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ЕВРОПЕЙСКА АСОЦИАЦИЯ НА СТАРШИТЕ БОЛНИЧНИ ЛЕКАРИ**

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MINUTES

CPME-HOPE Meeting Brussels, 27 September 2006

Participants:

Daniel Mart, CPME President
Lisette Tiddens-Engwirda, CPME Secretary General
Brian Edwards, HOPE President
Pascal Garel, HOPE Chief Executive
Annette Kennedy, EFN (European Forum of Nurses) President
Paul de Raeve, EFN Secretary General
Claude Wetzel, FEMS President
Carl-Eric Thors, UEMO Secretary General
Catherine Hartmann, Executive Director, EAHP (European Association of Hospital Pharmacists)
Frédéric Destrebecq, UEMS Deputy Secretary General
Dr Raymond Lies, AEMH President
Brigitte Jencik, AEMH Secretary General

On invitation of HOPE-President Brian Edwards different healthcare organisations met on Presidents and Secretary Generals level the first time 29 March 2006, where all topics currently on the agendas of all health organizations were briefly discussed.

The second meeting to which also FEMS had been invited, concentrated on four topics.

1. Patient Safety

Lisette Tiddens-Engwirda reported from the ongoing action in this field, which is amongst others covered by SIMPATIE, a European-Commission funded project. A conference had been organized by the CPME together with different parties involved, including HOPE. The outcome can be found on the website: www.simpatie.org. The stakeholders are developing a strategy paper, which will be finalized by February 2007.

Brian Edwards argued that enough talking had been done on the patient safety issue and that time for action had come. He stated that the “no-blame- culture” was a common target and therefore in his opinion the best way to progress would be to push national governments to implement a “no-blame-reporting-system”. As the Danes are very far ahead on the issue of Patient Safety he proposed a visit to Denmark to learn about the local system and evaluate whether it could also fit to other European countries.

Lisette Tiddens-Engwirda objected that before such action the general culture needed to be changed.

Raymond Lies agreed with both Brian Edwards and Lisette Tiddens-Engwirda: action is needed, but further effort to change cultures also, as at the SIMPATIE conference, the word stakeholders had become “mistakeholders”. Conferences with spectacular presentations of victims of adverse events must stop. He supported the idea of Brian Edwards for 1 system = 1 country. In Luxembourg the trend is to sanctions and claims, which results in big insurance problems. He furthermore pleaded to get away from a defensive to an offensive attitude. From his own professional experiences he stated that most problems can be solved by good communication.

Pascal Garel approved that communication needs to be improved as in the mind of patients adverse events means automatically medical mistake, although it is mostly a system fault.

Daniel Mart informed that on a CPME proposal all patient safety activities have been gathered in a platform within the High Level Group of the European Commission. The next meeting of this Patient Safety Network will take place 18th December.

Brian Edwards summed up that there is a general approval to his proposal for a visit to Denmark in order to study a “no-blame-reporting-system”, followed by the draft of a document . The time schedule for the visit: ideally before the HLG meeting 18th December and February for the document. HOPE takes the lead in this action and will keep the other participants informed.

2. CPD

This topic referred to the conference CPME is organizing in collaboration with its Associated Organisations, with the European Commission, the Finnish Presidency, and other healthcare professionals. Date: 14 December in Luxembourg.

The participants debated on the different systems and different cultures of CME/CPD from voluntary to mandatory. Ideally, the health professional should be the driving force and the system should pay for it.

Claude Wetzel praised in this respect the guidelines CPME and EFPIA have established in their Joint Declaration on the collaboration of the medical profession and the pharmaceutical industry, which sets the ethical rules for funding of CME/CPD.

Daniel Mart resumed the target of the CPD conference which is to evaluate what works, the different techniques, incentives, fundings, etc.

3. Social Dialogue in Hospitals

Pascal Garel referred to the launch of the European Sectoral Social Dialogue committee for the hospital sector involving the European Federation of Public Service Unions (EPSU) and the European Hospital and Healthcare Employers' Association (HOSPEEM). HOPE has an observer status within HOSPEEM and is involved also via part of its members as about half of HOPE's members are also member of HOSPEEM.

4. Health Services and Commissioner Kyprianou's initiative

This topic referred to the health service directive and the launch of a public consultation. The communication of the commission in this respect, which had been published only the day before, was circulated

Daniel Mart informed about the CPME working group in charge to elaborate inputs for a new health service directive. The CPME and its Associated Organisations will not content to only answer a questionnaire of nine questions.

The next meeting has been scheduled for 7 February 2007. Annette Kennedy proposed to host this meeting in the EFN premises.