

**Draft Minutes
6th Management Committee (MC) Meeting**

**COST Action TU0601
Robustness of Structures
Denizli, Turkey, the 19th of April 2010**

0. Welcome to participants

The local organiser of the meeting Selcuk Toprak warmly welcomed all the participants. A list of participants can be found in Annex A of this document.

1. Absence of several participants and election of meeting Chair

It was noted that the ongoing closure of airspace and disruption of flights across Europe during this period due to volcanic ash activity from the Eyjafjallajökull glacier in Iceland had resulted in a very low number of participants being able to attend this meeting.

Joan Ramon Casas was elected as the Chair of the meeting.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda of the meeting was approved, noting that the presentation sessions and working group meetings could not take place due to the very low number of participants being able to attend this meeting.

3. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the previous MC meeting in Ljubljana were approved without any amendment.

4. Approval of Conference/Workshop Grant

The workshop grant for the meeting was approved in principle; the local organiser would submit the receipts for reimbursement based on the actual expenditure incurred.

5. Report from the COST Office

– News from the COST Office

A presentation sent by the COST Office containing information about the status of the Action, submission deadlines for the annual monitoring conference and news from the COST Office was made by Harikrishna Narasimhan on behalf of the Action Chair Michael Faber.

6. Cooperation with related COST Actions

The Action Rapporteur Kiril Gramatikov observed that the inter domain cooperation between Actions TU0601 and E55 and the joint workshop of the 2 Actions organised in Ljubljana last year was a major success. He urged the members of the Action to continue efforts towards such cooperation, looking for complementarities and avoiding overlap.

With regard to cooperation with Action C26, it was noted that several members of this Action were actively involved in Action C26 as well and would contribute to the final conference of that Action to be held in September this year. Hence the collaboration with Action C26 in the form of sharing of experts and contributing at the management level would continue.

7. Action planning

7.1 Annual progress conference (preparation and/or feedback from DC)

It was announced that the COST annual progress conference for the Transport and Urban Development (TUD) domain would be held in Zurich from the 15th to the 17th of June 2010 and the annual monitoring progress report for the Action would be due for submission by the beginning of May 2010.

In order to have consistent reporting, Working Group (WG) leaders were requested to provide reports on the activities of the Action under their management under the following heads:

- Line of action of individual activities under the WG
- Progress made on the activities
- Possible problematic/critical/difficult issues encountered
- Interface issues and collaboration with other WGs

In order to meet COST deadlines for submission, WG leaders were requested to send their reports to the Chair by the end of April 2010.

The Chair would collate all the WG reports and also provide a general evaluation of the overall aims and functions of the Action and reporting on collaborative activities.

7.2 Long-term planning – location and date of future meetings

Since a large number of members could not participate at this meeting, it was suggested to hold another meeting of the Action in May/June 2010.

The venue and date of future meetings were confirmed as:

- 8th MC meeting and 6th WG meetings in Copenhagen, Denmark on the 4th and 5th of October 2010.

8. STSM status, applications

Members of the Action were strongly encouraged to submit proposals for (STSM) available for use within the Action. All details about STSM are available at:

http://www.cost.esf.org/fileadmin/cost_documents/guidelines/Financial_Instruments/3-STSM.pdf or http://www.cost.esf.org/?id=38&print_doc=4 .

9. Organisation of summer school of the Action

A draft proposal for the organisation of the summer school of the Action prepared by the Action Chair Michael Faber and Niels Peter Hoj was discussed. It was observed that the topics listed in the course program fitted well with the themes and work of the Action.

It was agreed that further details on the organisation of the summer school would be possible at the next meeting of the Action.

10. Publications, dissemination and outreach activities – visibility of the Action

It was noted that the availability of the proceedings of the Ljubljana workshop in electronic form on an open access basis on the website of the Action would contribute towards wider and easier dissemination and visibility of the work of the Action.

A paper titled “Robustness of structures, EU COST action TU0601” describing the main aspects of the work being carried out in the Action was prepared and presented at the Tenth International Conference on Structural Safety and Reliability (ICOSSAR) , a major international conference in the field of structural safety and reliability held once every 4 years. The conference was held in Japan in September 2009 and this presentation drew widespread attention to the work of the Action.

Towards enhancing the visibility of the Action further, a special session on robustness of structures and highlighting the work carried out in the Action will be

held at another major international conference – the 11th International Conference on Applications of Statistics and Probability in Civil Engineering (ICASP 11) to be held in Zurich next year. Several publications from members of the Action would be prepared and presented at this session.

Members of the Action were asked to disseminate information about the activities of the Action as much as possible. The possibility of organizing Action related sessions at conferences and workshops was strongly encouraged.

11. Request for new members

The participation of more members from existing countries in the Action as well as new countries was encouraged, provided this was relevant to the aims and activities of the Action.

12. Closing

The meeting Chair thanked all the participants and the local organisers and closed the meeting.

Annex A – Attendance

The following were present during the meeting:

1. Joan Ramon Casas (ES)
2. Kiril Gramatikov (MK) – Action Rapporteur
3. Mehmet Inel (TR)
4. Harikrishna Narasimhan (CH)
5. Selcuk Toprak (TR)