APPLICATION FORM TO RUN AS A CANDIDATE FOR THE ELECTION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN THE EFS GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE EFS CONGRESS IN ISTANBUL, TURKEY, ON JANUARY 30, 2014.

NAME: **Elsa Almås**
PHOTOGRAPH: Please paste an electronic photo in the space provided
State the society member of EFS which is supporting your candidacy: **Norwegian Society for Clinical Sexology**
Contact information (address, e-mail address, phone number, fax number, etc.): **Post address: Storgaten 42, N-4876 Grimstad, Norway** **Mail Address: Elsa.almas@uia.no** **Mobile: +47 957 26062**
List your university degrees (please provide proof in .jpg or .pdf format in addition to this application): • **Cand. Psychol, University of Bergen, 1981**
List your current positions: • **Specialist in clinical psychology, private practice since 1978** • **Professor in sexology at University of Agder, since 2001**
Please list your professional activities, with special reference to those dedicated to promote sexual health, sexual rights, sexology, sexuality education or research related to these areas: • **I am one of the funders of The Norwegian Society for Clinical Sexology (NSCS). I have been president in NSCS for two periods (1985-1988 and 1999-2003), and President of the Nordic Association for Clinical Sexology (NACS) for two periods (1986-1988 and 2001-**

2003). I was elected again as president for the Norwegian Association for Sexology in March 2013

- **I have been engaged in sexological education, and presented the Nordic Sexological Curriculum at the NACS-conference in Reykjavik in 1995. I was then member of the group who developed criteria and procedure for NACS authorization in sexology. I have been leader of this group until now, and I will resign at the NACS-conference in Tallin this autumn.**
- **Since 2001 I have been responsible for further education in sexological counseling, a 60 ECTS program, part time, at the University of Agder. The work has started to develop this program into a master in sexology. The profile of this master will be sexological counseling, with emphasis on clinical research.**
- **I have been part of the Euro-Sexo study, led by Alain Giami, and I was coordinating the Norwegian study in 2001.**
- **My present research project is a systemativ qualitative review of published literature between 2001-2010 on psychosexual treatment of sexual problems in couples.**

Make a short statement on why you want to belong to the EFS executive committee:

It is important to develop the sexological field further, and international work is important in order to give sexology status and authority enough to bring further important tasks like education, practical work; in the clinics that has to be developed; in research, that needs to be encouraged and developed; and in sexual health promotion through different organizations, political fora and NGO´s. My main interest is clinical work, and I believe it to be important to encourage research, and to develop clinical settings to be able to do the work as good as possible.

Sexology is an interesting field in order to challenge old paradigms, like the dichotomization of mind and body. Sexology has a tradition of integration, and I believe that we have important contributions to offer to the rest of the health care system.

I think I am a good team-worker, I am usually able to talk and work with different kinds of people. Through my clinical experience, I have developed competence in dealing with different perspectives and be creative in seeing solutions that take care of, if not all, so at least many interest.

I have had to learn about the organization, and much of the time has been taken by problems concerning the PCO. I have participated in the group that was led by Osmo Kontula on sexological education, but this group has been less active because of uncertainty about leadership. I will still be interested in working with sexological education in Europe, and trying to make more contact between different education institutions.

Please state (in terms of time, attendance to meetings, working in specific projects) the commitment you are willing to make to work as a member of the executive committee if you are elected:

- I am very interested in working for European standards for education and authorization in sexology, and I will be available for necessary meetings.
- I would also like to be part of development of the EFS and the work inside EC. I think we need more open discussions around many topics, and members of the EC need to be involved in more of the processes that are going on. I think we need a discussion on the priorities of work, and on the relationship to ESSM. This includes a discussion on the relationship between medical and psychosexual approaches.
- The discussion in the literature around medicalization has shown that there are attitudes that exclude psychological approaches as such. I am in favor of integrated work, but I see that we might need a stronger manifestation of psychosocial sides of the bio-psycho-social model for sexological work!

Please remember that you need to accompany this application with:

- A scanned copy of the document from your society stating that you are being nominated as a candidate for the executive committee of EFS, signed by the appropriate officer.
- A scanned copy of your university degrees.
- A brief curriculum vitae

and that the member society proposing your candidacy should have paid all dues.

Send your completed application to secretary@europeansexology.com by April 10th. Your completed form will be uploaded onto the EFS web site.