



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

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**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN VIENNA**

**September 2<sup>nd</sup> 2003 - 08.00-12.00**

**In the Wenckebach meeting room (Hall 12 – Congress Centre)**

**Present**

**J. P.Amlie  
H. Huikuri  
R. Michels  
O. Daniels  
H. Weber  
N.A. Boon  
C.D. Fessas  
A. Cieslinski  
G. Mancia  
L. Gonvalves  
K. Lyngborg  
I.Vassiliadis  
J. Airaksinen  
P. Kearney  
M. Mariani  
T. Tilney  
P. Vanberg  
H. Vik-Moe  
I. Oberhänsli Weiss  
M. Sigmund  
I.Preda**

**Apologies: All other delegates**

1. President J.P. Amlie welcomed the delegates of the UEMS cardiology section to the general assembly.

2. J.P. Amlie and Heikki Huikuri reported from the activities of the UEMS-CS 2002-2003. Jan P. Amlie also presented the budget of the UEMS-CS. The economic situation is satisfactory, even though many countries still have not paid their fees. K. Lyngborg from Denmark suggested "a more professional set up" of the budget than what has been previously done. However, the treasurer Otto Hess was not present, and therefore this topic was not further discussed.
3. Secretary Heikki Huikuri proposed a new model for fees in the UEMS-CS. The problem with the fees is that some countries will be penalised because of the high number of non-cardiology members in the society, e.g. nurses and technicians. The fee system has not been harmonized according to the number of cardiologists within each country. The secretary proposed a new model where the manpower is taken into consideration. With this system, some countries having paid high fees previously, will get lower fees. On the other hand, some of the countries would get higher fees than before. As expected, the delegates from countries getting higher fees, would not accept the changes as proposed. It was therefore suggested that all changes should be done gradually, and the societies should be informed in due course. It was therefore proposed that a letter from the Steering Committee should be sent to the national societies and professional organizations before a change in the fee system is effectuated.
4. P.E. Block gave a presentation of his efforts to create a socio-economic Task Force within the UEMS-CS. This issue was felt important by many of the delegates. P.E. Block asked for persons who would be interested to work on this topic. It was proposed that UEMS-CS should send a letter to all delegates and ask for their willingness to continue this work.
- 5-6. Peter Kearney gave a short overview of the EBSC at the moment, and H.Weber commented on the activities of the EBAC. Further, Rolf Michels gave a more thorough overview of the present activities of EBAC.
7. Heikki Huikuri commented on the current situation of the acceptance of cardiology as an own specialty in Europe. The EU parliament will have their conference late in September 2003, where this issue will be discussed and perhaps decided. According to the comments of Hannu Halila, the president of UEMS, UEMS has done a lot of lobbying in this issue, for example MEP's have been informed on the problems of professional qualifications in some medical specialties. In these discussions, cardiology has been used as an example. It has been proposed that if specialty is accepted in at least 70-80% of the countries, it should be accepted as an own specialty. Heikki Huikuri also commented that there will be new members joining the EU in 2004. In this respect the free movement of labor, e.g. cardiologists, will be possible. It has been proposed that there will be a transition time for the new members regarding the free movement of labor. The transition time will be determined individually for each country. In this respect, UEMS could be active within each specialty.

8. J. P Amlie commented on the meeting in the EU parliament on June 19<sup>th</sup> 2003, where the UEMS neurology- and cardiology sections, represented by their respective presidents, had a meeting with the EU commission and the EU parliament. The topic was Stroke, and J.P. Amlie commented that this was a successful meeting where the MEP's received important information on this specific disease problem. J.P. Amlie further commented that UEMS-CS is planning a similar joint effort between UEMS-CS, the EU commission and the EU parliament in 2004, possibly in May. The topic would be preventive cardiology, and top speakers could be invited.
9. J.P. Amlie welcomed a new member of the Steering Committee; N.A. Boon from the United Kingdom. And if the present Treasurer, OttoHess, ist not able to continue on an active basis, a new candidate will be elected.
10. A General Assembly meeting was proposed to be held in Brussels, May 15<sup>th</sup> 2004, if possible, otherwise it will take place in Munich ultimo august 2004, in connection with the ESC meeting. This will be decided at the Steering Committee meeting and cardiology section in Amsterdam, December 10<sup>th</sup> 2003.