



**Opening Ceremony of the Med-e-Tel Conference
Luxembourg, 6th of April 2016**

M. Frank LIEVENS
M. Andy FISCHER
M. Yushi TORIGOE
M. Jean-Claude SCHMITT

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Thank you very much for the kind invitation to this opening ceremony session of the Med-e-Tel Conference.

As surgeon, Medical Director and CEO of the Kirchberg Hospital until 2012 and past President of the AEMH during 12 years, I confirm that health care in 2016 and in the future, needs a closer collaboration between hospital physicians and the e-health sector.

Therefore, I signed as representative of the senior hospital physicians in Europe the Memorandum of Understanding with you Andy and Frank as representatives of the International Federation of National Telemedicine and e-health associations last year here in Luxembourg.

Considering the history of the AEMH created in 1963, I find that this initiative is still in the line of the motivation of the AEMH founders: «With regard to the revolutionary development of Hospitals and the establishment of new positions and services in hospitals, the interests of senior hospital physicians in responsible positions are not sufficiently discussed in already existing organisations».

I think that this reminder 53 years after the creation of the AEMH must stimulate our members, the national representatives of the EU countries, to take their responsibilities to stay in contact with all the stakeholders in the hospital scene, in order to focus the decisions in the hospital sector on the CORE-ACTIVITY: a treatment of high QUALITY for patients.

In the follow-up of the signature of the memorandum of understanding, we created during our last plenary meeting of the AEMH in Vienna, a working group on the implementation of medical records across the EU-countries represented by AEMH and FEMS.

The first conclusions of the working group stated that there is a high political and public demand and drive for the development and accessibility of EMR in most countries.

But there are no simple solutions to the raised concerns because each healthcare system has its own rules and conditions.



Further, the participants agreed that information technology experts can nowadays define what the system can do, but doctors need to be asked what it should be able to do!

So you see that the representatives of the national delegations in the AEMH think that a closer collaboration between all experts concerned by a high quality standard in Hospital Healthcare is necessary and that they need to be involved in those important strategic decisions in e-health.

The same requirements concern the important and tremendous evolution in healthcare technologies such as robotics, m-health, telemedicine.

As our delegates from the Swedish, Norwegian and Danish associations of senior hospital physicians stated in their statement on medical records, I agree that the rapid development of IT-systems and social media on the Internet have changed society's perception of privacy and have revealed IT-security weaknesses incompatible with the right of each patient to a safe care and privacy.

In conclusion, Dr Joao de Deus, our President, and myself will organize during the next AEMH Assembly in 2017 a conference about e-health and e-technologies in EU hospitals, and you are already now warmly invited to participate.

And now I wish you a pleasant stay in Luxembourg and a fruitful congress.

Dr. Raymond Lies