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ASSOCIAZIONE EUROPEA DEI MEDICI OSPEDALIERI
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ASSOCIAÇÃO EUROPEIA DOS MÉDICOS HOSPITALARES
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EUROPEISKA ÖVERLÄKARFÖRENINGEN
EVROPSKO ZDRŽENJE BOLNIŠNIČNIH ZDRAVINIKOV
EUROPSKA ASOCIACIA NEMOCNICNÝCH LEKAROV**

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***Report from the UEMS Management Council Meeting,
October 18-19, 2002 in Stockholm and Brussels March 22, 2003***

by *Thomas Zilling*

Meeting of the UEMS Board

Before the meeting of the management council, the board of the UEMS met. The main topic during this meeting was that, the French had not paid the annual fee of 29,000 Euro for 2002. The reason was that France was not happy with the work of the UEMS and the incapability of the UEMS to market its policies. Discussion followed as to whether or not France should be excluded according to the statutes of the UEMS. The decision was postponed until the spring meeting.

Finances of the UEMS

The fact that the French did not pay their fee made the budget for 2003 critical since the budget is based on the member countries willingness to pay. Never the less the budget totalling 215,900 Euro was presented and accepted.

Dr Alberto Andreon (Italy) and Dr Peter Theuvenet (Holland) were elected accountants.

Report of the Secretary General

Secretary General Cees Leibbrant gave his report. He focused on the European Commission's suggestion that there be mutual agreement regarding professional qualifications, which are now decided upon in the European Parliament. Resources have been spent on renovating the UEMS office in Brussels. For the future the organisation needs a flexible secretariat in combination with an improvement of the internal structure of the UEMS. With its 50 sections and approximately 1,000 doctors within the UEMS structure the organisation will continue to be one of the leading medical organisations in Europe. With this meeting Cees Leibbrant resigned as Secretary General.

UEMS Structure

The French delegation presented a document titled "A New Way" with suggestions for improving UEMS. According to the French delegation the UEMS lacks influence effectiveness, and it is not an important source of information in Brussels. The French delegation suggested permanent representation on the Committee for Economic and Social Affairs (ESK) and membership in CEPLIS (European Council of the Liberal

Professions). The French believe these changes will make the UEMS more effective and increase its visibility.

Dr *Cees Leibrant* dismissed the French suggestion by explaining that ESK only has an advisory function in the process of developing laws within the European Union. And further that CELIPS represents the independent free professions and most hospital specialists do not fit in to this group.

As the UEMS was not willing to follow the French suggestion, the French delegates threatened to leave the UEMS.

The Management Council agreed to discuss the topic further and to keep an close contact on the national level with members of the ESK.

Dr Schaak once again announced the old Luxembourg suggestion on forming one united medical association. A similar suggestion was also proposed from Portugal but found no ear on the Medical Council.

Elections

President:	Dr Hannu Halila (Finland)
Vice-President	Dr Giorgio Berchicci (Italy) Dr Circo Costa (Portugal) Dr Gert Hofmann (Germany) Dr Peter Theuvenet (Holland)
Treasurer	Dr Vincent Lamy (Belgium)
Secretary General	Dr Bernard Maillet (Belgium)
Liaison Officer (CPME)	Dr Len Harvey (England)

Greece asked that the votes be counted in the meeting room. However this suggestion was not agreed on and therefore the results of the voting were only announced in front of the Medical Council.

Report of the Liaison Officer on the Brainstorming Meeting August 24 in Salzburg and the Following Discussion

On August 24th all presidents of associated organisations met in Salzburg to discuss future cooperation due to the enlargement of the European Union to the East. Another topic on the agenda was how to prevent duplicating AO members efforts on working on the same topic. The meeting was arranged by the CPME.

The meeting was lead by a facilitator. The presidents of the different organisations agreed upon two different models with the purpose is that the cooperation between the seven professional bodies (AEMH, CPME, UEMS, UEMO, PWG, FEMS and CIO) shall be facilitated. According to the suggestion all organisations shall be connected to the CPME with voting rights in the decision making and executive part of the organisation. According to the suggestions all AO:s should remain within its own organisation. The topic which was meant to be brief started a long discussion. Particularly England was

against the suggestion and produced a third model C called “European Integration”. They suggested that only CPME, UEMS, UEMO and PWG should be equal organisations and the AEMH more or less excluded from the AO:s.

Report from the Associated Organisations

Nothing of interest

Report from the Working Groups

Nothing of interest

EACCME

EACCME will separate from the UEMS and have their own budget. Dr Leibrant asked the members of the different national bodies to send in written statements that they are willing to support the work of the EACMME.

Meeting in Brussels March 22, 2003

During the approval of the Minutes of the MC in Stockholm it was agreed upon that the election of the President had not followed the Rules of Procedure as pointed out by the Greece delegation. And an apoligises was put to the Greece delegation by the board. France was not present at the meeting.

The Finnish delegation reported on a suggestion on a shorter Medical education for nurses.

The most active working group in the UEMS is the working group on CME/CPD. They are now preparing documents on quality assurance and quality control. These documents will be presented in Ljubljana this autumn.

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