



**ASSOCIATION EUROPÉENNE DES MÉDECINS DES HÔPITAUX
EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF SENIOR HOSPITAL PHYSICIANS
EUROPÄISCHE VEREINIGUNG DER LEITENDEN KRANKENHAUSÄRZTE
EUROPESE VERENIGING VAN STAFARTSEN
DEN EUROPÆISKE OVERLÆGEFORENING
ΕΥΡΩ ΑΙΚΟΣΙΙΕΥΛΛΟΓΟΓΟΣ ΔΙΕΥΟΥΝΤΩΝ ΝΟΣΟΚΟΜΕΙΩΝ
ASSOCIAZIONE EUROPEA DEI MEDICI OSPEDALIERI
DEN EUROPEISKE OVERLEGEFORENING
ASSOCIAÇÃO EUROPEIA DOS MÉDICOS HOSPITALARES
ASOCIACIÓN EUROPEA DE MÉDICOS DE HOSPITALES
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AEMH President's Report 2002-2003

Dr. Raymond Lies

With this report I would like to inform you about my activities as AEMH-President and give you my considerations about some topics that arise since the plenary-meeting in Berlin in September 2002.

1. External Meetings and Relations

- with the CPME and the Associated Organisations
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1. External Meetings and Relations

- with the CPME and the Associated Organisations

Chronological I attended the CPME meeting in October in Salzburg and the spring meeting 28/29 March.

As submitted to the Assembly during the last plenary meeting in Berlin the collaboration between the CPME and the associated organizations have been finalized and implemented under what was called the "cooperation model", i.e. the constitution of a steering committee composed of the Presidents of the AOs, the President and Secretary General of the CPME, who will meet 2-3 times per year. The first meeting under this new constellation took place in Brussels in March this year. (see minutes CPME 2003/064). The first common subject to work on was agreed to be Patient's safety.

Concerning the Commission's proposal for a new directive on professional recognition, the CPME and AOS position is clearly in favour to maintain a sectoral system and after mutual consultation amendments to the Legal Committee have been tabled. The MEPs of the Legal Committee met in May to exchange the different point of views. The vote has been postponed to a later stage. (see documents CPME 2003/068 and 069).

- other meetings

I have been invited, as the President of the AEMH, to attend and participate as speaker in a symposium of the EFPIA - European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries – entitled New Freedoms for Today's Patients in the "Europe of Health. This meeting took place in Athens in May 2003 (see speech AEMH 03/010), and gave me the opportunity to make the acquaintance of stakeholder of the pharma industry who expressed their interest of collaboration with the AEMH. Besides the EFPIA I had contact with the Director of AGIM the Belgian Pharmaceutic Industry Association. I consult the members of the Board on this opportunity.

This meeting was entirely free of charge for the AEMH and I strongly recommend each delegate to make the effort to attend national and international health meetings in their country and to contribute in this way to profile the image of our organization.

2. Communication

- www.aemh.org

The webpage is currently our only external communication tool. For a fix annual cost of 420 € we have the possibility to reach all target groups. This tool is not sufficiently exploited and I invite again all delegations and delegates to submit information they wish to publish to the Secretariat. The Swedish delegation did and beside their National report you can find a short presentation of the Swedish Association of Hospital Physicians.

- The Newsletter:

As sponsors are difficult to find in respect with ethics and independence, we will look to the possibility of publishing a Newsletter in an electronic support. This is frequently done by other organizations and even the Commission. The cost would be minimal and dissemination easy and quasi unlimited. For representation purposes some color copies could still be printed and bound. Delegations and delegates are very welcome with their suggestions and contributions.

- World Market Research Centre

The AEMH has been offered a full page advertising and the possibility of an 3-4 page article in the next number of WMRC's "European Pharmacotherapy". This is totally free as well from the financial side as from the workload. Therefore I think that the support is a good manner to make hear our voice and spread the name of the AEMH.

3. Secretariat in Brussels

- New Address

The CPME has decided to move their offices to another location . The AEMH followed in the spirit and hope to be the precursor for a future Domus Medica. In this respect I regret the attitude of a CPME member who interpreted as a favor and with suspicion the presence of the AEMH within the CPME premises fearing to support the AEMH indirectly. Let us make clear for once and ever : The AEMH is an independent organization functioning autonomously as well financially as technically and I invite all those of you who represent the AEMH in external meetings to insist on this. A room within the CPME premises is rented at a price accurately calculated as per occupied square meters including pro rata costs for electricity, cleaning, taxation etc.. Photocopies are even paid per piece.

I wish the CPME to have a firm attitude towards its member delegations leaving no doubt possible, otherwise is not pleading in favor to further developments and motivate other organisations to join a Domus Medica.

- Statutes

The legal presence of the AEMH in Brussels as an International Non Profit making Association has been confirmed by the Belgian authorities who accepted and published the AEMH Statutes as adopted by vote of the assembly during the last plenary meeting in Berlin. The AEMH gains hereby an international dimension and joins the vast circle of Brussels based NGO's (Non-Governmental Organisation).

- Secretariat

The Secretary, Brigitte Jencik had put a request to the Board to change her working hours. The Board answered favourably and the Secretariat is now staffed full days Tuesday and Wednesday and half day (a.m.) on Thursday. The office phone is diverted to the mobile phone the other days. Brigitte reads regularly her e-mails to be able to answer to all emergencies. Of course these working hours are to be considered very flexible and are adapted whenever needed.

4. Working groups

During the last Board Meeting in January in Brussels the coordination and responsibilities of the working groups have been attributed to the Vice-Presidents in order to obtain a more productive outcome and to discharge the President from some workload. I hope that this formula will be successful.

To follow-up the topic "Patient's safety" I suggest to launch a group to work on this topic and call for volunteers.

5. Working programme of the President

The current term of Presidency has been consecrated to the change of the secretariat from Düsseldorf to Brussels and the gain of independency, which will be achieved on the financial side this year when the VLK support will end. At the same time and linked to the integration in the CPME premises in Brussels our relation to the Associated Organisations could be reinforced. Becoming an International Non-Profit Making Association we underlined our will of recognition to be an equal interlocutor in the Brussels scene.

Action Plan for the President's Term 2004 – 2006

1. Recognition of the AEMH as THE stakeholder for hospital concerns in the European scene.
2. Funding of the AEMH
 - Sponsors
 - New Members
 - EU projects
3. Increase of Board or Executive Committee meetings in order to cope with the increase of European topics demanding to take position.
4. Increase the involvement of National delegations (e.g. follow-up of health topics, alternation according to the EU Presidency).
5. Establish relationship to SANCO (DG Health and Consumer Protection)
6. Establish relationship to HOPE (Standing Committee of the Hospitals of the European Union), whose head office has now also been transferred to Brussels.
7. Organisation of an annual or biennial symposium on topics of the working groups (e.g. Risk Management) in collaboration with other stakeholders.