

UEMS SECTION OF OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE

MINUTES

Meeting: May 21st 2016 Bologna, Italy <u>9:00 am</u> - 5:00 pm

1. Company/work-site visit (Friday 15:30 – 17:30)

Ducati Factory, via Antonio Cavalieri Ducati 3, Bologna We had the opportunity to look behind the curtains into the production of one of the most prestigious motorbike manufacturer of the world: Ducati. We were very surprised by the mean age of the blue collar staff there (around 30). The competent Occupational physician, together with his colleague and the responsible for safety received us after the round to answer our questions. Thank you for this interesting view into the factory.



2. Participants and apologies

 PARTICIPANTS: Alenka Škerjanc, president (Slovenia), Simon Bulterys, treasurer (Belgium), Klaus Ernst Stadtmüller, secretary (Switzerland), Marie Cruz Rodriguez (Spain), Ole Carstensen (Denmark), Tor Erik Danielsen (Norway), Maija Eglite (Latvia), Fabriziomaria Gobba (Italy), Karl Hochgatterer (Austria), Ivo Iavicoli (Italy), Thomas Kraus (Germany), Ferenc Kudaz (Hungary), Nicole Majery (Luxemburg), Tom O'Connell (Ireland), Kari Reijula (Finland), Pedro Gustavo Reis (Portugal), Dick Spreeuwers (The Netherlands), Milan Tuček (Czech Republic), Emil Vancu (Romania), Kristian Vetlesen (Norway), Nerys Williams (United Kingdom),

Ana Maria Frazao, standing guest (EJD) Katalin Sas, invited guest (OSHA-Bilbao) .

• **APOLOGIES:** Athanasios Alexiou (Greece), Vlasta Dečković Vukreš (Croatia), Pedro Gonzalez de Castro (Spain), Jadranka Mustajbegović (Croatia), Jolanta Walusiak Skroupa (Poland), Elena Pauncu (Romania), Maie Vahisalu (Estonia), Satu Vaihkonen (Finland), Giso Schmeißer (standing guest-EASOM President).

3. Welcome

Our president Alenka opened the meeting on Saturday morning, thanked Ivo and his collegues for the organisation of the very interesting factory visit of Ducati and expressed her thankfulness for the numerous personal contacts with a lot of members during the last months.

4. Presentation and discussion: Occupational Medicine in Italy

The president of the Italian Society of Occupational Medicine and Industrial Hygiene SIMLII (<u>www.simlii.it</u>), Prof. Dr. Francesco Violante welcomed the group wished a successful meeting. He gave an overview to the contemporary situation of occupational medicine in Italy.

For historical reasons OM is in the public view still mostly associated with health surveillance of workers. There are around 6000 doctors practising OM (=medico competente, who is not necessarily an OMspecialist) in Italy, the society has around 1200 members in good standing. The OHS-authorities in Italy in the power of regional structures, there is a small role for federal structures, although this might change. He concluded his presentation with the statement, that the health consequences of unemployment is the most important professional disease.

Further information: see presentation in the annex

Minutes of the last meeting (Šibenik)

The Minutes were adopted.

Marie Cruz added, that the second delegate from Spain, Pedro Gonzales, was apologized for the autumn meeting 2015 in Šibenik.

5. Information from meetings

The workshop organised by the organisation "publicpolicyexchange" summarized some actual issues of OHS which are discussed actually on European level. Nothing new and no impact of UEMS was missed reported Simon Bulterys.

6. Information from EU-OSHA Bilbao (Katalin Sas)

Mrs Sas introduced her employer, the "Agency for Safety and Health at work" in Bilbao as "The European Union body responsible for the collection, analysis and dissemination of relevant information to serve the needs of those involved in safety and health at work". It is one of the smallest EU-Agencies with around 65 FTE. Their principle task are: collecting facts and figures, their distribution and sharing in professional networks, sharing tools of best practice in OHS, anticipating future developments. A core activity are the periodical "Healthy workplaces campaigns" in collaboration with national focal points, not restricted only to EU member states. The actual has the programmatic title: "Health workplaces for all ages". She expressed the hope for more intense relation to UEMS OM and for contributions, f.ex. writing expert articles. She told us, that a Section meeting could probably be held in the agencies premises in the future.

7. Information from UEMS

UEMS Executives are very much focused on internal affairs and less on EU affairs.

8. Sections finances (Simon Bulterys)

Simon Bulterys reported that the actual cash position still balances the foreseeable expenses for 2016. As in 2015 there will be no member contributions to the section needed for 2016, provided that some outstanding fees are paid.

9. Website (Ole Carstensen)

The web site once again lacks visitors, there is not much traffic. Ole proposes that we should discuss the future of the web-site next year.

10. Surveys

The round table discussion which we planned in Sibenik for the Bologna meeting on the differences of OMpractise in Europe (Survey by Mari Cruz) needs more preparation and was postponed. 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.

Section's working groups

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

Between the Sibenik meeting and the Bologna meeting the group members were active on homework. The work to define the professional competences and attitudes continued in the WG.

Kari Reijula informed the section that the group aims to complete to define the competencies and the skills/attitudes for the 10 chapters of the curriculum until spring 2017. see annex 3 (results of WG1)

WG2: Occupational diseases

WG 2 will elaborate a text on occ.dis. which will be presented to the section during the Budapest meeting for discussion and voting. That text will serve as a basis for different further activities in the name of the section. see annex 4 (results of WG2)

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

Simon reported to the section about a meeting with Marianne Thyssen, Commissioner of Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility. Present were also Inge Bernaerts (cabinet) and Stefan Olsson (Director). He organized a video conference with EU-OSHA Bilbao and the outcome is the presence of Mrs Sas in our meeting. Mr Olsson will contact us after re-organisation of his administration.

11. Collaborations

<u>ETUI –</u>

The trade unions campaign to establish European exposure levels for carcinogenic agents on the workplace seems to gain force. Actually there are different levels and regulation in force.

see <u>http://www.etui.org/fr/Publications2/Rapports/Carcinogens-that-should-be-subject-to-binding-limits-on-workers-exposure</u>

see also annex 6: proposal to amend EU-Dir. 2004-37

12. Any other business

<u>Ana Maria Frazao</u> gave a presentation to the section about the persons of the of EJD's permanent working group, the activities of that group and the issues tackled lately.

presentation: see annex 7

<u>Thor</u>: recruitment for OM trainees is still a big problem for OM Ivo: Prof. Violante, pres. Of SIMLII, wishes to have the contact addresses of section members.

The meeting closed at 17:00 p.m. Next section meeting: 29.10. 2016 in Budapest

Klaus Stadtmüller

Secretary

Alenka Škerjanc President