<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Document :</th>
<th>AEMH 12-004</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Title:</td>
<td>Treasurer’s Report 2011</td>
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<td>Dr Hrvoje Sobat</td>
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<td>Purpose :</td>
<td>Information</td>
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<td>AEMH Member Delegations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date :</td>
<td>16 January 2012</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Treasurer’s Report 2011

Accounts 2011

The accounts of the AEMH are for the second year very positive. Despite a meeting venue known as being onerous, we managed to keep costs under control, not least thanks to the generosity of our host, the Swiss Medical Association, which provided the organizational facilities and a memorable programme.

The Ordem dos Medicos supports our organisation by carrying most of the travel expenses of our president. We are very grateful for this supplement, which increases considerably our savings.

My thanks also to all delegations for having paid promptly the annual membership fee, which helps to manage the account serenely.

Furthermore, we have managed to keep the running costs well within the budget. Despite regular representation at various European events by the officers and staff both travel costs and office and administrative costs are below budget. We could re-install liaison-officers to attend meetings of sister EMOs on a regular basis, which increases mutual understanding and acceptance and which allows to establish closer ties.

The assets of 60,000 Euros invested in November 2009 gained 3 %. This year is the last year of the contract and will be remunerated with 4 %. These interests are taxed with 20 %, which reduces the income, but it has been a safe and wise placement. We have to investigate on a new safe and worthy placement for the years after.

We have to bear in mind the recommendation made by our external auditors to have savings up to the level of one year operational budget. We have reached this threshold and try to keep, if not increase, our assets.

Prevision 2012-2013

The “meeting package” has now become a rule and is hopefully accepted by all delegates and accompanying persons.

The subject of interpretation is sensitive and is to be solved year by year with the organizers, according to the resolution adopted in Zagreb. The board decided to have interpretation from Spanish, Italian and French also for the 2012 meeting, trusting that local interpreters could be found. Unfortunately, this is not the case and we need to fall back on interpreters from Austria and Belgium. We are grateful that our host, the Bulgarian Medical Association proposed to carry their accommodation costs.
This year we will have a joint meeting with FEMS, but as we need to have our internal matters in separate sessions, we need two interpreter teams. Therefore, I doubt whether this experience will be a financial advantage, but I am quite sure it will be a professional and social success.

Concerning the Brussels office, we still await a concrete proposal from the UEMS to join their premises, which they have bought last year. Already two years ago, the plenary has mandated the president and the board to proceed in this matter to the best of our organisation.

The premises, which will host the Domus Medica, require a receptionist, who could also provide secretarial services for the EMO Presidents Committee meetings. A proposal for a common lobbyist is also on the table. For the time being we miss details on financial consequences for both positions, which make the draft of a coherent budget difficult.

Therefore, I propose a budget almost identical to last year, with increases only on the costs for our meetings and remuneration of the auditors and the secretariat but without any increase of membership fee for the 3rd year in row. Nevertheless, I solicit the plenary to empower the board to adapt this budget to new conditions if they appear when entering the Domus Medica.

Hrvoje Sobat
AEMH-Treasurer