

UEMO 2000/128

MINUTES UEMO MEETING FLORENCE Villa di Montalto 25-26 May 2000

The Meeting is opened by the President Dr. Claudio Cricelli at 9:30 greeting all the delegates .

Dr. Cricelli commemorates Dr. Giovanni Bezzi, the UEMO treasurer who recently passed away . Dr. Bezzi had UEMO as a main thought in his life : he has worked for it with incredible passion up to three days before dying . We all remember him as a very capable and nice person . “We are here to commemorate a friend knowing he will always be with us . Giovanni has taught us to live actually enjoying life “.

All the delegates honour his memory in silence .

The Chairman’s report and the Plenum’s work have been centered on two important points : the future and UEMO organization .

.1 Auditing new articles of association .

.2 The management of UEMO association .

The Chairman advises to find an agreement with the other European medical associations . The relationship with the European Parliament being quite difficult , UEMO must forward its requests to the main European decisional centres .

Dr. Cricelli goes on with his intervention thanking the German delegation for the relationship kept with the European Committee and the Dutch and British delegations for their support to the lobbying process with reference to Directive 93/16 . .

The Chairman declares opens the Plenum and asks the delegates if there are any proposals regarding the Portorose Minutes (2000/027) .

Dr. Puga (PWG) asks for a correction on page 13 of the Minutes asserting that instead of ‘ ricertificating for CME/CPD’ it would be necessary to specify that it is one of the doctors’ ethic duties .

Since no other proposal arises, Dr. Cricelli calls for votes for the approval of the Portorose Minutes amendment .

The Plenum approves Portorose Minutes (UEMO 2000/027) .

The Chairman goes on introducing the next conference GP 2000 and asks the German Delegation to report on the 93/16 directive .

Since UE doesn't seem to be interested directly in medical education , it is very important for UEMO to arouse the concern and interest of European Government and politician on this subject .

This can be best done through a yearly conference to be programmed in conjunction with the annual meetings or separately in early spring .

-Dr. Chris Van Weel congratulates on the excellent Congress organization and points out at the enormous importance of meeting and discussing things together .

Dr. Cricelli agrees on the very little attention given by the European Commissioners to the problems of the medical profession . In fact, none of them has accepted the invitation to the GP 2000 Congress and unfortunately none of them is likely to join the Meeting .

UEMO ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

The Chairman points out at a procedure problem : the Portuguese delegation has forwarded a written motion on the articles of association amendments : there has already been a discussion and a decision (in Florence on April 1st 2000) on the amendments . There are four delegations working on the articles of association ; they'll be presenting a report at the Zurich meeting .

Directive 93/ 16

The Chairman asks Dr. Jarmatz (Germany) to report on the UE 93/16 Directive .

Dr. Jarmatz (Germany) thanks on behalf of all the delegations and points out on how much this helps the job done in Brussels .

Two years ago the European Parliament had favourably voted for a two-to-three years lengthening of the specific training which was eventually blocked by the Committee .

The delegate Mr. Vilant (who belongs to the CDU) confirmed that the main opposition came from the Social-Democrats .

Mr. Baron Crespo (Spain) is the Chairman of the European Committee and he doesn't agree with the three years extension .

Since the articles of association only consider favourable votes, the Spanish delegation should get in touch with Mr. Crespo in order to approve this measure .

The Chairman thanks Dr. Jarmatz for his intervention and opens the discussion on this point .

Dr. Zollner asks why Mr. Baron Crespo doesn't agree with the three years extension and would like to know what could the Spanish do in order to convince him .

The Chairman assures that a letter has been delivered Mr Baron Crespo and a copy was handed over to every head of delegation .

He asks the Spanish delegation to get started in order to put more pressure on the European Socialists Party .

Dr. Perez Fernando (Spain) explains to the Plenum how the Spanish delegates have already expressed their point of view through a written letter . Unfortunately there have been a few inconsistencies coming from the Politicians and in Spain there have been problems for the doctors who could not attend the courses . Many GP doctors in Spain appear to be discriminated .

The Netherlands congratulate with the Spanish delegation . They think personal contact with political responsables is crucial as important are the efforts that Italy and Spain are making with the European representative .

Dr. Jarmatz encourages the Spanish delegation to keep on supporting the three years term for the specific training of general practitioners .

Dr. Malfliet (Belgium) thinks that the attention given to the adquired rights, as it was done in Belgium, is absolutely necessary .

The Chairman points out to the delegates who are the main actors in this process : DG is keeping a neutral position . The position of the Legal Board is not unfavourable . The third actor is the Socialist Party in the European Parliament who is against the three years term .

The fourth actor is the member countries Health Ministers Committee (they do not agree with the three years term either) .

Chairman Cricelli suggests that the letter sent to Dr. Crespo could become a UEMO document and a copy of it be distributed to all the delegations so that it will officially represent the UEMO position on this matter .

Dr. Chris Van Weel (WONCA) suggests enclosing a letter from WONCA to the UEMO documentation supporting the three years term problem .

Dr. Zollner (Germany) considers the above mentioned as a good idea and stands out for a conference which would allow to join forces with the patients against those statemen who prevent the doctors from getting a better training .

The Chairman outlines the good relationship between UEMO and the other medical associations in Europe (CP – UEMS etc.) .

During the course of a three hours meeting there have been many criticisms, some of them were even positive . PWG has also criticized the work done by the associations in Europe .

Dr. Aarima (chairman of CP) also agrees with this position . We must settle a representative office in Brussels .

Since we are not powerful enough we should build up a stronger position through the creation of a net with other associations having our same goals and interests.

It would also be very useful to have a comparison with other European associations, possibly passing through a common office in Brussels .

Dr. Brettenthaler (Austria) suggests the creation of a so called ‘umbrella association’ which would get all the medical associations together . Such organization should only be created to deal with common problems such as ‘Agreement forum’ .

He pledges himself, as Chairman of CP, to keep up for this proposal.

Dr. Kuttner (UEMS) reports the UEMO Plenum delegates that he has always supported meetings with the other associations . Even if there will always be private interests to fulfil, it is absolutely necessary to face the European statesmen together : we must be strong to get the others to hear our voice .

Dr. Malfliet (Belgium) really appreciates the realistic sense in this conference : a joined effort is the best thing to reach our goal.

The Chairman says that the situation is quite clear and he believes there would be no use in proceeding separately . The CP has become more realistic when it comes to the other associations .

Dr. Cricelli suggests writing down a document over the points to be discussed and approved on the next meeting

UEMO ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

The Chairman tells the Plenum he has received two written amendment proposals 2000/66 (Dutch) and 2000/90 (Portuguese).

Discussion over the amendments to the articles of association .

Chairman Cricelli asks the delegates if there are any problems arising from the revision of the articles of the association .

Dr. Fabian (Sweden) thinks that the proposals on the Statutes reflect the job done by the head of delegation in Florence on April 1st 2000.

There are already some written proposals in the enclosure n° 4, therefore he totally agrees with the used method .

The Chairman asks the delegates if they do believe this is the position that came out in Florence .

Belgium congratulate on behalf of the whole delegation on the meeting of April 2000 in Florence and think the proposal reflects the job done in Florence .

Dr. John (UK) believes that reading the document confirms the excellent work done in Florence : he asks to proceed ahead .

Dr. Brettenthaler points out that the politic amendment proposals should have been forwarded some time ago .

The Netherlands declare to the Plenum that Document 066/2000 was meant to clear up the text, that's why some suggestions have been forwarded .

The Chairman : 'Comment to paragraph n° 3'

“I think the Board of Directors must get organized. I will ask the Dutch delegation to comment their amendment “

The Netherlands want to avoid all complicated argumentation and declare to agree when it comes to defining the rules, not the articles of association, of this proposal .

The Chairman (to the Dutch head of delegation) “Will you retract the amendment to art. n°8 ?”

The Dutch delegation retracts the amendment to art. n°8 and suggests including paragraph n°3 in the regulations (they pledge themselves to send the paper to the Committee) .

The Chairman : “We will hand the problem over to the Linguistic Committee regarding doc. 2000/066 . I’d like to ask the Portuguese delegation to hand over their document with amendment proposals .

Portugal : the Portuguese delegation asks for modification and specification of art. n°10 . They also ask for this amendments to be enclosed in the Statutes and sent to Tom Kennedy’s Committee .

The Chairman says that art. n°10.1 is a specification .

He wonders what could a political decision be without having the chance to write down what such a decision can be .

He confirms the respect for the attendants .

Dr. John (UK) declares not to be sure that the amendment in the art n°10.1 can clear up what political and external actions are : things get quite complicated this way .

Portugal : they want the UEMO decisions to be taken by the $\frac{3}{4}$ of the attending delegations .

Dr. Evans (UK) points out that the Articles of association already consider votations with a $\frac{3}{4}$ majority .

Dr. Brettenthaler (Austria) says that the proposal upheld by the Portuguese delegation to validate a $\frac{3}{4}$ majority votation would make everything more complicated .

Belgium points out that the only real modification is art. 10.3 .

The $\frac{3}{4}$ majority was supposed to be called for only when taking important decisions .

The Chairman asks the Plenum whether they accept or not the principle by which all decisions should be taken after a $\frac{3}{4}$ majority votation . In such case even minor decisions would be taken after a $\frac{3}{4}$ votation .

Mr. Raimondi (lawyer from Italy) thinks that when a delegation is to be eliminated a $\frac{3}{4}$ votation may be fine while when stating a political line the vote should be expressed by a total majority (a half + 1) .

Austria doesn’t agree with the $\frac{3}{4}$ votation regarding non-political decisions .

Dr. Mart (Luxembourg) supports the Austrian delegation in their position .

Spain : they think there should not be any modification to art.10 since they believe the art. is fine just the way it is ; the $\frac{3}{4}$ majority validation would block UEMO actions quite a lot .

Dr. Sancho (Portugal) clears up how the Portuguese delegation was trying, through that amendment, to distinguish political decisions from procedure problems as in the CP . Procedure problems should be worked out through the $\frac{3}{4}$ system .

Mrs. Bosch (Germany) brings out the fact that in the current Articles of association, art. 10.3 refers to political matters with simple majority .

The Chairman puts under votation the Austrian proposal, meant to reject the Portuguese amendment . The proposal is backed by Luxembourg and Spain .

16 delegations are favourable to the Austrian motion .

2 delegations are favourable to the Portuguese motion (Portugal – France) .

The Plenum rejects the Portuguese motion .

Dr. Thiery (legal adviser to the Belgian delegation) points out that art. n° 9 is quite contradictory with the Plenum's decision .

The Belgian proposal is that art. n° 9 should not concern procedural matters in order to avoid further discussions .

Portugal suggest this be linked to the internal Book of Orders.

WORKING GROUPS

Specific training

Dr. Jarmatz (Germany) speaks out the decision of the European Legal Board to be favourable to the three years term .

Even European Socialists seem to agree with it now .

Spain ask for clearing up on the decision of the European Committee .

The Chairman explains it is a pronouncement from the European Legal Board .

CME : Dr. Peter Mortensen (Denmark) presents a questionnaire on CME .

DRUGS IN GP document n° 2000/017

Dr. Jarmatz asks for further development of the document so that the different problems can be talked over .

Portugal back up the argumentation of UK .

Spain : they support the UK as well while pledging themselves to forward a written report .

TELEMATICS

The Spanish delegation promises to send on the report as soon as they get back to Spain .

The European goal is to get all Health Professionals linked to the net.

Dr. Brettenthaler (Austria) asks to be replaced as a Chairman and suggests Dr. Solla as a new Chairman of WG Telematics .

Dr. Mortensen (Denmark) presents the job done by Equal Opportunities and the new coordinator, Dr. Michieli (Italy) who thanks Dr. Mortensen for introducing her .

PREVENTION ACTIVITIES

Portugal presents a comment to the document .

QUALITY ASSURANCE

Dr. Chisholm introduces the group job .

Lunch break 1:40 P.M. Back to work 2:40 P.M.

UEMS

A permanent medical certification is suggested even for general practitioners .

Dr. Malfliet (Belgium) explains the Belgian situation in which the doctors themselves try skipping the rules . He states that should doctors be re-examined, then, the examiners should be tested first .

The Chairman : Dr. Cricelli says it is probably the right time to speak about recertification .

UK : the British delegation think this is a topic that should be talked over .

The Chairman agrees to put the item of discussion into the agenda before the Zurich meeting .

Dr. Jan Bergen (Netherlands) relates the Plenum about his participation to the UEMS works in May on behalf of UEMO .

Dr. Aarima (Chairman of CP) also participated to the above mentioned meeting and there he had already pointed out how important it is facing the certification and registration problem for the doctors in Europe. The Chairman of CP had also announced , during the meeting, that CP would have organized an encounter to discuss the subject the following year .

The Chairman declares he'll take a decision on that topic after consulting the Vice Presidents. They will eventually communicate the decisions to the delegations .

Dr. Puga (PWG) thanks the Board of Directors, the Italian delegation and the Secretary Board for the invitation and the hospitality . She confirms that the report on CME will be given out to all UEMO delegates .

ESPG : the delegation declares to be quite satisfied with the way the works have been carried out and the collaboration given to show up at a good political level in Europe . They think some European statesmen should be invited over to the next July meeting in Wien .

They tell the Plenum about the upcoming ESPG meeting calendar : Wien, July 2000 then Tampere in 2001, London 2002 and Lubjana in 2003 .

Closes up telling the delegates that Euract is planning enterprises on the doctors' training and preventive actions .

EANA : Procter informs the UEMO Plenum delegates about the meeting to be programmed in London on Dec. 3rd and 4th during which there will be quite a lot of topics to discuss about : drug

trade via Internet, professions, the practitioners' freedom of choice, data protection, the patients' rights .

The next EANA meeting to be programmed in Wien .

Tom Kennedy presents the Reference Book 2000 .

Future UEMO meetings :

- Zurich October 13th and 14th 2000
- Malta June 15th and 16th 2001
- Venice October 12th and 13th 2001

The Chairman asks now the Secretary to present the Plenum the balance up to Dec. 31st 2000 . Dr. Pressato, after recalling his dear friend Giovanni Bezzi contribution as a Treasure , thanks Dr. Silvia Savoia who has been appointed Deputy treasure , on the bases of technical skills . He reports to the attending delegates on the state of UEMO Accounts and also reads the two Auditors' favourable report .

The balance for year 1999 is decided nem.con.

The Chairman, Dr. Cricelli asks the delegates to accept the application forwarded to UEMO by the San Marino Republic GP delegation .

The Plenum approves .

Every point on the agenda having been checked out and after greeting and thanking all the delegates, the Chairman declares the UEMO Meeting closed .