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Treasurers report for 2004

The auditors as well as the Secretary General Mrs Jencik is to be commended that the report for 2004 has been finished within the month of January.

2004 emphasises that the move to Brussels was right, the importance for the AEMH, being “on the scene” is increasingly important. The organisation is right where the European health-systems of the future are created, as the recognition as a “Lobbyist” to the EU has proven to be.

The budget for 2004 was made up with a small profit of € 561. The final closing of accounts resulted in a deficit of approx. € 5600. The international trend of reduced interest reached Norway more than expected, and diminished the expected income from interest, so that instead of the budgeted income of € 5000, we only earned approximately € 1600. The electronic bank services reduced the fees. On the income side the membership contributions balanced the budgeted sum of € 64 775. The national delegations are commended for prompt payment of the yearly contributions.

On the expenditure side, most costs have been kept well inside the budget. Travel costs again are lower than budgeted, partly because of the president living close to Brussels, as well as the officers and the secretariat have been stringent.

The secretariat in Brussels was upgraded in 2004 to a General Secretariat, and also was asked to increase the weekly working hours, which explains the increased cost of running the office. Web-page maintenance and translation costs are much lower than budgeted, as these tasks are managed by the secretary, resulting that the total running of the office is more than € 3000 below budget.

The Treasurer as always must advice that the association should increase the income by increasing the number of members and looking for other sources of income. It has been clear that counting on high interest- rates and other investments is no way to secure the financial future. The matter of the costs of interpretation have been solved during 2004, and should not deplete the budget after 2009.

Without the generous invitations by the national organisations hosting the Annual General Meetings, the economy of the AEMH would indeed be very bad. The treasurer is grateful for this service.

Finally, it is in order to thank the Secretary General, Mrs. Jencik, for keeping the office in order, being an active participant on the Brussels scene, and for constantly updating the accounts.

Rolf Kirschner
Treasurer