

EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF INTERNAL MEDICINE

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL Meeting

On: Wednesday 30 March 2012, Tel Aviv, Israel

Minutes

1. Administrative Council

Present: Please find list of attendees attached

Excused: Peck-Radosavljevic Markus AUSTRIA, Pilger Ernst AUSTRIA, Karel Horky CZECH REPUBLIC, Guillevin Loïc FRANCE, Schumm-Draeger Petra-Maria GERMANY, Katsilambros Nicholas GREECE, Raptis Sotirios GREECE, Carcassi Ugo ITALY, Licata Giuseppe ITALY, Dinu Catalina ROMANIA, Bruckner Ion ROMANIA, Lazúrová Ivica SLOVAKIA, Vidali Primoz SLOVENIA, Briner Verena SWITZERLAND, Jaeger Philippe SWITZERLAND, Pfisterer Juerg SWITZERLAND, Akalin Erdal TURKEY, Semple Colin UK, Dowdle Rhid UK, Philip Dyer UK.

2. Minutes of the General Assembly & the Administrative Council Meeting, Athens 5/Oct/2011 (R Pujol F)

The minutes were approved.

3. Bilateral Meetings EFIM / National Societies (R Pujol F)

RPF spoke about the bilateral meetings with the National Societies and the experience of learning. Short overview was given on the following meetings:

- EFIM Meeting with DGIM (German Society of Internal Medicine)
- EFIM Meeting with RCP (Royal Colleague of Physicians UK) the idea was to discuss the role of Generalism.
- EFIM Meeting with the SFMI (French society of Internal Medicine). RPF has been at the same time invited to attend the French society congress
- Short on site meeting with ISIM (The Israeli Society of Internal Medicine) This was unique learning experience about the situation and problems of Internal Medicine in Israel. RPF prepared letter of support and presented it to the President of the Israeli Society Dr. Dror Dicker.

Future meetings are planned with the Spanish and Portuguese Society of internal Medicine. The idea behind these meetings is running the project on generalism and linking different experiences. At the same time improving the relationship with other national societies. WB mentioned that EFIM main goal is to support if problems appears.

4. New members: Cyprian Association of IM & FADOI

FADOI was fully accepted as a new EFIM member by the AC members

NC mentioned that each Italian? president has agreed.

In the meantime we have received application from the Cyprian Society of Internal Medicine. The application is still in process.

CD mentioned that Albanian Society is preparing their application and are going to apply for EFIM membership shortly.

5. EFIM Task Force Group (D Sereni)

Daniel Sereni gave presentation on the outcome of the EFIM Task Force Group.

Following 14 members of the EFIM Task Force Group have met couple of times to discuss the future of EFIM congresses.

Members of the group are: W. Bauer, L. Bosanska, F. Bosch, N. Cappellini, L. Dagna, D. Dicker, JW F Elte, F. Ferreira, V. Kokorin, L. Kotic, E. Kuscharz, S. Lindgren, D. Séréni (chairman), S. Unal.

The mission of the EFIM Task Force Group was to issue proposal for future EFIM congresses. The group came to conclusion that it is hazardous to make proposals for 2016 due to uncertainty of the financial crisis and changes that will happen.

The decisions of the EFIM Task Force Group are the following:

- Maintain one EFIM congress per year till 2015 at least
- EFIM congresses are associated with the national congress of the organising society
- EFIM maintains a permanent Scientific Congress Committee
 - with yearly changes
 - Includes YI
 - Installed in 2012
 - In charge of structure and content in collaboration with national organisers
- EFIM congresses last no more than 2 days
- Each congress has a limited number of “core topics”
- EFIM half day” to be proposed to national societies:
- If the evaluation is positive, could represent a new kind of EFIM regular activity

New name for the congress was proposed and accepted by the AC members.

EFIM congress is going to be called **European Congress of Internal Medicine**.

J Koberling mentioned that it is of great importance to focus on limited numbers of sessions and keep the poster presentations.

A Baptista added that it is practical to have simultaneous congress with the National society. As C Davidson pointed out, the problem with the 3rd day is poor attendance.

N Cappellini added that EFIM half day session could be parallel and added value to the congress to inform national internist on what EFIM is doing.

5.1 Congress Planning document (J W Elte)

JW Elte explained that the Congress planning document has been postponed due to the changes made on the contract with any country to host the congress.

6. Upcoming Congresses: Madrid 2012 (P Conthe, R Pujol F)

The Spanish delegation gave presentation on the upcoming Madrid Congress.

Javier Alegria, Eloy Pacho and Pedro Conthe presented different aspects of the Madrid programme and pointed out the completed deadlines for programme, website and important presence of the European countries within the Scientific Programme. They showed the new hot topics and other clinical topics added to the scientific programme. The programme for the YI, Clinical Gymnasium as well as the new workshops were shown as part of the congress programme. The high support of Spanish pharmaceuticals was pointed out and high attendance expectation from the Spanish internists. What Madrid congress needs is at least 25 % attendance from the EFIM member countries. Pedro presented a chart with the different countries attendance in Athens. He also said that the National societies should make every effort on publicising Madrid congress, on their national societies websites, meetings and their journals.

RPujol invited everyone to attend Madrid Congress as this is the European Congress and thanked the Spanish representatives for such a organisation.

N Cappellini was very impressed by the presentation and she is very honoured to start her EFIM Presidency at Madrid Congress.

Few suggestions were made for the Madrid Congress. DS commented on the low attendees number from France and added that the French Society is giving grants to YI to attend the congress. R Ceska said that the Czech Society is offering grants to five YI to attend the congress. D Dror asked for the slides to be able to publish them on the Israeli Society website. He also suggested sending sms to reach the participants might be worth trying.

Pedro Conthe pointed out that grants were given to 2/3 YI to attend the Congress.

Actions: A Trajkovska to send communication and remind National Societies to publish Madrid Congress on their websites, and promote it during their events. Done

7. Upcoming Congresses 2013, 2014

Prague 2013 (R Ceska/L Kotik)

Prof Ceska gave presentation for EFIM 2013 congress representing EFIM flagship. He pointed out that the website for 2013 is already active and the partnership prospect has been circulated amongst the potential partners. The event is going to take place in Prague 2 - 5 October and the contract with the local PCO, Guarant has been already signed. EFIM profit is guaranteed. The congress will be hosted by the Czech and the Slovak National Societies of internal medicine.

Marketing should start as soon as possible, pharmaceutical companies should be informed. DS commented that the reg. fees were rather high on which as R Ceska commented that the registration fees do cover the expenses of the congress and there are no possibilities to lower them.

R Ceska pointed out the necessity of growing centralised data base to increase the number of participants on which CD added that another benefit for attending the congress should be including the registration to the journal.

Geneva 2014(W Bauer)

W Bauer gave short updated on the Geneva Congress due to unavailability of Prof Gaspoz to attend Tel Aviv. W Bauer informed the AC members on the Geneva meeting that took place in January and financial questions that were discussed. The following step for the congress is finalising the contract with Palexpo and signing the agreement with EFIM.

8. EFIM Congress 2015 Moscow (V Kokorin)

V Kokorin gave short intro on Moscow and then presented Crocus, the international Expo Centre, which is the biggest in Russia. The venue is located 200m from the closest subway and it's only 20 min by car from the airport. Moscow has 3 international airports with more than 90 direct flights from Europe. Crocus has 36 transformable halls and can accommodate up to 4500 participants. Russian Scientific Medical Society of Therapists organises their congress every November on which between 3000 - 5000 internists attends. The idea is to combine the National Society congress with EFIM congress. Proposed registration fee is 250 USD p/p.

Moscow Congress 2015 was approved by acclamation.

RPF and JWE visited Moscow in 2010 and were very much impressed by the congress venue.

9. ESIM:

Report Winter School (W Bauer)

Verena Briner was not available to participate at the Tel Aviv meeting, therefore Werner Bauer gave presentation from EFIM Winter School on her behalf.

The winter school was a big success. 37 Residents from Europe, Israel and North Africa participated. The young internists were recruited from 17 countries through their national society of internal medicine. Grants from UEMS and from FDIME made it possible for residents from Tunisia and Morocco to attend the course. The scientific programme included regular lectures, workshops and two clinical-pathological conferences (CPC). The short cases presented by the residents were prepared before attending the meeting. They were of high quality, the presentations outstanding and the discussion were very stimulating! The residents learned a lot about 'how to start writing a scientific paper' from Professor Pierre Mannucci. At noon, there was always some sport activity scheduled.

ESIM Winter School 2013 will take place 20 - 26 January.

Xavier Roux mentioned that it was very good experience for the students attending and exchange of experience for the whole group.

R Pujol mentioned that the school is continuous education.

N Cappellini questioned whether having 2 schools is affecting the number of participants to the congress.

C Davidson replied that there was high response for ESIM, therefore two schools were organised where each member country may send 3 - 4 students and limit the residents to 50.

ESIM: Report Summer School (M Durusu)

Mine Durusu presented ESIM summer school to take place in Kusadasi, Turkey 2 - 8 September 2012. Proposals for the lecturers are in progress. Every member country may send 3 - 4 residents. 50 residents will be ideal number. There will be three clinical case presentations, clinico-pathologic conferences (CPC), case presentations by the students, interactive sessions and of course some social activities including the history on medicine in Antalya.

Transport for the residents are organised from the airport. The deadline for the residents is 14 June and it will be extended to July if possible.

Actions: The invitations to residents will be circulated again.

ESIM Bylaws (C Davidson)

The changes to the ESIM Bylaws have been approved accordingly.

The main change to the statutes includes: The director of the School will be supported by one or more Co-directors, one of whom should be the Director of the previous Schools in order to provide continuity.

Please find the proposed changes in Bylaws attached.

10. EFIM Website Development (R Duckitt)

R Duckitt gave presentation on the current EFIM website and key objective to the future EFIM website. He shortly introduced the team managing the website and showed the key objective:

- Increase Website usage
- Raise profile of EFIM
- Improved links with member countries
- Educational Resources
- Information and advertising for Conferences
- Publicise ESIM/EJIM
- Fellowship applications

The key work streams are: increasing the membership by adding private members access, education by linking to EJIM etc.

The Outcome measures will be by reporting on statistics of: traffic, new members sign up and click through.

Reports will be circulated to the EC members and annually to the EFIM Administrative Council.

D Dror suggested that it would be very useful adding educational content, review and present report from each society.

R Duckitt mentioned that the number of return users is very small and introduced the idea on building a platform to push the EFIM news out.

11. Clinical Research Seminar 2011(D Sereni)

D Sereni presented the programme of the Clinical Research Seminar that took place on 17 - 19 October in Paris. This seminar was sponsored by Amgen. 31 applications were received from 13 different countries of whom 6 residents attended ESIM previously. The evaluations received on the overall programme and organising were very high. Next course will take place 2 - 4 July 2012 in Paris. The following remarks were noted.

- More interactivity
- More workshops
- Insist more on practical issues
- A longer course

The following objectives for the Clinical Research course were presented.

- To upgrade abilities of YI to participate to clinical research
- To develop new research projects in IM
- To develop a network of YI researchers.

12. Young Internists (L Bosanska)

L Bosanska gave presentation on the Young Internists group explaining the structure and presenting the YI SubCommittee.

Lenka then introduced the activities of the Young Internists and presented the changes in the subcommittee:

- YI Subcommittee changes: Roger Duckitt (UK) stepped down,
- New YI Subcommittee members joined: Frauke Weidanz (UK) and Xavier Roux (France),
- New YI Assembly member joined: Liat Mlynarsky (Israel).

Statistics were shown on the number of YI from different member countries and activities in Promotion of EFIM activities among YI, Young Internists website, Teleconferences Executive Committee, YI Subcommittee. In addition to this Lenka presented the 6th YI Day to take place in Madrid, 25th October.

She then listed the different activities that YI are involved with in the working groups, ESIM, CRS, National Societies congresses, to cooperation with the Rare Disease WG survey and bilateral meetings. The action points of the YI are, Promotion of Internal Medicine in Europe, Young Internists meetings, Networking / Website / Social Networks and active YI involvement national and international. Discussion was opened on how to define an internist on which different answers were received.

S Unal suggested that all residents still in training should join YI.

C Davidson commented that the YI is the transition between YI and full physician.

A Soupart said that if the YI are motivated to continue their work they should not been stopped in continuing as YI.

13. Progress report EJIM (K Grundy)

K Grundy presented EJIM Progress Report and excused P Mannucci who was not able to participate this meeting. She highlighted the latest achievements:

- EJIM publication frequency increased to 8 issues in 2012, scheduled to go to 10 in 2014 and 12 in 2016.
- Rotation of editorial board

- Increase in number of submissions
- Decrease in manuscript handling times
- Increase in Impact Factor with Further increase expected for 2011
- Increased online usage
- Special offer to let EJIM become accessible to all members of National Societies of EFIM

Karena also introduced the mobile application for accessing the journal and EFIM cooperation on creating the member access to the full EJIM content. The conclusion is EJIM to become the flagship of EFIM.

There was a lot of debate around the 2€ access to go life in 2013 hoping that the access from the last 3 months will be completed and free. K Grundy asked each National society to pay 2€ extra to their EFIM membership to be able to access EJIM online. N Cappellini suggested that this should be added as opt in option for every society. However, F Bosch commented that it would be hard to convince members to read the journal if it is not of their interest. D Sereni required to understand how would this work and how to monitor who is using the web access. K Grundy replied that every member will have his personal profile created on EFIM website. N Cappellini suggested to run a survey and get the information on how many members would be interested in subscribing. D Sereni pointed out that this should be analysed carefully since the cost of this project might be higher for EFIM than for Elsevier.

14. Competences Working Group surveys

Runolfur Palsson reported on the Competencies Working Groups.

He pointed out that the surveys took longer to organise than foreseen. He then presented the questionnaire that was circulated through the YI database. Runolfur mentioned that the Competencies project intends to see how internal medicine is practiced / trained all over Europe

The Questionnaire included different questions among which:

- Organisation of IM services in Europe
- Clinical conditions and procedures managed by internists across Europe
- Postgraduate education in IM in Europe.

The purpose is to have the paper included as a supplement in 3 consecutive journals and also combine all articles together and publish the supplement issue.

15. Progress Report other Working groups

Lorenzo Dagna reported on the Rare Diseases Working Group

He then pointed out the recent increased interest by EU and National funding agencies and said that EFIM can play major role in creating guidelines on diagnosis/therapeutics, organizing and coordinating research activities and acting at the political level.

Rare Diseases WG have few primary Aims among which are:

- gathering data on European Internal Medicine departments dealing with rare disease
- To gain and share scientific knowledge about all rare diseases
- To imagine and create specific curricular tracks on rare diseases for medical students and Internal Medicine residents
- To coordinate European multicentric clinical trials.

There is a big collaboration with the YI and EFIM WG.

L Dagna then presented the web survey on which he pointed out that participants are asked to provide email address.

N Cappellini added that everyone is welcomed to join the Rare Diseases WG.

Actions: AT to send the communication including the link to the web survey to the National Societies who will then circulate it to their members. Done.

L Dagna will try to collect as much data as possible to be able to create an abstract. The aim is to create a database referral centre.

Mark Kramer reported on Professional Issues & Quality of Care Working Group

M Kramer informed the AC members that the paper on internal medicine is in progress. Draft will be presented during the AC meeting in Madrid.

Actions: M Kramer to finalise the paper and publish it in EJIM.

Pedro Conthe reported on Exchange Working Group

P Conte presented the Exchange Group project which goal is to provide supervised internships of one month, to the Internal Medicine European residents, in Internal Medicine Units of different countries of Europe.

The Exchange project was headed by Antonio Martin Batista in(May 2011)

The Working Group consists of five members:

- Pedro Conthe, Spain. Chair.
- Carla Araujo, Portugal. Secretary of the WG
- Maria Cappellini, Italy.
- Sabine Allard, Belgium. (previous committee)
- Ozan Yazici, Turkey (previous committee)

A proposal of participation in the EFIM Exchange Programme (EP) was sent to the EFIM National Societies (president), inviting to propose three centres on which 7 National Societies reacted and proposed Internal Medicine Units. Following countries participating at the exchange programme are: Israel, Italy, Latvia, Portugal, Slovakia, Turkey, France and Spain. Rest of national societies did not respond to the programme.

CM mentioned that this is a summary to push National societies to start the programme.

Actions: A Trajkovska to send reminder to all National societies interested to take part of the programme. Done

R Pujol suggested the national societies who are not interested in participation should answer to EFIM secretariat.

16. Foundation (D Sereni)

Daniel Sereni presented the activities on the FDMIE for 2011 and the plan for 2012.

7 ESIM Bursaries were given to YI, Clinical Research Seminar was organised in 2011 and another one will follow in 2012 also Grants for research on rare diseases on adults were offered. The plan for 2012 included the following:

- 10th anniversary of the FDIME
- Portfolio
- Musical events
- ESIM bursaries
- Seminar on clinical research
- Research grants for the EFIM congress 2012.

17. Administrative Council Meeting Spring 2013, Finland / Estonia

K Petterson presented Finland as a host for the next EFIM Spring meeting.

Since it is warmer in the spring in Helsinki, the dates proposed are 9 - 11 May, 2013.

Kalastajatorppa hotel was presented as a venue to host the spring meeting in Helsinki.

Margus Lember presented video on Estonia as a host for the EFIM spring meeting. Begin of May was offered as a preferred time for the meeting. Dates will be confirmed at a later stage upon confirming the destination.

Since we received two applications to host EFIM spring meeting, representatives of each national societies were requested to vote for their preferred destination. AT collected the voting forms and counted them together with the EC members. From the counted votes we received equal number of votes for each destination.

EC members called a break and decided to vote again among them which resulted in Finland hosting the following EFIM spring meeting in 2013 by one more vote. R Pujol thanked both national societies for offering to host EFIM Spring meeting and encouraged the rest of countries to bid for the following spring meeting.

18. Any other items: to be notified to the Secretary General in advance of the meeting

- Next AC meeting will take place in Madrid, Spain, 23 October, 2012

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