

# UEMO 2000/168

## OPINION OF THE SPANISH DELEGATION REGARDING ANNEX II, ARTICLE 4.1 OF THE UEMO STATUTES

The Spanish Delegation has reviewed the UEMO Statutes in the version contained in document UEMO2000/26 FINAL REV.1 and we regret to say we cannot give our approval to *Annex II, representativity, article 4.1*, because we object to its contents for the following reasons:

Since the approval in 1997 of the document UEMO97/50, that referred to an explicative note regarding the former article 2 of the Statutes (now article 4), that was designed to help the President of the UEMO in its interpretation, the Spanish Delegation has been announcing that the exclusive representation of the medical profession, the ordering in the field of its competence of its members' professional activity and the defence of their interests, belongs to the Spanish Medical Organisation, as is established in its Statutes approved by Royal Decree 1018/ 1980 of 19 May.

In compliance with the provisions of *article 4 (members)*, of the Statutes of the UEMO, the Spanish Medical Organisation is the most representative non-governmental and independent national organisation of both the political and professional interests of all the general practitioners in our country.

The national delegates are appointed by a democratic election at a General Meeting for a four-year term. The present Spanish Delegation was appointed by the General Assembly of the General Council of Medical Colleges held on 4 July 1998. We understand this is a sufficient guarantee of representation of the profession.

By means of this document we repeat our posture that we have been defending since the term of the Irish Presidency of the UEMO, namely that we do not consider it necessary to duplicate the representativeness.

If scientific societies are admitted in the UEMO and the representativeness is multiplied, then we would have to count on the three societies that represent General Practitioners in Spain, and not on just one of them, which is the one with which the UEMO has established contact. We know as a fact that the other two scientific societies have not been taken into consideration and we cannot understand this attitude.

Furthermore, we would like to have an explanation about what legal value is going to be given to an annex whose contents do not coincide with *article 4 (members)*, which has the following text:

*“Membership shall normally be open to the single most representative national, non-governmental, independent, organisation representing general practitioners in each of the countries of Europe. Except by special dispensation, official delegates of the member organisations must be general practitioners and active in medical practice.”*

We can affirm that the Spanish Delegation complies with these requirements.

9 October 2000