

# EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF INTERNAL MEDICINE

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY and ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

On: Wednesday 5 October 2011, Athens, Greece  
Minutes

**Present:** Please find list of attendees attached

**Excused:** Peck-Radosavljevic Markus AUSTRIA, Horvath Karel POLAND, Porsti Ilkka Heikki FINLAND, Guillevin Loïc FRANCE, Reardon Michael IRELAND, Lundin Knut NORWAY, Bruckner Ion ROMANIA, Akalin Erdal TURKEY, Philip Dyer UK, Semple Colin UK, Palsson Runolfur ICELAND, Anna Torres SPAIN, Pinilla Rodriguez Blanca SPAIN, Raptis Sotirios GREECE, Carla Araujo PORTUGAL, Conthe Pedro SPAIN, Davidson Christopher UK.

### General Assembly

#### 1. Apologies and Welcome (Ramon Pujol)

Ramon Pujol F thanked Greek hosts for organising this meeting despite the unpredicted circumstances and introduced Aneta Trajkovska from Congrex Belgium as main contact for EFIM Secretariat. He then excused the following Doctors that had sent their apologies for this meeting: see above.

#### 2. Report of the President (Ramon Pujol F)

Ramon introduced the latest EFIM activities since Luzern and planned projects for the future. He introduced the new Fellowship criteria, ESIM 2<sup>nd</sup> Summer & Winter Schools, EFIM webmaster and highlighted EFIM EC activities.

He then stressed the importance to present EFIM as a brand and Internal Medicine as a medical discipline. Ramon pointed out the importance of the visibility and communication of the national societies. Further more EC meeting in Sitges was discussed with the outcome and the decisions reached.

#### 3. Report of the Secretary General (Jan Willem Elte)

Jan Willem Elte presented the AC Council with the report mentioning the teleconferences between the EC members and the secretariat and the activities that EC members were involved like the Benefit Gala Dinner in Paris, EJIM meeting, Athens Meeting, Bilateral meeting with DGIM and the brainstorming meeting in Sitges. He then mentioned EC attendance at the international congresses and the frequent problems internal medicine is facing, like health care cuts, decreasing number of participants during congresses and strikes as in Athens.

#### 4. Report of the Treasurer (Faustino Ferreira)

Faustino Ferreira presented the financial report stressing out the worsened financial situation in 2010 is a result from cancelling the Swedish Congress. High hopes are given to the Athens Congress and improvement of the current and future financial situation.

He then presented the current dues collected from EFIM members for 2011 and late dues from 2010. Furthermore budget for 2012 was presented with a positive outcome and was at the same time approved by the members of the EFIM AC.

## Administrative Council

### 1. Apologies and Welcome (Ramon Pujol F)

**Present:** Please find list of attendees attached

**Excused:** Peck-Radosavljevic Markus AUSTRIA, Horky Karel POLAND, Porsti Ilkka Heikki FINLAND, Guillevin Loïc FRANCE, Reardon Michael IRELAND, Lundin Knut NORWAY, Bruckner Ion ROMANIA, Akalin Erdal TURKEY, Philip Dyer UK, Semple Colin UK, Palsson Runolfur ICELAND, Anna Torres SPAIN, Pinilla Rodriguez Blanca SPAIN, Raptis Sotirios GREECE, Carla Araujo PORTUGAL, Conthe Pedro SPAIN, Davidson Christopher UK.

### 2. Minutes of Administrative Council, Bucharest 19/March/2011 (Ramon Pujol)

The minutes were approved.

### 3. Re-election of Secretary General (Ramon Pujol F)

Jan Willem Elte was re-elected by acclamation to the position of Secretary General

### 4. Fellowship programme (Werner Bauer)

Werner Bauer informed the Administrative Council about the completion of the fellowship programme. The Fellowship programme is concluded and fellowship brochures have been already circulated to the delegates of the Athens Congress.

FEFIM privileges are as follows:

- Free access to EJIM
- Free access to PIER
- Discounted rate for the Congress
- Lunch Symposium / Fellows Lecture at the Annual Congress
- Online FEFIM Directory
- Official EFIM Certificate
- EFIM Fellowship Pin

The selection criteria:

- Board certified internists
- Professional experience of min. 3 years after training?
- Experience in teaching a/o publishing a/o research

The fellows have to sign up the programme for at least 3 years, and a discounted rate of 300 Euros will be offered if joining prior to 2012.

NC mentioned the Fellowship programme should be presented at each National Society congress.

Karena Grundy offered to publish the Fellowship programme on the EJIM Journal.

As the fellowship programme is an added value to the non member country, the Credential Committee should decide whether applicants from EFIM non member countries will be accepted.

### 5. Upcoming Congresses: EFIM-11 (Madrid), EFIM - 12 (Prague), EFIM-13 (Geneva)

#### EFIM 2012 Madrid

Ramon Pujol F presented Madrid programme as Pedro Conthe the Director of the Scientific programme was not able to attend due to the strike in Athens. EFIM EC members are going to visit the Congress Venue on 17 October. There are high hopes in the success of Madrid Congress. Short programme, registration fee, venue and

reception venue were presented. Electronic version of the congress' programme has been already sent to the AC members prior to the meeting. It was suggested EFIM Fellowship registration fee to be added to the programme.

#### **EFIM 2013 Prague**

Lenka Bosanska presented the slides for the Prague Congress mentioning that the final programme is not set up yet.

Lenka Bosanska presented the Prague Congress Centre, a venue easy to access and showed the meeting capacities, the Congress Hall and the smaller meeting rooms. The Congress will be joint symposia together with the Slovak Society of Internal Medicine.

The Municipal House will host the Gala Reception and the Troja Chateau will host the President Dinner. Furthermore the Prague Congress PCO, Guarant International, was presented as one of the leading and well established PCOs in Prague.

#### **EFIM 2014 Geneva**

Werner Bauer presented Geneva Congress shortly and introduced Prof. Gaspoz as the president of the congress. EFIM is currently discussing the terms and the conditions of the Congress which will follow by signing the Congress Planning Document.

Preliminary registration fees were then presented.

Antonio Martins Baptista made a remark on the raising registration fees which he feared will result in drop of participants' numbers.

#### **6. EFIM 2015 (Destination to be confirmed, Moscow)**

Ramon Pujol F introduced Valentin Kokorin and Andrey Spassky as potential organisers of EFIM 2015 Congress in Moscow and explained that EFIM is currently working on the format of the Congress. He then explained the possibilities of modifying the substantial programme of internal medicine and changing the content.

Ramon Pujol F informed the AC members that during Sitges EC meeting it was decided to change the content and the format of the congress.

Group of people will research the format for the 2015 Congress and will inform Russian Scientific Medical Society of Therapists.

The ideas and the concept will be presented during Tel Aviv Administrative Council Meeting.

#### **7. Congress Planning Document**

Daniel Sereni presented the format about the working group to decide on the congresses programme. He then formed the EFIM Task Force Group that will work on the Congress Planning Document. Following AC members will represent EFIM Task Force Group:

- Daniel Sereni - Chair
- Valentin Kokorin
- Dror Dicker
- Lorenzo Dagna
- Stefan Lindgren
- Frank Bosch
- Eugene Kucharz
- Lenka Bosanska
- Lubos Kotik
- Faustino Ferreira
- Serhat Ünal
- Werner Bauer

- Jan Willem Elte

Mark Kramer asked whether the role of internal medicine in the hospitals should not be an important point for the future congresses.

Prof Katsilambros mentioned that increasing the numbers of participants is not that easy due to economical reasons, but the fact is that more and more congresses attract more delegates.

Prof. Margus Lember asked for which group these congresses are and asked whether the programme can become more educational.

YI were mentioned as a group to be fully involved in developing the congress.

**Actions:**

Group to meet later in the afternoon. Meeting room to be arranged by Aneta T.

**8. ESIM: report summer school (Shirley Rigby)**

**Summer School Brighton 4 - 9 September 2011**

Shirley Rigby presented the slides on behalf of Chris Davidson, who was unable to be present and mentioned how successful the summer school was.

She then presented the organising team, the programme and the residents.

Evaluation results were very high and residents were extremely happy to take part of the programme. Few suggestions were presented for innovation of the ESIM programme.

Antonio Martins Baptista thanked Shirley on her great work on ESIM

**Winter School 15 - 21 January Saas Fee 2012**

Verena Briner presented the slides for the 2nd ESIM winter school with the plan to organise similar programme as ESIM Winter School in 2011.

Roger Duckitt said that he was impressed by the school and the educational programme given that was used in his department.

High enthusiasm by the AC members was shown for repeating the winter school.

**ESIM Summer school 2012-2014**

Mine Durusu presented the slides for ESIM 2012 Summer school to take place in Kusadasi 2 - 8 September.

She then presented the visual design, the Pine Bay resort, the capacity and the location of the venue. Scientific programme was presented as innovative programme with Main Room, 6 Workshop Rooms and Radiology Workshop and Interactive Lectures. Social programme was also presented.

Jan Willem Elte added that EFIM logo should be added on the visual design.

Ramon Pujol said that the school is a very powerful tool and EFIM should organise an ESIM alumni meeting as a follow up and finding new sponsors.

Ugo Carcasi fully supported the idea and proposed that this could be included in the congress as a half day session

**9. Progress Report EJIM Pier Mannucci / Karena Grundy Elsevier**

Pier Mannucci and Karena Grundy presented the slides on EJIM.

Mannucci mentioned that a diabetologist would be very welcome in the editorial board.

Karena presented the statistics on the articles received and submitted and showed the top submitting countries in 2010 and 2011.

EJIM will move to 8 publishing issues in 2012 starting from January 2012.

EFIM print subscription is declining, thus electronic access has to be provided for the EFIM National Societies and ESIM residents. In addition access to Congress abstracts has been proposed. Karena Grundy added that the online usage via science direct is relatively consistent and showed Science direct top 7 downloads.

EJIM ad banner has been printed for marketing purposes and will be published in the leading journals in general internal medicine from Elsevier. Frank Bosch mentioned that they have problem opening the Dutch journal version and said that the visibility of the journal is a problem. Karena Grundy asked all the national societies to promote the journal on their website and asked their member to pay for the subscription. Nica Cappellini added that through the web people should get involved more in the journal.

#### **10. Foundation Daniel Sereni**

Daniel Sereni presented the work that the foundation is doing pointing out the main sponsors who allow these courses, projects and seminars to take place. He then presented the activities of the foundation and the two new members of the Foundation: Ramon Pujol and Loic Guillevin. He added that the foundation is planning new social events to be able to raise more funds and mentioned the ESIM bursaries that the foundation is offering. 1 for Saas Fee and 6 for Brighton.

#### **11. Clinical Research Seminar (Daniel Sereni)**

Daniel Sereni presented the programme of the Clinical Research Seminar that will take place 17 - 19 October in Paris. He then presented the organising committee, objectives and the structure of the seminar. Werner Bauer asked if this is a yearly project, and this was confirmed. Nica Cappellini asked whether this is open to other sponsors than Amgen to sponsor on which Daniel replied that the foundation is open to other sponsors as well. 31 applications were received for the seminar of which 15 applicants were selected. Six of them have already attended ESIM.

#### **12. Young Internists (Lenka Bosanska)**

Lenka Bosanska gave a presentation on the Young Internists group explaining the structure and introducing the new YI representatives: United Kingdom - Frauke Weidanz, Slovenia - Ajda Skarlovnik, Russia - Maria Benevskaya. Lenka then introduced the activities of the Young Internists and presented the new subcommittee: Lenka Bosanska Chair, Roger Duckitt Ex-Chair, Carla Araujo Secretary, Lorenzo Dagna, Monique Slee-Valentijn and Moshe Vardi as the YI Editor. Statistics were shown on the number of YI from different member countries and activities in EFIM, ESIM, and Clinical Project where YI has been involved. In addition to this Lenka presented the action points for the YI group and stressed the importance of the surveys and visits and supports at national YI meetings. A question was raised on up to which age one can join YI. The answer is: as a trainee and up to two years after having finishing training.

#### **13. Progress report Working Groups**

- Harry van Hulsteijn reported on the Quality of Care Working group

- The first version of the Position Paper in Quality is ready and was circulated amongst AC member for approval, publication in EJIM will follow.

- Rule of 12 to ensure quality discharge process was issued a few years ago. This year the group wants to look at the implementation of these rules. A questionnaire has been sent to all AC members to fill it out and send it back to the EFIM secretariat.

Valentin Kokorin asked whether the survey should be anonymous, on which Harry van Hulsteijn replied that the name of the National Society should be given.

Harry Van Hulsteijn and Mark Kramer proposed to merge the Professional WG and Quality of Care WG and to write new position paper.

**Action:** AC and EC to discuss and decide whether these two WG should merge.

Werner Bauer wondered whether it is politically correct to merge the WGs.

The idea for merging would be to show the Quality & Safety as the “heart” of internal medicine. The Quality of Care paper to be implanted in the Professional WG.

#### Lorenzo Dagna reported on the Rare Diseases Working Group

The Rare Diseases working group met for the 1<sup>st</sup> time in Athens. Current members of the WG are: Lorenzo Dagna, Lenka Bosanska, Daniel Sereni, Nica Cappellini, Eric Olsen and Ieva Ruza.

Lorenzo Dagna presented 2 ideas:

- Study evaluating the ability of Internists across Europe to recognize specific rare disease by means of the analysis of simple patient vignettes

- Survey aimed at identifying National referral center for (specific) rare diseases across Europe

Results will be published (in a subpage of [www.efim.org](http://www.efim.org))

Ramon Pujol suggested patients from other countries to be included in the survey

Nica Cappellini added that the idea of this project is to deal with internists.

#### Mark Cranston reported on the Competencies Working Group

Mark Cranston presented the questionnaire that was circulated through the YI database.

The intention is to get data on how postgraduate programme looks in EU.

Mark Cranston reminded members that the Competencies project intends to see how internal medicine is practiced / trained all over Europe. The target of this group is to prepare paper on the following:

- Organisation of medical practice
- Organisation of post graduate training
- Assessment methods
- Presentation of common diagnoses & procedures diagnoses as done by Internists in different countries
- Procedures in which an internist is trained in different countries

No draft paper has been submitted yet in Athens.

Once the papers have been finalised the idea is to upload the data on the web and asked YI to keep it as a constant active document.

Dror Dicker suggested the paper to be shown to the national societies/AC members before publishing them.

Shirley Rigby was worried that the papers need to be published before they are outdated.

**Action:** Mark Cranston and Runolfur Palsson to be in touch with EFIM EC on finalising this project.

#### Mark Kramer reported on the Professional Working Group

Mark Kramer presented the members of the Professional WG and introduced the two new members: Antonio Martins Baptista and Xavier Roux.

Published position paper (lay version) was presented in US during the ACP congress and was very well received. A new position paper will be written to be published on EFIM website about “The Future of Internal Medicine in Europe”. Also a new

paper on “Conflicts of Interests” will be finalized and after that presented to the EC and later to the AC (in Tel Aviv).

**Actions:** Mark Kramer to send the paper to EFIM Secretariat.

Pedro Conthe - Exchange Working Group

Pedro Conthe was not able to attend the AC meeting due to the strike.

**14. Administrative Council Meeting, Israel 29 - 31 March 2012 - Dror Dicker**

Dror Dicker presented the slides for the following AC meeting to take place at the Tel Aviv Sheraton Hotel.

Dror Dicker presented facts and figures of Tel Aviv and showed the meeting venue with the room and meeting space capacity.

Preliminary programme was given, beginning on Thursday 29 March followed by the AC meeting on Friday and social programme on Saturday 31 March.

Scientific lecture will be included in the programme by pharmaceutical company who will at the same time sponsor this event.

Keynes Israel is the selected PCO to organise the AC meeting, they are well established in Israel with long experience in organising meetings in the scientific and medical related field.

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

- Ramon Pujol introduced FADOI's request to become EFIM member.

As per EFIM statutes two societies from the same country may become members.

**Actions:** Ramon Pujol to send letter to SIMI informing them about FADOI's request to become EFIM members. Final decision will be taken in Tel Aviv.

- Discussion about EFIM data bank of questions to be created and sold to the national societies was raised.

Shirley Rigby explained that it takes too much time and effort to create such a database.

Mark Kramer did not agree with the proposal and said that the Netherlands are very well organised and will not participate in this projects. At present Netherland, Turkey and of course UK make their own questions.

Ramon Pujol saw potential in this project and thought that EFIM should start with such a data bank.

- Next AC meeting will take place in Tel Aviv, Israel, 29 - 31 March 2012

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