



UNION EUROPÉENNE DES MÉDECINS SPÉCIALISTES  
EUROPEAN UNION OF MEDICAL SPECIALISTS

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UEMO General Assembly  
in Stockholm Friday 30 and Saturday 31 May 2003

Presidency of Dr Christina FABIAN.

The list of participants, the draft agenda, the President's Report, the minutes from the General Assembly in Florence and available Working Groups Reports are available and send to our Brussels Office.

**Friday 30 May 2003: General Assembly & Working Groups**

The first invited speaker was the **representative of Swedish GPs** who explained that in Sweden the proportion of doctors in GP and family Medicine is too low representing only 20% of all the physicians. As in others countries it is difficult to convince young doctors to practice in this field.

The second invited speaker is the **Swedish Minister of Health and Social Affairs**, Mr Lars Engqvist, who present his "action plan" to transfer defence's fees to health care. The plan adopted in 2000 dealt with:

- Increasing of the number of GP's to an average of 200 per year in the coming years
- To ensure the patient to see a GP within the week
- To ensure the patient to receive a correct management within maximum 90 days
- To assure the freedom for the patient of choosing the place to be treated within the country
- To publish the waiting lists data for the public
- To follow up this programme by a national Board of Health and Welfare

These talks were followed by an active discussion. The main concern is to attract young doctors in the GP's practice and to assume this practice when a lot of GP's are going to retire.

Presentation of "**the European Men's Health Forum and the First Report on Men's Health in Europe**" by Mr Erick Savoye and Dr Alan White. The EMHF is a non profit association based in Brussels but mainly supported by the Pharmaceutical Industry. Mens are more fragile than women face to a lot of diseases:

- Lung and prostate cancers
- COPD & asthma

- Coronary & vascular diseases
- Chronic pain disorders

An other presentation was made by Dr Klas Winell on “*General Practitioners Combating the Tobacco Epidemic*”. He produce a list of anti-tobacco activities. He insist on impact of tobacco habits on reduction of life. The number of smoking doctors varies from 3 to 50% depending the countries of origin. This is important because doctors are in first line to advice and educate their patients on tobacco habits consequences.

An association based in Edinburgh (Scotland) can provide help for national campaign <http://www.tobaccofight.org> or providing CR-roms.

The afternoon was occupied by Working Groups Meetings who are reported below.

### **Saturday 31 May 2003: General Assembly and Working Groups Reports**

1. The *Minutes from the GA in Florence* (UEMO 2003/027) would be amended at the specific demand of the Spanish Delegation.
2. The *President's Report* (UEMO 2003/044) is accepted.
3. A long discussion about *finances of UEMO* followed. The financial situation is critical from the departure of France, the absence of payment from big countries contributions like Italy and the Kensington Publications Ltd clash (see also below). Proposals were made by the President and submit to vote after hard discussions:
  - Short term proposals adopted for 2 years:
    - a) To reduce the translations to active English and passive German, French, Spanish and Italian
    - b) Not to pay for social events during the meetings
    - c) Not to pay for lunches during the meetings
  - Long Term proposal introduced by the Irish Delegation (see addendum) creating a Financial Sub-Committee for Structural Finances Changes
4. An other “hot” discussion was the *proposal to join the CPME Structures* (building and manpower) through a contract for one year. The proposal is 150.000 euros per year to receive rooms and all others facilities for lobbying in Brussels.
5. *Patient Safety – European Health Action Programme (2003-2008)* will be driven in close cooperation with the CPME.
6. Republic of San Marino was excluded from UEMO Membership for non payment of fees.
7. A Spanish Proposal for change of Statutes was introduced (UEMO 2002/122, 2003/030).
8. The UEMO – Kensington Publications Ltd experience was a disaster for last year with a non profit of 32.000 euros. Discussions with the UEMO Executive and a new editor in London.

*9. Reports of the Working Groups:*

- Specific Training: no written report, e-mail report driven by the vice-president Dr Mateja Bulc.
- CME/CPD reported by Dr Finnegan from Ireland. UEMO 2003-077
- Quality Insurance reported by Dr Bulc. UEMO 2003-075
- Medical Informatics reported by Dr Jonsdottir from Iceland. UEMO 2003-079
- Equal Opportunities reported by Dr Hamilton from Ireland. UEMO 2003-076
- Preventive Activities reported by Dr O'Connor from Ireland. UEMO 2003-078 and a document on treatment of Obesity presented by Dr Fjeldsted from Iceland. UEMO 2003-080.

**10. The *Liaison Officers* from other organizations delivered their messages:**

CPME (Dr Brettenthaler and Lisette Tiddens-Engwirda) assure the UEMO of their help and collaboration in Brussels and for all others matters.

WONCA Europe/ESGP/FM (Dr Evans) exposed their organization and insists that all the presentations during their Congresses are in English.

AEMH ( Dr Wedin) report that her organization will celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary soon.

PWG (Dr Tiainen) report on young doctors organization, assumes their collaboration with others European Medical Association and insist on the necessary independence of her organization.

UEMS (Dr Lamy) thanks UEMO for the meeting, assumes our collaboration on specific topics concerning GP's and Specialists Doctors in Europe.

**11. Slovakian Membership was accepted.**

**12. Next meetings will be held in Croatia, Dubrovnik, 3-4 October 2003 and Iceland, Reykjavik, 11-12 June 2004.**

The meeting closed at 17.00 and was followed by a superb dinner at the Vasa Museum in Stockholm with the active collaboration of the Swedish Medical Association driven by Dr Bernard Grevin who was warmly thanked by the President Christina Fabian on behalf of all the delegates and participants.