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EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF SENIOR HOSPITAL PHYSICIANS
EUROPÄISCHE VEREINIGUNG DER LEITENDEN KRANKENHAUSÄRZTE
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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 ZDRAVNIKOV
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EUROPSKA UDRUGA BOLNIČKIHI LIJEČNIKA
ΕΒΡΟΠΕΪΣΚΑ ΑΣΟΪΙΑΪΙΑ ΗΑ ΣΤΑΡΣΗΤΕ ΒΟΛΗΝΗΧΝΗ ΛΕΚΑΡΗ
ASOCIATIA EUROPEANA A MEDICILOR DIN SPITALE**

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MINUTES OF THE 1st Joint European Medical Organisations' (EMO) Meeting

Crowne Plaza Hotel, Brussels (BE)

11 June 2009

14h30 to 17h30

1. Opening and roll-call

by Dr. Isabel Caixeiro, UEMO President

Dr. Isabel Caixeiro (UEMO) opened the meeting by saying it was an opportunity for everyone to meet and invited all present to introduce themselves.

2. Procedural matters:

Election of chair

Election of rapporteur

Dr. Raymond Lies (AEMH) was elected chairperson and started by encouraging that the agenda be discussed in the most constructive way possible.

Dr. John Morris (PWG) was elected rapporteur of the meeting.

3. Approval of the Agenda

Dr. Jörg Pruckner (EANA) suggested adding a document on Liberal Medical Practice on the agenda, while Dr. Isabel Caixeiro (UEMO) requesting having the UEMO/PWG Brussels' Joint Declaration also on the agenda for discussion. The agenda was approved unanimously with the proposed amendments.

4. Purpose of the meeting

The chairperson thanked the Executive Committee members of the EMOs for their presence and mentioned that this meeting was an important step towards a stronger



collaboration between EMOs. He also started by explained that on the objectives of this meeting was to discuss the feasibility of an EMO confederation. The goal of this confederation would be to keep the different organisations autonomous and look at a common aim and the interest of all doctors involved.

The draft agreement to create a confederation was shortly commented and a common strategy is to be settled and discussed.

4.1 Internal considerations

Confederation of European Medical Organisations

Juridical and organisational feasibility

Launch or termination of the concept

Time table

by Dr. Raymond Lies (AEMH) and Dr. Claude Wetzel (FEMS)

AND

Establishment of a “Domus Medica”

Common facilities – staff and equipment

Financial basis and equitable contributions

Action plan and time table

Reference documents:

Proposal from AEMH and FEMS

Joint-letter from Dr. Raymond Lies (AEMH) and Dr. Michael Wilks (CPME)

Dr. Michael Wilks (CPME) argued that some areas of expertise were to be defined. He reminded that each EMO has its’ own expertise and that great work had been done in the past by developing working documents and policies together.

Dr. Samuel Ribeiro (PWG) stated that the PWG welcomed any initiative that had the purpose to enhance collaboration between EMOs. He added that PWG believed that the confederation should be an independent organisation and was glad to entertain the idea, provided it would work under this condition and only if all organisations were equally divided amongst all EMOs and not proportionally by the number of doctors each represent. On the other hand, the PWG Secretary General referred that it would not be worth having such an organisation like this if its real objective would be a power-play of



some organisations to overcome the others. Finally, the PWG agreed on having a joint committee to discuss the pressing topics and welcomed a joint presidency for this organisation, provided once again that all directive bodies were equally represented amongst all EMOs.

Dr. Zlatko Fras (UEMS) said that the approach practiced until now hadn't been productive. He added that the Presidents' Committee should try to find common areas of interest, whilst also referring is believed that there was no time nor funds to create a new organisation, but that the EMOs should rather try to work better within the present one scenario. He also pointed out that the democratic way would be to keep autonomy and an alliance between all organisations and that it would be a waste of resources to have undefined areas of interested. It was suggested that the main topics for each EMO should be defined.

Dr. L. Harvey (UEMS) reminded that it would be natural to have different points of view on certain topics and therefore cooperation and exchange of these points could not always be agreed upon.

Dr. Frank Montgomery (CPME) urged all present to think about how the structure of this organisation could be made, suggested discussing the common topics and reiterated that equal footing must be followed.

Dr. Zlatko Fras (UEMS) said that during the Presidents' Committee the UEMS had always asked for equal treatment between EMOs and that such never happened. He stated that the UEMS believed that an alliance would be better than a confederation. The FEMS Executive committee also agreed that an alliance would be better than a confederation.

Dr. Isabel Caixeiro (UEMO) reminded that each EMO had its own area of expertise and that this platform could be a way to guarantee that each work in their field with the proactive support of others.

Dr. Katrín Fjeldsted (CPME) believed that no matter if the objective was to speak in one or a common voice, the future alliance would be enriched by the different knowledge of all EMOs. She also stressed the need to cut costs, define aims, and be proactive for the sake of healthcare and lobbying in Europe and that such could be done with a Domus Medica

Dr. Konstany Radziwill (CPME) defended that a common structure would be difficult to implement at least in the time to come. Real support for the members was needed and



lobbying near the European institutions could be done by the CPME through a common Domus Medica.

Dr. Bernardo Bollen Pinto (PWG) stated that PWG would not embrace any project or structure that had the objective to overpower other organisations and stressed that the sole objective of this organisation would have to be enhance the cooperation between EMOs. Following that, he believed that the present organisations should discuss which topics would be most adequate to discuss during the meeting.

Dr. Samuel Ribeiro (PWG) asked members to return to the initial topic on having a confederation instead of the separate Domus Medica concept which should be discussed independently.

Dr. Zlatko Fras (UEMS) agreed with the two previous proposals to delineate the areas of interest and ask for help in any area needed.

Dr. Volker von der Damerau-Dambrowski (CPME) stated that it would be important to work at the same level, by respecting and supporting each other, stressing that all EMO's should be more flexible.

Dr. Pedro Nunes (CEOM) said that CEOM was expanding and gaining importance. In his opinion, a change in the way of functioning in CPME and other EMOs had occurred and he believed that the meetings' discussion should be about having a future alliance.

Dr. Bernard Maillet (UEMS) said that a common plan should be defined before building a new organisational structure.

Dr. Claude Wetzel (FEMS) stated that an alliance was a more informal type of cooperation and explained that the difference between alliance and confederation is that in the latter there would be terms implied.

Dr. Frank Montgomery (CPME) mentioned that, structurally, an advisory body and not a legal decision-making body would be preferred.

The chairperson suggested making a draft document on the main topics to address amongst EMOs to be presented at the next joint EMO-meeting or until the end of the year.

Dr. Claude Wetzel (FEMS) suggested having the chair coordinating this draft document.



Policy development and collaboration

With short presentations on:

EWTD, by Dr. Claude Wetzel (FEMS)

Crossborder healthcare directive, by Dr. Michael Wilks (CPME)

Medical manpower, Dr. Rui Guimaraes (PWG)

Medical regulation, by Dr. Pedro Nunes (CEOM)

Postgraduate training and CME/CPD, by Dr. Zlatko Fras (UEMS)

The Bologna process, by Ms. Hanneke van der Wijngaart (EMSA)

Liberal medical practice, by Dr. Jörg Pruckner (EANA)

Reference document:

PWG report on the medical manpower survey

Dr. Claude Wetzel (FEMS) made a short presentation on the EWTD: the Commissioners involved, the common position approved by the European Council on the 17th of September 2008 and the effects of overwork on doctors and patients. He referred the importance of lobbying by the European Medical Organisations in a common voice.

Dr. Michael Wilks (CPME) shared information on e-Health and Cross-border Healthcare, stressing that these were both topics in which collaboration amongst EMOs could be enforced.

Dr. Rui Guimarães (PWG) made a short presentation on European Medical Manpower Survey, delivering the preliminary results on the number of European physicians, by gender and age.

Dr. Pedro Nunes (CEOM) made a presentation on medical regulation, reminding all that in some countries governments are responsible for the regulation of doctors, while in others the medical chambers are. The CEOM is a space where medical regulatory chambers are united.

Dr. Zlatko Fras (UEMS) made a short report on PGT and CME/CPD. The main topics were: UEMS mission – to assure continuous participation of medical specialists and continuously to defend the whole spectrum of the professional interests, the UEMS vision, and the coordination support executive based on the PGMST, CME/CPD and quality assurance. These aims are to be reached through collaboration, research and surveying and consultation resulting in a database, publishing and political lobbying.



Ms. Hanneke van der Wijngaart (EMSA) made a short report on the Bologna Process, referring to different topics that are under discussion within EMSA. As the Bologna process encourages mobility and quality assurance to medical students, the main criteria of this process was welcomed as it improves the quality of medical studies.

Dr. Jörg Pruckner (EANA) presented a document on the definition and fundamental elements of the liberal medical practice.

Dr. Isabel Caixeiro (UEMO) presented the Brussels' Joint Declaration highlighting the main aims to be pursued and the future plan which should include an EU-confederation of doctors and medical students, asking the support of all present members.

Dr. Rui Guimarães (PWG) invited all EMOs present to join this declaration.

Dr. Frank Montgomery (CPME) expressed his concern about the document content which cannot be accepted in his opinion.

Dr. Zlatko Fras (UEMS) suggested shortening the document.

Dr. Rui Guimarães (PWG) volunteered to revise the document with the suggestions presented.

Dr. Samuel Ribeiro (PWG) presented the e-Domus Medica website (www.edomusmedica.eu) and asked for comments.

5. Agreed joint approach to EMO members

Dr. Michael Wilks (CPME) requested that clear ideas should be defined and presented at the next Presidents' Committee.

6. Press statement

The chairperson stated that the idea of having a press statement would be fruitful and suggested having a short concise draft for the following day.



Mrs. Lisette Tiddens – Engwirda (CPME) suggested having a press statement at the next meeting which was supported by Dr. Frank Montgomery (CPME).

Dr. Konstanty Radziwill (CPME) said that it would be important for lobbying purposes to have a public statement.

Dr. Pedro Nunes (CEOM) stated that such statement would not be important for the public in general, suggesting having a statement for national authorities.

It was decided to have a draft statement which volunteers would be nominated on Fridays' afternoon.

7. Next steps

Responsibility for follow-up work

Next joint EMO meeting

The above-mentioned topics were discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 17:30.

