



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

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UNION EUROPÉENNE DES MÉDECINS SPÉCIALISTES

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SECTION AND BOARD OF
ANAESTHESIOLOGY¹, REANIMATION AND INTENSIVE CARE

Held in ROME, ITALY in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Società Italiana di Anestesia Analgesia Rianimazione e Terapia Intensiva (SIAARTI) on Saturday October 25, 2003

In attendance:

Austria:	Prof. Doris Balogh Prof. Wilfred Ilias
Belgium:	Prof. Hugo Adriaensen
Croatia:	Dr. Mara Biondic Stipanic
Denmark:	Dr. Mogens Huttel (Vice President) Dr. Helle Ørding
Finland:	Dr. Olli Meretoja Prof. Seppo Alahuhta
Hungary:	Prof. László Vimpláty (observer)
Ireland	Dr. William Blunnie (President) Prof. Howard Fee Dr. Séan McDevitt
Italy:	Prof. Flavia Petrini (Host) Dr. Raffaella Pagni
Latvija:	Dr. Pēteris Tomiņš
Netherlands	Prof. Hans Knape (Honorary Secretary)
Norway:	Dr. Jannicke Mellin – Olsen
Portugal:	Prof. Jorge Tavares
Slovenia:	Prof. Vesna Paver – Erzen (observer)
Sweden:	Prof. Christer Carlsson
Switzerland:	Dr. Eric Buchser
United Kingdom:	Dr. Paul Cartwright

¹ The areas of expertise of Anaesthesiology are: Anaesthesia, Emergency Medicine, Intensive Care Medicine, Pain Medicine and Reanimation.

Apologies were received from:

Belgium:	Dr. Rene Heijlen
Bulgaria:	Prof. I. Smilov (observer)
Germany;	Prof. Hugo van Aken
	Prof. Klaus Fischer
Hungary;	Prof. Maria Janecskó (observer)
Malta:	Dr. M. Zerafa
Macedonia:	Prof. M. Soljakova (observer)
The Netherlands:	Prof. Booiij
Poland:	Prof. L. Drobniak (observer)
Romania:	Prof. Iurie Acalovschi (observer)
Slovakia:	Dr. J. Firment/Trenkler (observer)
Switzerland:	Prof. Thomas Pasch
United Kingdom:	Dr. Peter Simpson (ass. member)
	Dr. Peter Wallace
	Dr. Simon Minhoff

Absent without apologies:

Czech Republic:	Prof. dr. Karel Cvachovec (observer)
Estonia:	Dr. J. Samarutel (observer)
France:	Dr. Marc Dupont
	Prof. Jean Marty
Greece:	Dr. V. Chimonitsky – Kypriou
	Dr. A. Mitsakos
Israel:	Dr. Zeev Goldik (observer)
Italy:	Dr. Epifanio Mondello
Latvija:	Dr. Antonina Sondore
Luxemburg	Dr. Marc Knaff
	Dr. J. Uhrig
Macedonia:	Prof. dr. J. Nojkov (observer)
Moldavia:	Prof. V. Grosu (observer)
Poland:	Prof. A. Kubler (observer)
Russian Federation:	Prof. dr. Molchanov (observer)
	Dr. H. Damir (observer)
Spain:	Prof. Lopez – Timoneda
	Prof. M. Puig
Sweden:	Prof. L. Wiklund

Agenda:**1. Opening.**

Dr. Blunnie opened the meeting and welcomed the president of the Società Italiana di Anestesia Analgesia Rianimazione e Terapia Intensiva (SIAARTI), professor Rosalba Tuffano. Dr. Tuffano spoke kind words of welcome and stressed the intention of the Italian National Society to cooperate strongly with the Section and

Board of Anaesthesiology² of the UEMS within Europe. With about 6000 anaesthesiologists the SIAARTI is one of the major parties in Anaesthesiology in Europe. Dr Blunnie replied by praising the input from past and current Italian representatives and handed over a crystal ornament symbolic for “the revolving world of Anaesthesiology in Europe”.

The president announced that Drs. Biondic Stipanic (Croatia), dr. Cunningham, (Ireland), dr. List (Austria) and dr. Ørding had come to the end of their term. They will be replaced by dr. Sustic, dr. Fee, dr. Balogh and dr. Keld, respectively. The president held a roll call for the new members in attendance.

2. Agenda:

The proposed agenda was accepted.

3. Correspondence.

Outgoing correspondence. The Hon. Secretary mentioned a number of letters which had been sent to chairpersons of permanent committees and working parties to assist in the production of drafts statements.

Furthermore a number of incoming correspondence from UEMS, Brussels had been distributed.

- EACCME , document D 0217
 - EACCME: Minutes of annual UEMS Advisory Committee on CME D 0305
 - Development and Structure of national CME/CPD Document D 0305 annex
 - Minutes of the MJCICM Meeting D0325
 - Report from dr. Burnham on the meeting of the management Council October 18 and 19, 2002, Stockholm
 - Report UEMS Council meeting in Brussels 22 March 2003
 - Report UEMS Specialist Sections and European Boards May 10, 2003 Brussels, D 0324
 - UEMS Specialist Section and European Boards, Meeting with UEMS Executive Committee, Brussels, May 10, 2003 D 0340
 - Quality Assurance of Clinical Practice UEMS Policy paper, draft 6
 - Article European Society of Intensive Care..... (de Lange, van Aken and Burchardi)

 - An incoming letter from dr. Zorab concerning his visit to Malta a few years ago was more extensively discussed. The accompanying report paper was very informative and will be discussed with our colleagues from the EAA to grant Malta a certification. The report will be used by dr. Blunnie for finalising a draft template for the Section and Board of Anaesthesiology of the UEMS for further visits to candidate EU countries. The honorary secretary will send a letter to dr. Zorab, who is now retired, to thank him for his activities in the past.
 - The honorary secretary has invited all new EU countries to attend the Section and Board meetings, but now will formally encourage all new countries to invite the EBA/EAA delegates to visit their country to make recommendations on the structure of training and CME/CPD in their country in according with accepted European guidelines. It was felt that the visits to Slovenia, Hungary and the Czech Republic could be minimal or even on paper. This will be discussed with the representatives from these countries.
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- A letter was received from Prof. Cunningham, confirming that the paper on the charter on “Pain” has been accepted for publication in the EJA. The honorary secretary will further handle this matter. The president noted that the ex officio officers should be added to the list of authors.

4. Matters arising

Dr. Paver – Erzen (Slovenia) and dr. Tomiņš (Latvia) expressed their disappointment because of the fact that they still had not received their certificate, although it had been promised in the Glasgow meeting. The honorary secretary will contact dr. List as soon as possible to try and correct this omission.

5. MJC on Pain

The president expressed his satisfaction on the acceptance of the paper of the Working Party. He thanked the members and dismissed the chairman.

6. New Working party on Quality in Anaesthesiology:

- Standards
- Risk and risk management
- Legal aspects
- Audits
- Complications and outcome
- Strategies and implementation

The section and board welcomed the plan to install a temporary working party on Quality in Anaesthesiology. The aspects of consent in anaesthesiology and of ethics in anaesthesiology were added by the auditorium. This confronts this working party with quite a few very interesting challenges. It was therefore felt more than appropriate that dr. Mellin – Olsen was put forward as candidate chairperson. The president needed a bottle of the finest Irish whisky to persuade her, but the present delegates were very happy that she accepted the invitation with much enthusiasm. Dr. Mellin will be assisted by dr. Hüttel, dr. Petrini and by dr. Vimláty

7. Presidents report.

- The president was happy to announce the decision that dr. Van Aken will be the new president of the Multidisciplinary Joint Commission on Intensive Care Medicine, MJCICM. It also judged to be a good development that the secretariat had been granted to the representative of the European Society of Intensive Care Medicine, who has a permanent seat in the MJCICM, although the ESICM is no formal body in the UEMS. These developments have been considered to be fortunate, since 70 % in Intensive Care Medicine practice in Europe is handled by anaesthesiologists. The Section and Board of Anaesthesiology of the UEMS are represented by the officers dr. Blunnie, dr. Knape and by dr. Ørding. The president suggested to nominate dr. Puig from Spain to be the successor of dr. Ørding after her retirement.
- In contrast, the president was very unhappy to announce a devastating development within the newly formed European Federation of Anaesthesiology. The agenda of the meeting of the EFA (European Society of Anaesthesiologists ESA, Confederation of European National Societies of Anaesthesiology CENSA, and the European Academy of Anaesthesiology

EAA) in Brussels on the 7th of October 2003 was suspended by the officers of ESA.

The president of ESA read out an obviously well prepared statement from the Board of the ESA which was a completely unexpected ultimatum that the ESA would withdraw from the EFA unless CENSA and the EAA signed an agreement here and then to be totally absorbed within the ESA under their name. The official reason for this act was supposed to be a lack of progress and a lack of amalgamation of parties involved in the EFA in the view of ESA. The statement was exceptionally poor delivered.

The officers of ESA announced to publish their view and to put it on their website as soon as possible. They also announced withdrawal of support of the European Journal of Anaesthesiology as from January 2005.

The president of the Section and Board of Anaesthesiology UEMS, who was present at the meeting as observer, noted that protests from all of the constituent bodies of the EFA were deliberately ignored by the ESA representatives, thus leading to an early halt of the meeting.

All attendants felt that the action of ESA was set up as a deliberately insulting confrontation with EAA and CENSA officers. Most of the delegates felt that other arguments, which were not put forward in the open, were leading the decision of the officers of the ESA. Responsibilities of the ESA towards their employees, the industries and pharmaceutical companies were considered to be critical in this respect. It was generally felt that the atmosphere of the meeting, which was characterised as an non-rational but purely emotional debate, was unacceptably spoiled by the attitude of ESA.

The Section and Board of Anaesthesiology decided to write a calming down paper to the Boards of all European National Societies with the intention to publish it in their national journals or newsletters. The document will also be sent as a letter to the editor to the EJA.

- The president announced to send a request to the Management Council in Brussels to install a Multidisciplinary Joint Commission on Pain. He received the template which has been used by dr. De Lange when applying for the MJCICM in the past. All 42 sections of the UEMS will be invited to join; the European Federation IC, the official European Body of the International Association for the Study of Pain will be offered a permanent seat. It is to be hoped that a decision can be made in the Meeting of the European Sections and Boards in Brussels in May 2004.

8. Inspection protocol of applicant countries and visitation programme

Following the communication with dr. Zorab, dr. Blunnie announced that the inspection protocol template would be completed at a meeting of the president, the vice president and the honorary secretary of the Section and Board of Anaesthesiology of the UEMS in Dublin on the 3rd of January 2004. Dr List will be contacted for the communication with EAA.

9. Subcommittee meeting reports by dr. Hüttel

A. Standing Committee on Continuous Medical Education/continuous professional development by Prof. Alahuhta

The composition of the working party has changed completely. The working party had a very fruitful meeting and discussed the draft charter on continuing medical

education/continuing professional development intensively. Quite a number of amendments have been made and will be introduced in the final draft. Prof. Alahuhta will send the latest version to the honorary secretary before November 15. The working party was asked to specifically devote attention to the matter of implementation. The final draft will be signed in Dublin in January 2004.

B. Standing Committee on Education and Training by dr. Ørding.

Dr. Ørding. Announced that the Committee had decided not to make up guidelines for paediatric anaesthesia. The Federation of European Associations of Paediatric Anaesthesia FEAPA, just issued their "Blue book" with guidelines which could be endorsed by the Section and Board of Anaesthesiology of the UEMS. This will be put on the agenda of the next meeting of the section and board in Portugal next year. In the discussion which followed dr. Buchser strongly opposed the development of a subspecialty, which was supported by the other delegates. It also was recognised unanimously that additional training is required for some areas of expertise of Anaesthesiology. The attendants strongly recommend additional training, which results in extra values, but rejected a claim of exclusivity.

Dr. Ørding. advocated the installation of a Multidisciplinary Committee on Neonatal/Paediatric Intensive Care, with Anaesthesiology, Paediatrics and Obstetrics being the candidate main players.

The president expressed warm feelings of thanks both to dr. Ørding and dr. Van Aken who had been doing a great job in their respective subcommittees of the Section and Board for so many years.

C. Standing Committee on Manpower by Prof. Meretoja

Dr. Meretoja mentioned that, to his joy, the Committee had met this morning for the first time since 2 years. An initial analysis has been made on a number of matters such as the number of anaesthesiologists, the effect of sleep deprivation of performance, the working conditions and on the matter of organisation of clinical practice. The decision of the EU Court regarding that the presence of doctors in the hospital who are not actually working will not be considered "resting time, together with the 48 hrs per week directive, will influence our future immensely. The activities of this important standing committee will have to result in a working directive of the Section and Board. It was agreed that a draft paper will be sent to the honorary secretary to be discussed in Dublin in January. This very important issue will be further dealt with during the meeting in Lisbon.

D. Working party on Fellowship European Board of Anaesthesiology by Prof. Van Aken/dr. Simpson

Although both Prof. van Aken and dr. Simpson unfortunately could not be present, significant achievements by this working party could be reported. A very well balanced draft document has been produced, but met with a final hiccup from some Scandinavian countries with respect to the final exam statement. It was inadvertently assumed that these countries were opposed to exams at all, which has been proven not to be the case. There are definite assessment procedures in the countries mentioned. The suggestion was put forward to delete the word final and ask dr. Simpson to reformulate. Some representatives mentioned that they had installed a final exam in the meantime at considerable cost in agreement with

the current opinion of the Section and Board. Dr. Simpson will be asked to send the modified draft to the honorary secretary for dispersion to the Danish, to the Finnish, to the Norwegian and to the Swedish representatives as soon as possible to decide upon the matter in Dublin. Drs. Van Aken and Simpson were given credits for this important achievement.

E. Working Party on the Post Anaesthesia care Unit by Prof. Ilias

Prof. Ilias presented both a draft editorial and a draft statement on PACU. The draft statement was discussed during the meeting of the working party of this morning. Some amendments will be made and sent to the honorary secretary. The president, vice president and honorary secretary will finalise the editorial during the Dublin meeting.

10. Multidisciplinary Joint Committee on Intensive Care Medicine

This item has already been dealt with during the presidents report.

11. Any other business/ date and venue of the next meeting:

The suggestion was put forward to publish charters of our Section and Board on the UEMS internet page. Prof. Vimiłáti offered a facility for the meeting of the Section and Board in Budapest in the fall of 2004, which was greeted with applause.

The next meeting will be organised in Lisbon in conjunction with the annual ESA meeting and congress on Saturday June 5, 2004

Prof. Hans T. A. Knape,
Honorary Secretary
Section and Board of Anaesthesiology UEMS