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<td>AEMH European Secretariat</td>
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Minutes of the 50th AEMH-Board meeting
2 February 2007 from 10:00 – 16:00

Venue : AEMH/ CPME premises, Rue Guimard 15, B-1040 Brussels

The president opened the session by especially welcoming Dr Hrvoje Sobat to his first AEMH board meeting as new treasurer. Furthermore he reported on the message from Dr Kirschner, who could not reach Brussels due to bad weather conditions.

Before starting with the agenda, Dr Lies gave some explanations on the potential collaboration with PricewaterhouseCoopers, to set the scene before the arrival of representatives from this company. The financial outcome should not be the main topic, but he ensured to have confirmation that they agree on participating in the costs of the upcoming conference.

Thomas Zilling was highly impressed by the dimension of PricewaterhouseCoopers. He sees opportunities on collaboration on accreditation and on second opinion.

Dr Lies reported from the Luxembourg government, which considers to change its budget system after a report delivered by PwC, which is the number one consultant firm in the health sector.

Dr Sobat requested a clear vision on their intents to lift any ethical doubts to share data with them.

Prof. Nolte stated that economical factors become important in all sectors, doctors should therefore not fear to collaborate with companies.

1. Approval of the Agenda

Prof Nolte asked to add a decision on participation in the upcoming EFMA/WHO meeting to the agenda.
Dr de Deus had information to give from his national organisation.
The members of the Board approved to agenda with these additional points.

Document AEMH 07-059 was approved unanimously without changes.

3. President’s Report

The report covered several topics of the agenda. Especially the financial items were discussed and brought the discussion back to the potential sponsor, who should take a financial burden from the organizer of the annual meeting. Dr Sobat informed that for this year the costs are covered without any extra costs for the AEMH.

Dr Sobat expressed his concerns about the acceptance to abandon interpretation as from 2009, on which he expects reluctance from some delegations.

Dr de Deus pleaded their case and reminded the different traditions within the AEMH. He questioned whether sponsorship could help to maintain interpretation

Brigitte Jencik proposed to consider a transition period with two languages, active and passive, English and French. This could be covered by two interpreters and save at least 2000 €.
Regarding the working groups, the President proposed to redefine the topics to be more in line with the topics handled in the CPME sub-committees. Concerning EWTD he considers the political aspects to be more the competence of FEMS, whilst the AEMH confronts the practical sides.


Some points of the documents were discussed, but no concrete proposals for change were submitted.

The economic, financial situation was generally considered as crucial.

Dr Zilling questioned on how to better promote the AEMH to physicians. Furthermore, he expressed the request of the Scandinavian countries to have a direct line to Brussels and to receive summarized information.

Dr Lies complained on the lack of flexibility of the statutes making decisions only possible once a year at the plenary meeting. He requests a procedure by e-mail for urgent decisions. He also complained on the delay or total lack of replies.

The other members of the board advocated that the mandate of the President implies independent decision making without general consultation of the delegations.

Dr Sobat stated that it is important for the AEMH to enlarge but questioned how to attract new members and explain what the main job of the AEMH is, is it to influence national government or European institutions?

The president replied that all political decision makers have to be addressed and not only from the medical point of view.

Dr Lies wants the document to highlight the representation of SENIOR hospital physician, which met the approval of all.

In order to include the different consideration into the document, which will be presented to the delegations, the members of the boards are requested to send their comments by end of February to the secretariat.

5. Secretary General’s Report

Brigitte Jenčík referred to her written report and expressed her satisfaction on the feed-backs from the delegations, even if critical, it is always constructive. She nevertheless reminded that her working time is 3 ½ days per week, including the FEMS activity, which does not permit to summarize voluminous reports as requested by some delegates.

6. Change of Austrian Membership

Prof Nolte informed that his position has changed with the written approval of the VLKÖ. A recent visit to Austria has also clarified the situation in the Austrian Medical Chamber, which now includes a department for senior hospital physicians.

The position of the last board meeting to consider the matter as an internal Austrian affair was confirmed.
7. Finances

a) Closing of Accounts 2007 drafted by the auditor/accountant AEMH 08-002
b) Accountant’s Comments on Accounts 2007 AEMH 08-003
c) First analysis on Accounts 2007 by the AEMH-treasurer AEMH 08-006
d) Prevision 2008 based on the Budget 2008 AEMH 07-008

Dr Sobat had no additional remarks on the accounts and the comments from the accountant and the treasurer reports, which both explained the unforeseen, thus unbudgeted expenditures.

e) 1st draft Budget 2009
No budget 2009 was yet drafted, some items needed clarification.
Prof Nolte informed on financial difficulties in his national organisation, which will make it unlikely that an additional contribution would be accepted.
The decision of the board was nevertheless to respect the decision of last year’s plenary and to submit a call for contribution for approval to the general assembly in Zagreb.

g) other income opportunities (PwC) – to be define after the meeting with PwC.

h) Revision of AEMH Financial Guidelines AEMH 07-053
Brigitte Jencik made some additional proposals concerning the organisation of the plenary meeting giving the possibility to the organizers to include financial participation from the delegates. She will send the written amendments to the board for approval.

i) Procedure of transfer of office Dr Kirschner to Dr Sobat. No discussion on this item.

j) additional point: EFMA/WHO meeting in April.
Prof Nolte as official liaison officer to the EFMA reported that this year’s meeting will take place in Tel Aviv, which would involve high costs and burden the AEMH budget considerably. He therefore proposed to abstain from participation and to put the request to the AEMH delegate, if they attend this meeting on behalf of their national organisation also to represent the AEMH.
This proposal was approved.

8. Working Groups - State of affairs

a) Training (Dr Thomas Zilling)
Dr Zilling asked whether his group could benefit from interpretation. The general rule in the past years was that the biggest group stays in the conference room with the interpreters.

He intends to ask countries where CME/CPD credit points are mandatory to give a presentation on their national system. He notably thinks of Austria, France, Germany.
Furthermore he wants to reflect on the Bologna process, especially the first cycle of 6 years and the ECTS credit point system.
Brigitte Jencik proposed to invite EMSA (European Medical Students’ Association) to expose their point of view.
Dr Sobat proposed Hrvoje Vrazic, who has been EMSA President 2001-2002, and is now active in the Croatian Medical Association.
b) **Accreditation (Dr Joao de Deus):**

Dr de Deus apologized for not having prepared the 2nd part of the statement yet due to national obligations. He reported at this point on the elections within the Ordem dos Medicos, which resulted in the re-election of Dr Nunes as President. Dr de Deus was re-elected as vice-president. The members of the board congratulated him with this election.

Dr De Deus will prepare the statement for the plenary meeting.

c) **Risk Management/ Patient Safety (Dr Raymond Lies):**

Dr Lies will contact the members, notably Dr Obel, and prepare a document for the next meeting.

d) **Healthcare across borders (Dr Rolf Kirschner/ Dr Hrvoje Sobat):**

Dr Sobat expressed his surprise to see his name on top of a working group. He proposed not to split the plenary into several small groups but rather to integrate this topic in the group Risk management/ patient safety as closely linked.

Dr Lies approved and proposed to co-chair the working group.

e) **EWTD Nordic Resolution on Hospital Doctors Working Conditions**

Dr Zilling explained the circumstances of the drafting of this statement, which was adopted in the follow-up of a Conference held in Copenhagen in November 2007.

It was decided to propose the statement to the plenary assembly in Zagreb for endorsement


Preliminary Programme

Brigitte Jencik informed on a speaker’s confirmation received the day before from Marek Szewczynski from the Polish Chamber of Physicians and Dentists, who will give a presentation on the situation of migration of Polish healthcare professionals.

- 61st AEMH Plenary Meeting, Zagreb, 2-3 May 2008

The President congratulated Dr Sobat on the interesting social programme.

**Draft Agenda**

The draft was quickly run through but not discussed in detail.


Dr Sobat proposed to ask the delegations to give their input to the topic of the conference and to report on their national experience on migration and crossborder healthcare.

The proposal was approved, nevertheless the traditional way of reporting on other national problems should not be skipped.

11. **Next Board Meeting**

The date of 1st May 2008 in Zagreb was confirmed, time 9:00 – 12:00.

12. **Miscellaneous**