



UEMS SECTION OF OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE

MINUTES

Meeting: October, 3rd 2015
Šibenik, Croatia 9:30 am - 5:00 pm

1. Participants and apologies

- **PARTICIPANTS:** Klaus Ernst Stadtmüller, secretary (Switzerland), Simon Bulterys, treasurer (Belgium), Karl Hochgatterer (Austria), Jadranka Mustajbegović (Croatia), Vlasta Dečković Vukreš (Croatia), Ole Carstensen (Denmark), Satu Vaihkonen (Finland), Kari Reijula (Finland), Patricia Maladry (France), Elisabeth Isnard (France), Tom O'Connell (Ireland), *Nicole Majery (Luxemburg)*, Tor Erik Danielsen (Norway), Pedro Gustavo Reis (Portugal), Emil Vancu (Romania), Marie Cruz Rodriguez (Spain), Dick Spreeuwers (The Netherlands), Nerys Williams (United Kingdom), Ana Maria Frazao, standing guest (EJD).
Participation list: see annex .
- **APOLOGIES:** Alenka Škerjanc, president (Slovenia), Milan Tuček (Czech Republic), Maie Vahisalu (Estonia), Thomas Kraus (Germany), Athanasios Alexiou (Greece), Ferenc Kudaz (Hungary), Ivo Iavicoli (Italy), Maija Eglite (Latvia), Kristian Vetlesen (Norway), Jolanta Walusiak Skroupa (Poland), Ian Aston (United Kingdom), Elena Pauncu (Romania), Giso Schmeißer (standing guest-EASOM President).

Frame of the meeting

Our autumn-meeting 2015 was part of the 6th Croatia Congress on Occupational Health, which was held in Šibenik from 30.9.2015 to 4.10.2015. Some of our members took the opportunity to participate on that congress. Klaus Stadtmüller presented the UEMS and the work of the section of Occupational medicine on Saturday morning at 9:00.

A very special highlight was the evening dinner in the presence of the president of the Croatia society of Occupational Medicine, MD, DSc. Azra Hursidic Radulovic. We had much fun, enjoying dalmatian food, wine and music. A special surprise was to realize that Ana Maria celebrated her special birthday with us.

2. Welcome to new members

Our president Alenka could for personal reasons unfortunately not participate to this meeting. So Klaus Stadtmüller greeted in the name of the president and of the whole group the two new members Dr. Nerys Williams, official delegate for UK and Dr. Marie Cruz Rodriguez, official delegate for Spain.

3. Company/work-site visit

Due to the congress there was no additional possibility for the organisation of a special work-site visit

4. Presentation and discussion: Occupational Medicine in Croatia

Welcome

The president of the Croatia Society of Occupational Medicine expressed a warm welcome to all participants and wished us a successful meeting. As she had to attend the Congress and due to the shortage of time Vlasta summarized very shortly some facts:

The first postgraduate course of Occupational Health in former Yugoslavia was started in 1949. at the School of Medicine University of Zagreb. Since 1995. the Croatian Society is member of UEMS Section of Occupational Medicine.

The first university department for Occupational Medicine was founded in 1954 at the School of Medicine University of Zagreb. Occupational Medicine became a medical speciality in 1960. , and the Croatian Society on Occupational Health was established 1963 within the ambrela of the Croatian Medical Association. After the Croatian declaration of independence, 1991, the medical system was excluded a curative part, and only a preventive activities remain within the occupational medicine. . The curative part is covered by general medical practice. Both are part of the social security system and "Occupational Medicine so is an integrative part of the National Health System" (Vlasta). A workers visit to the Occupational Physician because of suspected work related health problem has to be paid by the social security.

This and the problems of cooperation between the doctors in the curative system and the OccDocs provoked a short discussion amongst the participants.

The actual Croatian Ssociety of Occupational Medicine has about 250 members.

5. Minutes of the last meeting (Copenhagen)

The Minutes were adopted without comments, questions or remarks.

6. Information from UEMS

The costs for the Domus Medica has resulted much higher than the budget. Actually, the decision was taken that the premises could not be used without paying, even for the UEMS section meetings.

A thorough budgeting process is now installed and UEMS finances should be in order between 2017 (best case) and 2020 (worst case).

UEMS is was having its Council meeting in Warsaw on the 16th and 17th October and we will observe the further developments.

7. Sections finances (Simon Bulterys)

Simon Bulterys reported that the actual cash position balances the foreseeable expenses. So there will be no member contributions to the section needed for 2015 (see also minutes of Copenhagen and the relative annex).

8. Website (Ole Carstensen)

The web site seems to attract more visitors than for a long time before. We should - step by step – make it more attractive, for example with publishing the import national congresses of each member country.

9. Surveys (Mari Cruz Rodriguez, Ana Frazao).

Mari Cruz presented the "Tasks of specialists in occupational medicine in Europe" (see annex 2) . As decided in Copenhagen we had a broad discussion about the data, its meaning and what to do with it.

Summary of the discussion: The data is very interesting, but not self explaining and the basis of an extra

round of reflexion. Publishing seems important, integrating also the results of the work of Dr. Gehanno (France) and Dr. Schmeisser (EASOM). What are the questions, we want to answer with a publication? One could be: are we doing the right things? Why seem to be important regional diversity in OM practise? What is the influence of politics and economy on our work? Why do doctors spend time with preemployment checks, why not? Does health surveillance contribute really to better workers health in your country? We agreed that, Kai, Simon and Dick will prepare a round table discussion for the next meeting in Bologna.

Maria Ana presented the results from her survey concerning the postgraduate training in OM (annex 3). The results should be seen in the light of the work on a European scheme of the specialist's training in OM. If our group wants to elaborate such a blueprint, work on it should be intensified. Problem: Resources.

10. Section's working groups

The leaders of the three WG summarized work and results which the groups presented in Copenhagen. After that "refresher" in the group, the WG continued their work in groups and presented the results afterwards to the plenum.

WG 1: Training in OM: Formation of specialists in OM and its harmonisation in the UEMS member states

The assessment of training is done. Now the professional competences and attitudes have to be defined to fill the very theoretical formulations of chapter 6 with real life.

see annex 4

WG2: Occupational diseases

See annex 5

WG3: Integration UEMS OM in EU-OSH strategic framework (annex)

Simon underlined that the EU framework for health and safety on the workplace 2014 - 2020 took up a lot of our inputs, we made. He added that a meeting with Marianne Tyssen, commissioner of DG5, could be possible but must be well prepared.

See annex 6

11. Collaborations

ETUI – no news, perhaps Milan now more at the next meeting.

Pedro will review the UEMS presentation from 2013.

Strategy: engage them in a non-confrontational discussion

EU-OSHA important player

reinforce the links is desirable. Ferenc is active.

12. Any other business

Next meeting: 18./19.3. 2016 in Bologna

Ivo Iavicoli sent me on Sunday evening 18.10. at 21:35 the following message:

"I confirm the availability of the Italian Society of Occupational Medicine and Industrial Hygiene (SIMLII) to host the next meeting of The UEMS Section of Occupational Medicine in Bologna on 19 March 2016"

The meeting closed at 17:00 p.m.

Klaus Stadtmüller
Secretary

Alenka Škerjanc
President