



**ASSOCIATION EUROPÉENNE DES MÉDECINS DES HÔPITAUX
EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF SENIOR HOSPITAL PHYSICIANS
EUROPÄISCHE VEREINIGUNG DER LEITENDEN KRANKENHAUSÄRZTE
EUROPESE VERENIGING VAN STAFARTSEN
DEN EUROPÆISKE OVERLÆGEFORENING
ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΟΣ ΣΥΛΛΟΓΟΣ ΝΟΣΟΚΟΜΕΙΑΚΩΝ ΙΑΤΡΩΝ ΔΙΕΥΘΥΝΤΩΝ
ASSOCIAZIONE EUROPEA DEI MEDICI OSPEDALIERI
DEN EUROPEISKE OVERLEGEFORENING
ASSOCIAÇÃO EUROPEIA DOS MÉDICOS HOSPITALARES
ASOCIACIÓN EUROPEA DE MÉDICOS DE HOSPITALES
EUROPEISKA ÖVERLÄKARFÖRENINGEN
EVROPSKO ZDRŽENJE BOLNIŠNIČNIH ZDRAVINIKOV
EUROPSKA ASOCIACIA NEMOCNICNÝCH LEKAROV
EUROPSKA UDRUGA BOLNIČKIHI LIJEČNIKA
ΕΒΡΟΠΕΪΣΚΑ ΑΣΟCΙΑCΙΑ ΗΑ ΣΤΑΡΣΗΤΕ ΒΟΛΗΝΙΧΝΗ ΛΕΚΑΡΗ
ASOCIAȚIA EUROPEANĂ A MEDICILOR DIN SPITALE**

Document:	AEMH 16-006
Title:	Draft Minutes 74th AEMH Board Committee meeting Catania/Italy, 5 February 2016
Author :	AEMH European Liaison Office
Purpose :	Approval
Distribution :	AEMH Members of the Board
Date :	15 March 2016

Draft minutes
74th AEMH Board meeting
 5 February 2016, 9:00 -12:30

Venue: Il Principe Hotel, Via Alessi 24 – 95124, Catania, Italy, Tel. +39-095-2500345,

E-mail: info@ilprincipehotel.com, <http://www.ilprincipehotel.com/>

1. Approval of the Agenda

João de Deus suggested adding points 5.a and 5.b as follows: 5.a AEMH Conference 2016 and 5.b Working Groups at the General Assembly 2016. Furthermore, he suggested adding point 7.b Domus Medica. The agenda was unanimously approved with these changes.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the 73^{re} AEMH Board Meeting

[AEMH 15-050](#)

The minutes were unanimously approved.

3. Review 2015

a) AEMH Activity Report 2015

[AEMH 16-003](#)

The activity report was modified to contain the complete information of all board members' activities and presence to various events as well as that of other AEMH delegates.

b) President's Report

Aside from the activities and events mentioned in the AEMH activity report, João de Deus informed that he would further attend the 4th International Congress of Medical Cooperation (23-27 February 2016 in the Philippines - Cebu), where he would deliver a presentation on "Clinical Leadership and Doctors involvement in Management". All costs would be covered by the local organisers.

c) 1st Vice-President's Report

Vlad Tica raised two issues concerning Clinical Leadership:

- A proposal to draft a curriculum on Clinical Leadership together with Theo Merholz; Vlad Tica suggested writing a concept note and approaching UNFPA to see whether they could provide any assistance or if they may be interested in promoting it within the World Health Organisation. All board member agreed; the concept note should be presented in Naples. João de Deus suggested this concept note to be discussed in the Clinical Leadership working group in Naples. Hrvoje Sobat also suggested approaching EFMA, as they also work with non-European countries as well as the WHO regional office for Europe based in Denmark.
- The backup of the training activity by various universities or international institutions (i.e. UNFPA, University of Florence, etc) – for all board members and the secretary to explore.

Furthermore, Vlad Tica got the mandate to contact Otmar Kloiber (WHO) and Leah Wapner (EFMA) in point of the Clinical Leadership training activities as well as in order to invite them to speak at the AEMH conference in Naples.

Vlad Tica also raised the question: "Why a NMA should be member of AEMH". He suggested that board members should try and identify so as to capture and better define AEMH specificity and hence, the advantages of the organisations that wish to be part of it.

d) 2nd Vice-President's Report, Pierre-François Cuénoud

Pierre-François Cuénoud informed that he has noted a positive feedback in Switzerland following the AEMH conference in Dusseldorf.

e) 3rd Vice-President's Report, Erich-Theo Merholz

Theo Merholz also informed that the Dusseldorf conference recorded a positive feedback in Germany. Since hospital management in Germany is dominated by economists, the doctors/medical directors in German hospitals do not have the power of decision, only functioning as advisers. He further informed about the new legislation against corruption in Germany, which is perceived as rather punitive as far as doctors are concerned. Media is also helping in creating the corruption cases, as they tend to exaggerate single and minor instances of corruption.

Further on, Dr Merholz informed about the significant strain currently undergone by the German medical system due to the refugee crisis. The system is under pressure as it needs to cover extra expenses incurred by the refugees, since in Germany medical care is almost completely covered by the medical system. Thus, the cost of supporting the refugees in Germany is estimated to 40-50 billion euros. Only 10% of the refugees can be integrated, which adds extra pressure to the economy, as the remaining 90% require significantly costly actions for integration.

Vlad Tica suggested that Theo Merholz speaks about the issue of corruption seen as a discrimination against medical staff at the AEMH conference in Naples.

João de Deus said that it is necessary to prove that hospitals managed by doctors have better results and outcomes, the same as they are also financially better off. This needs to be made clear to the politicians. He reported that, the same as in Germany, media makes a big deal out of single cases of doctor corruption, while the real corruption lies mostly with hospital managers, who manage the contracting of various works and supplies and obtain financial bonuses out of that. Nevertheless, such things pass unnoticed.

4. Joint EMOs CPD Conference, Luxembourg, December 2015 – updates

- Conference interactive agenda
- Consensus Statement on CPD

[AEMH 16-004](#)

[AEMH 16-001](#)

João de Deus appreciated that the CPD conference resulted in signing a good consensus statement on CPD. He expressed his thanks to Thomas Zilling for his work in the organization of the conference. He further suggested that this document should be popularized in all countries. Nevertheless, the conference registered a slight financial deficit, which may imply further financial contributions from the organizers, including AEMH.

5. AEMH Conference 2016 – 26 May 2016, Naples, Italy

5.a Conference –

It was decided that the conference may be moderated by Vlad Tica and Sergio Bovenga

In point of conference speakers, the following names were listed:

- Jacques de Haller – CPME president - confirmed
- Enrico Reginato – FEMS president - confirmed
- Paul Vincke – Director EHFCN (European Healthcare Fraud and Corruption Network) - confirmed
- João Greñho, UEMS vice-president - confirmed
- Theo Merholz - confirmed

- Italian speaker appointed by Sergio Bovenga – to be confirmed
- Vlad Tica - confirmed
- Potentially, Otmar Kloiber and / or Leah Wapner – to be confirmed

5.b Working Groups

It was decided that two working groups would be organised within the AEMH General Assembly, as follows:

- WG on Clinical Leadership – chaired by Vlad Tica / Theo Merholz
- WG on access to online medical records – chaired by Anja Mitchell / Hrvoje Sobat

6. Update on European Affairs

Diana Voicu informed that the update on European affairs is to be found in the quarterly AEMH newsletter, besides the updates from the AEMH members and activities.

7. AEMH Office

- a) AEMH newsletter - update – [Issue no. 3/2015](#); preparation Issue no. 1/2016

Diana Voicu informed on the production of the AEMH newsletter, whose first number in 2016 should potentially focus on the AEMH conference and the issue of corruption.

- b) Domus Medica;

The board members agreed that AEMH secretariat should not relocate to Domus Medica for the time being, given the advantages of cooperation with CPME as well as with the other EMOs located at the CPME premises (EJD, EMSA) as well as the uncertain situation of the UEMS finances.

It was decided that the issue should be reported to the afternoon joint meeting with FEMS, as the final decision is to be taken jointly with FEMS.

8. Financial Reports by AEMH-treasurer Dr. Sobat

- a) Treasurer's report
- b) Financial Situation as of 31 December 2015
- c) Draft Budget 2017

Hrvoje Sobat informed that AEMH had a surplus of 15.000 euro budgeted in the initial budget; following the last report, the surplus amounted to about 30,000 euro; therefore, AEMH board members should think of the best ways to spend this extra money, in activities benefiting the organisation.

He informed on a question coming from the Spanish medical association concerning the calculation of the AEMH. He proposed that, in the situation the Spanish ask an adjustment of their fee, the question of providing Spanish interpretation to the General Assembly should also be considered, since it has always been quite expensive for AEMH to provide interpretation in several languages for this event.

João de Deus said that a common meeting between the Portuguese and the Spanish medical associations would take place shortly so he would further take the opportunity to follow the question with the Spanish.

9. 68th AEMH Plenary Meeting Minutes (for information)[AEMH 15-044](#)

The minutes changed according to the request by the Panhellenic Medical Association.

10. International meeting Calendar [International EMOs' Calendar](#)

Date and place	Event	Attendance AEMH
8-9 April 2016, Brussels, Belgium	CPME Meeting,	João de Deus
22-23 April 2016, Brussels, Belgium	UEMS Council Meeting	Vlad Tica/João de Deus
6-7 May 2016, Kyrenia, Cyprus	FEMS GA	João de Deus
13-14 May 2016, Vilnius, Lithuania	EJD Spring Meeting	Hrvoje Sobat; Vlad Tica available if requested
6-8 June 2016, Rome, Italy	HOPE Agora 2016 (50 th anniversary meeting)	João de Deus (to be confirmed) Vlad Tica available if requested
30 September – 1 October, Porto, Portugal	EJD Autumn Meeting	João de Deus
18-19 November 2016, Tel Aviv, Israel	CPME Meeting	João de Deus, Vlad Tica

11. Next Board Meeting – 26 May, Naples, Italy

It was suggested that the next board meeting after Naples takes place alongside CPME autumn meeting. The final decision will be taken in Naples.

12. Any other business

- a) Participation in [EPHA working groups](#)

Vlad Tica suggested he may be involved in the “Health Professionals” WG; nevertheless, he required more information with respect to the EPHA working groups (campaign versus non-campaign, workload, meetings frequency, impact, financial support needed). Diana Voicu was to inquire about this aspects before any decision is taken concerning AEMH involvement. The same questions were raised with respect to the AEMH involvement in the EPHA board.

8th JOINT AEMH – FEMS Board Meeting

14:00 – 17:00

1. Approval of the Agenda

João de Deus suggested adding the conference on the comparison among the European health systems under point 2.

The agenda was approved with this change.

João de Deus further introduced Theo Merholz, the new board member of AEMH.

2. AEMH-FEMS bilateral Collaboration

- *Common secretariat*
- *Domus Medica*

Enrico Reginato said that in view of the upcoming EMOs Presidents meeting (24 April, after the UEMS Council Meeting in Brussels), UEMS would most probably ask whether any decision has been taken regarding the relocation to the Domus Medica. He informed that a proposal was received by the AEMH/FEMS secretariat which provides similar logistical and financial conditions to the current CPME premises. He said that FEMS is favourable to the relocation. He further suggested that both AEMH and FEMS presidents may use the opportunity of to check together the Domus Medica premises on the occasion of the Presidents' meeting and next take an informed decision.

João de Deus recalled that the idea initially behind the Domus Medica concept was to have all EMOs under one roof; nevertheless, it seems that more EMOs are currently located at the CPME premises (i.e. CPME, EJD, EMSA, apart from FEMS/AEMH) than it is the case with UEMS Domus Medica. UEMO was also approached to have a place at the CPME premises. Moreover, CPME seems to be more aware and involved in the European affairs and the contact with them might be more beneficial to AEMH/FEMS. He further said that he has information from the UEMS vice president that about 80% of the Domus Medica is already rented to non-medical organisations; UEMS is currently experiencing financial problems. Under the circumstances, the AEMH board has serious doubts about the relocation and does not consider it a good idea.

Enrico Reginato said that FEMS itself does not have a particular urge to move and that he was not aware of the information João de Deus provided in point.

João de Deus further highlighted the good experience of cooperation with CPME staff in preparation of the CPD conference.

Enrico Reginato agreed that the cooperation with CPME has indeed improved over the past years, during Katrin Fjeldsted presidency.

João de Deus concluded that it would be wise for both AEMH and FEMS to postpone the relocation decision for the moment.

- *Conference on the European medical systems (Catania, 6 February 2016);*

Enrico Reginato recalled the conference had a great attendance and success in Florence, so it was further replicated in Milan and Catania; the Catania conference is hosted by the local medical association. He further informed the decision was taken to also organise it prior to the FEMS General Assembly in Cyprus, on 5 May 2016, as it should go over the borders of Italy, to other European countries.

3. EMOs Collaboration

- Luxembourg Conference on Continuous Professional Development
- CPD Consensus Statement
- EMO Presidents' Committee Luxembourg – minutes of the meeting (for information)

João de Deus highlighted that the Luxembourg Conference was an example of the cooperation among the EMOs. The conference was quite a successful event and the consensus statement should be widely spread at the national level. Thomas Zilling did a great job in the organisation of the conference.

Enrico Reginato expressed regrets that the conference registered a rather low attendance compared to what it should have had; mainly due to the unfortunate date. He explained how the consensus document had been drafted prior to the conference, with comments received in the Presidents' Committee meetings. He next expressed his concerns as to the quality of the training of various specialists migrating to work to other countries.

João de Deus agreed that in some countries it is the national authorities guaranteeing the qualifications; nevertheless, it is not sure what other countries are doing in this respect, as sometimes it is the case that medical associations award the qualification certificates, while in other countries it is the ministries to do that; thus, a minimum program would be desirable for each medical specialty – each country should adopt and apply the minimum curriculum for any specialty.

Concerning the CPD conference, João de Deus said that it may be necessary for the organizing EMOs to further contribute financially to cover the conference expenses, as, due to the lower attendance expected, there is a budget deficit. The decision on the final amount is postponed until CPME provides the final budget calculations. It is expected that this amount should not surpass 1,000 euro for each organisation.

4. Update on respective activities

- AEMH
- FEMS
-

Enrico Reginato plans to repeat the Action Day of the European Doctors on 15 May 2016. He suggested that countries that are not FEMS member may also get involved in taking action on this particular occasion. FEMS will prepare a poster and a document accompanying the poster that will be distributed to all national delegation in view of the Action Day. He suggested AEMH joins forces in the organisation of this action.

Paolo Simões raised the question of the many doctors that have lately went out of the public systems as well as that of doctors that did studies in other countries (Spain, Czech Republic); the question is what to do with them. He further explained that there are two issues: the quality of internal formation and places for them; SIM does not accept to lower the qualification level.

J-P Zerbib explained there are not sufficient funds to educate enough doctors, it proves cheaper to import them (as per the French minister of education declaration).

Theo Merholz said that in Germany doctors do not want to go to rural areas; if we are to import doctors, there is also the language problem, communication with the patients; a linguistic level of C1 plus professional knowledge is requested in order to be able to function as a doctor in Germany.

5. European Affairs

a) Implementation of the Patients' Rights Directive

- [Report by the European Commission on the operation of Directive 2011/24/EU](#)
- [National Contact Points geared up to answer cross-border healthcare questions](#)
- [EPHA: report on cross-border healthcare](#) reveals implementation gaps and poor knowledge of patients' rights

João de Deus commented that the crossborder care exchanges did not enhance due to the lack of patient information.

Theo Merholz added that a good effect of this directive is that it creates competition – in the countries where there are big waiting list, for instance, people will go abroad to have surgery done and then get reimbursed.

Bojan Popovic further mentioned the of market opening – once markets are open, patients on the waiting lists may go to the open market (i.e. the private medical institutions). He gave the example of Austria, which has the highest number of hospitalisations, while the healthcare remains quite expensive.

a) [EWTD](#)

Enrico Reginato reported on a successful lobbying action of FEMS, which resulted in pressuring the national authorities in Italy to enforce the ETWD by 15 November 2015; this is currently a big problem in Italy, enjoying a large media coverage.

b) TTIP

- [TTIP in six pages](#)
- European Commission: [revised proposal](#) for investment protection and the setting up of a court system for TTIP;
- [EPHA position](#) on Investment Protection in TTIP and Trade Agreements Response to the European Commission proposal for an Investment Court System to replace Investor-to-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS)
- TiSA (Trade in Service Agreement): [Report on the 15th TiSA negotiation round](#)

c) Professional Qualifications Directive

João de Deus commented that, most importantly, recent studies reveal that doctors are the most mobile profession in Europe; secondly, the length of training is not very clear the same as the basic training is not very clear; the recognition process should be transparent and safe; concerning CPD – the professional card was introduced, but no step was taken in this respect. There were some modifications in the alert system.

Theo Merholz informed that there were instances of doctors whose licenses where suspended in Germany and they subsequently went to Belgium to obtain a new license.

d) Reform of the European Standardisation System

[AEMH 16-005](#)

João de Deus insisted that CEN is a private non-medical institution, financed by the Commission that regulates the medical profession.

Pierre-François Cuénoud reminded that the Austrians asked for standards at the very beginning.

Theo Merholz added that this was done to avoid competition.

e) Health Workforce

- [Joint action health workforce – Conference on planning & education health workforce without borders, 18-19 February, Varna, Bulgaria](#)

Enrico Reginato informed about his attendance at the JAHWPF meetings and insisted that working conditions were initially missing from their working package. Following his request, they were later introduced.

Theo Merholz explained that the German point of view on task-shifting favours delegation while it disagrees to substitution.

Vlad Tica raised the issue of the “womanisation” of the profession, explaining that this trend has to do with how medicine is perceived by the society; thus men are looking for prestige and image while women are concerned with safety instead; men want to have easier, quicker, prestige and adventure jobs;

Theo Merholz said that in Germany, the most prestigious of jobs, doctors registering among the highest salaries.

- WHO: [Making progress towards health workforce sustainability in the WHO European region](#)
 - [The mobility of health professionals in Europe: efficiency and equity](#)
- f) [“War, Migration and Health – World Medical Association and Turkish Medical Association Symposium on the Refugee Crisis”](#), 26-27 February, Istanbul, Turkey.

It was decided that Serdar Dalkilic would attend this symposium as a FEMS representative.