



**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 ΙΔΤΡΩΝ 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
ЕВРОПЕЙСКА АСОЦИАЦИЯ НА СТАРШИТЕ БОЛНИЧНИ ЛЕКАРИ**

Document :	AEMH 08-059
Title:	AEMH-FEMS common letter to EMO Presidents
Author :	Dr Raymond Lies, Dr Claude Wetzel
Purpose :	
Distribution :	Presidents of the European Medical Organisations, AEMH and FEMS Member Delegations
Date :	20 October 2008



**ASSOCIATION EUROPÉENNE DES MÉDECINS DES HÔPITAUX
EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF SENIOR HOSPITAL PHYSICIANS**



**Fédération Européenne des Médecins Salariés
European Federation of Salaried Doctors**

**For the attention of the Presidents of European Medical Organisations
CEOM, CPME, EANA, EMSA, PWG, UEMO et UEMS**

Brussels, 17 October 2008

Dear Presidents, dear colleagues,

In 2001 the AEMH was the first Medical Organization to share the vision of CPME President Dr Arimaa on the creation of a Domus Medica uniting all European Medical Organizations under the same roof, in the aim to enhance collaboration, to avoid duplication of work and last not least to rationalize costs.

CPME and AEMH formalized the agreement in 2002 by signing an official rental contract "convention de mise à disposition de locaux" for 20 m² office space, for a monthly rent calculated pro-rata on the total rent paid by CPME.

In 2005 AEMH proposed to provide FEMS with secretarial services within the frame of the AEMH European Secretariat, as both organizations have the same focus and pursue the same objectives to protect the interests of doctors and patients in hospitals. In this way FEMS also joined the Domus Medica.

It is therefore needless to say that FEMS and AEMH are strong supporters of collaboration of all European Medical Organizations sharing common values, ideals and interests, which they should express with one voice.

In this spirit, on 14 June 2008 at the last CPME meeting in Brussels all EMOs collaborated in drafting a common statement on their opposition to the political agreement reached by the EPSCO Council regarding the proposals of the Commission for a revision of the existing European Working Time Directive (EWTD).

The satisfaction on reaching a common standpoint on this important issue was shadowed by the quoting "CPME and other European Medical Organizations", which equals to a ranking among the organizations, which we firmly oppose.

We are all aware of the difficulties CPME is facing and regret this situation. Other organizations are also confronted to sensitive internal problems. AEMH and FEMS are anxious to keep their specificities and autonomy, which are our "raison d'être", and accordingly fully respect those of our sister organizations. We defend these rights and denounce any kind of interference in the affairs of others.

- 2 -

We have in the past and will in the future work to reach consensus but are convinced that the time has come to address thoroughly the problems of cooperation between EMOs and draw the necessary conclusions. The image of European doctors is harmed by internal power struggles, when we should be united if we want to be considered in the political scene.

The elected Presidents of all EMOs representing European Doctors have to take their responsibilities and commit to overcome internal barriers and rules of procedures to the benefit of a strong Council of Presidents. This needs new methods of operation, adapted to the political environment. Beyond the problems of leadership and power, our responsibility is to represent the interests of European doctors. Our objective must be unity, so that all organizations representing European doctors speak with one voice.

The undersigned, AEMH-President, Dr Raymond Lies and FEMS-President, Dr Claude Wetzel hereby take the commitment to work in this direction.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Lies', written in a cursive style.

Dr Raymond Lies

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Wetzel', written in a cursive style.

Dr Cl. WETZEL