

Abridgement from meeting minutes of the 32. Meeting of the members of the NAOM eV. held on Thursday, 23. April 2009 in Obertshausen, here concerning the NLUK eV:

TOP 4.2: Progress report NLUK eV [H. Eikamp]

The NLUK eV is a “daughter of the NAOM eV”, the first (and until today, the only), non-profit recognized environmental association under Greek law on (and for) Crete and registered with the district court in Heraklion under the VR No. 1235/4306/1251/2007 ; see also ...

<http://www.kreta-umweltforum.de/Merkblaetter/NLUK%20association%20registration.pdf>

Its 133 members come at present from 14. Nations. The progress report takes place in catchword, in regards to the member information (Info mails, homepage and forum) same applies as to the NAOM. Emphases of the local activities are primarily the illegal garbage depots, which should be closed since the end of 2008 as per European Union regulation. Therefore, apart from citizen information's (in the form of info sheets), high-level talks were held with the responsible mayors of **Ierapetra** and municipalities of **Gouves**. In advance the mapping (collection over geo coordinates) of still existing wild, illegal garbage depots on Crete had begun.

Since 2008 exists a co-operation agreement between the **Nature-Historical Museum of the University of Crete (NHMC)**, the Research Institute and Nature Museum **Senckenberg (SMF)** and the **NLUK** to the field of activity Arachnoids. One goal is the recording and updating the species list of Arachnids of Crete which currently contains 717 species from 63 families including 670 Araneae types from 46 families and 225 species (minor to spiders excursions for the Arachnoid's collection of SMF); see also:

[http://www.kreta-umweltforum.de/Merkblaetter/Artenliste%20Spinnentiere%20Kreta%202008%20\(16.10.2008\).pdf](http://www.kreta-umweltforum.de/Merkblaetter/Artenliste%20Spinnentiere%20Kreta%202008%20(16.10.2008).pdf)

Another cooperation agreement exists between the **NHMC** and **NLUK** to the Department of palaeontology. Therefore the participation of the **NLUK** to the opening of the new **NHMC** in 2008 needs to be named as well as the transfer of the fossil collection of *Professor E. Kuss*. The return of 8,200 exhibits dates back to the initiative of the **NLUK** as well as *Mrs. Barbara Kuss* and *Dr. J.L. Franzen* and performing participation of the **State Museum of Natural History of Karlsruhe**, here *Dr. "Dino" Frey*.

The highlight in 2008 was the finding of an almost complete fossil dwarf hippopotami (*creutzburgi* hippopotamus) by NLUK members. Seven (7) press releases in Greek (Cretan) newspapers have been published and a contribution in CriteTV; in advance a CD about “the return of the Kuss collection” has been published as well during 2008.

Beside the excavation of the “Hippo”, further palaeontological and arachnological excursions as well as the continuation of the environmental and conservation projects are planned. In advance the projects to caving are ongoing. The preparatory work for a geologist Congress of NHMC which is to be held in May 2010 occurs; for more information see: <http://www.kreta-umweltforum.de/wbb2/thread.php?threadid=463> (abstract in English)

More detailed information about the 32nd meeting of the members of the NOAM e.V. 2009 (only Greek and German) can be found at <http://www.kreta-umweltforum.de/Merkblaetter/MV%20NLUK%203.pdf>