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<th>AEMH 06/057</th>
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<td>Title :</td>
<td>AEMH Activity Report 2006</td>
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<td>Author :</td>
<td>Dr Raymond Lies</td>
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<td>Purpose :</td>
<td>Information to the CPME General Assembly 28th October 2006 in Luxembourg</td>
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1. AEMH Conference

The AEMH organizes once a year a conference in the context of its Plenary meeting. This year’s conference was organized in collaboration with the Slovak Medical Chamber and entitled “Hospital Management based on Quality and Safety”. Special guest speaker was Dr Irena Belohorska, Member of European Parliament and former Minister of Health, who lectured on the quality of hospitals in Europe. Dr Frank Ulrich Montgomery gave a vivid presentation on “Doctors and working time – a never ending story?”

The full programme of the Conference is here attached. All presentations are available on the AEMH website [http://www.aemh.org/navigation/section6/CONFERENCE.html](http://www.aemh.org/navigation/section6/CONFERENCE.html).

The objective of this conference was to demonstrate that only quality performance on all levels of hospital care and hospital management can guarantee the largest possible safety to patients. The requirements to succeed have been resumed by the chairman, AEMH Vice-President Dr De Deus in 4 bullet points:
- Changes in multiple organizational components and budgeting.
- Developing quality measures
- Larger involvement of doctors in hospital management
- Improvement of working conditions of hospital doctors
- Health professionals’ education and training.

The **AEMH Conference 2007** will be entitled “European Hospitals evolving into Centers of Excellence?” and deal with Hospital accreditation, structural changes in hospital care and more. The Conference will take place 19 April 2007 in Vienna. More details will soon be available on the AEMH website.

2. AEMH Plenary Meeting

The 59th Plenary meeting took place in April 2006 in Bratislava. For the first time the AEMH experienced parallel sessions of 4 of its working groups. The result was positive and this working method will be continued.
The AEMH adopted changes to its statutes clarifying especially the submission of
documents to the Plenary assembly and the elections.

Furthermore, the Plenary Assembly adopted a resolution resuming the difficulties
expressed by some countries on the current situation and the tendencies in European
hospitals.
The Resolution AEMH 06-048 is here attached.

**Elections**

2nd Vice-President: Dr Zilling (Sweden) re-elected
3rd Vice-President: Dr De Deus (Portugal) re-elected

**3. External Meetings**

**CPME**
The AEMH-President Dr Lies represented the CPME in a workshop on
pharmacovigilance organized by the Commission.
The AEMH participates in CPME working groups: Patients Safety, Health Service

**SIMPATIE**
The follow-up of the patient safety issue has been taken up by the Commission funded
project SIMPATIE. AEMH-President attended the meeting and defended the position of
doctors and their involvement in the patient safety process. At the end of the meeting the
director of the Public Health Department of DG SANCO, Dr Andrzej Rys stressed out
that he agreed with the views of Dr Lies concerning the key position of doctors and he
confirmed that the presence of the CPME and AEMH in these discussions is essential.

**HOPE**
HOPE invites health care organisations to bi-annual meetings. Doctors are represented by
CPME, UEMS, UEMO, FEMS and AEMH. The last meeting dealt with 4 topics: Patients
safety, CPD, the social dialogue in the hospital sector and the health service directive.
Concerning patient safety HOPE will organize a visit to Denmark before the end of this
year in order to study a “no-blame-reporting-system”.

**Council of Europe**
The Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee of the Plenary Assembly of the
Council of Europe held a conference under the patronage of the French Senate on the
situation of elderly people in Europe.
In conclusion of the meeting, the rapporteur proposed the setting up of an observatory for
research into ageing in Europe, the launch of an information campaign linking the
Council of Europe and the European Union and measures for guaranteeing every
individual a decent and dignified existence. His report, which will contain
recommendations on this subject to the governments of the 46 member states, will be presented at a forthcoming Assembly session and the AEMH comments will be included.

**European Institutions, NGOs and think-tanks**
The AEMH, represented by its Secretary General, attended numerous meetings in Brussels.

**5. Organisational Matters**

**Secretariat**
The first year of a common secretariat AEMH – FEMS appeared to be successful for both organizations as it enhances the information level and rationalizes their works and costs.

**Publications**
The AEMH supplies each month a contribution for the “Europa”-page of the German journal “Arzt und Krankenhaus”.
AEMH Conference 2006
organized in connection with the 59th AEMH Plenary Meeting
and in collaboration with the Slovak Medical Chamber

Hospital Management
based on
Quality and Safety

Bratislava, 27 April 2006
14:00 – 18:00

Venue: Danube Hotel, Rybné námestie 1, 813 38 Bratislava/ Slovak Republic
Tél.: +421 2 5934 0000, fax: +421 2 5441 4311, e-mail: Danube@hoteldanube.sk

OPENING
14:00 Chair : Dr Joao de Deus, Vice-President of the AEMH
Welcome
- Prof Milan Dragula, President of the Slovak Medical Chamber

Quality of Hospitals in Europe
14:15 Special guest speaker:
Dr Irena Belohorska, Member of European Parliament, former
Minister of Health

Hospital Budgets
14:30 Political background and divergences in the different EU countries
- Dr Yves Guisan, Vice-President of the Swiss Medical Association, Member
of the Swiss Parliament

14:45 Hospitals and DRGs: findings from HOPE survey
Pascal Garel, Chief Executive of HOPE (European Hospital and Healthcare
Federation)

Quality Programmes
15:00 The Launching of Quality Management Systems in Health Care
Prof Milan Dragula, President of the Slovak Medical Chamber
AEMH Conference 2006
Hospital Management based on Quality and Safety

15:15  **Implication of Doctors in Management**  
Dr. Raymond Lies, President of the AEMH, Director General of the Kirchberg Hospital in Luxembourg

15:30  **Coffee Break**

**Labour Conditions of Doctors**

16:00  **Doctors and working time – a never ending story?**  
Dr. Frank Ulrich Montgomery, President of the Marburger Bund (German Doctors’ Trade Union)

16:15  **Working conditions of hospital doctors in a patient safety context**  
Dr. Carlos Arroz, Secretary General of the SIM - Sindicato Independente dos Médicos (Portuguese Doctors’ Trade Union)

**Training of Hospital Staff**

16:30  **Medical training in European Hospitals**  
Dr. Tiago Reis Marques, PWG (Permanent Working Group of European Junior Doctors)

16:45  **Nursing Education as one of the Cornerstone for Patient Safety and Innovation**  
Paul de Raeye, Secretary General of the EFN (European Forum of Nurses Associations)

**Patient Safety**

17:00  **Experiences from the HOPE Exchange Programme 2005**  
Dr. Ludmila Lysinova, former State Secretary of Health

17:15  **No patient safety without quality in management**  
Dr. Marie Wedin, President of the Swedish Medical Association of Senior Hospital Physicians, chair of the AEMH working group on Risk Management

17:30  **Q & A - Panel discussion**

**Conclusion**  
“Quality in Hospital Management is a major component in the improvement of Patient Safety”
In light of increasing economic and financial difficulties in Europe, the political and administrative authorities are adopting measures to contain hospital costs.

AEMH held a meeting in Bratislava on April 28 -29, 2006 and reiterated its appeal to decision makers against any policies that would negatively affect the quality of health care for patients.

In different European countries we are currently witnessing protest movements defending the existence or the operation of hospitals.

The disengagement of public authorities in the area of the provision of health care in favour of profit-oriented activities is likely to result in reduced quality of health care, and creates or aggravates inequalities in terms of health and social matters in the population. The increasing imbalance in recruitment and retirement of hospital physicians can result in dramatic shortages in access to medical care.

The working conditions of hospital physicians, in particular the working hours, remuneration, and the retirement perspectives tend to discourage physicians from opting for a career as a hospital physician.

Since the AEMH is aware of its responsibilities and is highly representative in Europe it supports and will continue to support any efforts that pursue an objective which is in line with this resolution.