

# General Assembly

Date: **October 9, 2023 (Monday)**

Timetable: (Brussels, Central European Time)

15:00 Conference room is opened to test connections

15:05 Meeting starts

17:00 End of the meeting

Location: **Videoconference**

*The instructions to connect are on the second page of this document.*

## Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Review of the minutes from the previous meeting
3. Status of the Association
4. Activities and events
5. Economic report
6. Any other business

## How to connect to the video conference meeting?

The video conference is done using **Google Meet**.

To participate you need an Internet connection, as good as possible.

If it is a WIFI connection, make sure it works properly before the meeting. If you are using a computer of any kind, try always to use a wired connection.

You can connect to the meeting with a desktop computer, laptop or tablet.

The easy way to join the meeting is by clicking the following link:

**<https://meet.google.com/stg-bspc-kgb>**

In any case (tablet or any kind of computer) you will be connected to audio using your microphone and speakers (VoIP). If you are not in a quiet room a headset is highly recommended.

For the video, you need a webcam. Tablets and laptops with integrated webcams should always work smoothly. In any other case, please try the webcam before the meeting.

The Secretariat of the association takes care of the meeting platform and there is no cost of any kind for the rest of the participants.

## ACRP Compliance Guidelines

### ANTITRUST COMPLIANCE

These Antitrust Compliance Guidelines will be distributed at the meetings of ACRP, the European Association for Construction Repair, reinforcement and protection, before the meeting begins.

Adherence to the Antitrust Compliance Statement is a pre-requisite of participating in the ACRP meetings.

The meeting chairman will direct their attention to the guidelines and remind the participants of the following at the start of the meeting: “This meeting, like all ACRP meetings, will be held in compliance with the relevant competition and antitrust laws.”

You are, therefore, reminded that the ACRP members will, at all times, refrain from discussing any information that is confidential to your organization and/or that affects the commercial strategy or activities of your organization or of your individual members.

You are the best judge of what is, and what is not, commercially sensitive or confidential and so responsibility lies first with you.

You are requested to review the antitrust guidelines, which apply to meetings in person as well as to conference calls and other means of communication including, for example, travelling to and from meetings and during pre-meeting and post-meeting gatherings.

The meeting chairman and all attendees will reinforce these guidelines throughout association discussions.

They are designed to inform the ACRP members of their obligations under relevant antitrust and competition laws.

Failure to follow these guidelines may bring with it serious consequences for you and your organization. Such consequences include heavy fines and in certain cases, under national laws, the imposition of criminal penalties.

ACRP adheres to these legal requirements and competition laws and agrees to not tolerate conduct by the members that may violate the law.

Requests for clarification of the rules should be raised before the association members and will be addressed by legal counsel, if deemed necessary.

### TRADE ASSOCIATIONS AND COMPETITION RULES

1. Activities of trade associations must comply with the relevant competition / antitrust rules. The same basic principles that govern anti-competitive arrangements also apply when trade associations are used to coordinate commercial activities.

2. Competition / antitrust authorities in Europe are focusing increasingly on the activities of trade associations.

3. International cooperation among antitrust enforcement authorities is also evident.

4. To pursue an antitrust violation, it is not necessary to prove that the action took place in your home country.

5. Equally important, competition concerns will also arise where there is no actual effect on competition in the market concerned. The authorities will intervene where they perceive there to be a potential effect, even where that effect is not intended.

6. Antitrust laws seek to ensure open markets and free competition by preventing “combinations” of competitors who act in restraint of trade.

From a practical standpoint, ACRP and its members should focus their concern on the fact that competition / antitrust rules prohibit arrangements between competitors, which are intended (or have the effect) to achieve aims such as the following:

- a) Price-fixing: almost any activity which would allow its members to coordinate their pricing policies.
- b) Market-sharing or customer allocation: activities aimed at dividing the given market concerned into distinct territorial markets or allocating customer groups.
- c) Collective boycotts: a requirement to deal only with other members or to boycott other firms.
- d) Information-exchange arrangements: in general, all exchanges of business information (such as pricing policies, costs of sales figures) between competitors which would allow them to coordinate their commercial strategies.

7. In addition, certain types of activity particular to trade associations are subject to specific consideration. These activities are not forbidden, but members and the organization should make sure there is a strict respect of the antitrust / competition rules on the following:

- a) The setting of membership criteria of a trade association.
- b) Research and development carried out or coordinated by a trade association.
- c) Joint publicity and promotion of generic products by a trade association.
- d) Product standardization, certification and quality measures administered through trade associations.