

MINUTES FOR EBHS MEETING

16 NOVEMBER 2018 – NICE, FRANCE

Present: Zsolt Szabó, Max Haerle, Aurelio Portincasa, Maurizio Calcagni, Martin Richter, Krisztina Szigedi, Nándor Mátrai

Zsolt Szabó welcomes participants and starts the meeting at 12:15

Main agenda for today is the change of mandates.

EBHS shall invite a representative of UEMS for the next meeting with the new Board.

Agenda has been accepted and the discussion followed accordingly.

Minutes of the last EBHS Meeting dated 15 June 2018 have been approved without any objections.

Report of the EBHS President - Zsolt Szabó

The main role of EBHS is the presence within UEMS. The last 5 years brought no big changes within UEMS activities – the future task is to achieve hand surgery to get a speciality position and become a Section that is a full member within UEMS. There is a criteria on how many member countries need hand surgery recognised as a speciality to become a UEMS Section. FESSH still needs countries to achieve this. Hopefully this can be reached within the coming 5 years. Few improvements has been launched since the beginning of FESSH being part of UEMS mainly with accreditation.

This year was the 60th Anniversary for UEMS – the UEMS Council meeting in October was dedicated to this.

Zsolt Szabó introduced the contents of UEMS Director report – on Domus Medica and financial issues which shows UEMS is doing better now.

He emphasized that hand surgery related events shall be encouraged to get UEMS accreditation for its value and also for its effects on EBHS income side.

With common agreement mandate change was rescheduled for the end of the meeting.

EBHS Secretary report - Aurelio Portincasa

Cooperation among scientific Societies, both on European and extra European level, must be considered one of the main targets of EBHS and FESSH.

This will give all of us many positive possibilities:

A- increasing of our scientific knoweledge coming in touch and cooperating with other specialities, not only surgical;

B- harmonization of different training programs for hand surgery among different specialist devoted to practice hand surgery such as: orthopaedics, plastic surgeons, general surgeons;

C- ensure higher standards of care and safety to all of our patients all over the EU;

D- promote free circulation of hand surgeons among the different countries of the EU;

Mission of cooperation will be sent later by Aurelio Portincasa where all specialities shall be involved who deal with hand surgery in the various countries – general surgeons, orthopaedic surgeons, plastic surgeons etc.

Patient safety is also an important topic to be discussed in the future to have common guidelines. The Italian Society has already begun creating it with approval of the Health Ministry just as in many other European countries. It could be a kind of umbrella as a recommendation to governments within the EU.

Keeping in mind these missions, active cooperation has been already activated between ESPRAS-FESSH-EBHS. As the first step a joint session was organised during the FESSH Congress in Copenhagen with collaboration of Frederik Verstreken. The presentations were very practical showing short videos and trips & tricks in hand surgery: "how I do it". The session was attended by more than 200 participants with a very interactive discussion. At the beginning a shorts presentation on EBOPRAS and ESPRAS mission was given, underlining the wish of further cooperation.

As a second step FESSH Guest Section on upper limb was held during the Cyprus 2018 ESPRAS Congress. There were around 80 participants at the Session, mostly plastic surgeons. The session was chaired by Prof. Rado Zic , from the University Department of Plastic Surgery in Zagreb, and Aurelio Portincasa. Miryam Obdeijn took a very important role in organizing the session and was very active during all the process. At the beginning of the session she made a short presentation on FESSH institution and mission at European level, in order to allow a better comprehension of our targets and role. There were various topics devoted both to orthopaedics and plastic surgeons. All the speakers were brilliant, and there was a very good discussion on all presentations.

The new ESPRAS president, Prof. Rado Zic, and the new elected Executive Committee, confirmed the wish of continuing cooperation between our two institutions on every level we will think about. It would be nice if EBHS and FESSH Presidents contact Prof. Psaras in order to express our gratitude for his availability in hosting the FESSH session during his successful meeting.

It would be also useful, for further cooperation, to send an official letter from the EBHS and FESSH, to the newly elected ESPRAS Ex-Co, in order to confirm our wish of further cooperation.

The new ESPRAS Ex-Co was elected as follows:

ESPRAS ExCo 2018 – 2020				
1	Giovani Di Benedetto	Member	Italy	South West
2	Horacio Costa	Secretary General	Portugal	South West
3	Cenk Demirdover	Webmaster	Turkey	South East
4	Anna Elander	Chairman of statutes committee	Sweden	North
5	Ricardo Giunta	Member	UK	West
6	Mark Henley	Chairman of fellowship committee	Germany	West
7	Dirk Schaefer	Treasurer	Switzerland	West

8	Stephen Spendel	Member	Austria	Central & East
9	Olavi Vasar	Member	Estonia	Central & East
10	Rado Zic	President	Croatia	South East
Co –opted Members				
	Dylan Murray	UEMS/ EBOPRAS Secretary	Ireland	
	Fabio Santanelli di Pompeo	EURAPS president	Italy	

During the UEMS/EBOPRAS Executive Committee and General Assemblies Aurelio Portincasa was elected Vice President of the UEMS Section of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery (PRAS) and of the EBOPRAS. In two years he will become the new President. He considers it as a mission to be present in UEMS and he confirmed availability for the UEMS Council meeting in January 2019.

FESSH-ESPRAS joint session in Basel 2020 will be the next. Berlin is joint IFSSH-FESSH Congress thus it can not be managed within the program. Next ESPRAS Congress will be held in Porto, Portugal in 2022 as ESPRAS congresses are held every 4 years. Aurelio Portincasa has very good connection with the congress host that will facilitate collaboration.

Maurizio Calcagni proposed to subsidize collaboration with ESPRAS also by offering special fees for FESSH Academy.

Max Haerle informed the German Society is considering hand surgery to become a recognized speciality in Germany. Maurizio Calcagni added that the situation is similar within the Dutch Society.

Treasurer report

Based on the report prepared the 2018 balance will be near to zero.

Expenses have been higher compared to last year's figures but this has been no surprise. As planned, the income from examination fees provide a bigger fund to cover costs therefore e.g. the higher expenses of the examination in Copenhagen, and the raise of the examinees reimbursement have been approved in advance.

It was also confirmed that FESSH shall pay the membership fee for 2018 yet. Attention was called it is important to remember that it is not a contribution but an obligatory membership fee as stated at the launch of EBHS.

The Treasurer's report has been approved.

Examination Committee chair report – Martin Richter

The next challenge is introducing the practical exam for 2019. The test in Copenhagen showed it is worth doing. It will now be mandatory in Berlin but the result will not effect the final marks yet. The Committee will gain experience and introduce it on full scale in Basel only.

Danny Mathysen (UEMS CESMA) was also asked for advise but he informed that no other UEMS body has practical exam, therefore there is no experience within UEMS.

BSSH has it but only for 10 candidates which makes it hardly comparable but anyway Lindsay Muir is involved and we have his input based on that.

There are 107 registration of interest so far for 2019 exam – deadline is end of November. Next MCQ exam is on 15 March 2019. Next oralexam will be held in Berlin at Sofitel Kurfürstendamm on 16th - 17th June prior to the IFSSH-FESSH Congress.

Mandate change – Zsolt Szabó

EBHS Officer positions need to be changed starting 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2021.

Based on set EBHS rules Zsolt Szabó proposes the following names:

EBHS President – Max Haerle

EBHS Secretariat – Aurelio Portincasa

EBHS Treasurer – Maurizio Calcagni

The proposal was unanimously accepted. UEMS shall be informed via EBHS Secretariat.

EBHS members were also reconfirmed as follows:

Massimo Ceruso – representing orthopaedics

Nina Lindfors – representing general surgeons

It was also agreed that Bernard Maillet shall be invited from time to time as he was involved during the launch of EBHS and he has also a good insight in UEMS as the present Treasurer. The idea to combine the second EBHS meeting in 2019 with FESSH Examination Committee meeting in November in Nice, France was approved. EBHS Secretariat informs Dr. Maillet and invites him accordingly. Massimo Ceruso and Nina Lindfors shall also be invited.

The next meeting will be scheduled during the IFSSH-FESSH Congress in Berlin to discuss acute issues only as the new EBHS President, Max Haerle will be highly involved in the organisation of the Congress as well.

Zsolt Szabó would also be appreciated to join the EBHS meeting next November.

Proposed EBHS Meeting dates shall be circulated by EBHS Secretariat soon.

For further planning the dates of forthcoming UEMS Council, CESMA, EACCME etc. meetings shall also be sent out via Doodle and attendance shall be indicated by EBHS members.

Official information on mandate changes shall be sent by EBHS Secretariat to UEMS.

The meeting was closed at 13:30