1. Apologies for absence
Jana Kolman (Slovenia).

2. Minutes of meeting in Vienna, 10 April 2010
The unratified minutes were approved as a true record.

3. Matters arising
None.

4. EUCAST Steering Committee membership
4.1 The current membership of the Steering Committee is attached:
4.2 The Chairman reported with regret the death of Prof Helmut Mittermeyer, the Austrian General Committee representative on the Steering Committee. Prof Mittermeyer has made a significant contribution to EUCAST over the years and he will be sadly missed. Dr Petra Apfalter will represent the General Committee on the Steering Committee.

5. EUCAST General Committee membership
5.1 The membership list was presented (the current list is attached). Representatives should inform the Scientific Secretary (email derk.brown222@btinternet.com) if the current representative for their country has changed. Representatives were asked to keep their national societies informed of EUCAST activities and to take part in the consultation process.
5.2 Anyone in the pharmaceutical and susceptibility device manufacturing industries may be part of the industry email network that is included in the consultation process (contact gunnar.kahlmeter@ltkronoberg.se). If email addresses change Prof Kahlmeter should be informed as addresses rejecting correspondence twice will be removed from the list.

6. EUCAST Chairman’s report
Prof Kahlmeter summarised activities over the past year.
6.1 In the last year there have been five meetings of the Steering Committee. The General Committee meets once annually, at ECCMID.
6.2 EUCAST breakpoints have been adopted in several countries and several are in the process of implementing EUCAST breakpoints.
6.3 The structure and organisation of EUCAST were briefly described.
6.4 Harmonization of breakpoints for widely used older agents was completed over a year ago. Breakpoints have been set for the topical agents mupirocin and retapamulin, and other topical agents are being considered. Some less commonly used older agents are being reviewed but lack of data is a problem. Breakpoints for Moraxella catarrhalis and Neisseria meningitidis are currently being reviewed. In collaboration with expert groups, work on breakpoints for Helicobacter pylori and Clostridium difficile has been completed and for Campylobacter spp., Listeria spp., Legionella spp., Pasteurella multocida, Burkholderia cepacia and Corynebacterium spp. is currently underway.
6.5 The setting of breakpoints for new agents according to the EMA SOP (available on the EUCAST website) continues and several agents are in process. Review of breakpoints may be requested by the EMA, the relevant company, EUCAST or the profession. Reviews have recently been undertaken for cephalosporins, aztreonam and carbapenems for Enterobacteriaceae and for colistin with
6.6 All breakpoints are in organism based tables on the EUCAST website. There is a pdf version for printing as well as a version for viewing on the website. It is intended that updates will be released in November each year for implementation in January the following year. Rationale documents for most breakpoints are now also on the website (www.eucast.org). There are links from the breakpoint tables to MIC distributions, zone diameter distributions and rationale documents. Please inform EUCAST if there are any problems.

6.7 The EUCAST website continues to be expanded. In the last 3 months of 2010 there were almost 24,000 visitors per month to the website. Clinical breakpoints, MIC distributions, the disk diffusion method and expert rules were the most popular pages. Any suggestions for further developments would be welcome.

6.8 National Antibiotic Committees (NACs) are being promoted by EUCAST. On antimicrobial susceptibility testing, the NAC would deal with strategy at a national level, implementation of breakpoints and methods, education, liaison and consultation with EUCAST, liaison with groups involved in AMR-surveillance (eg ECDC, EAR-Net) and quality assurance. Most European countries now have a NAC or are in the process of establishing a NAC. If possible a meeting of NAC representatives will be held in collaboration with ECDC.

6.9 There have been multiple EUCAST presentations and workshops over the past year in Europe and worldwide.

7. EUCAST subcommittee reports

7.1 Antifungal Susceptibility Testing Subcommittee (AFST):
Prof Rodriguez-Tudela, chairman of the subcommittee, reported that the AFST Steering Committee has met twice in the past year and does most work via email. The full committee meets at each ECCMID. Membership of the full subcommittee and Steering Committee are attached. It was noted that Dr Maiken Cavling Arendrup will take over as Chairperson and Dr William Hope as Scientific Secretary of the subcommittee after this meeting. Prof Rodriguez-Tudela and Dr Donnelly were thanks for their successful leadership of the subcommittee over recent years.

Studies are underway to define methods for the determination of broth dilution minimum Inhibitory concentrations of antifungal agents for non-fermentative yeasts (Coordinator: Manuel Cuenca Estrella) and for the determination of broth dilution minimum Inhibitory concentrations of echinocandin agents for yeasts (Coordinator: Maiken Arendrup). An ISO standard, “Clinical laboratory testing and in vitro diagnostic test systems — Reference method for testing the in vitro activity of antimicrobial agents against yeast fungi involved in infectious diseases”, is close to completion.

With regard to breakpoints, the posaconazole, anidulafungin and amphotericin B breakpoints for fermentative yeasts are agreed and rationale documents are now on the EUCAST website. Breakpoints for Aspergillus spp. are being developed.

A joint AFST EUCAST and EFSIG educational workshop on antifungal agents, TDM, pharmacoconomics, antifungal resistance was held at the current ECCMID in Milan. Publications in the past year have covered process analysis of variables for standardization of antifungal susceptibility testing of nonfermentative yeasts; a multicentre comparison of the ISO standard 20776-1 and the serial 2-fold dilution procedures to dilute hydrophilic and hydrophobic antifungal agents for susceptibility testing; a comparison of Vitek 2, CLSI, EUCAST broth microdilution, Sensititre Yeastone and Etest methods for detection of antifungal resistance in yeasts; three publications on echinocandin susceptibility testing and three publications on EUCAST breakpoints. All are listed on the EUCAST website.

Future tasks include completion of the rationale documents for amphotericin B and anidulafungin against Candida spp., isavuconazole breakpoints and rationale documents, rationale documents for voriconazole, posaconazole and amphotericin B against Aspergillus spp., inter- and intra-laboratory exercises to obtain QC strains for non-fermentative yeasts and for echinocandins, and definition of epidemiological cutoffs for infrequent Candida species, Aspergillus, Fusarium, mucorales, Scedosporium and Paecilomyces.

7.2 Expert Rules Subcommittee:
Membership of the Subcommittee is attached. Version 2.0 of the expert rules has been approved by
The Steering Committee and will soon be released. The rules and associated explanatory notes will be submitted for publication in Clinical Microbiology and Infection. As soon as they have been accepted for publication they will be freely available with a link from the EUCAST website.

7.3 Anaerobes Subcommittee:
Membership of the Subcommittee is attached. Working on methodology for routine tests is in progress.

8. The EUCAST disk diffusion method
8.1 The website section on the EUCAST disk diffusion method has updated methodological documents, some available in several languages. The EUCAST disk diffusion method is now in use in several countries and is being implemented in many others.
8.2 It was noted that the disk method is calibrated to the ISO broth microdilution standard. Differences between MIC methods were discussed and it was noted that the ISO method is very close to both EUCAST and CLSI broth microdilution methods. There is an ISO procedure for checking calibration of other methods against the ISO standard.

9. Preparedness of manufacturers of materials for AST by EUCAST methods
9.1 There is a file on the EUCAST website recording manufacturers’ preparedness for EUCAST breakpoints and methods. The file is updated regularly with information from the manufacturers.
9.2 It is recognised that there are some issues with all systems to various degrees. Limitations of automated systems were a major issue and manufacturers need to be pressured by EUCAST, NACs and individual customers to comply with EUCAST requirements. At a national level NACs can ask for panels of agents customised to national preferences.

10. EUCAST and ECDC
10.1 Funding for EUCAST is principally from ECDC and EUCAST is effectively an external standing committee of ECDC.
10.2 Dr Struelens noted that ECDC could not make EUCAST breakpoints mandatory as there is no legal mandate for this. They can strongly recommend use of EUCAST breakpoints for EARS-Net and in National Reference Laboratories.

11. Revised EUCAST statutes
11.1 Proposed changes to the EUCAST Statutes were presented. The structure of the Steering Committee will be more flexible, with 4-6 members representing National Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing Committees (NACs) and 2-4 members from the EUCAST General Committee. The need to maintain experience in determining breakpoints was emphasised. The General Committee will be expanded to allow inclusion of countries outside Europe interested in advocating and developing EUCAST guidelines. The proposed changes were unanimously agreed.

12. Future activities
Prof Kahlmeter reported that priorities for the next year were:
12.1 Maintenance and update of EUCAST breakpoints.
12.2 Development of breakpoints and methods for organism-antimicrobial combinations for which there are currently no breakpoints.
12.3 Promotion of NACs.
12.4 Implementation of EUCAST breakpoints.
12.5 Maintenance and development of EUCAST website and education activities.

13. Any other business
13.1 Prof Vatopoulis requested that maps showing national implementation of EUCAST breakpoints, NACs and the disk diffusion method were displayed on the EUCAST website. It was agreed to investigate this.
13.2 Prof Nissinen noted that from experience in Finland the formation of a NAC is strongly recommended but someone has to take the lead and some funding for meetings is needed. Dr Tambic-Andrasavevic suggested that particularly in smaller countries the NAC function could be combined with other antimicrobial-related activities to avoid overlap of activity.

13.3 Prof Vatopoulis asked who is responsible for legal issues related to breakpoints. It was apparent that this might vary from country to country but EUCAST breakpoints are linked to the EMA.

13.4 Prof Turnidge reported that Australia was forming a NAC and would like to join EUCAST. It was also suggested that it would be useful to get Asian groups involved with EUCAST.

14. **Next meeting of the EUCAST General Committee**  
EUCAST General Committee Meeting attendees signing the register, 9 May 2011

Jenny Åhman  Sweden
Jane Ambler  AstraZeneca
Amanda Appleton  Thermofisher
Phillipe Arowes  Siemens
Art Balode  Latvia
Sujata Bhavnani  Institute for Clinical Pharmacodynamics
Emily Besede  France
Jacques Bille  Switzerland
Jose Bou Casals  Rosco
Derek Brown  EUCAST
Rafael Canton  EUCAST
Martin Cormican  Ireland
Natalie Dartois  Pfizer
Silvia Delodovici  Italy
Evelyn Ellis-Grosse  e2g Consulting
Sheila Farnham  BioMérieux
Demetrio Federica  Liofilchem
Prabha Fernandes  Cempra
Niels Frimodt-Møller  Denmark
Jeff Fuller  Canada
Andre Golle  Slovenia
Patricia Hogan  Pfizer
Marina Ivanova  Estonia
Joseph Iaconis  Astra Zeneca
Manette Juvin  Bio-Rad
Krassimir Metodiev  Bulgaria
Gunnar Kahlmeter  EUCAST
Laura Koeth  Laboratory Specialists Inc
Alasdair MacGowan  UK
Erika Matuschek  Sweden
Milan Niks  Slovakia
Antti Nissinen  Funland
Luis Martinez-Martinez  Spain
Jolanta Miculeviciene  Lithuania
Michael Mulhern  Ireland
Monica Österblad  Finland
Karina Peterson  Rosco
James Poupard  Pharma Inst of Phila
Bob Rennie  Canada
Arne Rodloff  Germany
Juan-Luis Rodriguez-Tudela  Spain
Ingrid Rogen  Belgium
Katja Semme  Slovenia
Martin Steinbakk  Norway
Greg Stone  Asta Zeneca
Marc Struelens  Sweden
Arjana Tambic-Andrasevic  Croatia
Susan Thomson  Mast
Paul Tulkens  Belgium
John Turnidge  Australia
Jan Verhagen  Belgium
Thierry Vidalenc  Bio-Rad
Pietro Varaldo  Italy
Alkis Vatopoulis  Greece
Bernd Wiedemann  Germany
EUCAST Steering Committee May 2011

Chairman  Prof Gunnar Kahlmeter  Sweden  2014
Scientific Secretary  Dr Derek Brown  UK  2014
Clinical Data Coordinator  Dr Rafael Canton  Spain  2014
BSAC  Prof Alasdair MacGowan  UK  2014
CRG  Dr Johan W. Mouton  Netherlands  2014
DIN  Dr Arne Rodloff  Germany  2014
NWGA  Dr Arnfinn Sundsfjord/ Martin Steinbakk  Norway  2014
SFM  Prof Claude-James Soussy/ Prof Luc Dubreuil  France  2014
SRGA  Dr Christian Giske  Sweden  2014
General Committee  Dr Marina Ivanova  Estonia  2012
General Committee  Dr Petra Apfalter  Austria  2012

EUCAST General Committee May 2011

Chair  Dr Gunnar Kahlmeter
Scientific Secretary  Dr Derek Brown
Clinical Data Coordinator  Dr Rafael Canton
National representatives
Austria  Dr Petra Apfalter
Belgium  Prof. Jan Verhaegen
Bosnia  Dr Selma Uzunovic-Kamberovic
Bulgaria  Prof. Krassimir Metodiev
Croatia  Dr Arjana Tambic-Andrasevic
Czech Republic  Dr Helena Zemlickova
Denmark  Dr Niels Frimodt-Møller
Estonia  Dr Marina Ivanova
Finland  Dr Antti Hakkanen
France  Prof. Luc Dubreuil
Germany  Prof. Bernd Wiedemann
Greece  Prof. Alkiviadis Vatopoulos
Hungary  Dr Ákos Tóth
Iceland  Dr Karl Gustaf Kristinsson
Ireland  Dr Michael Mulhern
Israel  Dr Yoram Keness
Italy  Prof. Pietro Varaldo
Latvia  Dr Arta Balode
Lithuania  Dr Jolante Miculevičiene
Netherlands  Prof. John Degener
Norway  Dr Martin Steinbakk
Poland  Prof. Waleria Hryniewicz
Portugal  Prof. Jose Melo Cristino
Romania  Dr Irina codita
Russia  Dr Olga Sleziouk
Serbia  Dr Lazar Ranin
Slovak Republic  Prof. Milan Niks
Slovenia  Dr Jana Kolman
Spain  Dr Luis Martinez-Martínez
Sweden  Dr Barbro Olsson-Liljequist
Switzerland  Prof. Jacques Bille
Turkey  Dr Deniz Gür
UK  Prof Alasdair MacGowan

ISC  Dr Paul Tulkens
FESCI  Dr David Livermore
Pharmaceutical Industry  Email network of any with an interest in antimicrobials
Device Manufacturers  Email network of any with an interest in antimicrobials
EUCAST subcommittees

Antifungal Susceptibility Testing Subcommittee

Steering Committee
Juan Luis Rodriguez-Tudela, Spain (Chair)
J Peter Donnelly, the Netherlands (Secretary)
Maiken Cavling Arendrup, Denmark
Manuel Cuenca-Estrella, Spain
William Hope, UK
Cornelia Lass-Floerl, Austria

Full Committee
Maiken Cavling Arendrup, Denmark
William Hope, UK
Eric Dannaoui, France;
Wolfgang Fegeler, Germany
Francesco Barchiesi, Italy
J Peter Donnelly, the Netherlands (Secretary)
Paul Verweij, the Netherlands
Peter Gaustad, Norway
Juan Luis Rodriguez-Tudela, Spain (Chair)
Manuel Cuenca-Estrella, Spain
Erja Chryssanthou, Sweden
Jacques Bille, Switzerland
Caroline Moore, UK
Cornelia Lass-Floerl, Austria
Aristia Velegraki, Greece
Nikolay Klimko, Russia
Arno Schmalreck, Germany
Sevtap Arik, Turkey
Katrien Lagrou (Belgium)

Expert Rules Subcommittee
Roland Leclercq, France (Chair)
Rafael Cantón, Spain
Christian Giske, Sweden
Peter Heisig, Germany
David Livermore, UK
Patrice Nordmann, France
Gian Maria Rossolini, Italy
Trevor Winstanley, UK

Anaerobe Subcommittee
Arne Rodloff, Germany (Chair)
Luc DuBreuil, France
Elizabeth Nagy, Hungary