



UEMS SECTION OF OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE

MINUTES - Glasgow

Friday, 29th 2014

As some members were visiting the EASOM Summer School there was no work-site visit during this meeting. Some members enjoyed a very nice evening at the conference dinner of the EASOM meeting.

Saturday, 30th August 2014 (09:00 – 17:30)

Menzie's Hotel, Glasgow

1. Participants and apologies

- **PARTICIPANTS:** Alenka Škerjanc, president (Slovenia), Klaus Ernst Stadtmüller, secretary (Switzerland), Simon Bulterys, treasurer (Belgium), Karl Hochgatterer (Austria), Jadranka Mustajbegović (Croatia), Milan Tuček (Czech Republic), Ole Carstensen (Denmark), Ritva Helimäki-Aro (Finland), Kari Reijula (Finland), Satu Vaihkonen (Finland), Elisabeth Isnard, observer and guest (France), Tom O'Connell (Ireland), Maija Eglite (Latvia), Nicole Majery (Luxemburg), Pedro Gustavo Reis (Portugal, Emil Vancu (Romania), Marek Varga (Slovakia), Dick Spreeuwers (The Netherlands), Nikki Cordell (United Kingdom), Ian Aston (United Kingdom), Ana Maria Frazao, standing guest (EJD), Giso Schmeißer, standing guest (EASOM President), Elena-Ana Pauncu (Romania).
- **APOLOGIES:** Christine Klien (Austria), Vlasta Dečković Vukreš (Croatia), Maie Vahisalu (Estonia), Pille Viive (Estonia), Thomas Kraus (Germany), Athanasios Alexiou, observer and guest (Greece), Ferenc Kudaz (Hungary), Ivo Iavicoli (Italy), Tor Erik Danielsen (Norway), Kristian Vetlesen (Norway), Jolanta Walusiak Skroupa (Poland), Damian Fotache (Romania), Montserrat Puiggene (Spain).

2. Welcome

The president expressed a warm welcome to all participants, especially to the new members Satu Väihkonen (Finnish Society of OM) and Ian Aston (Faculty of OM, UK).

3. Presentation from the host country

Richard Heron, president of the UK Faculty of Occupational Medicine, gave an excellent insight of the challenges for OM in the UK and the possible way for a future solution. In two sentences: our UK-colleagues see the future for OM-doctors in a new cooperative model for Occupational Health together with other OH-professionals. To achieve this, they seek the cooperation between professional societies and the link to national institutions and programs (annex).

4. Minutes of the last meeting (Riga, 30.-31. May 2014)

- Minutes were adopted without comments, questions or remarks.

5. Information from UEMS

- We are not happy that any UEMS Executive member had attended the Section's meetings since the meeting in Innsbruck, April 2012. Strong communication is needed even though the Section is very active.
- The UEMS Memorandum with European Scientific Societies is on the way, it will be discussed at the next UEMS Council in October. It is prepared as a juridical act. In this moment, we do not think that this is the best solution. A short comment has just been sent to Brussels, we are waiting for the news from UEMS.

6. Working rules

K. Stadtmüller summarized the essentials of the document "working rules" presented in Riga:

- Definition of the different status for participants of the section's meetings
- Working processes for the sections board
- Collaborating rules for the work in the section.

The following linguistic change was proposed by native English speakers for the point "meeting":

"Ordinarily, accompanying partners are not invited to the social programme unless otherwise specified by the local organizers."

The so changed document was unanimously adopted (annex).

7. Finances

S. Bulterys gave an actual overview of the actual financial situation of the OM Section. The balance at end of August was 3718,78 € but the budget for 2014 was negative. He highlighted once again the difficulties, which were reported already in Riga. The contribution of five more members was paid. We still have no contribution received for six members. An important number of mails and recalls have been sent. He asks the members to intervene personally at the level of their respective associations to pay the contribution.

It's clear that the budget we made is larger than the contributions received. We have to send the billing for 2014 by the end of the year. This must permit us to visit EU, ETUI and to pay for the Strasbourg meeting and be present in the UEMS-Council meetings. The Glasgow meeting will consume a part of the budget.

A discussion emerged about the contribution to the section, if it should be fixed by country or by individual members. There was not yet a final decision taken, but the majority expressed a favour to the model "fee per country".

The section decided although, that the billing for 2014 should be still per person.

8. Website

O. Carstensen is continuing to administer and enlarge our web site. It has only limited visits. Members are encouraged to use it and fill data on their national associations.

We will try to use it more for communication within the section. OC is happy to email passwords if necessary.

9. Group discussions

- **EASOM Summer School:** There has never been so many UEMS participants present at EASOM Summer School so far. Giso was very happy to receive remarks and comments from those who participated at the event. To summarize, most regarded the exchange of information useful, there were some presentations out of the topic framework.
- **Contribution of the Section to Strasbourg meeting "Prevention of..."**. Our president, who will represent the Section at the meeting thanked for the elaboration of the draft document. It was adopted by Section members.
- **EU OSH strategic framework 2014-2020.**
S. Bulterys summarized the document. Its most important part is the introduction. OSH has to proof its cost effectiveness. Our participation- the evaluation of the past program 2007-2013 gave positive results. SB presented the seven strategic aims, defined in the document (annex). He also drew the attention of the group to the instrument OIRA, an online risk assessment tool. He pointed out that the section should observe its resources before tackling new tasks and mentioned the amount of work with the working time directive. It is very important that the new strategy will be reviewed and evaluated yet in 2016. We should be ready in 2016 to participate in the process of the evaluation. The EU-REFIT program will have an important impact. In 2015 the commission will look at simplifications in the all EU-legislation, which may concern also OHS..

10. Surveys and collaborations

- M. Tuzek presented the results of the questionnaire for ETUI. There was some criticism about the figures presented in the table. MT sent out the file already (annex) and recommended to address directly to ETUI.
- Maria Ana reminded us to provide information how to fulfil her questionnaire.

11. Section's working groups

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

Working group 1 started to make a frame of a draft curriculum to be presented at UEMS Council within 2 years (annex).

WG2: Occupational diseases

Working group 2 discussed how UEMS could contribute to the declared decline of occupational diseases in Europe. We concluded that occupational diseases are a very political concept with many stakeholders. Furthermore, it is a complex concept and a lot of discussions are going on. We should be reluctant to join in these discussions as just another participant. On the European level the Modernet platform already addresses the scientific discussion on monitoring occupational and work-related diseases and the tracing of newly occurring occupational diseases. We decided as a task for the working group to deliver information on occupational diseases for the EU evaluation in 2016. This task is considered limited enough for our little means and working time and as a feasible objective.

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

S.Bulterys suggested to change the mandate for WG3 from the cost aspects of OM-Services to the role of OM in the EU Framework on OSH 2014-2020. The group elaborated a presentation (annex) which showed the three main target points for UEMS OM: Lobbying with the important parties, Defining the specificities of OM within OHS and Preparing the lobby work, putting our aspects forward in different arenas (lobbying for OM).

12. Accreditation of CME

Until now only our president remained to receive the demands for the CME attribution of events by the European Accreditation Council EACCME. In the future she will be supported by J. Mustajbegovic, M. Tucek and G. Schmeisser.

13. Any other business

Next meetings:

UEMS Section OM meeting: 20.03. - 21.03.2015, Copenhagen, Denmark

UEMS Section OM meeting: (02.10. -) 03.10.2015, Šibenik, Croatia

The meeting closed at 17:30 p.m.

In the evening, we had a walk through the central part of Glasgow. The range of evening meals was wide, the portions large but good, the restaurant unfortunately a bit noisy.

Klaus Stadtmüller
Secretary

Alenka Škerjanc
President