



# UNION EUROPÉENNE DES MÉDECINS SPÉCIALISTES EUROPEAN UNION OF MEDICAL SPECIALISTS

*Association internationale sans but lucratif*

*International non-profit organisation*

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## UEMS 2015/08

### MEETINGS

OF THE

### COUNCIL

OF

### UEMS

### Report

*Meetings held at the*  
**Maison des Associations Internationales**

*Rue Washington 40*  
*1050 Brussels (Belgium)*

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2015

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2015

## SUMMARY OF DECISIONS TAKEN DURING THE COUNCIL MEETING

### The UEMS Council:

- created a Multidisciplinary Joint Committee in Breast Care
- created a Section in Clinical Pharmacology
- adopted the declaration about “Commerce and Medical Practice”
- decided the transfer of UEMS Head Office from Avenue de la Couronne 20, 1050 Brussels to Rue de l'Industrie 24, 1040 Brussels
- adopted the proposed amendments of Article II.1.C. of the Rules of Procedures (UEMS 2010/26) regarding the Honorary membership paragraph
- adopted the Terms of reference of CESMA
- approved the new status of CESMA as a Thematic Federation
- adopted the UEMS-CESMA Guide to successfully writing MCQs
- adopted the UEMS-CESMA guideline for organisation of European postgraduate medical assessments
- adopted the UEMS-CESMA guideline for examiner selection for European postgraduate medical assessments
- dismissed of the Union of the Bulgarian Medical Societies (article II.3.B. UEMS Rules of Procedure)

## SUMMARY OF DECISIONS TAKEN DURING THE BOARD MEETING

### THE UEMS BOARD:

- approved the accounts of revenues & expenses for the year 2014 and UEMS assets (UEMS 2015/06)
- approved the Internal auditor's report (UEMS 2015/05)
- adopted the revised repartition key (UEMS 2014/12)
- decided to propose to the UEMS Council the dismissal of Union of the Bulgarian Medical Societies (article II.2.C. UEMS Rules of Procedure)
- approved and voted a list of proposals submitted by the Executive aimed at overcoming cash flow challenge in 2015 and 2016

## **Welcome**

Dr Krajewski (*UEMS President*) opened the meeting and welcomed the delegates. He stressed the historic character of this particular meeting in Brussels which would coincide with the time of the opening of the UEMS House - Domus Medica Europaea.

Dr Borman (*UEMS Secretary General*) made the roll-call of delegates. 26 National Member Associations were present or represented.

### **1. Approval of the agenda**

The agenda of the UEMS Council meeting was approved.

### **2. Approval of the minutes of the last meeting, held in Granada on 17-18.10.2014**

The minutes of the last UEMS Council meeting, held in Granada on 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> October 2014 were approved.

### **3. Report of the Secretary-General**

The UEMS Secretary-General presented his report. He stated that his report had been sent late due to heavy workload and also in order to allow for the most updated data on EACCME and on financial situation to be inserted in it.

He stressed that 2014-2015 would represent one of the key periods in the history of the development of UEMS. The UEMS House – the Domus Medica Europaea, should be seen as a extraordinary investment for the future of all the European doctors, as well as as a great symbol for all European medical organisations who are invited to join the UEMS House.

At the same time, EACCME has continued working, delivering high standard work, thanks to the delegates who work as reviewers.

### **4. Specialist issues**

#### **4.1. Report from the Meetings of S&B Groupings**

Chairmen of groupings reported on the discussions held in the morning.

#### Group I

Dr Griebenow (*S. Cardiology*) reported on discussions held on Group I.

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- The curriculum on Internal Medicine has been presented, and will be open for discussion and comments before being submitted to the UEMS Council
- Dr Griebenow stated that the sections of Group I requested to obtain details about the financial situation and management of the UEMS. Group I stressed the importance of communication between the Executive Committee and the UEMS structures.

## Group II

Dr Papalois (*S. Surgery*) reported on the discussions held in Group II.

- The group II requested information on the EACCME payments and suggested that a one by one approach should be implemented depending on the financial situation of each section.
- The group noted the great efforts made by sections regarding the accounting. Most of the sections have proceed to the repatriation of their accounts in Brussels.
- Some sections of the Group II expressed high interest for administrative and secretarial support based on the DME.
- The Memorandum of understanding between UEMS and Scientific Society has been approved by the Group II, and considered as a useful template that can be used for the cooperation with scientific societies.
- The proposal for e-portfolio has been positively welcomed in the group II. Dr Papalois requested the full documentation about this project to be circulated including the new elements.
- The ETR neurosurgery has been endorsed by the Group II, with couple of comments regarding training.
- The documents on ETR and on examination visitation have been presented and will be circulated for comments to be sent within a month.

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## Group III

Dr. Hermans (*S. Psychiatry*) reported on discussions held within group III.

- The group III reflected on the financial situation of UEMS. It has been noted that sections have very different financial situations. The group III suggested that treasurers of sections could meet and exchange information about management of the accounts and accounting
- The Group III expressed concerns regarding the alternative accreditation channels that are developing outside of EACCME.
- The sections of the Group III encounter some difficulties with collecting fees from some NMAs. Advices from the treasurer would be gladly welcomed.

- The Group III questioned the purpose of the third group existence. Suggestions for changes should be discussed, such as groups working according to a common agenda.

Dr Krajewski thanked the chairmen for their reports and welcomed proposals from the delegates.

## **4.2. Statements**

### **4.2.1. *Statement from Isernia Meeting\*\****

Dr Berchicci (*UEMS Treasurer*) presented the Isernia Declaration on water and stressed that it had been drafted in the framework of Isernia Conference.

Mr. Carroll (*BMA*) welcomed the statement and offered to review the statement before endorsement.

Dr Frasci (*UEMS Liaison Officer*) welcomed this suggestion.

The statement will be rewritten by Mr Carroll before endorsement by UEMS Council.

### **4.2.2. *Declaration about "Commerce and medical practice"\*\*\****

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Dr Hofmann presented the declaration on behalf of the working group Quality of Patient Care. Following comments from some delegates, the declaration has been rephrased before adoption.

- **The UEMS Council adopted the declaration about “commerce and medical practice”**

### **4.2.3. *Information on “surgical implantation of long-term mechanical circulatory support”***

Dr Fernandez (*S. President Cardiothoracic Surgery*) presented information on “surgical implantation of long-term circulatory support”, and called for a common action within the UEMS.

## **5. Constitutional issues**

### **5.1. *Transfer of UEMS Head offices* \*\***

- **The UEMS Council unanimously approved the transfer of UEMS Head Office from Avenue de la Couronne 20, 1050 Brussels to Rue de l'Industrie 24, 1040 Brussels**

### **5.2. *Proposed creation of a Section in Clinical Pharmacology* \*\***

Prof. Ylva Böttiger presented the request to create a section of Clinical pharmacology on behalf of the Swedish Medical Association. She pointed out the innovative character of this speciality in the improvement of patient care by promoting the safer and more effective use of drugs. She presented figures of specialists in Europe.

Dr Papalois (*UEMS Vice-President*) & Prof. Rowland (*BMA*) welcomed this initiative and congratulated the SMA for the work done.

The question of the name of the section was raised in regards of the title of the speciality in the Annex V of the Directive 2005/36/CE. It is the UEMS practice to refer to the name indicated in the Annex. For this case "pharmacology" and not "clinical pharmacology".

The proposal was made to create a section named "UEMS Section of Pharmacology" keeping in mind that it should be changed for "Clinical Pharmacology" at the time of the revision of Annex V.

- **The UEMS Council created the Section of Pharmacology.**

### **5.3. *Creation of a Multidisciplinary Joint Committee in Breast Care* \*\***

Dr. Tica (*S. Gynaecology Obstetrics*) presented the request to create a Multidisciplinary Joint Committee of Breast Care. He highlighted the importance of harmonizing the training and the practice.

Dr Yiacooumettis (*President S. PRAS*) and Dr Papalois (*President S. Surgery*) expressed their support for the creation of the MJC.

The question of the most appropriate UEMS framework was raised by some delegations, maybe a thematic federation would be more appropriate?

After some debates, Dr Krajewski recalled that the UEMS was constantly opposing of the proliferation of specialities. On the contrary a cooperative approach should always be preferred and the MJC would be the best forum for cooperation between specialities, if the item has a permanent importance.

- **The UEMS Council created the MJC Breast Care.**

## **6. Statutory issues**

### **6.1. Honorary Membership \*\***

Dr. Harvey (*UEMS Past President*) presented the proposal for the amendments of the Rules of procedure (UEMS 2010/26) article II.1.C. regarding honorary membership.

Prof. Rowland (BMA) expressed concerns about the covering of expenses of the honorary members. He stated that in the current situation of UEMS, there was a need to clearly state that expenses should not be covered by the UEMS. He also stressed that the sentence related to the end of the representative period (end of paragraph 2) was unclear and should be removed.

Dr Harvey and Dr Halila recalled that the honorary members would only come if invited by the Executive Committee. Dr. Cees Leibbrandt (*UEMS Past Secretary General*) stated that as a past SG, he never asked the UEMS for any reimbursement.

Dr Krajewski supported by the Portuguese delegation, emphasized that if honorary members would be invited, it would be obvious that UEMS should pay for their expenses.

The UEMS Council approved the proposal to delete the sentence “A person nominated for this position will be coming towards the end of his/her representative period within UEMS” and to rephrase the fifth paragraph.

- **The UEMS Council adopted the proposed amendments of article II.1.C. of the rules of procedure regarding honorary membership.**

## **7. Medical Specialist Qualifications**

Prof. Papalois presented the document drafted under the aegis of the Council for European Speciality Medical Assessment (CESMA). He recalled the role of CESMA and stressed that the group was working for 8 years supporting colleagues in the field of European examinations. The CESMA aims to become a Thematic Federation in order to fit within UEMS framework.

### **7.1. Terms of Reference for CESMA\*\***

Dr Papalois presented the terms of reference for CESMA.

The Irish delegation (*proxy to UK*) stressed that the “database” mentioned at point 2 of the Future role was quite unclear. It was proposed to amend this phrase in order to make sure that the database does not mean to match with national databases. The proposal was adopted.

- **The UEMS Council unanimously adopted the terms of reference for CESMA**

## **7.2. UEMS-CESMA guidelines\*\***

Dr. Papalois presented the UEMS guidelines & guides drafted under the aegis of the Council for European Speciality Medical Assessment (CESMA).

### ***7.2.1. UEMS- CESMA Guideline for quality Control***

Dr Papalois presented the Guideline for quality Control, adopted by UEMS Council in Granada (UEMS 2014/38) for information.

### ***7.2.2. UEMS- CESMA Guide to successfully writing MCQs\*\****

Dr Papalois presented the Guide to successfully writing MCQs.

- **The UEMS Council unanimously adopted the Guide to successfully writing MCQs**

### ***7.2.3. UEMS-CESMA Guideline for organisation of European postgraduate medical assessments\*\****

Dr Papalois presented the Guideline for organisation of European postgraduate medical assessments.

- **The UEMS Council unanimously adopted the Guideline for organisation of European postgraduate medical assessments.**

### ***7.2.4. UEMS-CESMA Guideline Appeal Procedure for European postgraduate medical assessments\*\****

Dr Papalois presented the Guideline appeal procedure for European postgraduate medical assessments.

He stated that this document would need to be reviewed by a lawyer as it potentially will have legal impacts. The comments and amendments from colleagues would be very much appreciated.

### ***7.2.5. UEMS- CESMA guideline for examiner selection for European postgraduate medical assessments\*\****



Dr Papalois presented the Guideline for examiner selection for European postgraduate medical assessments.

- **The UEMS Council unanimously adopted the Guideline for examiner selection for European postgraduate medical assessments.**

## **8. The floor will be opened to representatives of other European Medical Organisations**

### **AEMH / FEMS**

Diana Voicu (*AEMH & FEMS permanent secretariat*) reported on the latest developments pertaining to the organisations. She stated that the General Assemblies of FEMS and AEMH will take place between 7-9 May 2015, in Vienna. This year assembly will be organized jointly with EJD, AEMH & FEMS. UEMS representative would be most welcome to participate to this joint meeting. AEMH was willing to organize a Conference regarding the lack of doctors in Europe. AEMH and FEMS agreed on a common statement on the working time directive.

### **CPME**

Dr Katrín Fjeldsted (President CPME) thanked UEMS for the invitation and stressed the importance of collaboration between European medical organisations. She stated that there was no room for competition when the doctor/patient relationship was in question. She emphasized the importance to speak with one voice to make the voice of medical organisations to be heard.

### **UEMO**

Dr André (*UEMO liaison Officer*) congratulated UEMS on its new House - the Domus Medica Europaea.

The UEMO general assembly will take place in November 2015. In may 2015, UEMO will welcome a new President from Italia. The UEMO decided to generate its own accreditation system, independent from the EACCME, with specific criteria.

### **EJD**

Brigita Jazbar, (*PGT Committee Chairperson*) made a presentation of the EJD and reported on the latest developments pertaining to the organisation. She described the EJD's main areas of work : eHealth, Violence on doctors, Family & Work, Social Media, task Shifting, Well Being and work load.

Two conferences will be organized : Baltic Junior Doctors Forum, in Kaunas (Lithuania), 8<sup>th</sup> April , the general assembly in Vienna (Austria), 8<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> May, joint meeting with AEMH and FEMS

Dr Krajewski thanked the representatives of AEMH, FEMS, CPME, EJD and UEMO for their attendance and reiterated the invitation to join the UEMS House - DME.

## **9. Report to Council of the outcomes of the Board Meeting**

Dr Krajewski reported on the outcomes of the Board meeting held on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2015. He stated that the Board had approved the financial report for 2014 as well as the internal auditors report. The Board also adopted the repartition key for 2016.

The external Auditors have presented their conclusions to the Board.

Dr Krajewski presented the UEMS assets and incomes as well as the cash flow forecast for the coming year.

Dr Borman has reported the proposals to overcome cash flow challenges, submitted by the Executive and approved by the Board:

1/ To increase income

- Ensure that unpaid dues and fees are paid: NMA, ESAB
- Increase in membership subscriptions
- Payment in advance of membership subscription
- Internal short-term loans
- Increase the uptake of tenancy in DME
- Rent out parkings only, as specific offers
- Sponsoring in DME
- Encourage meetings, examinations and conferences to be held in DME
- Increase the standing fee for EACCME for large events
- For Observer countries that have not paid, offer a reduced rate, in order to attract continued membership
- Introduce a paid register of European diplomas, with certificates
- EACCME courses for providers

2/ The rescheduling payments will be settled one-third, one-third, one-third to be paid in successive quarters starting in Q4 2015.

3/ The daily allowance to Executive (which has not been paid for almost a year) will be entirely stopped.

4/ Accountability:

- Publish the finances of the UEMS to members of the UEMS family
- Implement the recommendations of the External Auditor

- Implement the recommendations of the BMA letter

Dr Borman emphasized the importance of transparency. As decided by the Board, the finances of UEMS will be made available to Sections & Boards. Moreover representatives from each grouping will be invited to the Finance Committee meetings.

The Board adopted the repartition key for 2016.

Dr Krajewski reported on the issue related to the Bulgarian NMA outstanding membership fees due to UEMS since 2011 in spite of reminders being sent. Since several years the UEMS has not seen representatives of UBMS to attend the UEMS meetings. Repeated requests have been sent to the UEMS regarding this matter remained without any answer.

- **The Council adopted the proposal from the Board to dismiss the Union of the Bulgarian Medical Societies from its membership**

## **10. Continuing Medical Education**

Dr Borman presented the Progress report EACCME, detailed in the Secretary General's report.

The first meeting of the Governance Board on CME was held on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2015. Some proposals for improvement of the EACCME will be discussed in this forum.

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### **10.1. Reorganisation of EACCME proposal**

Dr Harvey presented in more details the governance board on CME created to help the UEMS accreditation office.

### **10.2. Endorsement of European Diploma in Radiology \*\***

Dr Ricci (*President Section Radiology*) presented the CESMA appraisal report.

The European diploma in Radiology organised by the European Board of Radiology has been visited by Review Committee from CESMA and received very positive appraisal. At present 687 candidates applied for the European examination, from 52 countries and the pass rate is 83%.

Some concerns were raised regarding the fact that the examination were organised by the European board of Radiology, which was not a UEMS body but an independent structure linked to the European Society of Radiology.

Dr Balzan suggested to create a time limit for the CESMA appraisal.

Many delegates noted the very good appraisal conducted by CESMA and congratulated CESMA for its work.

Prof. Ricci recalled that the aim of this presentation was to inform the UEMS Council and to strengthen the cooperation between the UEMS Section of Radiology and the EBR. Moreover delegates from the Section will be involved in the examination process which is a very positive step toward closer relations with ESR.

Dr Frasc suggested that some rules should be established regarding the use of UEMS logo, and regarding endorsement of documents.

- **The UEMS Council supported the appraisal of European examination in Radiology by the CESMA.**

## **11. EU Affairs**

### **11.1. Joint Action on Healthcare Workforce**

This topic was not addressed.

## **12. Working Groups**

### **12.1. E-Health**

Dr. Ole Nørregaard reported on the discussion held within the Working Group on E-health. An invitation to those interested to join has been sent. The WG discussed the importance of a precise definition of e-health. This definition was crucial because it would contribute to shape the medical practice.

Dr Fjeldsted, President of the CPME indicated that the CPME has worked on that specific topic and would be delighted to provide some documents to the WG.

### **12.2. Continuing Medical Education & Professional Development**

Dr Halila reported on the discussion held within the Working Group CME-CPD. 15 delegates attended the meeting.

- He pointed to the Working Group's recommendations regarding the Member States report on CME-CPD such as derived from the Directive on Professional Qualifications 2013/55/EU.
- The Working Group will prepare a list of attributes to be in this report. The list will be circulated to the EEC and hopefully then forwarded to the European Commission.
- There is no need to revise the criteria of EACCME as providers are still learning to use the new system.

- The Working Group intends to work in cooperation with the Governance Board on EACCME.
- Concerns were raised about external boards performing accreditation, in a competitive way that may affect EACCME.
- Dr Halila reported about Dr C. Leibbrandt's story regarding the signature of the CME agreement with the American Medical Society.

### **12.3. Postgraduate Medical Specialist Training**

Dr Frasn reported on the discussion held within the Working Group on Postgraduate Medical Specialist Training. Developments of the e-portfolio project were presented and delegates welcomed it very positively. The Minerva platform implemented by Sheffield University has been presented. Dr Griebenow from the Section of Cardiology presented the platform Eucardia. A letter with details data will be circulated.

The Working Group stressed the quality of CESMA work.

### **12.4. Quality of Patient Care**

Dr Berchicci reported on the discussion held within the Working Group on Quality of Patient Care. The declaration about "Commerce and Medical Practice" has been rewritten.

Dr Berchicci reported the discussions held regarding the TTIP. A consultation will be organised and the results will be presented during the next UEMS Council.

- **The UEMS Council adopted the declaration about "Commerce and Medical Practice".**

### **12.5. Specialist Practice in current Health Systems**

The Working Group has been cancelled.

## **13. Items for information**

### **13.1. Forgery of UEMS European diplomas**

The Section of Plastic, Reconstructive & Aesthetic Surgery reported to the UEMS Council a number of fraud cases. Two doctors have forged an European Board fellowship certificate and some other doctors have deceitfully claimed being delegates within the UEMS structures.

Dr Krajewski raised the question of the registration of European diplomas in a central database.

Prof. Rowland recalled the role of the local authority in such situation. The names of the doctors involved in forgery cases should not have been mentioned in the presentation. Dr Holzgruber (Austrian delegation) advised delegates to be careful while using names in their presentation.

A procedure exists within UEMS for such cases. They should be reported to the Executive who then informs the local authorities and ask them to take appropriate actions.

Dr Borman stressed the importance of a central list of the successful candidates of European examinations.

Dr Krajewski suggested to present a proposal for organization of such a database during the next UEMS Council in Warsaw.

### **13.2. CEN**

The Section PRAS presented a statement opposing the CEN (*Comité Européen de Normalisation - European Committee for Standardisation*) initiative to launch a process aiming to develop standards in Aesthetic Medicine and the professional duties in this discipline.

The section explained that the standards have been developed by national committees composed by any interested stakeholders. The voice of doctors has been disregarded.

Dr Maillet (*Belgian delegation*) stressed the high risk of proliferation of such standards.

Dr Papalois emphasized the importance of issuing European Training requirements, that must be considered as a reference.

Dr Krajewski and Dr Fjeldsted from CPME recalled the efforts done to lobby the European Commission.

- **The UEMS Council decided to issue a cover letter to be sent together with this statement to politicians and medical organisations.**

## **14. Any other business**

## **15. Next Meetings**

**UEMS Advisory Council on CME**

*Brussels, 28 November 2015*

**UEMS Council**

*Warsaw, 16-17 October 2015*

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Dr Stankiewicz presented the venue and facilities of the next UEMS meeting to be held in Warsaw in October 2015.