



**ASSOCIATION EUROPÉENNE DES MÉDECINS DES HÔPITAUX  
EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF SENIOR HOSPITAL PHYSICIANS  
EUROPÄISCHE VEREINIGUNG DER LEITENDEN KRANKENHAUSÄRZTE  
EUROPESE VERENIGING VAN STAFARTSEN  
DEN EUROÆISKE OVERLÆGEFORENING  
ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΟΣ ΣΥΛΛΟΓΟΣ ΝΟΣΟΚΟΜΕΙΑΚΩΝ ΙΔΤΡΩΝ 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  
EUROPSKA ASOCIACIA NEMOCNICNÝCH LEKAROV  
EUROPSKA UDRUGA BOLNIČKIHI LIJEČNIKA  
ΕΒΡΟΠΕΪΣΚΑ ΑΣΟCΙΑCΙΑ ΝΑ ΣΤΑΡΣΗΤΕ ΒΟΛΝΗCΗΝΗ ΛΕΚΑΡΗ**

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## **Minutes**

### **48<sup>th</sup> AEMH-Board meeting**

**Venue : SAS Radisson Palais Hotel, Hofsalon II, Parkring 16, A-1010 Vienna/Austria**

**19 April 2007 - 9:00 – 12:00**

Participants:

Dr Raymond Lies, President  
Prof Harmut Nolte, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President  
Dr Rolf Kirschner, Treasurer  
Dr Thomas Zilling, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President  
Dr Joao de Deus, 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-President  
Brigitte Jencik, Secretary-General

The President opened the session with a slight delay at 9:15.

#### **1. Approval of the Agenda**

Brigitte Jencik requested to submit an organisational problem to the Agenda under point 10 Miscellaneous. The agenda was approved with this change.

**2. Approval of the Minutes** of the 47<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting in Brussels 27 January 2007. Document AEMH 07-012 was approved unanimously.

#### **3. President's Report**

The President referred to his written report 07-031 and highlighted some points, such as his wish to enhance the collaboration with the CPME by a stronger involvement in the subcommittees. The AEMH working groups should focus their works in the perspective of a possible combination. He regretted the lack of activity and the poor outcome of the past years in means of policy statements.

On the topic of patients' safety and patients' rights he reaffirmed that the AEMH should stand up to defend the doctors' perspective. Concerning a no-blame reporting system he pointed on the different cultural European backgrounds, which make a global European approach difficult.

The financial situation remains one of the main concerns of the presidency. The President reminded his different attempts such as the launch of the AEMH Newsletter in 200/2001. His hopes go now for a joint venture with PriceWaterhouseCoopers, which seem to be on a very promising trail.

He invited the members of the board to give their comments.

➤ Dr Kirschner agreed that patients get more and more organised and their voices get stronger. This process cannot be stopped but should not be seen as hostile. The strategy of doctors should be to use patients as allies and make them understand that without good hospital staff the rights of patients cannot be fulfilled.

- Dr Zilling commented the critics on the lack of policy papers and pointed out that doctors are not trained to draft statements and that it needs other professionals to help them doing so.
- The president agreed and reminded that in the past the AEMH counted several delegates with juridical background who were helpful with this task. This situation has changed due to the reduced number of delegates per delegation, which is due to financial reasons.

#### **4. Finances**

The AEMH Treasurer Dr Kirschner presented the final closing of the accounts 2006, which needed no additional comments to those of the last board meeting in January. Dr Kirschner reflected more generally on the financial situation and suggested different possible strategies for increasing the income of the organisation.

1. Increasing yearly contribution > 5 %.
2. Increasing membership among the 25 EU-members
3. Industrial sponsorship (general)
4. Industrial sponsorship (at venues)
5. Industrial sponsorship (website)

He regretted that the organisation is depleting its funds yearly for interpretation needed by only part of the delegations.

Not excluding any of the strategies it was decided to propose to the plenary an increase of the yearly contribution of 5 % for the coming 5 years.

#### **5. AEMH Conference 2007 “European Hospitals evolving into centres of excellence?”**

- Brigitte Jencik informed that the conference is quoted on the website of the Brussels “European Agenda” at the “events” page.

The Presidents Lies and Waneck will co-chair the conference. Prof Spath will be the Rapporteur for the working group on “Accreditation of European Hospitals”. His report will be the additional part to the Accreditation statement drafted by Dr de Deus and which will be the basic document for the work of the respective working group together with the background paper submitted by the Danish delegation.

#### **6. Parallel Working Sessions**

Not all delegates having registered and WG 1 (training) being rather small compared to the others, it is decided to re-distribute the participants. The biggest group should benefit from the plenary room and thus interpretation facilities. All groups will report to the plenary the following day.

#### **7. 60<sup>th</sup> AEMH Plenary Meeting**

The review of the agenda AEMH 07-005 REV2 induced the interrogation of the appropriate time for the current treasurer Dr Kirschner to terminate his mandate. It was collectively agreed that the treasurer should end his term with the calendar year for which he and the board are accountable. This will also allow a handing over of affairs at the autumn Board meeting to which the new treasurer will also be convened

**9. Next Board Meeting**

27 October 2007 in Brussels.

**10. Miscellaneous**

Brigitte Jencik report on the organisational difficulty concerning the flags and name plates, which she has to carry to all annual meetings. The masts are either wooden or iron and thus rather heavy. The members of the Board unanimously agreed to abolish this tradition as from the next meeting and the President will inform the delegates accordingly. National flags can be printed in another way.

No other business being brought forward, the President closed the session.