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REPORT

Plenary Assembly of the Permanent Working Group of European Junior Doctors (PWG) Spring Meeting in Vienna May 1-3, 2003

This meeting was well organized by the International Department (Mrs Kletter) of the Austrian Medical Chamber. Prof. Dr. Peter Spath attended the meeting as liaison officer of the AEMH and represented the Verband der Ärztlichen Direktoren und Primärärzte Österreichs (Austrian Association of Senior Hospital Physicians).

The PWG President Dr. Tiainen appreciated the attendance of an AEMH liaison officer. Dr. Spath delivered the best regards from the AEMH and the Austrian Association and mentioned the forthcoming 40th Anniversary of the AEMH, which will be celebrated in September 2003 in Copenhagen.

The meeting was attended by 60 participants from 19 European countries and the USA including delegates from 8 associated organisations (CPME, UEMS, UEMO, AEMA, FEMS, EFMA/WHO, EMSA, Marburger Bund/ Germany).

The Plenary Assembly adopted the following motions:

From the Post Graduate Training Subcommittee:

- Resolution on General Practice Training (PWG 2003/070)

From the Economy Working Group:

- that PWG establishes an e-mail working group to support member organisations with financial difficulties (PWG 2003/071)

From the Best Practise Forum:

- Resolution on Doctors Manifesto for Global Tobacco Control (PWG 2003/072)
- Resolution on supporting WHO framework convention (PWG 2003/074)
- On tobacco use and doctors (PWG 2003/076).

From the EU/EEA Subcommittee:

- that a Steering Committee will be established to study the feasibility of organising a conference on working time (PWG 2003/075)
- Resolution on Mutual Recognition of qualifications (PWG 2003/073REV)

The sessions were well attended and characterized by lively discussions, the atmosphere being cooperative. At the ends of the working days there was also a well-attended social programme with formal and informal parts.

Univ. Prof. Dr. Peter Spath
President of the “Verband der Ärztlichen Direktoren und Primärärzte
Österreichs”