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<th>Document:</th>
<th>AEMH 03/021 FINAL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Title:</td>
<td>Minutes 36th Board Meeting July 5, 2003</td>
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<td>Author:</td>
<td>AEMH-European Secretariat</td>
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<td>Purpose:</td>
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<td>Distribution:</td>
<td>National Member Delegations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date:</td>
<td>10 September 2003</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Minutes of the
36th AEMH-Board meeting,
Luxembourg July 5, 2003

Chairman: Dr. Lies, President
Participants: Dr. Lies, Dr. Kirschner, Prof. Nolte, Prof. Degos,
Mrs Jencik.
Prevented: Dr. Morresi
Opening: 9.30
Adjourned: 13.00

The President opened the session at 9.30 in the premises of the new built Kirchberg hospital

The minutes did not raise any comments and the members of the Board present adopted document AEMH 03/004.

2. President’s Report
The President presented a summary of his report that has been distributed to the members of the board. See document AEMH 03/009. His report included also a draft of a working programme for his next term of Presidency. The main points are
1. Recognition of the AEMH as THE stakeholder for hospital concerns in the European scene.
2. Funding of the AEMH
3. Increase of Board or Executive Committee meetings
4. Increase the involvement of National Establish relationship to SANCO (DG Health and Consumer Protection)
5. Establish relationship to SANCO (Health and Consumer Directorate)
6. Establish relationship with HOPE
7. Organisation of an annual or biennial symposium

Dr. Kirschner approved the President’s will of closer cooperation with other organisations, such as HOPE. Prof. Nolte brought forward the membership proposal that the German member delegation, VLK received from the Association of Hospital Manager. The VLK thought more useful to envisage collaboration on European level, i.e. the AEMH should join the European Association of Hospital Managers. A co-operation was approved unanimously by the present members of the Board but on an associated level.
3. **Secretariat**
Brigitte Jencik reported of the upcoming removal of the CPME office. The AEMH follows the CPME to premises in Rue de la Science, approx; 1 km from the former building, but also situated in the “European area” of Brussels. While the AEMH Secretariat has a separate room, the CPME Secretariat is working in an open space office which might discourage other medical associations to join and so the prospect of a Domus Medica seem to fade away. The costs for the AEMH for the move are estimated to 1000-1500 Euros. The change of working hours operated since January (Tuesday, Wednesday full time, Thursday half time) has not raised any operational or other problems. When the office is not staffed, the telephone line is diverted to the mobile phone and e-mails are checked via the laptop. The Board therefore agreed that Brigitte Jencik keeps these working hours bearing in mind that all needed flexibility would be applied.

4. **Treasurer’s Report**
Dr. Kirschner, AEMH-treasurer commented in his report (AEMH 03/012) the financial situation of the AEMH explaining the deficit encountered in 2002 and expressing his concern of further financing of the activities.

The Closing of Accounts edited by the German auditor Kerkenrath underlined the comments of the treasurer and are self-explanatory. (AEMH 03/011).

Dr. Kirschner submitted two alternative draft budgets to the Board. Alternative 1 showing a deficit of –12415 € was based on a general inflation increase of 3 % on the member contributions and an upgrade of Greece to the level with other small countries. Alternative 2 showing a balance of income and expenditure due to revised contributions for Greece, Italy and Spain based on population and number of hospital doctors per country. All other countries have been kept at the same level. The Board rejected this alternative and came to the conclusion to adapt alternative 1 in a way to balance the budget. It was decided to take out interpretation costs representing 12500 €. These costs will have to be covered by means of sponsoring for the plenary meeting in Madrid in 2004. See final draft budget (AEMH 03/013 FIN)

In addition, Dr. Kirschner reported from the current financial situation of the AEMH. The saving account amounts to 106,608 € and generated so far 1,200 € interests.

5. **Working programme of the AEMH-Board 2003-2004 linked to**

6. **Working programme of the AEMH-President for the next term 2004-2006**
The working programme was included in the President’s Report and therefore not further discussed.

7. **Relation with CPME and AOs**
The CPME and Associated meet now at the so-called “Steering Committee” level, meaning all Presidents and the Secretary General of the CPME (see Minutes of the last Meeting CPME 2003/064) In this meeting the committee decided on forming a common working group on Patients’ Safety. The AEMH is covering this topic under Risk Management and could give an input.

8. **Collaboration with Pharmaceutical Organisations**
The members of the Board were informed about the activities of
- A.G.I.M. - Association Générale de l'Industrie du Médicament (Belgian Pharmaceutical Industry Association
- E.F.P.I.A. – European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations
The President met officers from these organizations in Athens during the EFPIA Annual meeting. He will come forward with concrete proposals of cooperation.

9. **Working groups**
The request from the secretariat to the leaders of the working groups to send reports for evaluation to the board, gave poor results. The members of the Board therefore decided to use the National Reporting format proposed by Dr. Aggernaes from the Danish delegation which covers all topics of the different working groups, in order to summarize the situation. This summary will be presented to the plenary in Copenhagen in order to reactivate the working groups and give a new impetus. The secretariat will send out the format by e-mail and request replies before August 10.

10. **Communication**
This topic has not been dealt with due to lack of time.

11. **Next external meetings with attendance of AEMH delegates**
The CPME meeting will this year take place before the AEMH plenary meeting, i.e. 29-30 August 2003. Other meetings have not been raised due to lack of time.

11. **Plenary Meeting in Copenhagen**
- New presentation of National Reports
Dr. Aggernaes’ proposal to format national reports has been endorsed by the members of the Board who see here a way to structure and streamline the reporting. They embrace particularly the inclusion of all main topics of the working groups.
- Observers invited: Croatia, UK, Ireland, the Netherlands, and Finland.
None of these countries replied positively. We expect Croatia to attend the meeting as they have applied for membership.
The associated medical associations will be widely represented. Besides FEMS represented by its President Dr. Bertrand, UEMO, UEMS and PWG will depute liaison officers. EFMA’s Secretary General apologized for being prevented.
- Dates proposal for next Plenary in Madrid (Spring).
Considering the international meeting schedule, the Board proposed two alternative dates 23 - 24 April and 30 April-1 Mai. The final decision is left to the hosting Spanish delegation.

12. **Next Board Meeting**
The members of the Board agreed to meet prior to the 40th Anniversary celebration on Thursday morning September 4th in Copenhagen.

13. **Miscellaneous**
No items were brought forward.