Thursday 4th of September afternoon was dedicated to the celebration of the 40th anniversary of the AEMH.

The 56th plenary meeting took place on September 5th and 6th at Phoenix Hotel.

The Secretary General of CPME, Mrs Tiddens – Engwirda, was present in the meeting.

The minutes of the 55th Plenary meeting in Berlin and the President’s report were approved.

The President presented is action plan to the term 2004 – 2006 and announced that it would be is last term.

The main Topics of the action plan are:

- Recognition of the AEMH as THE stakeholder for hospital concerns in Europe
- Increase in the involvement of National delegations
- Establishment of relationships to SANCO
- Establishment of relationships to HOPE
- Organization of annual or biannual symposiums on topics of working groups

The financial discussion was the main topic during the meeting. The generous contribution of the German syndicate - VLK - finishes this year, so the 2004 budget will be in deficit. Some measures were considerate to save money, like the cancelling of work lunches, social programme or to reduce interpretation facilities.

The decision was postponed until next meeting in Madrid in Spring 2004. To balance the 2004 budget it has been decided to use up to 6000 € from the assets to finance the translation costs in Madrid.

A new presentation of the national reports suggested by Danish delegation was introduced. Two parts now compose it: first a questionnaire about national data and issues of common interest, then the possibility to explain some particular situation of his own country.

The national reports were presented by each delegation. These reports are quite interesting as well as very “informative”.

The Croatian Medical Chamber was unanimous accepted as full member.
Reports of the working groups.

**CME/CPD.**

Who must organise the procedure of recertification? Is it possible to link CPD with the career of the doctor? Will the AEMH adopt the Basel declaration or create a log book on CME/CPD?

**EWTD (regulation of on call duties):**

Nothing new except that it worsens the lack of doctors in some countries. It was decided to do a questionnaire about the implications of the introduction of the Working time directive in each country.

**Accreditation.**

Prof Degos presented a report about Hospital (or service?) accreditation in France and the experience acquired with the Americans and Canadians. In Next meeting the working group will present the point of situation in Europe.

**Management and budgetisation:**

Questionnaire ready for the spring meeting.

Questions – Is the budget a responsibility of senior hospital physicians? What is statute, salaried, liberal?

**Risk management.**

This group will be reinforced with more members.

Conclusions posponed to the next meeting.

It was suggested that this group would work with the “patient safety” group.

**EU enlargement.**

The working group task will be the evaluation of impact of the entrance of new members in EU.

**Reports of the liaison officers to the AO.**

**Future subjects for discussion:**

- Hospital organization
- GRD

*Next Meeting – MADRID – 23-24 April*

CIRO COSTA, M.D