



EUROPEAN UNION OF GENERAL PRACTITIONERS
UNION EUROPEENNE DES MEDECINS OMNIPRATICIENS



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Minutes of the Presidents' Committee
March 15, 2007, 5pm – 7pm
hotel Sofitel Victoria, Warsaw (PL)

1. OPENING, ROLL CALL

- AEMH Dr. Raymond LIES
- CPME Dr. Daniel MART
- CPME SG Lisette TIDDENS-ENGWIRDA
- EANA Dr. Jörg PRUCKNER
- EMSA Dr. Daniel KESZTHELYI
- FEMS Dr. Claude WETZEL
- PWG Dr. Rui GUIMARAES
- UEMO Dr. Isabel CAIXEIRO
- UEMS Dr. Zlatko FRAS

2. PROCEDURAL MATTERS

- Election chairperson: Dr. PRUCKNER
- Election rapporteur: Dr. WETZEL

Jörg PRUCKNER welcomes the new President of the UEMO, Isabel CAIXEIRO.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

CPME 2007/011

The agenda is approved.

UEMO – PRESIDENCY

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4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING OCTOBER 26, 2006 IN LUXEMBOURG

CPME 2006/155

The minutes are approved without comments nor modifications.

5. POLITICAL ISSUES

5.1. Green Paper "Modernizing labour law to meet the challenges of the 21st century"

This consultation was launched by the Commission in a blocked political context of the revision. process of ED 2003/88 on certain aspects of the organisation of working time (EWTD) This consultation, first phase of a longer process, will be closed on March 31, 2007.

Lisette TIDDENS-ENGWIRDA and Rui GUIMARAES consider necessary to prepare a common document from **CPME 2007/031 EN/FR** and the document drafted by PWG & EMSA (**CPME 2007/015 IN**), mentioned hereafter. Once again it is necessary that the medical profession expresses with one voice, by taking into account the specific interests of all its components.

Zlatko FRAS announces a strong opposition of the Surgery Sections of the UEMS to the weekly limit of 48h working time applicable to the doctors in training in 2009. Many senior surgeons, but also some young English surgeons in training, consider that the available medical time will not allow a satisfactory surgical hands-on training. After intensive discussions searching for a consensus, it was decided that the UEMS would stick to the policy statement of 2005 (**D 05/15**), without modifications. A solution for the concerned disciplines would be perhaps to prolong the duration of training.

Rui GUIMARAES points out the position of its organization (PWG): to put an end to the possibility of individual renouncement ("opt-out"), to limit the weekly working time to 48h, including for doctors in training.

Claude WETZEL reports the request of certain FEMS delegations for the maintenance of the possibility of individual renouncement ("opt-out") for a few years, time to improve the basic medical incomes and to recruit doctors. Indeed, in certain countries, overtime is currently the only mean to obtain decent incomes, justified by a high level of qualification.

Lisette TIDDENS-ENGWIRDA proposes that each EMO draws up a list of the divergent points, which are necessary to discuss "internally". Dr. HUERTA, who ensures the coordination of this file, will collect the various remarks which have to be addressed to him by email for the end of March 2007. In the final document the list of EMOs which took part in its development will be mentioned in the preamble.

Daniel MART considers essential that the document is sent within the deadlines, maybe with footnotes quoting the points to be specified, in order to be reference as partner in the process, which is just beginning.

5.2. Health Services Directive

Daniel MART presents the point. It is important that the synthesis document of the CPME (**CPME 2007/010 FR/EN**) is approved and transmitted to the Commission so that the CPME and the AOs which took part in its drafting are referenced as partners in the future work in this matter.

Approximately 260 organizations already answered the consultation. Daniel MART and Lisette TIDDENS-ENGWIRDA expressed their surprise to see a contribution addressed by the UEMS to the Commission. Zlatko FRAS comments that the conclusions of the UEMS document are not different from those of the CPME document but some specialists wished to express specific aspects, in complement to the work of the CPME and the other EMOs.

Lisette TIDDENS-ENGWIRDA wishes the UEMS document to be modified, mentioning the above phrasing in its introduction. This would make it possible to keep a coherence between the documents of the EMOs.

Raymond LIES and Jörg PRUCKNER point out that it is necessary that the doctors speak with one voice, in the current political context and because of the great number of contributions.

Daniel MART proposes to draft common documents in the future, mentioning in the introduction the EMOs which took part in the drafting of the document, with maybe footnotes quoting the specific points arisen by the specific needs of some EMOs.

Rui GUIMARAES and Claude WETZEL recall that the AOs have specific requests of their members, which they must defend. The goal of the common WG and of the Presidents' Committee is to ensure as much cohesion as possible. If the members of the AOs see that this method works and that each opinion is heard and respected, the expression with one medical voice will be possible.

Lisette TIDDENS-ENGWIRDA declares that at any opportunity she takes the time to explain to the European politicians that the voice of the doctors is plural, the one of the CPME and the one of the independent AOs, which have specific requirements.

6. POLITICAL WORK OF CPME AND AOs IN 2007

6.1 The European Prevention program Conference (information only)

The CPME SG Lisette TIDDENS-ENGWIRDA and Dr. BRETTENTHALER have contacted the European Health Forum Gastein in Bad Gastein/ Austria in (October 2007) to see if it would be possible to organise the conference in the context of the Gastein meeting.

7. DOCUMENTS FROM THE AOs

7.1 Proposed Format for a Meeting in October 2008 between CPME and its AOs by UEMO CPME 2006/127 EN

This proposal made during the last meeting by Christina FABIAN, then President of the UEMO, reaches unanimity.

A common meeting of the CPME and AOs will have a strong symbolic value as well internally for the members of our EMO, as externally: Commission, Parliament and the Council of Ministers of the Union.

But this meeting should not be an additional meeting in the calendar. Each EMO would hold its meetings and the program could include half a day in common (subject: "future of the EMO"), a common dinner and a common press conference.

It seems however difficult for Isabel CAIXEIRO, to organize this meeting for autumn 2008. Some EMOs have already planned their meetings for this period. The agreed period is **spring 2009 and the place is Brussels.**

The project will be discussed again and specified during the next meeting of the President's Committee, June 14, 2007 in Luxembourg.

7.2. For information

7.2.1. Modernizing labour law to meet the challenges of 21st century – PWG & EMSA CPME 2007/015 EN

Daniel Mart considers that this document is a reference document of great quality, which will be discussed during the meeting of the Subcommittee "Organization of health care, social security and health economics" and will surely be used as background document for future work on this matter.

7.2.2. EMSA Response to "Health Strategy 2007-2013"

CPME 2007/035 EN

The Commission launched this program. Daniel KESZTHELYI reminds that EMSA has drafted the document to specify some requirements for a harmonious evolution as well in the Eastern as the West European countries.

Raymond LIES comments that the 1st § of the conclusion on last page of the document summarizes everything:

"The economic and cultural pressure on healthcare caused by an ageing population and higher expectations of the quality and accessibility of care can only increase. The healthcare sector in particular has to deal with the rising demand for services in addition to limited budgetary conditions."

7.3 For endorsement

7.3.1. European Core Curriculum: the Students' Perspective

CPME 2006/144 EN

7.3.2. Albufeira Resolution on Medical Students' Rights in Europe

CPME 2006/145 EN

The 2 documents have already been discussed during the CPME meeting of Luxembourg last October and seem ready to be proposed to the CPME Board for endorsement.

8. INTERNATIONAL CALENDAR

CPME 2007/041

6 events need to be added to the calendar:

- 10th European Health Forum Gastein, (A), Tuesday 2 - Friday October 5, 2007 (at the same time as the GA of the WMA in Copenhagen which will be held from October 3 to 5, 2007)
- The meeting of the UEMO in Toledo (E) October 26 & 27, 2007 (at the same time as the PWG autumn meeting? which will be held in Ljubljana)
- 50th anniversary of the UEMS in Brussels from the April 17-19, 2008.
Dr. FRAS invites the participants to this anniversary
- The UEMS autumn meeting October 9-11, 2008 in Copenhagen
- The CPME meetings of October 2008 are rescheduled to October 23, 24 & 25 in London (UK) in order not to collide with the WMA meeting in Seoul, October 15-18, 2008.
- The common meeting of the EMOs, in Brussels in Spring 2009.

9. ANY OTHERS BUSINESS

9.1. "Charta of E-health and patient safety " (Jörg PRUCKNER for information)

The EANA wishes to specify that 2 conditions must be absolutely guaranteed and guaranteed in the development of E-Health: the safety of the medical data and the special relationship between the doctor and his patient.

10. NEXT MEETING

In Mondorf-les-Bains (Luxembourg), June 14, 2007

11. CLOSING OF THE MEETING

Nobody asking the floor and the agenda being exhausted, Dr. PRUCKNER declares the meeting closed at 7 pm.