

## UEMS Section of Occupational Medicine

### MINUTES

**Dublin Meeting Saturday 21 October 2000**

Apologies:	Dr Boguslaw <b>Baranski</b>	The Netherlands WHO
	Dr Blaise <b>Thorens</b>	Switzerland
	Professor György <b>Köteles</b>	Hungary
	Dr Jacques <b>de Laval</b>	Sweden
	Dr Gunnar <b>Ahlborg</b>	Sweden
	Dr Luc <b>Quaeghebeur</b>	Belgium
	Dr Marcel- <b>André</b>	
	Dr John <b>Gallagher</b>	Ireland

1. Dr Tom McMahon welcomed the meeting of the Section in Ireland and extended a warm welcome from the Irish Society of Occupational Medicine. In particular he thanked the Irish Medical Organisation for hosting the meeting and for providing lunch at no cost. The general thanks of the Section were extended to the Irish Medical Association.

Dr Blanaid Hayes attended the first part of the meeting and extended a welcome to the Section from the Irish Faculty of Occupational Medicine.

1. **The Minutes of the last meeting**

These were agreed with the correction that Dr Knut Skyberg was present and this had not been recorded.

1. **Matters Arising**

Results of the Salsa Survey would be available shortly and Tom McMahon will circulate these for the next meeting.

**Action**  
**T McMahon**

1. **Address by Dr Cillian Twoomey, President of UEMS**

Dr Cillian Twoomey gave a presentation to the Section which is circulated with the Minutes. He made the point that UEMS was not striving for a monochrome Europe. He reviewed the Treaty of Maastricht, which in Article 129 dealt with Public Health and Treaty of Amsterdam Article 152 is involved in improving the public health, the prevention of human illness and disease, and the control of sources of danger to human health.

Subsidiarity meant that each member had the right to the local organisation and delivery of health care systems.

The doctor's directive 93/16/EEC was first drawn up in 1975 and virtually unaltered since then determines mutual recognition of specialist qualifications and free movement.

He reviewed the committee structures at European level, the ACMT in each country dealt with professional, academic and competence matters.. The CSOPH had been set up which was an office for public health. Specialist training was managed at national level and as a result there were very diverse organisations. It was important to elaborate the requirements for training in the speciality in Chapter 6 in the UEMS website. Recently UEMS had published its compendium and provided space for elaboration of a number of the specialities and it was suggested that Occupational Medicine Section submit a description of the Speciality for the next production of the compendium.

**Action**

The UEMS website is [WWW.UEMS.VE](http://WWW.UEMS.VE) and is a good source of information about UEMS activity.

He discussed the UEMS and its relationship with the specialist societies and its policy was that of co-operation for strength and unity of principle and purpose and that this was not confined to the EU alone. It describes the working groups of the UEMS which included working groups and postgraduate training, CME/CPD and relations with the Boards and Sections.

He reviewed the developments in the assurance of professional competence. The Netherlands had a system in place since 1994, Norway had a system for General Practitioners for some years and the UK, Finland and Ireland were developing systems.

In relation to CME the EACCME had been established by UEMS in January 2000 and its purpose was to ensure mutual recognition of CME programmes across the countries but also to ensure consistent standards. Dr Twoomey agreed to provide an electronic copy of his presentation for

**Action  
Secretary**

## 1. **Chairman's Report**

Tom McMahon had been in contact with Kaj Hussan who is making progress after his serious injuries. A letter will be sent to him from the Section to wish him well.

**Action**  
**E Macdonald**

Tom McMahon has attended Management Council Meeting in Brussels, May 2000  
The UEMS, CME initiative – EACCME had been launched and seemed very worthwhile.

He had a discussion with Raphael Monchalein on the subject of liaison with EASOM, The European Association of Schools of Occupational Medicine and it has been agreed that the two organisations should work closely. He confirmed that EASOM were regularly invited to observe and attend the UEMS Section.

Tom McMahon reported that the proposed meeting with Jacques Van der Vliet the President of ENSOP, The European Network of Societies of Occupational Physicians, had not materialised.

Andy Slovak reported that there had been no further meeting of ENSOP.



## **1. Proposed Standing Group**

## **Action**

The proposal of Dr Jacques Van der Vliet of ENSOP to establish a Standing Group of Occupational Physicians was discussed. No further progress had been made with this proposal from Dr Van der Vliet and Dr Girault who as member of the Committee Permanente proposing that a standing group of representatives of Occupational Physician organisations including UEMS and ENSOP be set to work through the CP to represent Occupational Medicine. In discussion Dr Twoomey observed that the Committee Permanente claimed to be the body representing doctor but had had relatively little influence. The UEMS was an associated body to the Committee Permanente. Discussions confirmed the views expressed at the last meeting and the Section did not agree that there should be any control by the Committee Permanente of Occupational Medicine Sections contacts and communications.

## **1. Service Collaboration across Europe**

Dr Tom McMahon proposed that in relation to the provision of Occupational Medicine services a list of occupational physicians or occupational medical services willing to participate in inter country service provision should be drawn up. This principle was generally endorsed and it was agreed that country representatives would be the first point of contact.

## 1. **Future programme discussion**

A wide ranging discussion took place on future programme for the Section. David Sherson from Denmark said that in Denmark there was regularly meeting of UEMS representatives the first two hours of which was a two hour course for new members. Andy Slovak reported that he had attended a meeting of UEMS representatives in the UK and said that some of the Sections were more structured, and developed. These being the Sections which had been replaced for much longer. He referred to the surgeons being highly structured, quite political and involved in the visitations of centres throughout Europe. Tom McMahon observed that the political initiatives in the Occupational Medicine Section had achieved two meetings with the Commissioner for DG5 which had been successful but that the Section need to make more progress.

It was agreed that the UEMS compendium should have an entry for medicine and Tom McMahon agreed to draft this together with Vlasta Deckovic-Vukres.

**Action**  
**T McMahon**

It was agreed that the requirements for specialist training would be redrafted for Chapter 6 and this would be undertaken by David Sherson, Knut Skyberg and Metka Terzan.

**Action**  
**ALL**

It was agreed that the issue of a UEMS Occupational Medicine Board would be revisited and kept under consideration.

Andy Slovak proposed a Delphi survey of all training programmes of all countries and this was endorsed by Consol Serra who said the information would be most useful.

**Action**  
**A Slovak/  
E Macdonald**

Knut Skyberg discussed the Norwegian approach to the Certification of Occupational Health Services i.e. assessment and certification of the whole team rather than the individual doctor. Dr Orn Terje Foss from Norway supported this and it was agreed that it should be an item for a future Agenda meeting.

**Action**  
**Secretary**  
**Knut Skyberg**  
**Ørn Foss**

In general discussion it was proposed that UEMS Section should hold a conference on the future of Occupational Medicine in Europe to which it should invite Presidents of the Occupational Medicine organisations from each country.

**Action**  
**E Macdonald**  
**R Jager**

# **1. Election of President and Secretary**

Dr Tom McMahon said that there was one nomination for President, that of Dr Ewan Macdonald who was elected unanimously and will be the next President of the Section from March 2001. Dr Reinhard Jager of Austria was elected Secretary and Dr Andy Slovak of the UK elected treasurer/assistant secretary again both unanimously.

1. **Any other business**

Ewan Macdonald thanked Tom McMahon for organising the meeting in Dublin and for the hospitality that had been received. He also paid tribute to Tom McMahon's Presidency of the Section which had led to it making great progress in a relatively short period since its creation.

1. **Date of next meeting**

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held in Brussels on the 31 March at 10.00 a.m. at The Maison des Associations Internationales Rue Washington 40b-1050 Brussels.