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EVROPSKO ZDRŽENJE BOLNIŠNIČNIH ZDRAVINIKOV
EURÓPSKA ASOCIÁCIA NEMOCNICNÝCH LEKÁROV**

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REPORT FROM THE UEMO GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN STOCKHOLM 30- 31 MAY 2003.

The UEMO President, Dr Christina Fabian, wished all delegates and guests welcome to the General Assembly – for the first time in Stockholm.

The main questions at the meeting were the medical directive and the UEMO:s finances.

The medical directive is a long process and it has now reached the Legal Committee and they will take their decision in September 2003. The final decision will not be taken before 2004.

The finances are the big problem for the UEMO. The meeting in Florence last year gave a 23000 € surplus. Additional to that, the cooperation with Kensington Publication Ltd, a large contributor, is finished next year. Sweden has this year taken over the presidency from Italy and The Swedish Medical Association pays the salaries and taxes for the staff in Stockholm this year but even so UEMO needs to save at least 30 000 €. Fundamental changes must take place in order to guarantee a viable organisation and therefore the presidency felt obliged to announce proposals to cut the costs:

- 1) Only active interpretation in English. This includes active interpretation to and from English. The other languages (German, French, Italian and Spanish) are passive i.e. it is possible for those who wish to speak these four languages, but everybody must be able to understand spoken English. The saving is about 13 000 € per meeting.
- 2) UEMO will not pay any social activities. These will be paid by sponsoring or by the delegates themselves.
- 3) UEMO will not pay the lunches at the general assembly meetings.

The Presidency wanted to have a two years trial period. After a long discussion the General Assembly voted and accepted the above proposals.

The meeting decided to mandate the Presidency to hire space and manpower in the **CPME office in Brussels** for a period until the end of 2004. After this period the cooperation will be evaluated.

There was a discussion over **patient safety** as the coming question of the debate in Europe. The President wanted proposals on how the UEMO should handle this question.

During the meeting **the UEMO working groups** met. They are: Specific Training, CME/CPD, Quality Assurance, Medical Informatics, Equal Opportunities, Preventive Activities.

The General Assembly welcomed Slovakia as a member.

Next UEMO General Assembly will take place in Dubrovnic **Croatia** in October 2003.

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