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President’s Report - Presidency 2013 – 2015

First of all, I want to thank to all delegates, members of the Board, our new Secretary, Diana Voicu and a special gratitude to our former President, Dr. Raymond Lies, for all the support I have received during this mandate.

I learned that respect, tolerance and open-mindedness lead to find solutions to problems in a consensual manner, and now that we are discussing Clinical Leadership this values arise. Doctors can and have to play a key-role in decision-making in hospitals by advocating a greater active involvement in management of hospitals. Physicians as clinical leaders should be the drivers of change in the maintenance of traditional clinical duties. More and more surveys and studies show evidence that outstanding hospitals tend to be those run by somebody with a medical degree, even when it comes to the financial outcome.

Internal affairs

Procedural matters

1. AEMH Presidency

Although the statutes do not formalize decision-making procedures, it has been so far considered that all decisions and official documents first have to be approved by the plenary, which only meets once a year. I consider that by electing its President, the plenary entrusts a person, who they think represents and defends best the interests of the organization and its member delegations in all matters. This automatically confers a decision-making role and a great responsibility to the President. This is the way I’ve proceeded so far, always with the support of the board, which comprises an equitable panel of AEMH members, and the precious work and dedication of our Secretary.

2. AEMH Board

The members of the board meet currently three times per year: beginning of the year, in connection with the plenary meeting (spring) and in autumn. Considering that the activities will need diligent reactivity in all matters, we use additionally teleconferencing, which does not burden the finances and requires little availability, we are in close contact with each other and with the secretariat to follow the events on the European scene.
3. AEMH – European Secretariat

We continue with our official address but most of the work is done “virtually” now entrusted to Diana Voicu, who enjoys our full confidence. Modern communication tools will ensure mobility and flexibility for the secretarial tasks. Lobbying and networking opportunities take place at the different meeting venues and will of course continued to be exploited and practiced.
Our plan, for next mandate, is also to improve and renew our website.

4. Financial Sustainability

In spite of the fact that we are in a balanced budget it’s crucial to maintain a financial sustainability and this is possible thanks to the good work of our treasurer but also by trying to bring new countries to our organization and that can only be accomplished by demonstrating the benefits of being members of AEMH.
In my report I could not forget to thank to the Portuguese Medical Association for all the support given to the Presidency of AEMH.

5. Working Groups

Currently the working groups rely on initiatives of the Board, preparing the meetings, drafting the documents and chairing the working sessions during the plenary meeting.
My aim is to motivate all delegations in the activities of the AEMH involving them in planning and chairing the different Working Groups.

External affairs

EMOs

6. Collaboration in the framework of Presidents’ Committee

We continue deeply committed in the collaboration and cooperation with the other EMOs at the European level because each time more we need common positions and statements to strength the importance of Medical Profession.
We keep following the developments of a future Domus Medica and ask the Plenary a mandate if decisions should be taken in a short time.

7. FEMS

The collaboration AEMH-FEMS is a precursor and example for the EMOs collaboration.
The common meeting of the two boards in the beginning of each year has now become a confirmed habit and this year’s common Plenary meeting will take place for the second time after the excellent feedback of the first one in Varna.
8. EJD

From all EMOs besides FEMS, the Junior Doctors are one of the closest linked to AEMH activities.
This year’s meeting with FEMS and EJD confirms the commitment of our Associations to work together with similar aims and concerns.

AEMH Member Delegations

In compliance with the core values, aim and means of AEMH it’s my intention to visit national member delegations and if possible attend their general assemblies. The objective is to get acquainted with their concerns and on the other hand inform on the representation of doctors at European level in general with a particularly focus on the activities of the AEMH, and furthermore debate on our respective expectations and support our colleagues all over Europe.

Other Organizations and Institutions

I intend to keep meeting and get acquainted with the Presidents and CEOs or Secretary Generals of other healthcare organizations and institutions, such as

- HOPE (European Hospital and Healthcare Federation)
- EAHM (European Association of Hospital Managers)
- EAHP (European Association of Hospital Pharmacists)
- EFN (European Forum of Nurses)
- UEHP (European Union of Private Hospitals)
- EFPIA (European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations)
- EPF (European Patients’ Forum)
- EPHA (European Public Health Alliance) – AEMH is a Board Member

Conclusion

I hope from the above it is understood that my intention is to keep working, making AEMH stronger and with an active voice of Hospital doctors in Europe. As in the past the future Board will work as a team.

My objectives are
- to involve as many delegates as possible in the activities of our organization;
- to promote our corporate image;
- to enhance collaboration with others EMOs, particularly with FEMS;
- to update our core values, aims and means;
- to strengthen our presence in Brussels.