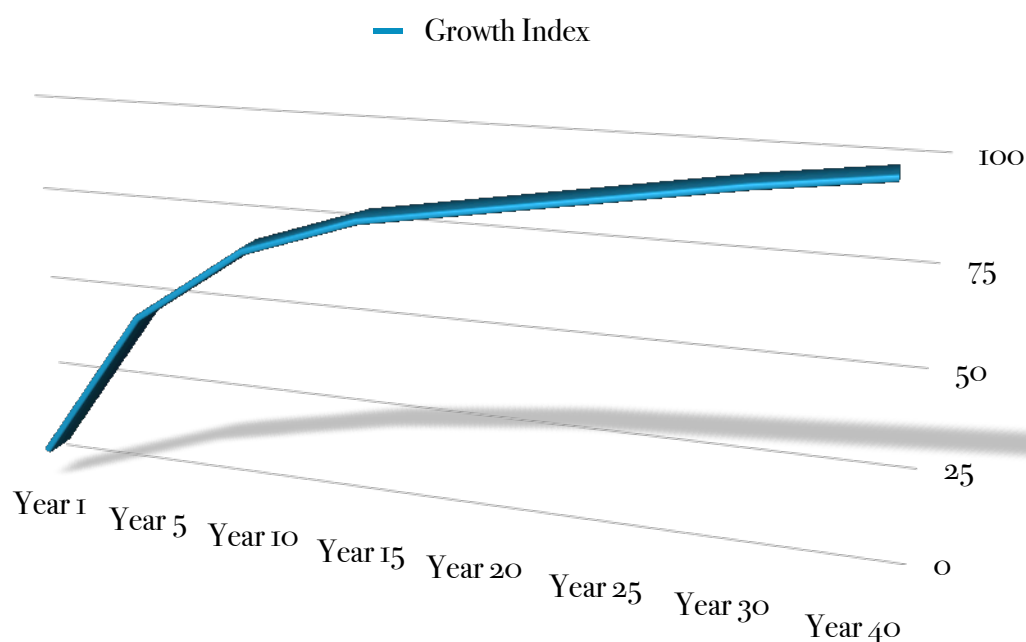
We also fight for the principles in which we believe. We fight for transparency, independence and democracy within EFCCA.

Is it possible to postpone the change ? The paradox of excellence

Probably not, because EFCCA has already reached its maximum potential with its current structure. In other words, we are approaching a resistance point - our ability to grow whilst maintaining the current structure is getting more difficult to maintain day by day. Moreover, our stakeholders might think of this as a problem. If we were a commercial enterprise, we would talk about the so-called “Paradox of Excellence”.

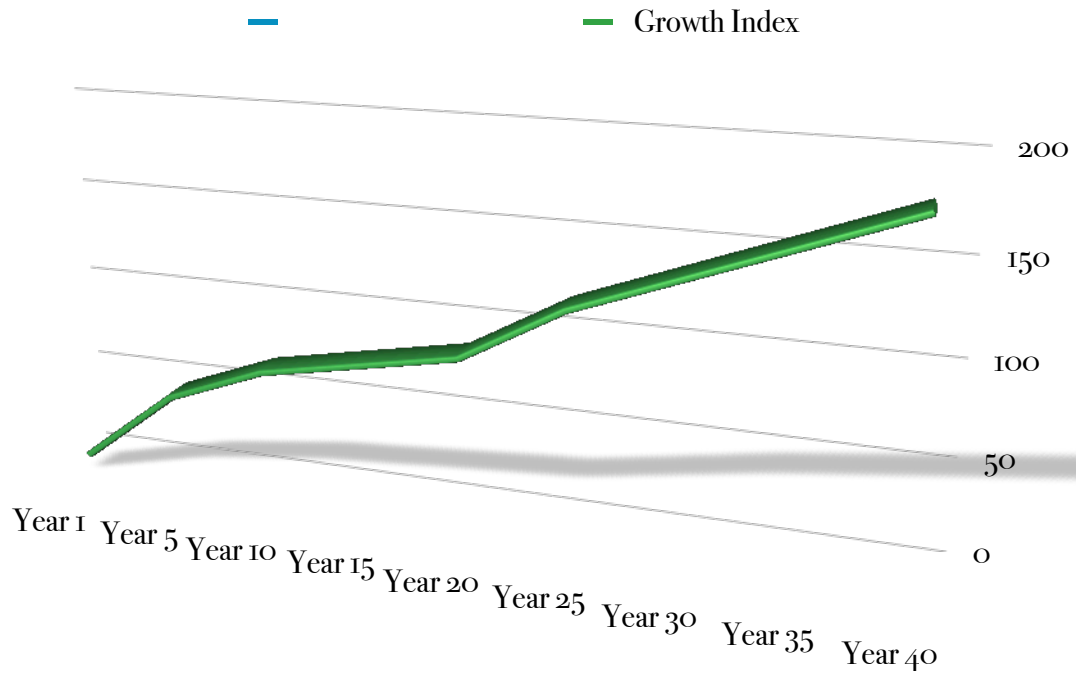
The basic concept is that the better you do your job, the more oblivious you become to everything but bad news. The longer you do a good job, the more your perceived value declines, because your stakeholders lose sight of what the world was like before you started.

Here is a diagram to illustrate the concept:



The more time that passes, the less you grow: this is the resistance point.

By changing, you can modify this situation, breaking the vicious cycle. However, take another example:



Based on this model, introducing a radical change, whilst respecting tradition, history and identity, represents a great opportunity to achieve improvement and growth.

Five rings

Five possible solutions to achieve our ambitious goal

DRAWING OUR OWN FUTURE: THE NEW DREAM TEAM



To create a flower, you have to imagine it first.

Keywords: a guide to the new beginning

Every proposal is based on these five basic ideas and principles (the “five rings”):

1. We are a team, we loose as a team, and we win as a team;
2. Ethical behaviour is no joking matter;
3. To save money when you work for EFCCA is a moral obligation;
4. ‘With a little help from our friends’ - where possible, EFCCA should use its patrimony of contacts, links and friends over the world;
5. A clear, efficient and effective structure helps to produce better results.

Every project must fulfil these five subsequent requirements (the so-called “chain”):

1. To be developed in a team;
2. To be developed in consistency with EFCCA’s aims, principles, ethical policy and budget;
3. To be developed collaboratively with partners where possible, and in the most cost effective way;
4. To be developed, when necessary, with the help of external people or organizations;
5. To be led by a representative nominated by the Ex-com (responsible for maintaining the ‘ring’).

oOo

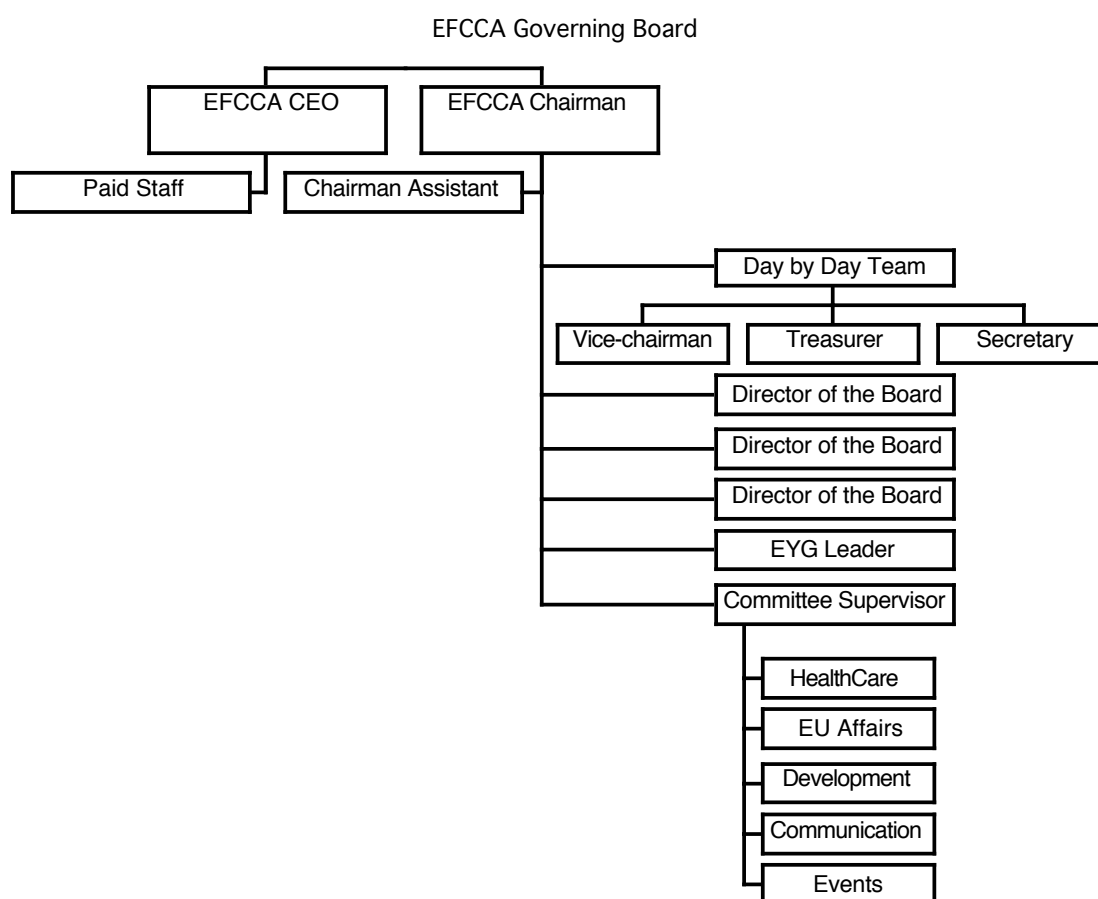
Proposal 1: A new structure and a new office. The new “team”.

What is “the new structure”, and why do we need it?

The pursuit of our new future starts with the creation of a new structure for EFCCA. Although it is our intention to maintain, as far as possible, EFCCA’s Statutes and Bye-laws (a proposal to modify them is an option outlined later in this document), any changes must be reviewed and approved by the “chain of power” inside EFCCA.

Keeping in mind that our main goal is to improve the quality of work, the capability of processing workloads, and the enlargement of the democratic basis of our Federation, what we propose is essentially like a redesigned “control room”.

The new scheme can be represented as follows:



What are the differences compared to the current structure?

There are five significant differences if we compare this structure with the current structure:

1. The new role of the “EFCCA CEO” - a paid professional who will perform specific tasks, and provide directional leadership. A further objective is to employ paid staff to support him.
2. Recognition of the role of EFCCA committee leaders, who will form an “extended Ex-com”. Their inclusion will improve the democratic basis of EFCCA, and will also help to build the greatest possible consensus;
3. Recognition of the role of the EYG leader, and as we do now, inviting them to every Ex-com meeting, at the present time without the right to vote;
4. The creation of a new position: the Chairman’s Assistant. Chosen from the EFCCA delegates by the Chairman, this delegate remains a volunteer, does not receive any payment for the work performed, does not constitute part of the official Ex-com, and does not have any voting rights. Their only role is to assist the chairman in their everyday tasks.

5. One new member of the board will be appointed - a “Committees Supervisor”;
6. A new working group will be created, called the “events” committee (see below for details).

What is the difference between a Chairman and a CEO? What roles will they have inside EFCCA?

| EFCCA Board / Chairman | EFCCA Delegates | CEO |
|--|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of strategy - Control activities CEO - Face of EFCCA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Control of budget, plans and annual reports - Exchange and fit country specific information | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Produce and carry out plans and budgets within strategy - Daily management - Voice of EFCCA |
| front seat passenger | back seat passenger | driver |

(Table courtesy of Mr. Arjan Kremer)

What will be the role of the committees?

Every committee, composed of a variable number of EFCCA delegates, will be asked to pursue specific tasks, all part of the approved multi-year strategy plan. Moreover, every group will be asked to be collaborative and proactive, to enlighten the Ex-com with new proposals, ideas and projects.

What are the responsibilities of each committee?

Healthcare = This committee maintains awareness of what is happening in the world of medicine, healthcare, research and IBD, and will be EFCCA’s ‘ears’ in relation to scientific news, problems and ethical issues. This committee is expected to interact with other medical stakeholders, and to offer proposals for healthcare policies to the Ex-com, which can be presented to EU Authorities. For example, the committee could highlight problems with access to medical treatment, or equal rights.

The name of this committee could become the “Scientific Committee”. A medical or scientific background is required to be part of this committee

EU Affairs = This committee will cover a huge range of issues of interest to EFCCA. The main focus will be in working with the CEO to establish relationships with MEPs and EU Authorities. First contact with EU stakeholders will be managed by this group. The committee has the primary responsibility to identify the most important issues to be raised with EU Authorities (such as creating and presenting policy proposals).

Development = This committee will generate new proposals and ideas, study the feasibility of new projects, and provide an opinion for consultation by the Ex-com. The committee will suggest new ways of working, funding and cooperating. The committee will manage specific projects, on request by the Ex-com.

Communication = *This committee will* handle all EFCCA's communication, both internally and externally. This group should find the best methods to improve the quality of communication between EFCCA and every stakeholder. Marketing and merchandising would be the next key developments.

Events = This committee is a specific working group which will study and solve all the problems connected with the organization of EFCCA Events (conferences, and in particular, the General Assembly).

EYG = *This committee is part of the current structure*, and will maintain its independence, in terms of its composition and thinking. The EYG will work to implement its approved Strategy Plan. In 2007, the leadership of this group passed to new Chairman, Chayim Bell. The new team should be protected, and given the opportunity to reach its enormous potential. EYG are planning "Project ESC", which will be an important and iconic development. With the help of everybody they will win, and all children with IBD will win with them. This group is our future, and investment in it shall continue.

What is the role of the Committee Supervisor?

The Committee Supervisor will be a member of the Ex-com, and a delegate elected as "Director of the Board". They will coordinate the work of all committees, in order to avoid duplication of effort, to support the development of projects, and to ensure the best use of resources.

Do we need an office in Brussels?

This proposal has already received a positive response in consultation with EFCCA delegates. If we want to employ paid staff, an office is necessary. If we want to have a reference point for our stakeholders, then considering EFCCA's aims, duties and tasks, Brussels is the only choice.

Do we need a new format for the General Assembly (GA)?

Saving money, in order to be able to invest properly in our development, will be a necessity. Therefore, we suggest a new format for the annual GA, which is shorter and more effective. Arrivals will take place on a Friday, the meeting will be on a Saturday, and Sunday morning

will be reserved for the committees. Departures can take place on Sunday afternoon. In specific cases (e.g. where there is modification of the Statutes or bye-laws), one more day could be added (i.e. by arrival on a Thursday).

This way, we could have double savings:

- Saving money for EFCCA (1 or 2 nights saved);
- Saving time for the delegates (we are all volunteers!).

Proposal 2: a new way of communicating

What is wrong with the present methods of communication?

Nothing! But this does not mean that we cannot make improvements. The presence of experts in technology amongst our volunteers gives us the opportunity to easily access the latest technologies, at low cost. (We don't need to pay consultants!) However, many delegates still do not use the technology that EFCCA offers them to its full potential, for example, by not adopting the '@efcca.org' email account. This should change.

What do we suggest to improve internal communication?

I propose the creation of a set of new internet services, in a private area of the EFCCA website, which is easily accessible to all delegates. Once all the legal and liability issues are solved, in one year's time, the private area will become a communications centre for EFCCA work. It also offers the potential to cut postal costs, once and for all.

Every delegate should have an EFCCA website account, and use it. The committee will provide all the information and help needed to use these services in the most effective way.

Technology, if used in the right way, can help us by reducing time, reducing bureaucracy and improving the quality of our work, all through one key word: communication. Communication means also democracy.

The EFCCA newsletter and the EYG-zine have demonstrated themselves to be effective instruments in improving communication. The development of these formats should go on. More and more delegates should help in providing both these services.

What do we suggest to improve external communication?

Continuation of current developments:

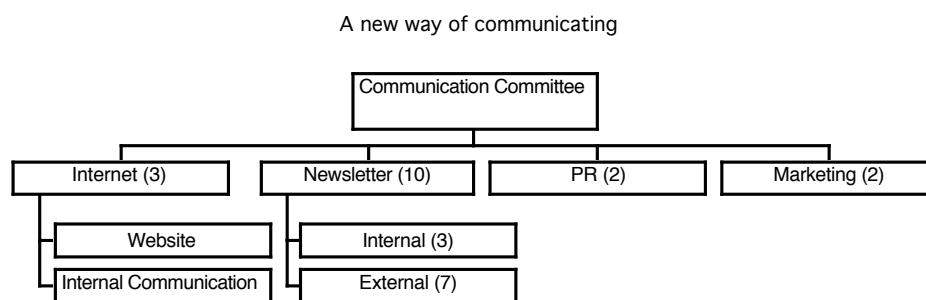
- Internet: The website should be constantly updated and renewed, offering new content as often as possible;
- Newsletter: Improvement of the EFCCA newsletter, with the involvement of each delegate. Renovation of contents, and where possible, development of multilingual newsletters.

Development of new communications tools, through:

- A proactive approach and attention to new technologies;
- Investment in new technologies;
- A new marketing strategy (including promotional items and marketing merchandise).

-What role will play in these processes the EFCCA Communication Group ?

An essential role. Since many new projects require a high level of knowledge exchange with our stakeholders, it will be essential for new projects to have access to the internal resource provided by the communications group. The communications group should be extended and potentially divided into subsections, to make it more responsive and better administrated. The following example shows a possible substructure (estimated number of delegates required in parentheses).



Proposal 3: Code of conduct - the beginning of “a new delegate” and the new strategy plan

What is the “Code of Conduct”?

According to the definition given by Wikipedia a “Code of Conduct” is a set of rules outlining the responsibilities or proper practices for an individual or organization. Related concepts include ethical codes and honour codes.

In its 2007 international good practice guidance, *Defining and Developing an Effective Code of Conduct for Organizations*, the International Federation of Accountants provided the following working definition: “*principles, values, standards, or rules of behaviour that guide the decisions, procedures and systems of an organization in a way that (a) contributes to the welfare of its key stakeholders, and (b) respects the rights of all constituents affected by its operations*”.

Until now, EFCCA’s ethics and practices have always been governed by a kind of ‘gentlemen’s agreement’ between EFCCA and its delegates, with the Chairman behaving as the controller of good practice, in respect of the Statutes and bye-laws.

What we propose is a new written “Code of Conduct” that will guide every EFCCA delegate in their work, and therefore guide EFCCA itself.

We will also ask each delegate to subscribe to this Code of Conduct, from the moment in which they are nominated.

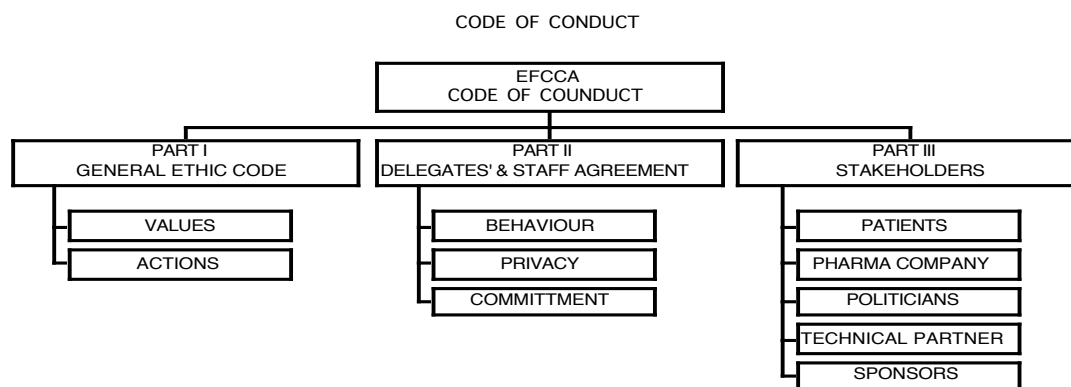
The content of this Code will be determined by a committee elected for this purpose. The “five rings” and the principles described above will form the core of the document, and well as a strong commitment to EFCCA Statutes, bye-laws, and a highly regarded moral code. This should guide EFCCA and each delegate, especially in relationships with any stakeholder.

Why we do need a “Code of conduct”?

A Code of Conduct will give us terms of reference to help avoid problems from the start, or solve problems early. For example, the Code will provide us with guidance on conflicts of interest, relationships with sponsors and MEPs, how to behave while representing EFCCA, our privacy policy, delegate’s liabilities, and moral obligations.

A “Code of Conduct” is becoming a “must” for all high profile ONGs. EFCCA’s Code will make us a more transparent organization, and will make relationships with our stakeholders easier. The general image of EFCCA will benefit from its positive influence.

The proposed constituents and structure for an EFCCA Code of Conduct are summarized as follows:



What is the “new delegate”?

Commitment to become “new EFCCA delegates” will be required from all existing delegates. We will ask each of you to become more involved in the democratic decision making process. We ask you not only to take an active role, but to take a collaborative and proactive approach. Each delegate will have more responsibility, and each of us will be asked to subscribe the Code of Conduct.

What is “Project Academy”?

The project academy’s main aim is to provide ways to improve the skills of each EFCCA delegate, by offering specific formative assistance, such as inviting experts and technicians to advise and work alongside them, to provide a learning experience, and help improve their knowledge and know-how. We think it is necessary to invest in our delegates, because voluntary delegates are the engine that moves the “EFCCA car”.

What is “EFCCA alumni” project?

This project has the aim of attempting to maintain access to the experience and knowledge of any delegate who has served in the past. Among them there are, as we all know, tremendously skilled professionals and committed volunteers. This project ensures that we can ask them for help and advice if necessary. This project will be developed mainly on the internet, and will also offer social opportunities to keep in touch with old friends who share the same ideals.

Finally, among the EFCCA Alumni, we could find independent advisers, if we have moral or ethical questions in our roles as volunteers.

Why do we need a new “Strategy Plan”?

The present Strategy Plan, as many of you know, will expire during 2008. Considering that this plan is an extension of a previous plan prepared in 2003, it is now time to reconsider our priorities, our actions and our strategic view.

To prepare a 4-year strategy plan, a period of reflection is essential, followed by concrete and intensive plans of action.

Proposal 4: Proactive approach with our stakeholders and innovative collaborative projects

Who are our stakeholders ?

Politicians, MEPs, Government Organizations, ONGs, umbrella organizations, sponsors, other Crohn’s and Colitis Associations in the world, other disease-dedicated associations (such as the Coeliac associations), doctors and researchers.

What is a proactive approach ?

The word ‘proactive’ has come¹ to mean “*to act before a situation becomes a source of confrontation or crisis*”, as opposed to acting after the fact. It is frequently contrasted in opposition to the words ‘reactive’ or ‘passive’.

What is the “EFCCA day” project?

In order to save time and to be more cost effective, we propose the creation of a meeting especially for our stakeholders (particularly sponsors and technology partners), in order to demonstrate our projects and results, highlight missing resources, and to ask, where necessary, for their support.

In this way, the number of business meetings can be reduced and EFCCA will be more transparent with its relationships with all stakeholders.

¹ Infact, the word proactive was originally coined by the psychiatrist Victor Frankl in his 1946 book Man’s Search for Meaning to describe a person who took responsibility for his or her life, rather than looking for causes in outside circumstances or other people. Much of this theory was formed in Nazi concentration camps where Frankl lost his wife, mother, father and family, but decided that even under the worst circumstances, people can make and find meaning. The term was popularized in the business press in Stephen Covey’s 7 Habits of Highly Effective People. Though he used the word in Frankl’s original sense, the word has come to the actual “meaning”.

What form will the proactive approach take with stakeholders?

What follows are examples. We have to expand our role, and become more active. We cannot stay inside at the window, waiting for a phone call that won't ever arrive. We cannot wait until a stakeholder decides to get in touch with us. We cannot waste time, when people like us are suffering.

Politicians, MEPs, and Government Organizations = EFCCA should develop a precise and concrete political action plan. If we want to have a voice in Brussels, we need to know exactly where to go and what we want to obtain. Otherwise, the improvements we make won't be coordinated and effective.

ONGs, umbrella organizations = We have the potential to take an active role in the political arena, but the only way to gain results in a medium-term period is to forge alliances. EFCCA should strengthen its presence inside umbrella organizations, to gain political weight. EFCCA should become an important partner to ONGs, who play a key role in our field. Rod Mitchell's great intuition and vision in this area shows understanding of the importance of this kind of alliance, which should be preserved as a great treasure.

Sponsors = Should be considered partners on a certain level. They have the right to understand where their money goes, but not to control our activities. Ethics and transparency must be our priorities. In this field, the adoption of an "EFCCA day" for stakeholders project can be a possible solution.

Other Crohn's and Colitis Associations in the world = Together we can win. Together we are stronger. We all represent people with IBD, and we don't have to fear each other. We have different approaches sometimes, **but cooperation is essential**. Meetings will be important in order to make sure that resources are used effectively, and to optimize the use of funding and support (particularly in the research field). Links should be established, on a global basis if possible. We are already sharing our plans with the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America (CCFA), who will always be a welcome partner in our projects. Global meetings (on a continental basis) can be promoted, where possible and cost effective.

Other disease dedicated associations = The strategic alliance with Coeliac disease associations has been formed with good results, and further to the alliance between the EYG and AO ECS, other alliances should be forged in the coming years. Seeking partners with similar challenges and political issues will make possible to gain precious synergies.

Doctors = Doctors and patients' organizations can educate and inform each other. Cooperation and dialogue are fundamental requirements. Improvement of our links with health professionals is essential as well. The strategic alliance with ECCO is essential, and should be maximized.

Researchers = Researchers receive special consideration from EFCCA, through the foundation we have to support them. Offering specific grants to assist promising young researchers must be considered a priority.

What is project "ESC"?

"Project ESC" is a project led by the EYG. It is one of the most ambitious projects EFCCA has ever had the opportunity to establish.

It consists of the creation of a Summer Camp, for children with IBD across Europe. The participants will be able to have fun and socialize together, and following a specific series of organized activities, will gain self-confidence. The camp will be named the "Catch your dreams camp".

Support for this project is going to be a key responsibility for the next Ex-com. Through this project, EFCCA could offer a specific, concrete and high-value service for young patients and families. By working directly with children, EFCCA will invest in the future of people with IBD.

What we propose is:

- a. Financing and funding this project on a 4-year basis, and highlighting it as a priority in the next strategy plan;
- b. Offering political and media support;
- c. Giving the necessary powers to the EYG, in order to develop the project;
- d. Supporting the EYG in the creation of the necessary links with stakeholders.

Proposal 5: Transparency and Independence with the help of the Foundation "Research IBD"

Through research we can aspire to a better life. Any patient knows that research is important for their future, and for the future of fellow patients. With chronic illnesses like IBD, research is essential not only to offer a better quality of treatment and care, but also an acceptable quality of life. This is because our aim is to live with IBD, and not only to survive.

But our main goal MUST be: **TO FIND A CURE**.

To achieve this ultimate result, we have only one way to proceed: **by supporting research**.

This specific principle will play a key role in our Strategy Plans and views. Our most prized stakeholders (aside from patients, of course) must be not only the most famous researchers, but also the youngest and most promising researchers.

It must be considered a moral obligation for EFCCA to support research activities.

EFCCA understands that the current budget won't be sufficient to allow us to support research in a meaningful way.

In order to solve this problem, as you know, under the impulse of our fellow Dutch delegate Wouter Miedema, in 2005 EFCCA initiated the "Quest For a Cure" project. The IBD Research Foundation is a new European foundation raising funds to support scientific research.



The aim of the foundation is to cure and prevent Crohn's disease, Ulcerative Colitis and related inflammatory bowel conditions, as well as improving the quality of life and care of those diagnosed with these conditions. The new foundation has a perfect strategic fit with EFCCA objectives. EFCCA will have the opportunity to work together with the new foundation within the European Union to meet these shared objectives.

The particular structure of the foundation offers EFCCA three key benefits:

- a. A dedicated budget for research;
- b. Contact with financial supporters;
- c. The potential for strong integration with the healthcare professionals;

In other words: robust transparency and independence in supporting research, in order to avoid conflicts of interests and ambiguous objectives. Together, we have only one goal: the benefit of patients.

A two-year challenge

Our Timetable

WHAT WE WILL DO IN TWO YEARS...AND A BIT MORE



Timing is essential

| Time | Task |
|-------------|---|
| Month 1 | Transition of power. Nomination of leaders, and creation of the leadership team.. |
| Month 2 | Kick-off for the selection process to find a CEO, and the search for an office. The communication team start their new project. Establishing links with principal stakeholders (the first 'EFCCA day' event), and establishing links with National Associations. |
| Month 3 | First Ex-com meeting (extended) - New Strategy Plan group to be appointed. |
| Month 4 | Modification of Committees. First progress check for project ESC. |
| Month 5 - 9 | CEO in position. Office in Brussels to be found. Kick-off for the Strategy Planning Group's activities. |
| Month 6 | Ex-com meeting. Meeting with the IBD Research Foundation. First draft of the Code of Conduct to be approved for circulation. |

| Time | Task |
|------------------|---|
| Month 10 | Full deployment of EFCCA's new financial policy. Ex-com meeting. Activation of "Academy" and "friends" projects. Draft Strategy Plan ready for circulation. |
| Year 1 - midterm | EFCCA GA - first check for the new team and structure Approval of Code of Conduct Review of committees |
| Month 13 | Phase 2 kick-off: New committees fully operative. |
| Month 14 | New communication plan at least 75% operative. Second 'EFCCA day' event for stakeholders. |
| Month 15 | Extended Ex-com: Confirmation of the CEO. |
| Month 16 | Financial review and evaluation of the office site in Brussels. |
| Month 17 | Parliament meeting. |
| Month 18 | Evaluation of committee work: Extended Ex-com meeting. |
| Month 19 | Specific progress review for project 'ESC'. |
| Month 20 | Meeting with Sponsors and other stakeholders. |
| Month 21 | CEO to present new operative plan for 2010-2012 to the Ex-com |
| Month 22 | Meeting with Foundation IBD Research |
| Month 23 | Account External Audit |
| Month 24 | End of mandate. New elections. |

The timetable is for formative evaluation, and can be modified according to the Strategy Plan that is approved, and the budget available.

ABOUT MYSELF

Marco Greco, Born in Ivrea (TO) Italy, on the 1 september 1976.

ACADEMIC CAREER

After achieving success at the Scientific High School (Liceo Scientifico), he graduated in Law (LM) at the prestigious Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore of Milan with full marks, after writing a dissertation about the conflicts between State and religious confessions in the management of the cultural and artistic patrimony.

He is presently studying in the second year of his doctorate, (Ph.D.), specializing in canonical law and ecclesiastical law, and developing, under the guidance of Prof. Romeo Astorri, a thesis concerning the problems connected with the religious beliefs of a patient and how this could influence the patient's right to have equal access to treatment, care and cures.

PROFESSIONAL CAREER

After his degree in law, he started his law career as paralegal and junior lawyer with the prestigious international law firm Scarpellini & Naj-Oleari in 2001. In 2003 he moved to Brambilla & Invernizzi, and during this period he developed the skills to work in all court circuits. He became responsible for the litigation department in 2006. At the start of 2007 he became co-founder of the "BI & G law firm", later becoming Senior Founding Partner. Presently he works mainly in business and contract law, with a specialist interest in issues of bankruptcy legislation. He has a secondary specialization in consumer rights.

HIS WORK FOR PEOPLE WITH IBD IN ITALY

He joined the Italian association, AMICI, in 1997 after himself becoming a Crohn's Disease patient in 1995. Subsequently he started volunteering for his regional association (in the Milan area), organizing events, developing projects to help children with IBD, and serving as legal counsellor for patients who need to prepare documentation requested by the Italian Army. He is still a Member of the Board of Amici Lombardia, after having been secretary and treasurer. In 1999 he joined for the National Board in Italy, where he was elected EFCCA delegate and held responsibility *pro tempore* for children with IBD (until 2001). Presently he is a legal advisor for AMICI Federazione Nazionale.

HIS WORK INSIDE EFCCA

He became an EFCCA delegate in 1999 (at the Vienna meeting), when he was 23 years old, one of the youngest delegates ever. He has been part of several working groups: Childhood and Young People, Strategy Planning and others. In 2001 he proposed the creation of an EFCCA Youth Group (EYG) with Wouter Miedema. When the EYG was created in 2003, he became the group leader, standing down in 2007, to be substituted by new Chairman, Chayim Bell. In 2005 he joined the EFCCA Ex-com, substituting Jocelyn Favorin. In 2007 he was elected EFCCA vice-chairman. He represents EFCCA in the European Patient Forum (EPF) and in the cooperation with the CYE (Coeliac Youth of Europe).

CREDITS & CONTACTS

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IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, SUGGESTIONS OR CRITICISM, YOUR COMMENTS ARE VERY WELCOME. WRITE TO ME AT:

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Let's build OUR future together !