



# UNION EUROPÉENNE DES MÉDECINS SPÉCIALISTES

## SECTION OF PSYCHIATRY

### SPRING MEETING

Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> April 2006 – Vienna, Austria

APPROVED Minutes of the 30<sup>th</sup> meeting of the UEMS<sup>1</sup> Section of Psychiatry held in Vienna, Austria, on Friday, 7 April 2006.

#### 1. Present

Prof Jacek Bomba - Poland - Polish Psychiatric Association  
Dr Pedro Cabral Varandas - Portugal - Portuguese Medical Association  
Dr Brendan Cassidy - Ireland - Irish Medical Organisation  
Dr Homayon Chaudhry - Switzerland - PWG<sup>2</sup>  
Prof Can Cimilli - Turkey - Psychiatric Association of Turkey  
Dr Dan Georgescu - Switzerland - Swiss Society of Psychiatry and Psychotherapy  
Prof Manuel Gómez-Beneyto - Spain - Spanish Association of Neuropsychiatry  
Dr Torben L Hansen - Denmark - Danish Psychiatric Association; President, Section for Psychiatry  
Prof Edvard Hauff - Norway - Norwegian Medical Association  
Prof Paul Hodiament - Netherlands - Dutch Psychiatric Association, Vice-President, European Board of Psychiatry  
Prof Fritz Hohagen - Germany - German Society of Psychiatry, Psychotherapy & Neurology  
Prof Michal Hrdlicka - Czech Republic - Psychiatric Association of Czech Medical Society  
Dr Slađana Ivezić - Croatia - Croatian Medical Association, Society for Clinical Psychiatry  
Prof Lars Jacobsson - Sweden - Swedish Medical Association  
Prof Matti Joukamaa - Finland - Finnish Psychiatric Association  
Dr Roberts Klotins - Latvia - EFPT<sup>3</sup>; President  
Dr Astrid Kubli Bauer - Switzerland - Swiss Society of Psychiatry and Psychotherapy  
Assoc. Prof Blanka Kores Plesničar - Slovenia - Psychiatric Association of Slovenia  
Prof Gerhard Lenz - Austria - Austrian Association for Psychiatry & Psychotherapy  
Assoc. Prof Nils Lindefors - Sweden - Swedish Psychiatric Association  
Dr Bernard Maillet - Secretary General, UEMS Council  
Dr Lucien Manuceau - France - French Association of Psychiatrists  
Dr Brigitte Mauthner - Austria - Austrian Medical Chamber  
Prof Michael Musalek - Austria - AEP<sup>4</sup>  
Dr Eva Pálová - Slovakia - Slovak Psychiatric Association, Vice-President, Section for Psychiatry  
Prof Yiannis Papakostas - Greece - Hellenic Psychiatric Association  
Prof Andreas Parashos - Greece - Hellenic Psychiatric Association  
Dr Kari Pylkkänen - Finland - Finnish Psychiatric Association; Vice-President, Section for Psychiatry  
Dr Joseph Saliba - Malta - Medical Association of Malta / Maltese Association of Specialists in Psychiatry; Secretary, Section and Board of Psychiatry  
Dr James Strachan - UK - Royal College of Psychiatrists; President, European Board of Psychiatry  
Dr Roelof ten Doesschate - The Netherlands - Dutch Psychiatric Association; Treasurer, Section and Board of Psychiatry  
Prof László Tringer - Hungary - Hungarian Psychiatric Association  
Dr Roland Urban - Germany - Professional Association of German Psychiatrists  
Assoc. Prof Slavko Zihrel - Slovenia - Psychiatric Association of Slovenia, Medical Chamber of Slovenia; Vice-President, European Board of Psychiatry  
Mrs Joanna Carroll - UK - Royal College of Psychiatrists; Administrative Secretary, Section and Board of Psychiatry

#### 2. Apologies

Prof Dinesh Bhugra - UK - Royal College of Psychiatrists  
Dr Tsvi Fischel - Israel - Israeli Psychiatric Association  
Prof Pier Maria Furlan - Italy - Italian Psychiatric Association  
Dr Andres Lehtmets - Estonia - Estonian Psychiatric Association  
Dr Anne Lindhardt - Denmark - Danish Psychiatric Association  
Dr Anne Kleinberg - Estonia - Estonian Psychiatric Association  
Dr Françoise Matthys - Belgium - Belgian Association of Neurologists and Psychiatrists

<sup>1</sup> EUROPEAN UNION OF MEDICAL SPECIALISTS

<sup>2</sup> PERMANENT WORKING GROUP FOR JUNIOR DOCTORS

<sup>3</sup> EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF PSYCHIATRIC TRAINEES

<sup>4</sup> ASSOCIATION OF EUROPEAN PSYCHIATRISTS

Dr Matt Muijen - Denmark - WHO  
 Dr James O'Boyle - Ireland - Irish Psychiatric Training Committee  
 Dr Stein Opjordsmoen - Norway - Norwegian Psychiatric Association  
 Dr Miquel Roca Benasar - Spain - Spanish Society of Psychiatry  
 Dr Georg Spiel - Austria - Secretary, Section of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry  
 Dr Ivan Tuma - Czech Republic - Czech Psychiatric Association  
 Dr Livia Vavrušová - Slovakia - Slovak Psychiatric Association  
 Dr Andreas Zachariadis - Greece - EFPT, President-Elect

Dr Hansen welcomed the delegates to Vienna and thanked Dr Mauthner and Prof Lenz and their respective organisations for inviting the Section and Board to Austria.

3. To approve the minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2005 in Košice, Slovakia, were approved as the correct record of the proceedings subject to one minor amendment.

4. Matters arising from the minutes not covered by the agenda

There were none.

5. Outstanding subscription debts

Some national delegations failed to maintain regular subscription payments and the level of outstanding debt significantly contributed to the increase of national subscriptions. Although all NPAs<sup>5</sup> were expected to settle their debts, the balance needed to be found between punitive measures for bad debtors and the aim of the UEMS as the information provider and promoter of good medical practice.

It was agreed that NPAs whose debts exceeded 2 years would not be invited to attend meetings until their subscriptions were paid. They would not, however, be excluded from the Section and Board mailing list. All NPAs were expected to pay their outstanding debts by the end of 2006, and before every spring meeting thereafter. Any country represented by more than one NPA was expected to settle any disputes internally. Countries which had not as yet actively participated in Section and Board meetings would only be charged the subscription when their delegates started to attend the meetings. Special arrangements might be put in place by the Treasurer in exceptional circumstances.

ACTION: Treasurer to inform NPAs in arrears
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6. Profile of a Psychiatrist - delegates to feedback on national implementation strategies

Greece: The report was translated into Greek and would be published in the Hellenic Psychiatric Journal shortly. A round table meeting was also scheduled to take place at the forthcoming Pan-Hellenic congress to focus on the subject.

Sweden: The current review of the training programme was informed by the report.

Poland: The report was translated and would be published in the scientific journal of the Polish Psychiatric Society. Its position on psychotherapy was particularly useful to oppose attempts to disallow Polish psychiatrists from practising psychotherapy in favour of psychologists.

Slovakia: The report was translated and would be published in the scientific journal of the Slovak Psychiatric Association.

The Netherlands: The report was a significant factor contributing to the decision to train more psychiatrists.

Dr Maillet congratulated the Section for this excellent report and said that this was an example of good practice for other Sections to follow.

It was agreed that delegates would report on progress in other countries at the next meeting.

7. Relations between the Section and the Board

The question of merging the Section and Board had first emerged at the previous meeting during the Officers elections. It was agreed that the distinction between training/education and policy matters was blurred at times and the remits of the Section and Board often overlapped and the current arrangement could be confusing.

Secretary General Maillet said that opinion was divided amongst other sections. The President suggested retention of the status quo and this was agreed. The issue would remain open and could be revisited as and when required.

<sup>5</sup> NATIONAL PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATIONS

8. Review of existing reportsa) *Social and Community Psychiatry*

Prof Hodiament who reviewed this report stated that the recommendations remained valid and the report should retain its approved status. It was agreed to review the report again in 3 years' time.

b) *Biological Psychiatry*

In Dr Vavrusová's absence no comments were received. It was agreed to put this report on the agenda for the next meeting and the delegates were invited to view the report on line prior to the meeting. Dr Lindefors volunteered to review the paper and report back.

ACTION: Dr Lindefors to review the report
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c) *Mental Health Legislation in Europe*

Dr Strachan and Prof Hodiament who reviewed the report stated that although its recommendations were still largely valid, the data collected through the survey was limited in value. It would be beyond the Section's resources to attempt a similar exercise again. Similar compilations were available from other sources. Several aspects of mental health legislation were of importance and the Section could focus on specific areas.

It was agreed to form a working group but its remit should be to concentrate on the compulsory treatment in the community and to produce a position statement rather than the description of the existing regulations in member states. Dr Saliba, Dr Cassidy, Dr Varandas, Prof Hodiament, Prof Jacobson and Prof Zihlerl volunteered to join the group. Dr Strachan agreed to chair it, Prof Hodiament vice-chair.

It was also agreed to create an on-line archive where reports such as that on mental health legislation and now withdrawn from circulation could be kept for reference.

ACTION: JC to create on-line archive
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d) *Quality Assurance of Standards in Specialist Psychiatric Care*

Dr Pálová who reviewed the report pointed out that the Section had another report on quality assurance, which was confusing. It was important in the current European climate to demonstrate our commitment to quality assurance, particularly in the context of patient safety but it was beyond the Section's resources to conduct an exhaustive pan-European survey or even to produce a set of recommendations that would be acceptable to most member states.

Dr Pálová and Dr Saliba volunteered to review both QA reports against the UEMS Charter on Quality Assurance 1996 and to produce a consolidated draft for discussion at the next meeting.

ACTION: Dr Pálová and Dr Saliba to prepare draft paper for next meeting
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Note: It was agreed that future working groups would benefit from avoidance of engaging in surveys and instead concentrate on developing position statements.

9. Section and Board Annual Report 2005 - item for approval

Dr Saliba thanked Dr Strachan for preparing the annual report this year. The report was approved. It was agreed that the report would be circulated to:

- the Section's website;
- UEMS Council;
- national psychiatric, medical and scientific associations. Delegates agreed to provide addresses.

ACTION: 1) JC to disseminate report; 2) delegates to provide addresses
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10. EU green paper: *towards improving the mental health of the population*

The Section had been invited to comment on the green paper prepared by the EU Commission with the aim to develop an EU strategy and an action plan on mental health. The deadline for submitting comments was 31 May 2006. The paper had been circulated to delegates in early December 2005 with the request to submit comments to Dr Pálová who agreed to coordinate these and prepare a draft response.

As very few comments were submitted Dr Pálová suggested the green paper should be discussed at the meeting before a working group met to draft the response which would in due course be on the section website.

11. UEMS Mattersa) Council

Dr Pylkkänen and Dr Maillet reported on recent activities of the UEMS Council. Since the last section meeting in Slovakia, the UEMS Council met twice: on 21-22 October 2005 in Munich and on 18 March 2006 in Brussels. A new executive was elected in Munich:

President: Dr Zlatko Fras (Slovenia - Cardiology)

Secretary-General: Dr Bernard Maillet (Belgium - Pathology)

Treasurer: Dr Vincent Lamy (Belgium - Gastroenterology)

Dr Leonard Harvey (UK) was granted the title of Honorary Member.

The Council also adopted new Statutes and Rules of Procedure, accepted France back as a full Member, adopted a European definition of the Medical Act (*"The medical act encompasses all the professional action, e.g. scientific, teaching, training and educational, clinical and medico-technical steps, performed to promote health, prevent diseases, provide diagnostic or therapeutic care to patients, individuals, groups or communities and is the responsibility of, and must always be performed by a registered medical doctor/physician or under his or her direct supervision and/or prescription."*) and established two Multidisciplinary Joint Committees - on Sports Medicine and on Immune Mediated Diseases.

In Brussels the Council adopted two motions - on the Recognition Directive and on the future Directive on Health Services, decided to conduct a survey on the European Working Time Directive, rejected the proposal to create a MJC on Vascular Medicine and accepted Bulgaria as Associate Member. The Council also discussed the amendment to the recently approved Rules of Procedures (ROP) to hold formal annual meetings with the Presidents and Secretaries of the UEMS Sections and Boards. During these meetings, each Section would have the right to cast a vote on issues put on the agenda provided their obligations to the Council were met, i.e.:

- Informing the Secretary -General of UEMS of the dates and agendas of meetings;
- Distributing the minutes and other relevant documents (resolutions, opinions, studies, etc.) to the Secretary -General;
- Informing the Secretary -General of every concern in the specialty with a view to possibly propose appropriate lobbying coordinated by the Executive.

This amendment aimed to clarify the rights and duties of every body within the complex structure of UEMS.

The Council was interested in expanding the UEMS membership and discussions were underway with Lithuania, the only Member State not a member of the Council. Non-EU countries in Europe were also being approached.

The UEMS statutes and the rules of procedures had been revised following the changes in Belgian law which governed the UEMS as an organisation registered in Belgium. The major difference referred to the term of office for individual delegates which was no longer limited to 12 years. The term of office was now 4 years and could be renewed indefinitely as long as the delegate's national association wished to endorse his or her mandate.

Dr Maillet thanked the past president of the UEMS, Dr Halila, whose efforts greatly improved relationships between the Council and the sections.

#### b) Section of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry

The Section received a letter from Prof Tsiantis and Prof Caffo regarding the proposal to develop the European Academy for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. Dr Spiel who was due to speak to this item sent his apologies shortly before the meeting. Dr Maillet clarified the position of the UEMS Council on the development proposed by the UEMS Section of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and ESCAP<sup>6</sup>. It was not permissible under the UEMS statutes for sections to merge with other organisations as sections reported directly to the Council. However, the Council was keen to promote collaboration between 'related' organisations. This development would be discussed at a meeting in June to be held in Toruń, Poland, and Dr Maillet was planning to attend it. Prof Bomba and Dr Manuceau would also be attending and although they were not representing the Section were happy to report back at the next meeting.

#### 12. The European leaders in psychiatry - UEMS/AEP/WHO/WPA

Prof Musalek gave a brief update on recent changes to the activities of the AEP in the field of education. The previous focus on scientific work had been extended and now included educational courses. Organisationally, the AEP had also been reformed and now had 14 sections covering all major fields of psychiatry. The focus of their activities would also be educational.

The AEP congress, now held annually, would next take place in Madrid. There would be a number of educational courses of high quality approved for CME by the UEMS/AEP/WPA/WHO task force. Those judged to be of highest quality would become 'travelling' courses to be held in other countries. The costs would be split between the AEP and the host country.

<sup>6</sup> EUROPEAN SOCIETY FOR CHILD AND ADOLESCENT PSYCHIATRY

Concerns were raised about the conflict of interest if CME providers approved their own courses. Prof Gómez-Beneyto clarified that the UEMS/AEP/WPA/WHO task force was created about 5 years ago with the aim to coordinate efforts of those organisations in Europe. Its membership included Presidents of the UEMS Section and Board of Psychiatry, the President of the AEP, the WPA Secretary General and WPA zonal representative for Western Europe. One of the first areas identified by the task force that lent itself to greater collaboration was the CME. The task force agreed early on that collaboration could only be successful if the building blocks of the four associations, i.e. national associations, were actively involved. Presidents were therefore invited to meet regularly to discuss developments and update one another on their association's activities. This year's meeting would take place in Istanbul during the WPA international congress in July 2006. Those so called 'leaders of psychiatry' meetings would be called by the current chair of the task force but it was unclear who the current chair was or how the post holder was nominated.

Concerns were expressed about constitutional arrangements of the task force. It was clarified that chairmanship rotated every two years. Prof Gómez -Beneyto was the first chair, followed by Prof Maj and Dr Lindhardt. The task force started as an informal gathering with the aim to discuss possible ways of collaboration and it seemed irrelevant at the time to formalise the leadership. Consideration needed to be given to the cost of organising 'leaders of psychiatry' meetings.

### 13. Administrative issues

#### a) Delegates email addresses on Section and Board website

Following the recent spate of commercial advertisements directed at the UEMS delegates via the Section and Board's website it was agreed to re-circulate the web permission form to allow the delegates to remove their email addresses from the website if they wished.

ACTION: JC to circulate web permission form
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#### b) UEMS electronic newsletter

A number of delegates had reported problems with electronic messages sent out from the secretariat, particularly those containing attachments such as the UEMS Council newsletter. It was therefore agreed that a separate page be created on the Section and Board website where the newsletter would be published. The delegates would receive a brief notification with the relevant link. Dr Klotins offered his expertise in amending the website, which was received with thanks.

ACTION: JC and Dr Klotins to amend the website
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#### c) Outside agencies

This item was addressed at point 13a) above.

### 14. Feedback from delegates on professional, training or service developments, in particular the Helsinki Declaration

Delegates agreed to email their feedback to the secretariat as there was insufficient time due to working group meetings for verbal reports.

Feedback from Turkey: The Psychiatric Association of Turkey (PAT) continued its efforts to persuade the Ministry of Health to implement a Mental Health Law and Policy:

- a) regular contacts between the ministry and PAT
- b) a new Task Force on Mental Health Policy established by PAT
- c) The ministry had requested a Mental Health Plan from an NGO and PAT contributed to the plan which was now widely consulted.

Turkey had followed the current trend of deinstitutionalization and reduced the number of psychiatric beds. There were only five state mental hospitals and the number of beds dropped from 9000 to 6000. This transition had been exacerbated by the population increase and the country was now experiencing a great shortage of psychiatric beds and growing waiting lists. This crisis accelerated the solution of mental health policy problem.

Turkish Board of Psychiatry had performed the first written examination with nine participants in March 2006.

The PAT established an International Relations Committee to exchange information and implement coordination between delegates of various international bodies.

After the MDRI report, the PAT followed and investigated the human rights violations in psychiatric clinics of Turkey. The efforts of the PAT on human rights issues was greatly appreciated by international professional organizations.

15. Any other business

## a) Papers received:

- i) *The European Working Time Directive and the Effects on Training of Surgical Specialists (doctors in training)*

This paper was received from the surgical sections of the UEMS proposing a new working hours model that would take into account the existing teaching and training structures. This was an important issue that would affect all medical specialities and the UEMS Council would be asking all sections to consider this matter. It was agreed to put this item on the agenda for the next meeting.

**ACTION: EWTG on the agenda for the next meeting**

- ii) *The European Standards on Confidentiality*

This paper, accompanied by the *Guidance on Confidentiality* was submitted by Prof Roy McClelland, EuroSOCAP<sup>7</sup> Project Co-Ordinator, for information and dissemination to national associations. Several hard copies were available at the meeting and electronic version of the paper was available at [www.eurosocap.org](http://www.eurosocap.org). Dr Maillet also suggested that the Council was happy to receive information for publication in the Newsletter and it was agreed that a brief note about this paper would be submitted for the next edition of the newsletter.

**ACTION: Submit a note on confidentiality to Council**

- iii) *Multi-Disciplinary Joint Committee (MJC) in Pain Medicine*

The President received a letter from the Secretary General proposing to consider the establishment of the Multidisciplinary Joint Committee (MJC) in Pain Medicine involving anaesthesiology, internal medicine, surgery, gynaecology, psychiatry and occupational medicine. The Section supported this initiative and Prof Hohagen volunteered to be actively involved in this work. The Treasurer pointed out that no funds were available for this work at present.

## b) Working Group on Mental Health Legislation

Dr Strachan and Prof Hodiamont submitted a written proposal for a new working group as discussed under item 8c) above. This was approved and the working group would meet in Deventer.

## c) WHO questionnaire on mental health services in Europe

The delegates were informed that the WHO were developing a survey on mental health services available in Europe. It was agreed to discuss this further at the next meeting.

**ACTION: WHO questionnaire on the agenda for the next meeting**

16. Dates and venues of future meetings

5-7 October 2006 - Deventer, the Netherlands

April 2007 - Izmir, Turkey (the exact date to be agreed shortly)

11-13 October 2007 - Geneva, Switzerland

Spring 2008 - Copenhagen, Denmark

Autumn 2008 - Slovenia (tentative proposal)

17. Reports from the Working Groups

## a) EU Green Paper

In view of the deadline for submitting the Section's response to the green paper delegates agreed to forgo their work in other working groups (Stigma, Old Age Psychiatry and Private Practice) which would meet on the following day and focus on the three questions posed in the green paper. Delegates split into 3 groups each focusing on one question: Dr Pálová led the group dealing with question 1, Prof Hohagen's group took question 2 and Prof Zihelr led on question 3.

The groups took into account the concerns and suggestions raised in general discussion. The final draft would be agreed by the group leaders over the next two weeks and submitted to the Officers for further action. The final response submitted to the EU Commission would be presented for information at the meeting in Deventer.

**ACTION: Dr Pálová, Prof Hohagen & Prof Zihelr to finalise the draft response paper**

<sup>7</sup> EUROPEAN STANDARDS ON CONFIDENTIALITY AND PRIVACY