



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

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UEMS 2008 / 03 FINAL

**MEETING OF THE
PRESIDENTS & SECRETARIES OF THE
UEMS SPECIALIST SECTIONS & EUROPEAN BOARDS**

FINAL AGENDA

*Meeting to be held at the "Hôtel Métropole"
Place de Brouckere, 31 – BE-1000 Brussels
Thursday 17th April 2008*

MEETINGS of the 3 S&B GOUPINGS

Thursday 17th April 2008 – 9.00am to 10.30am

PLENARY MEETING

Thursday 17th April 2008 – 11.00am to 5.00pm

- 1. Approval of the agenda**
Approval of the minutes on the last meeting held in Brussels on 26.05.2007 (UEMS 2007/08)
- 2. Annual report of the Secretary-General (UEMS 2008/01)** Dr Maillet
Presentation & Discussion

3. Report from the President

The UEMS Mid-Term Strategy **

Dr Fras

This paper, drafted by Dr Zlatko Fras in collaboration with the Members of the Enlarged Executive, aimed to bring food for thought on the future of the UEMS.

A working group was set up at the Council Meeting in Budapest with a mandate to further elaborate the text. This WG met at the beginning of February to examine the contributions submitted by the UEMS constituent bodies. The outcome of this work will be presented for approval to Members of Council

Report on the WG Meeting (Brussels, 08.02.2008)

Presentation & Discussion

4. Specialist issues

a. Report from the 3 S&B Grouping

b. CESME Initiative & Glasgow Declaration (UEMS 2008/15)

The Council for European Specialist Medical Examinations was convened at the initiative of several UEMS Specialist Sections in a view to discuss and exchange experience on the organisation of Examinations at the European level.

The last meeting of CESME was held in Brussels on 16th February 2008.

Discussion

c. Medical Microbiology

Requests were received by the UEMS Secretariat to create an independent Specialist Section of Medical Microbiology.

Members of Council discussed this proposal at their last meeting held in Bratislava in October 2007 and agreed to postpone their decision to their next meeting.

Discussion

d. Oro-maxillo-facial surgery

The UEMS Secretariat was informed of problems arising from direct correspondence between the Section of Oro-maxillo-facial surgery and the Greek Ministry of Health.

Discussion

e. Position paper of the UEMS Specialist Section of Medical Biopathology on "Declaration of Patients' Rights" ** (UEMS 2008 / 07)

This Position Paper was received by the UEMS Secretariat with a request for endorsement by Members of Council.

S&B are invited to express their views on this issue.

Discussion

Vote

f. Intensive Care Medicine ** (UEMS 2008 / 08)

A request was received from the MJC on Intensive Care Medicine to work out the possibility for this specialty to be recognised as a particular competence. A “Roadmap” for this purpose was elaborated by the MJC and will be proposed for endorsement to Members of Council.

S&B are invited to express their views on this issue.

Discussion

Vote

g. European Definition of the Medical Act ** (UEMS 2005/14AM)

A request was received from GBS-VBS (Belgium) to amend the definition as follows:

“The medical act encompasses all the professional actions, e.g. scientific, teaching, training and educational, organisational, clinical and medico-technical steps, performed to promote health and functioning, prevent diseases, provide diagnostic or therapeutic and rehabilitative care to patients, individuals, groups or communities in the framework of the respect of ethical and deontological values. It is the responsibility of, and must always be performed by a registered medical doctor/physician or under his or her direct supervision and/or prescription.”

S&B are invited to express their views on this issue.

Discussion

Vote

**h. White Book on Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine
– Comments from the UEMS Sections of Psychiatry & Paediatrics**
(UEMS 2008/09-19)

A letter was received from the UEMS Specialist Section of Psychiatry requesting to look into improved terminology than “physiatrists” which might allegedly lead to confusion with “psychiatrists”.

i. Chapter 6 on training requirements in Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine** (UEMS 2008/12)

This document was submitted by the Section and Board of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine for endorsement by UEMS Council.

S&B are invited to express their views on this issue.

Discussion

Vote

j. Proposed resolution from the European Board of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine ** (UEMS 2008/13)

This document was submitted by the Board of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine for endorsement by UEMS Council.

S&B are invited to express their views on this issue.

Discussion

Vote

5. Future Structure of the UEMS

(UEMS 2008 / 06)

Dr Brenning & Mr Holzgruber

Report on the WG Meeting held on 15.02.2008 in Schiphol-Amsterdam

Discussion

6. European Issues

6.1. Health Services

Further to the consultation launched by the European Commission in September 2007, a proposal for an EC Directive on patient mobility was drafted. Further to alleged “exceptional” circumstances, the Commission postponed the release of its proposal several times. Informal leaks suggested that the text could be released on the 2nd of April together with a wider legislative package on social security. According to some analysts, there is a great likelihood that this initiative would not come through before the next elections for the European Parliament, especially if the release of the text was to be postponed again.

For recall, the main aim to propose this Directive was to provide legal certainty and clarity on issues such as:

- The terms and conditions under which cross-border care can or must be authorised and paid for, and the provision of information to patients about treatments available in other EU Member States;
- Which health authority is responsible for supervising cross-border care;
- The responsibility for any harm caused and compensation;
- Patient rights;
- Cooperation between national health systems.

Further to the change of Health Commissioner at the beginning of the month, it was announced that the Directive proposal was to be expected for June and would be included in a “social package” to be put forward by the Commission.

In the meantime, a consultation on patient safety was launched on 25th March 2008 in order to feed the development of the Commission's proposal for on general patient safety issues planned for the end of 2008. (See UEMS 2008/17)

Discussion

6.2. Working Time

The revision of this Directive is still in a legislative deadlock since the EU Council failed to agree on various issues, notably the opt-out.

Several attempts to break a deal were formulated but failed to reach a sufficient level of consensus among Member States.

This failure has put the Commission in the difficult situation of launching infringement proceedings against 25 out of the 27 EU Member States, which are in breach with the EU legislation.

It is expected that the forthcoming French Presidency of the EU will take over the issue and try to find a compromise.

Upon decision of its Council, the UEMS conducted a survey in Autumn 2006 in order to have a clearer picture of the state of play in the different specialties across Europe and examine what consequences the implementation of the EWTD had on medical practice and training. Further to this study, the Members of Council decided to take action individually at their national level.

Discussion

6.3. Recognition of Professional Qualifications

The Directive on the recognition of professional qualifications (2005/36/EC) was adopted in October 2005 and entered into vigour in October last year.

Requests to review and update the lengths of training as well as the denominations of the different specialties were circulated among the UEMS constituency. Only a few responses were sent back to the UEMS Secretariat despite the repetitive and constant reminders.

Effort needs to go on in order to provide the Commission with up-to-date and appropriate information. A comparative synthesis between the provisions of the Directive and the Draft ACMT Fifth Report is in preparation in order to help national associations and S&B in their work. This work was initiated under the aegis of the working group on postgraduate training.

In this framework, the platform on "Healthcare professionals crossing borders" released its Portugal agreement adopted in October 2007. (*See UEMS 2008/18*)

Discussion

6.4. eHealth

The UEMS has been very active in the field of eHealth, and this notably thanks to the creation of its working group on the issue. The UEMS action was particularly successful in the following:

- UEMS Bratislava Declaration on eMedicine (UEMS 2007/19)
This Declaration was adopted by UEMS Council at its last meeting held in October in Bratislava
- EU Conference on Telemedicine (Brussels, 11.12.2007)
This Conference, organised by the European Commission (DG INFSO), aimed to give an insight on this issue in a view to elaborate further the key areas to be addressed in a recommendation.
- CALLIOPE
The UEMS was invited to join this European project as observer in order to provide its input and network in the dissemination of information on good practices in eHealth development.

- eHealth Stakeholders Group
This Group was created by the Commission (DG INFSO) in order to bring together the different stakeholders sharing an interest in this field. The Group should now focus on his participation to the High-Level Conference on “eHealth without borders” to be held on 6-8 May 2008 in Portorosz (SI)

6.5. EU Directive on physical agents and electromagnetic fields

This Directive (2004/40/EC) was adopted by the European Parliament and Council in a view to better protect workers from exposure to electromagnetic fields.

Action was taken after concerns had been raised that this piece of legislation, once into vigour, would forbid the use of MRI scans. This action was driven by the “Alliance for MRI” which brings together professional organisations (UEMS), scientific societies (ESR), industry (COCIR) and patients as well as Members of European Parliament.

A recent resolution recently adopted by the European Parliament pleaded for the postponement of the entry into force of the Directive, in order to give time to further scientific endeavours.

7. EACCME

7.1. Report on the Meeting of the Advisory Council on 24.11.2007

(UEMS 2007/26 – To follow)

The Meeting of the UEMS Advisory Council on CME held in November was an opportunity for participants to discuss further issues relating to the EACCME practical process. For this purpose, a Taskforce had been created and reported on the outcome of its first meeting.

On the occasion of this meeting as well, the new online application form was presented to the audience.

Report – Presentation of UEMS 2007/26

Discussion

7.2. EACCME Annual Report

(UEMS 2008/02 – To follow)

Report – Presentation of UEMS 2008/02

Discussion

7.3. EACCME Taskforce

(UEMS 2007/23)

Report – Presentation of UEMS 2007/23

Discussion

8. Guidelines-International-Network

Dr Hofmann

A report is to be given on state of play of collaboration between GIN and the UEMS.

Discussion

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9. Any other business

10. Next Meeting

- **May 23rd, 2009: Brussels**

*Items in italic with ** require a vote or a decision.*