



UNION EUROPÉENNE DES MÉDECINS SPÉCIALISTES  
EUROPEAN UNION OF MEDICAL SPECIALISTS  
ORL SECTION & BOARD

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**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING  
OF THE UEMS ORL SECTION AND BOARD  
Izmir, 29<sup>th</sup> September – 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2011**

**Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2011**

**08.30 - 08.45 Welcome and introduction of new delegates and guests.**

**Karl Hörmann and Chris Milford**

Karl Hörmann, President of the UEMS ORL Section and Board, welcomed all delegates attending the meeting specially those attending for the first time. He invited new delegates to one by one introduce themselves.

New delegates attending Izmir were: Peter Robb (U.K.), Chariton Papadakis (Greece), Michalakis Papamichalopoulos (Cyprus) and Antti Makitie (Finland).

He acknowledged and thanked Reidar Grenman (representing the Confederation of European ORL-HNS and the European Academy of ORL-HNS, EAORL-HNS) and Fazil Apaydin (representing the European Academy of Facial Plastic Surgeons, EAFPS) for their presence, explaining how important it was for our Section to have them amongst our guests.

**Approval of minutes from the last meeting held in Malta 2010.**

**Chris Milford.**

The minutes from the last meeting held in Malta 2010 were approved by all delegates.

**08.45 – 09.15 Report on the UEMS Council Sections and Board meeting, Brussels 8<sup>th</sup> April 2011.**

**Chris Milford.**

The minutes from the last meeting held in Malta 2010 were approved by all delegates.  
(See document 1 enclosed to these minutes)

## **09.15 - 10.30 EUROPEAN EXAM IN ENT-HNS.**

### **Report on the EBEORL Part I exam performed in Barcelona last July 2011.**

#### **Angelos Nikolaou**

Angelos Nikolaou went through the history of the European Board Exam up to date. He also showed the number of candidates per year and their nationalities as well as the pass rate and number of successful candidates, the pass rate has been very similar throughout the 3 years and to he believes this suggests that the exams have been of a very similar standard.

The MCQ's have been regularly evaluated by the Board in the meeting that is annually held in Mannheim. The exam is electronically corrected in order to avoid human error and also in order to obtain the statistics of each exam and each question which are of great value for the Board. The pass rate is set up by performing the Angoff procedure immediately after the exam. All these steps are necessary for Quality control.

To his understanding the factors that have an influence in the origin of the candidates are: The city or country where the exam is taking place (easy to reach by plane), the financial level of the country where the candidate comes from (not many Eastern European candidates come to this exam), the usefulness of the Diploma in the different countries...

There was an open discussion after this presentation as René Dauman suggested that as there are many non-europeans sitting the exam, this should not be understood as a title to work in Europe, but just a voluntary diploma. It is explained that many of these non-european doctors have actually trained and certified as specialist in European countries. It is however well specified on the website the fact that the Diploma does not entitle them to work in Europe. It is a similar situation as to those European doctors that sit the American Board exam and it does not entitle them to work in the USA.

*(See document 2 enclosed to these minutes)*

### **Report on the EBEORL Part II exam to be performed in Vienna next November 2011.**

#### **Klaus Albegger**

Klaus Albegger presents last year's Part II exam that took place in Vienna and explains the organization for this year's exam to be held on the 19<sup>th</sup> November. So far 100 candidates have registered for this exam, there is a maximum limit of 108 candidates and we will very soon reach this number, when this happens registration will close for this year.

He encouraged all delegates to provide him with MCQ's and Oral guided questions for the EBEORL pool, it is very important to keep a large pool for future exams.

*(See document 3 enclosed to these minutes)*

## **10.30 – 11.00 Coffee**

### **11.00 - 12.00 Resident and subspecialty training in ORL-HNS**

#### **Reidar Grenman**

Reidar Grenman presented this topic and the results of the questionnaire sent to all UEMS delegates though there were many delegates that had not answered his questionnaire despite the fact of being sent several times before the meeting.

*(See document 4 enclosed to these minutes)*

He asked all delegates present in the room some relevant questions and asked for them to reply by raising hands. The results can be seen below:

**Question 1:** What is the duration of the specialist training in your country?

- 6 years or over: 8 countries
- 5 years: 11 countries
- 4 years: 1 country (Turkey)
- 3 years: 2 countries (Estonia and Lithuania)

**Question 2:** Are text books recommended or obligatory in your country for training?

- One or more textbooks obligatory: 5 countries
- Recommended but not obligatory: 10 countries
- National textbooks used: 6 countries
- Not recommended neither obligatory: 4 countries

**Question 3:** Do you have an exam at the end of the training? Is it voluntary or obligatory?

- Obligatory exam: 20 countries
- Voluntary exam: 1 country (Sweden)
- Not exam at all: 4 countries

### **12.00 – 12.30 A possible accreditation process for subspecialty training units.**

#### **Ulrik Pedersen**

Ulrik Pedersen presented the possibility of accrediting sub-specialty training centers.  
(See document 5 enclosed to these minutes)

### **12.30 – 13.00 Allocation of the delegates to the three working groups**

#### **Christopher Milford**

The three working groups were explained as well as the topics to be covered by all of them. These groups were as follows:

- Optimal length of sub-specialty training/time based vs. competence based*
- Potential overlap with other specialties/process of identification of approved European Courses*
- The potential syllabus/logbook/accreditation of units*

Co-chairs and a scribe for each of the groups were named. All delegates were allocated to each of the three working groups as shown by Christopher Milford.

(See document 6 enclosed to these minutes)

### **13.00 – 14.00 Lunch**

### **14.00 – 15.30 Group work**

The three working groups moved into three different rooms where they worked to produce a document with the conclusions arrived by each of them.

### **15.30 – 16.45 Report back of group work**

The three groups reported on the work and the conclusions arrived by each one of them.

(See documents 7, 8 and 9 enclosed to these minutes)

There was an open discussion on whether publications should be mandatory or simply recommended. It is concluded that they should participate in at least one scientific peer reviewed publication and that Reidar Grenman will ask the different ORL subspecialties to write a list of recommended courses/books in their subspecialty for trainees. These should be evidence based text books instead of eminence based ones.

**16.45 – 17.00 Tea**

**17.00–17.30 Education in Facial Plastic Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery**

**Fazil Apaydin**

Fazil Apaydin (representing EFAPS) gives his talk on the above topic.

*(See document 10 enclosed to these minutes)*

**Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2011**

**09.00 Karl Hörmann and Chris Milford**

They both thanked on behalf of the UEMS ORL Section and Board Önur Çelik and the agency Valor for their work in preparing the meeting and the social activities. Arrangements have been really well organized and timed and an excellent meeting has been managed.

Önur Çelik wants to point out that all these arrangements have had the help and the backing of the Turkish ORL Society and without their help it would not have been feasible. There is a general recognition and thanks to the Turkish Society and Önur will transmit this message to the President.

Malou Hultcrantz is asked to stand up for all delegates to say goodbye as it is her last meeting as Swedish delegate, the President and General Secretary thank Malou for her input in the UEMS meetings all these years. She will be very much missed in our Section.

**09.00 – 09.30 Report from the treasurer**

**Maria de la Mota on behalf of Francis Marchal**

Delegates are informed that Francis Marchal has not been able to attend this meeting due to unforeseen health problems. All delegates sent their best wishes to Francis and hope for his quick recovery.

María de la Mota presents the figures since the last meeting. When Francis Marchal took over the treasurer job, an account in Switzerland was opened and the UEMS ORL Section and Board funds were transferred to this account, a total of 40.000 euro is now in this account managed by Francis Marchal.

There are three countries that have dues from 2010 and 2011, and these are Belgium, France and Spain. France apologises about the non-payment of their country and both delegates, Dominique Chevalier and René Dauman will present the figures to the French Board stating that if France does not settle the payment soon, they will attend no further UEMS ORL Section meetings as they feel it is not fair on the other countries paying regularly.

There were no delegates present from Belgium or Spain and therefore no comments on the payments due from these countries.

There is a message from Francis Marchal saying that he had recently spoken to both the French and the Spanish Boards and there is a promise from both of them to settle the dues soon.

Another 4 countries need to settle the dues for 2011 and these are: Cyprus, Ireland Norway and Poland. Ireland informs that the Irish Society had just paid the fee the day before the meeting and apologises for the delay.

*(See document 11 enclosed to these minutes)*

## 09.30 – 11.00 Committee reports

### 1. EACCME. Ulf Schoensted-Madsen / Sverre Steinsvag

Ulf Schoensted-Madsen explained that this is his last year as chairman of this group and that Sverre is now taking over the CME tasks.

All delegates stand up and congratulate Ulf for all the great work done throughout these years.

There is still a problem regarding the payments to the ORL Section for the activities that the Section accredits. Our section has not received the money for the accreditations done for 2 or 3 years now. It looks like this is a general problem to many other Sections and something needs to be done about it. The CME money needs to be followed up as it means a lot of money at the end of the year.

Ulf will send Maria the list of those activities accredited by our Section in the last 2 or 3 years and not paid to our Section. Then Francis and Maria will prepare an invoice to the UEMS central asking for that money to be paid into our account as soon as possible. We will then see what happens and the President and General Secretary may need to talk to the UEMS central if the payment is not settle soon.

*(See document 12 enclosed to these minutes)*

### 2. Exchange and Manpower.

#### 2.1. Hans W Mollenhauer

Dr Mollenhauer presents all the figures and his disappointment about the non-responders. It is very important to have the manpower updated and for this the help from the delegates is essential. Still missing data from Belgium, Serbia, Spain, Switzerland and Turkey. He then explains that he will co-chair the Manpower committee with Wolfgang Luxenberger for 1 year and after this time he will leave this position and pass everything to Wolfgang Luxenberger.

The data for some countries seem to differ from one year to the next. Stanislaw Bien says that there is a problem when counting specialist, - numbers depend on the definition of 'specialist'. Therefore the numbers are not precise, there is a weakness in the numbers presented.

Regarding the education centres Stanislaw thinks that we should not count education centre as a whole, but centres that have accreditation for ENT training. He believes that it is important to define the data that should be provided for the manpower in order to avoid weakness in the numbers.

Rory McConn Walsh commented on the fact that looking at the manpower figures Ireland and UK are the worst performing countries regarding numbers. He would like these data to be published officially as in this way they will be able to show them back in their countries and have an argument to increase numbers.

Önur Çelik says that in Turkey the government is trying to increase the ENT numbers and many training centres are being opened. He would like to know the ideal ratio for ENT doctors/population. Otto Mollenhauer comments that the average in Europe is 1:21.000 but maybe the ideal ratio should be 1:18.000.

Reidar Grenman comments that it would be nice to know where the data provided from the different countries comes from: the specialist association?, the medical council?, other sources?... It would be nice to include in next year's questionnaire where the data comes from.

*(See document 13 enclosed to these minutes)*

#### 2.2. Wolfgang Luxenberger

Wolfgang Luxenberger presents the results on the questionnaire that was sent to all delegates. He also presents samples of some procedures and the relation between ratio of specialists/population and the waiting list in days. He explains

delegates how to fill the questionnaire and offers his help to fill it up if it is not well understood.

He will get these data published as he has had a proposition from Jan Olofsson to do so.

*(See document 14 and 15 enclosed to these minutes)*

### **11.00 – 11.30 Coffee**

### **11.30 – 12.00 Results of 2011 questionnaire on “The structure of future meetings”**

#### **Chris Milford**

Chris Milford reports on the results of the questionnaire and the conclusions from it.

There is a general agreement to keep the format of future meetings as it is now.

*(See document 16 enclosed to these minutes)*

Delegates ask for more information regarding the UEMS documents, it is explained that all these documents are available on the UEMS web site and the fact that as they are too heavy to be sent by e-mail, delegates should look into the UEMS web page regularly.

There is also a request to all delegates to check their data published on the website and update them regularly just sending an e-mail to Maria de la Mota with whatever modifications are appropriate.

Minutes will be sent to all delegates by mail with a link to the web site where all the enclosed documents to the minutes can be seen, opened and downloaded.

### **12.00 – 12.15 UEMS meeting 2012, Vilnius, Lithuania**

**Lithuania 2012:** Virgilijus Uloza presents Lithuania for the 2012 meeting.

The meeting will be held from the **5<sup>th</sup> to the 8<sup>th</sup> October 2012.**

*(See document 17 enclosed to these minutes)*

### **12.15 – 12.30 Next meetings**

**Geneva 2013:** 2013 will be held in Switzerland under the organization of Francis Marchal. The meeting will be held from the **3<sup>rd</sup> to the 6<sup>th</sup> October 2013.**

**Croatia (Dubrovnik) 2014:** 2014 meeting will be held in Croatia under the organization of Tomislav Baudoin. The meeting will be held from the **2<sup>nd</sup> to the 5<sup>th</sup> October 2014.**

### **12.30 – 13.00 Any other business. Open time for delegates.**

Klaus Albegger requests more information regarding exams in the different European countries. He is asked to send a questionnaire with the information he would like to know to all delegates by e-mail and he has the compromise of all delegates to get the answers quick. He will then do so.

The subspecialty logbooks have to be accepted by our Board, not by the central UEMS. Our main logbook was accepted in Brussels and it is our task to accept the subspecialty logbooks. Once they have been accepted by our Section, they can go on our website.

The meeting finally adjourned at 13.00 hours with a vote of thanks to Önur Çelik and his team for the excellent arrangements of the meeting.

**Izmir, October 2011**

**Documents enclosed to the minutes:**

1. Brussels April 2011 by Chris Milford.
2. Report on Part I exam by Angelos Nikolaou.
3. Report on Part II exam by Klaus Albegger.
4. Resident and subspecialty training by Reidar Grenman.
5. A possible accreditation process for subspecialty units by Ulrik Pedersen.
6. Working groups distribution by Chris Milford.
7. Conclusions group A.
8. Conclusions group B.
9. Conclusions group C.
10. Education in Facial Plastic Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery by Fazil Apaydin.
11. Treasurer report by Francis Marchal.
12. EACCME activities 2010-2011 by Ulf Schoensted-Madsen
13. Manpower 2011 by Otto Mollenhauer.
14. Results questionnaire Luxenberger.
15. Samples procedures Luxenberger.
16. Results on the questionnaire on future UEMS Meetings by Chris Milford.
17. Lithuania 2012 by Virgilijus Uloza.