



**UNION EUROPÉENNE DES MÉDECINS SPÉCIALISTES
EUROPEAN UNION OF MEDICAL SPECIALISTS**

Kroonlaan, 20, Avenue de la Couronne
BE-1050 - BRUSSELS
www.uems.net

tel: +32-2-649.51.64
fax: +32-2-640.37.30
uems@skynet.be

D 0528 EN

Report of the Meeting of UEMS Sections & Boards

*Meeting held in the "Maison des Associations Internationales" (Brussels)
on 21 May 2005 (11:00-17:00)*

Dr. Halila (*President*) welcomed all participants. He presented an update of the situation on the professional recognition Directive (adoption in EP and expected agreement by EU Council) and reported on the Conference on the Future of European Medical Organisations.

1. Approval of the agenda

Dr. Halila proposed adding the election of new representatives of the different Groups under point 3.

- *The Agenda was approved with this change.*

2. Approval of the report on the meeting of 15 May 2004 (D 0425) UEMS 2004 annual report (D 0501) May 2005 Sections' reports

- *The minutes were approved.*
- *The UEMS annual report and the Sections' reports were received for information.*

Dr. Halila drew the attendees' attention on S&B reports and called the floor that every Section sends its report to the Secretariat.

Dr. Harvey (*Liaison Officer*) reminded that many contributions to the Compendium were still missing and recalled the importance of this publication.

3. Representation of the Sections in UEMS MC meetings

Reports from the 3 groups (list attached)

Dr. Semple (*Group I*) reported on the meeting of his group. The most important issues raised were the websites, especially the problem of raising money (cost estimated from € 4.000 to € 5.000 a year). He thus pleaded to receive help from UEMS in terms of advice rather than money. For instance, he proposed that UEMS would buy IT expertise and sell it to S&B. another problem was the lack of IT competences among S&B.

Dr. Semple also reported on the question of examinations, which become increasingly more popular amongst some S. However it was clearly reminded that these exams had no legal standing.

He also mentioned the appropriate representation of S&B within MC, even if he regretted sometimes the lack of response from the Executive.

Dr. Theuvenet (*Vice-President*) was aware that a large amount of money is needed in order to develop and maintain a website. He indicated that therefore the Dutch organisation contributed to elaborating the current UEMS website. According to him, the ideal would be to maintain the website ourselves. Also, the costs depend on what is wanted. He also drew attention to the annual cost in addition to the design. He proposed the help of UEMS to add information: UEMS could liaise with the web provider in order to reduce costs (circa € 1.000). People in S&B should still devote themselves to help UEMS Secretariat having something correct.

Dr. Greenhalgh (*Group II*) informed the attendees of the recent developments with regard to the improved relations with UEMS Council and pleaded for voting rights for S&B representatives to UEMS MC meetings. An agreement between surgical Sections was found to investigate on which areas might be of common interest and how to best collaborate. This cooperation notably included the activities of European Boards regarding quality standards or specialist training. A task force was also set up in order to address the problem of litigation. Finally, he announced the creation of the "European Federation of Surgical Specialties". Concerning the possibility to set up a website, Dr. Greenhalgh regretted the lack of funds to afford it.

Dr. Halila pointed to the proposed new Rules of procedure of UEMS and the new possibility to create Federations. He also commented on the question of awarding voting rights to S&B representatives. He said this is an ongoing progress which would certainly become concrete in the future.

Criticism was raised from the floor regarding the abundance of European bodies and the need to have a clear terminology.

Dr. Pinheiro (*Group III*) reported on the increased and improved communication within Group III. He also reported on the discussions of his Group with regard to the definition of the medical act. Dr. Pinheiro was elected for a new term of two years. It was recalled that it would be preferable to have as many Sections involved. However, it was agreed that, in the start of the representation process, experience was needed.

The need for continuity within S&B and the importance to leave the decision to them were pointed out. Mr. Bredin (*Ireland – WG on relationship with S&B*) also agreed on this.

4. Discussion on the definition of the Medical Act (D 0514)

Dr. Halila reminded the background for having such a definition and the request from the Section of Ophthalmology to clearly identify doctors' tasks at national level. This request was supported by many other S&B. This definition was expected to be adopted by UEMS Council in the October meeting.

Both proposals were discussed.

Dr. Harvey recalled the necessity to keep this definition concise.

Dr. Greenhalgh insisted on the importance of this definition and wished to have some others.

Dr. Dernouchamp (*Ophthalmology*) advised hiring legal experts.

- ***The following proposal was agreed:***

“The medical act is the totality of the professional action (scientific, teaching, training and educational, clinical and medico-technical steps) performed

to promote health, prevent diseases, provide diagnostic or therapeutic care to individuals, groups or communities

and is the responsibility of, and must always be performed by a registered medical doctor/physician or under a medical doctor/physician's supervision and prescription."

5. Specialist issues

5.1. Multidisciplinary Joint Committee on Emergency Medicine

Dr. Maillet (*Secretary General*) informed the attendance of the participation of several Sections (*Anaesthesiology, Dermatology & Venereology, Geriatrics, Internal Medicine and Pneumology*) with regard to this MJC and the outcomes of their meeting of 28.04.2005.

The Sections of Allergology, Surgery and Orthopaedics would also join this MJC.

Dr. Halila recalled the status of MJC's according to the rules of UEMS.

- ***It was agreed that this MJC should first define what Emergency Medicine is.***

5.2. Multidisciplinary Joint Committee on Immune Mediated Diseases

Dr. Maillet reported on this request and quoted the different Sections involved (*Allergology, Biopathology, Dermatology & Venereology, Otorhinolaryngology, Pneumology, Rheumatology and the subsections of Paediatric Respiratory Medicine and Paediatric Allergology*).

Dr. Semple warned against the possible dilution of Allergology into this MJC:

"This MJC will not promote a new super-specialty but will act to coordinate and harmonise the overlapping training activities in other specialties involved. It will not seek to diminish the role of the specialty or Section of Allergology."

Dr. Gollnick (*Dermatology & Venereology*) reminded the "historical" background of this process and disagreed with this concern.

Dr. Del Giacco (*Allergology*) pleaded in favour of this MJC but insisted that this should not overlap the competences of existing Sections.

- ***The Position Paper setting up this MJC was approved with a slight rewording.***

5.3. Child Neurology

Dr. Maillet reported on the Executive's proposal to set up a MJC of Child Neurology involving different Sections (*Child & Adolescent Psychiatry, Neurology, Paediatrics and Psychiatry*) following their request to see this discipline have its own body.

The creation of a MJC as a starting point for cooperation between these Sections was supported.

Dr. Hoyer pointed out possible overlaps between C&A Psychiatry and C Neurology and the importance to comply with the common trunk of Paediatrics training. Representatives of the other Sections involved were invited to the next Paediatric Section's meeting in December 2005.

- ***It was agreed to organise a meeting between these Sections before the end of the year.***

6. Guidelines International Network (GIN)

Dr. Theuvenet reported on the MC decision to propose S&B starting cooperation with GIN. He notably insisted on the importance for S&B to be involved in drawing up guidelines, as this relates to patient safety and quality of care.

A decision would be taken during the MC meeting in Munich.

Dr. Hofmann reminded the goal of GIN, i.e. harmonising ethical guidelines at European level.

Dr. Halila pointed to the decisive input that UEMS S&B can provide with regard to this issue.

- ***The floor fully supported this initiative.***

7. IDS Hospital Management Conference

Mr. Destrebecq presented the purpose of this web-based Conference. This aims to provide information through white papers and case studies on the web. Organisers would offer UEMS a wide visibility within their website and search operation engines. This would help making UEMS and EACCME known amongst healthcare professionals.

Dr. Theuvenet raised concerns on the relations with industries and businesses and reminded what had been done with regard to UEMS website.

8. UEMS Declaration on “Promoting good medical care” (D 0349)

Dr. Borman (*UK – WG on CME*) presented the main items dealt with in this UEMS Declaration. He also further commented on the usefulness of mandatory systems and CPD as the tool for quality assurance.

9. European Issues

9.1. Directive on the Recognition of Professional Qualifications

Dr. Halila informed attendees of the recent developments with regard to his issue: meeting with Ms. Brumter-Coret and outcomes in EP. He also presented the document on the recognition of medical specialities (D 0437) compared with the future situation: acquired rights for recognised specialities and “2/5 principle” for new recognition. An update to this document would be issued shortly.

He also informed of the consultation mechanism to be set up after the entry into force of the Directive and the role that UEMS S&B would play in this respect.

Dr. Halila also presented other new amendments regarding the introduction of a professional card for professionals and linguistic assessments. Dr. Harvey referred to ECJ rulings stating that only a “communication level” could be required by national authorities.

Decision in Council was expected to be taken on 6-7 June 2005. Dr. Halila called on attendees to still try to lobby at national level.

Dr. Borman strongly emphasised the good work laid down by UEMS with regard to this issue.

9.2. Directive on Services in the Internal Market

Dr. Halila reported on UEMS motion with regard to this issue and emphasised UEMS commitment to patients’ and professionals’ mobility. He also informed of recent contacts with MEPs and the European Commission. He notably evoked the possibility of drawing a specific Directive on Health services and though reminded the political impracticality to achieve this as the Commission’s competences regarding health are limited.

Dr. Harvey drew attendees’ attention to the differing statements coming from European Commissioners. He also stressed the “patient focus” of the proposed Directive.

Regarding ACMT (Advisory Council for Medical Training), Dr. Halila informed of the Executive's intention to update the list of recognised specialities. The Working Group on postgraduate training could be given a mandate to examine training programmes in each specialty and provide genuine input to the Recognition Committee in the future.

9.3. Directive amending the organisation of Working Time

Dr. Halila presented UEMS motion on the organisation of working time adopted during the latest MC meeting. He also reported on the recent developments in EP: end of opt-out, reference period of 12 months, inactive on-call time as working time, this only after a transition period of three years. Decision in Council was expected for June. However, the second reading was not expected to end in 2006 as the forthcoming UK Presidency would not be likely to push this issue through.

10. UEMS Statutes and Rules of Procedure (D 0447 EN amended and D 0507 EN amended)

Dr. Halila reminded the background of this process: changes in Belgian legislation with regard to non-profit organisations and opportunity to update "old-fashioned" statements. He also invited S&B to contribute their views on these proposals, especially regarding the mandate and membership within UEMS Sections.

Dr. Halila urged S&B to contribute their comments in writing by the end of June.

11. UEMS website

Dr. Theuvenet presented the recent progresses on the UEMS website, notably on the development of a database. This would really be useful, especially in the framework of EACCME. He also reminded the common decisions taken formerly (format of documents, etc.) and the importance to comply with them.

Dr. Halila indicated that UEMS Newsletters would be made available shortly and some of the former news would be removed or updated.

12. EACCME

12.1. Report on the meeting of 27 November 2004 (D 0444)

12.2. EACCME 2004 annual report (D 0504)

Dr. Maillet reported on the everyday management of EACCME. He also informed attendees of several recent agreements and increasing number of applications.

The role of national accreditation authorities was emphasised as they are the licensing authorities.

Dr. Harvey raised concerns with regard to the sources of delays in the practical process and the conditions to comply with to receive European credits.

Dr. Semple raised the question of balance between fees and costs in the process. It was proposed establishing a central policy on sharing costs and fees with UEMS Sections.

Dr. Amlie (*Cardiology*) pointed to the work laid down by EBAC and the good collaboration with UEMS-EACCME in order to achieve a win-win situation.

Dr. Grisold (*Neurology*) proposed setting guidelines on e-learning, books and individual assessment. Dr. Harvey reminded the ongoing process within the working group on long distance learning.

Dr. Borman asked the Executive to clearly redraft and remind the very practical operation of EACCME in order to inform UEMS S&B.

Dr. Halila and Dr. Maillet highlighted the importance of EACCME as entry point for submitting applications. Dr. Harvey informed attendees of the new certificate certifying the role of UEMS and the involvement of S&B.

Concerning satellite symposia, Dr. Harvey drew attendees' attention on the danger of industry driven sessions.

13. Compendium 2005

Dr. Harvey reminded the importance and the large distribution of this yearbook. He also reminded the three main issues to deal with (current issues, new developments/innovations and progress on CME) and called attendees to contribute.

Dr. Halila recalled the objective to produce it for October 2005.

14. Next meeting

- *The next meeting will be held on 20 May 2005.*

Frédéric Destrebecq

ANNEX – List of participants

Allergologie Allergology	Prof. Sergio DEL GIACCO Dr Barthold HORNUNG Dr Jose ROSADO PINTO	Pres.Sect.& Board Secr.Sect. Secr.Board
Anesthésiologie Anaesthesiology	Dr William BLUNNIE Prof. Hans KNAPE	Pres.Sect.& Board Secr.Sect.& Board
Cardiologie Cardiology	Prof. Jan P. AMLIE	Pres.Sect.
Chirurgie Surgery	Prof. Michael-Jürgen POLONIUS Prof. Roger GREENHALGH Prof. Dimitrios PANOUSSOPOULOS	Pres.Sect. Pres.Board Secr.Sect.
Chirurgie Cardio-Thoracique Cardio-Thoracic Surgery	Dr Patrick MAGEE	Pres.Sect.
Chirurgie Oro-Maxillo-Faciale et Stomatologie Oro-Maxillofacial Surgery and Stomatology	Prof. Maurice MOMMAERTS	Secr.Sect.
Chirurgie Pédiatrique Paediatric Surgery	Dr Gian Battista PARIGI	Secr.Sect.& Board
Chirurgie Plastique Plastic Surgery	Dr Guido MOLEA Dr Andreas YIACOUMETTIS	Pres.Sect. Secr.Sect.& Board
Chirurgie Vasculaire Vascular Surgery	Dr Fabrizio BENEDETTI-VALENTINI	Pres.Sect.
Dermato-Vénérologie Dermato-Venereology	Prof. Harald GOLLNICK Dr Ing-Marie BERGBRANT	Pres.Sect.& Board Secr.Sect.& Board
Endocrinologie Endocrinology	Dr Viktor BÜBER	Vice-Pres. Sect.
Gastro-Entérologie Gastroenterology	Dr Rodney BURNHAM Dr Luke O'DONNELL	Pres.Board Secr.Sect.& Board
Maladies Infectieuses Infectious Diseases	Dr Mary HORGAN	Pres.Board

EUROPEAN UNION OF MEDICAL SPECIALISTS

Secretariat: Avenue de la Couronne, 20

B-1050 - BRUSSELS

Médecine Interne Internal Medicine	Dr Colin SEMPLE	Secr.Sect.
Médecine Nucléaire Nuclear Medicine	Dr Metka MILCINSKI	Secr.Sect.& Board
Médecine Physique et de Réadaptation Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation	Dr Anthony WARD Dr Alain DELARQUE	Pres.Sect.& Board Secr.Sect.& Board
Médecine du Travail Occupational Medicine	Dr Consol SERRA Dr Knut SKYBERG	Pres.Sect. Secr.Sect.
Néphrologie Nephrology	Dr Brian JUNOR	Secr.Sect.
Neurologie Neurology	Dr Roderick GALVIN Dr Wolfgang GRISOLD	Pres.Sect.& Board Secr.Sect.
Ophthalmologie Ophthalmology	Dr Diederik JANSONIUS Dr Jean-Paul DERNOUCHAMPS	Pres.Sect. Secr.Sect.
Orthopédie Orthopaedics	Prof. Jean Jacques ROMBOUTS	
Pédiatrie Paediatrics	Prof. Peter HOYER	Pres.Sect.
Pneumologie Pneumology	Dr Jan Willem VAN DEN BERG	Treasurer
Psychiatrie et Psychothérapie de l'Enfant et de l'Adolescent Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Psychotherapy	Prof. Peter HILL	Pres.Sect.
Radiothérapie Radiotherapy	Prof. Jan-Willem LEER Dr Robin HUNTER	Pres.Sect. Secr.Sect.& Board
Rhumatologie Rheumatology	Prof. Anthony D. WOOLF	Pres.Sect.& Board
Santé Publique Public Health	Dr Ragnar WESTERLING Dr Daniel PINHEIRO	Pres.Sect.

UNION EUROPÉENNE DES MÉDECINS SPÉCIALISTES

Siège : Avenue de la Couronne, 20

B-1050 - BRUXELLES

Représentants du Conseil de Direction
Management Council representatives

Dr Hannu HALILA (President)
Dr Bernard MAILLET (Secretary-General)
Dr Leonard HARVEY (Liaison Officer)
Dr Vincent LAMY (Treasurer)
Dr Giorgio BERCHICCI (Vice-President)
Dr Gerd HOFMANN (Vice-President)
Dr Peter THEUVENET (Vice-President)

General)

Mr Frédéric DESTREBECQ (Assistant Secretary-

Sections/Boards)

Dr Edwin BORMAN (Working Group CME/CPD)
Dr Hugh BREDIN (Working Group Relations Sections/Boards)
Dr Gunilla BRENNING (Working Group Relation

Prof. Jacques GRUWEZ (Belgium)
Dr Giovanni RIGHETTI (Italy)
Dr Zoltan MAGYARI (Hungary)
Prof. Tibor ERTL (Hungary)
Dr Ivan SOLOVIC (Slovakia)
Dr Irina SEBOVA (Slovakia)
Dr Juraj PEC (Slovakia)

Bénédicte REYCHLER (Directrice administrative)
Nathalie PAULUS (Secrétaire administrative)

Excusés – Apologies

Prof. A. BISCHOF-DELALOYE (MN)
Prof. J.-F. BLICKLE (MI)
Dr W. BUSCH (OMFS)
Dr C. DONNER (PN)
Prof. A. HOLSCHNEIDER (CHIPED)
Dr M. JUNG (GE)
Prof. M. McKENDRICK (MALINF)
Dr I. OBERHÄNSL-WEISS (CARPED)
Dr J. RAMET (PED)
Dr L.B. RASMUSSEN (DK)
Dr P.J. RINGENS (OPH)
Dr D. RUITER (PATH)
Prof. J. SCHOENAERS (OMFS)
Dr J. SMITH (UK)
Dr R. STEVENSON (PN)