Speech to the UEMS Council

Good afternoon everyone,

Dear President, Dear Colleagues, Dear Friends,

It’s always a pleasure to talk to you at the UEMS council.

On behalf of the Tunisian Medical Council, let me start with a warm and sincere thank you for accepting our invitation to hold the UEMS Spring Council meeting in Tunis, in April 2026.

We are genuinely proud to welcome you to Tunisia - and I’d like to say something clearly, because I know it matters:

**Yes, Tunisia is safe.**

Life in Tunis is calm, vibrant, and welcoming. The conditions for hosting a UEMS Council are excellent - and we are fully ready, both in logistics and in spirit.

And despite the complexities of our current political context, our institutions - and our medical profession - remain stable, committed, and focused on moving forward.

And the timing couldn’t be better.

In recent months, Tunisia has appointed a new Minister of Health - Dr. Mustapha Ferjani - who happens to be Tunisia's representative on the UEMS Anaesthesiology Section, which we take as a very good sign!

At the Tunisian Medical Council, we’re proud to say that for the first time in our history, both the President and the Secretary General are women — and, as it happens, they also share the same first name.

Our President, Dr. Rym Ghachem, is a psychiatrist - which might be the perfect specialty for leading a council of doctors.  
And our Secretary General, Dr. Rim Horchani, who is here with us today, brings tremendous drive, structure, and clarity.

So yes - two Rims, one direction: to strengthen medical practice through quality and trust.

And we are fortunate to be supported by other committed members, including Dr. Asma Zidi, our Deputy Secretary General, who has just joined the UEMS Radiology Section. She is also with the Tunisian delegation to this Council. And we’re very proud of Tunisia’s growing presence within UEMS.

Together, our team is working to move things forward.

We are expanding CPD accreditation, participating in launching a national accreditation system for specialty training sites, and - most recently - introducing a voluntary certification system for physicians, through Boards of specialties, competencies and sub-specialties.

These projects are ambitious, but we’re moving forward - and we know that collaboration with UEMS will help us go even further.

So once again, thank you for your trust and your partnership.

We look forward to seeing you in Tunis, in April 2026, just before the first UEMS Congress, for good work, inspiring exchanges… and, of course, safe and sunny skies.

Thank you.