



European Regional Organisation of
the Fédération dentaire internationale



**EUROPEAN REGIONAL ORGANISATION
OF THE FDI (ERO)**

**Minutes of the plenary session held on
18th/19th April, 2008
in Istanbul, Turkey**

A Welcome

Patrick Hescot, ERO President, welcomes all participants to this plenary session in Istanbul. He thanks the Turkish Dental Association for the perfect organisation of this meeting and the warm welcome of yesterday evening. He is glad that the FDI-President is present as well and will address a few words to the participants.

As it is custom, the President of the host association will as well give his welcome. Celal Yildirim welcomes all participants in his country. He feels very honoured that so many delegates came to Istanbul and that he can as well greet the FDI President. He shortly presents some historic facts about Istanbul.

He emphasizes how important the exchange of knowledge and the discussion of common problems are in order to improve our profession. The global capitalism that is taking hold of the whole world is creating changes in the dental field as well. It is a common problem that we all need to struggle against. There must be a discussion about the common methods that can be utilised against these new tendencies. The decisions taken in ERO and FDI will be shaping the future of our profession. Either we will be under control of the capital powers and workers of the capital owners or we will remain to be independent practitioners.

Burton Conrod, president of FDI, has the floor. He is very grateful to be here in this wonderful city of Istanbul. He thanks the organising national association for all their efforts. He as well thanks the European Regional Organisation that puts their best people on disposal of FDI commissions and committees. They provide a great support to FDI. He remarks that ERO is one of the most active regional organisations of FDI and he highly values the work of the working groups. The FDI president reports about the various activities and focuses of FDI, which very much - of course - resemble the major points ERO is discussion actually. He further informs about the proceeding in the search for a new executive director and the relocation of FDI Headquarters. He deplores that the conference which was planned in Peru had to be cancelled. He finally asks all who have questions about FDI matters not to hesitate and contact him.

Patrick Hescot thinks it is very important to have the FDI-President here and thanks him for his report. ERO has a leading role in the FDI and serves as relay for the promotion of the ideas of FDI.

**B Presentation of the Turkish Dental Association
"Oral Health Care Delivery in Turkey"**

Taner Yücel informs the participants of this session about the dental and oral health services in Turkey. Dental care found its beginning in Turkey with the opening of the dental faculty at the Istanbul University 100 years ago. In the seventies new dental faculties started in other universities and brought this branch

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of education all over Turkey. The duration of the dental studies has been prolonged to 5 years in the sixties. He gives very interesting information about all aspects of dentistry in his speech. His presentation is attached to these minutes.

C Standard agenda of the business meeting

C.1 Roll call/Establishment of the quorum/New members

Philippe Rusca calls the delegates and alternates that are present by name. He has counted 50 delegates, the quorum is largely established.

C.2 Approval of the agenda

Patrick Hescot adds "Point C.9 FDI" to the list and with this amendment the agenda is approved.

C.3 Approval of the minutes of Dubai

The written amendment of Francisco Rodriguez Lozano which he sent to all member associations by e-mail has been taken into account. No further amendments are requested and thus the minutes are approved unanimously.

C.4 Reports of the Board

4.1 President / FDI-Council

Patrick Hescot thanks all his board members for their support and precious work. All of them have leading roles to play; they are the motors of the working groups. Of course not all groups are working at the same rate. They are going to present first results later on. All of them have a three year target and he is positive that they should have got through their work till then. There is a good team spirit and good cooperation with the chairpersons.

The president reminds that it is very important to have a common vision and it needs to be defended. It's up to all of you to add to dental surgeons' role in Europe; it is in our all responsibility.

4.2 President-elect

Gerhard Seeberger shortly refers to the adaptation of the ERO-constitution, which has been decided in Moscow and has been carried out in the meantime. The corrected version is now in the ERO website.

4.3 Secretary General

Philippe Rusca announces the Belorussian Dental Association as a new member of ERO. As everybody knows there have been some resignations a couple of years ago. But the board stays in regular contact with them. Negotiations are being kept up and he is confident that one day they will be back.

He reminds the participants to let the secretariat know any changes in E-Mail-addresses and repeats the demand of confirming the receipt of an e-mail by clicking on the respective message on the computer screen. It is very important to know if our messages reach their destination.

He thanks the members associations for paying the annual fees. The actual system works very well and it allows all member associations to estimate the cost well in advance since our fees are calculated according to the FDI-list which is distributed in fall.

The website is shaping up little by little. A few changes have been discussed in the Board meeting and of course we are always open to criticisms and comments.



4.4 Members of the Board

On behalf of the Italian delegation Bartolomeo Griffa first thanks the Turkish colleagues for the organisation of this session.

A lot of efforts have been put in the creation of the Dental team of which we will talk about that later.

Vladimir Sadovsky as well thanks the Turkish Dental Association for their most wonderful welcome. As dentists we are used to treat people's oral cavities, but we must more and more learn to become managers as well. The meeting of today is a good example of a real professional meeting. We note an increasing interest in ERO matters mostly by the Eastern countries. At the board meeting the question of the necessity of the enlargement group and its existence as well as the parity group was raised. The missions of these groups are partially completed and partially not. We need to find the essence of this two issues and we may then either bring them together in one group or put separate aims to these groups. This question needs to be settled before the Stockholm meeting.

C.5 Member countries

5.1 National reports

All national reports that we have received can be read on or downloaded from our website. Gerhard Seeberger shortly comments them. There has been a good abstract on the situation in Turkey this morning. The relation with the governments and the competition which becomes harder seem to be important topics. There is a focus on continuing education as well and the question of professional migration will be something to think about. There are countries which suffer from negative aspects of these developments. In most of the countries the education systems have been consolidated. Quality seems to be a question of great interest, too. Many of the subjects mentioned in the national reports will be respectively are treated by our working groups.

C.6 Working groups

6.1 Liberal Dental Practice in Europe

The resolution on "External Interference in dental practice" has already been presented in Moscow and in Dubai and is available on the website. Voicu David refers to the modifications that have been made since. His presentation is attachment to these minutes.

Edoardo Cavallé did already ask in Dubai to fill in the questionnaire about "non professional investment" which has been distributed by FDI. Unfortunately he did not get many answers. He will now once again try with the help of the secretariat. Voicu David reminds him that questionnaire and resolution are two different things. He did not receive it, but would be glad to help. Patrick Hescot does not oppose. The number of independent dentists in Europe is steadily increasing and we must do what we can to defend our profession.

Wolfgang Sprekels asks for two small amendments in the resolution. Instead of "Liberal dental practice provides a good basis he would say ... provides the best basis for a patient treatment because it (and not which) is not focused on commercial interest.... Voicu David agrees and the resolution is adopted unanimously.

"Basic rights of the dentist with regard to the insurance companies" will be the WG's next subject.

It should be demonstrated how - based on already existing and yet to be drawn up laws in different countries - a "conflagration" can develop which is hardly to be stopped. Ernst-Jürgen Otterbach talks about the takeover of the insurance companies over the profession and the danger that insurance companies are closing selective contracts with medical doctors or groups of medical persons which

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means selection as well for the treating person as the patient. But we have to keep our sights firmly set on what we want. We want to make clear that the patient is receiving the treatment and that we draw the contract with him and not with the insurance company. We have to fight for that.

Patrick Hescot fully agrees, this is a very important subject. Anyone who would like to join the WG is very welcome.

6.2 ERO Parity

Anna Lella has given a new direction to this working group. This is the analysis of the structure of dental care in the different countries. Every member association is asked to give information and make proposals. There are social and cultural differences as well between the different countries. As for the collection of the different data realised by this working group please have a look at the attached presentation.

Patrick Hescot thanks and congratulates Anna Lella which is continuing the excellent work of Simona Dianiskova.

6.3 ERO Enlargement

Bedros Yavru-Sakuk, who initially is from Istanbul, thanks and congratulates TDA for the organisation of this event and their 100th anniversary. He refers to his written report and gives some additional information. The enlargement group has been working hard and was been successful in motivating the countries of the Eastern Europe to join ERO. This was the first phase, now comes the second - more important - phase, to keep them in ERO. The Enlargement group gives all possible support. Their duties are multiple. He thanks his group members and the board for their support. There are no questions.

6.4 Prevention

Denis Bourgeois presents the results of a questionnaire regarding the promotion of a European Day for the Prevention of Oral health. 50% of the member associations did answer and it would be nice if there were more. The intermediate results show that a majority of members associations do have regular oral health promotion actions. He presents a calendar campaign realised in Latvia which is a good example for a low cost campaign with a high impact. We can imagine something like on the European oral health prevention day. The most frequently mentioned obstacle to organise such a Prevention day is the finances.

Early screening and prevention of oral cancer – Most of the member association are interested to undertake actions in this regards and this on regular terms. Unfortunately so far only 3 experts were appointed to this panel. Denis Bourgeois pleads to make some more efforts in this matter.

He then reports on the proceedings of the EGHOID (European Global Oral Health Indicators Development) project. There are many countries and other partners involved. A final conference is planned to be held in Stockholm on Friday, 26 September, before the General Assembly. Thanks all the colleagues that are involved in these projects. Results and projects for the future will be presented.

Prevention is promotion of health, the more we can make population aware of the importance of oral health the easier it will be for us to get our dental profession recognized. Patrick Hescot asks all those, who have not yet answered the questionnaire, to do so. Oral cancer is a medical issue and a “good opportunity” to assert the dental profession as a medical profession. So far we only have 3 experts, but there must be experts in all of your countries that are able to provide inputs, to communicate, to cooperate in a large scale European program on oral cancer. Oral cancer is one of the typical subjects which have to be one of our priorities. There will be a huge conference in 2009, and we would like all European countries to be present, if possible.

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It's not a problem of not wanting to appoint experts, declares Wolfgang Sprekels. But if we do appoint them (mostly University professors), they will ask two questions. Firstly how much of my time will it take, how often do I have to travel and who is going to pay for it. We got experts here and there, but there are limits to our possibilities, even though we are not a particularly small country. We have to put some thoughts in how ERO could at least finance the travel costs. This is a discussion in principle which has not to be done now, but it should be clarified.

Patrick Hescot thinks that experts do not always have to travel; there are other means to communicate. But if we organise a conference, we have to do some fundraising which will cover some of the expenses. He fully agrees on this travel funding point. He once again invites the member associations to participate in these projects. It would be fine to have as many as possible.

6.5 Quality Management

The group has been discussing several topics like quality of structure, process and outcome. The best we can do, remarks Gerhard Seeberger, is to give recommendation and information.

As for establishing of guidelines they agreed that this is not a topic of ERO. Switzerland has a very good example for quality guidelines. But to realise this project it took 7 years and all universities were involved. This is unrealisable for ERO. Further, quality guidelines bear as well some dangers. If they are handled liberally as advice - no problem, they might be useful, but if they serve to force the dentists - we would be in trouble. There are other means to control quality; it could be an error list, quality circles, etc. The group wanted to have a little more of input by the way of a questionnaire, which will be sent out in the near future. This would be very helpful. He thanks all the members of his group for their support.

Peter Engel refers to the subject of quality. This topic has almost killed us in the last couple of years. There are differences in quality between general medicine and dental medicine, but most of all between the industry and medicine. This would be an issue ERO should take care of; not by guidelines, but in terms of what we can do. The contract between you and the patient is not a labour contract. You can never get the 100% in our job. People have to understand that. As far as quality management is concerned, we have to establish the limits; they should never be imposed upon us.

Nermin Yamalik reminds of the ethical responsibility. We need to be very careful.

Wolfgang Sprekels is absolutely opposed that ERO should work out any guidelines which would apply for everybody. It cannot be that Brussels is imposing anything upon us and therefore it would be paradox if ERO worked out anything like that. Health profession is a national preserve for each member state. If ERO now defines any kind of quality standards, it is dangerous.

Gerhard Seeberger opens the "Pain statement document" made by Philippe Calfon for discussion. This paper is intended to position the dental profession in the medical world, adds Patrick Hescot. Pain is a very important problem in the medical field.

Regarding the statement there are three amendments: Line 2, "utmost" it to be deleted; Line 3 "important" is also to be deleted and in the paragraph that starts with "The ERO associates..." the last half sentence "..., the setting up of" is to be deleted as well.

With these amendments the ERO statement is adopted unanimously.

6.6 Basic + continuing education

Alex Mersel refers to his paper "An attempt for guidelines...". Taking into account the remarks of the German delegation about guideline, he proposes the change the title into "Thoughts about continuing education in Europe". No comments are made on this paper. Alex Mersel considered it necessary to go

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ahead and make a more practical step. He has worked out the continuing education project and explains what it is. It provides a service to help the national dental association in their continuing education program and is available to those, who really intend to work together with ERO.

A questionnaire containing 3 questions was sent out to 25 member countries. He wanted to know which are considered the most important disciplines, at what level the continuing education is wanted and which main education system is preferred. 16 countries answered; all of them are highly motivated. Although the questions were easy to answer, the differences in desires were as different as the countries which filled in the questionnaire. Alex Mersel is quite please that not only Eastern countries are interested in this project.

It could now be started as a pilot project and Alex Mersel seeks for a moral support for this. He would be happy to have the consent of the people that are present here in Istanbul. It would enable him to present first results within two years.

There is no must to participate, declares Patrick Hescot, but for those who wish to do it, a concept will be worked out.

Jiri Pekarek thinks - with regard to the different legislation in each European country - that ERO cannot be the supervisor in this field; but it should be the leader and advisor on continuing education. The Czech Dental Chamber has own proposal. ERO could gather a list of courses and seminars, especially e-learning courses offered in the European countries. This list can be located on ERO website. Each NDA should have the possibility to add courses, to have the free choice of this list and use it. It would be a constructive flexible and effective system.

Voicu David supports this very important attempt. Not all have an old tradition of continuing education and they might need advice.

There are a number of countries that are new in ERO, adds Vladimir Margvelashvili. It is impossible to work as a dentist without continuing education and he therefore supports Alex Mersel's initiative.

Patrick Hescot admits that the offer of Jiri Pekarek is very interesting and not in concurrence, but in addition to the project of Alex Mersel. We could include all conferences and speakers on this list.

Alex Mersel confirms that no one will be forced into this project and that there is no question of intruding into the national systems. He is very honoured by the interest which the Czech Dental Chamber is showing and he hopes that they maybe would join the group.

Wolfgang Sprekels thanks Alex Mersel for his work and the paper regarding continuing education. But somehow he is a bit worried that we are doing something that has already been done. He refers to ADEE (European Association for Dental Education) who has a profile for qualification for dentals students and freshly examined dentists. It states the competences as defined by professors throughout Europe. Doesn't this possibly going to overlap? As for the continuing education he notices a ditch going through Europe. In the older member states dentists do not meet at the universities, but in expensive courses of continuing education. Basically he thinks that we are going the right direction and confirms his willingness to help the new members of ERO.

The WG is going to work in two directions, responds Alex Mersel. The continuing education is not related to basic education or the profile of the dental surgeon. It is only intended to assist in the continuing education. He informs that it was decided to start this Continuing Education Program by a pilot study concerning five countries. First results will be presented in Stockholm. He finally makes an appeal to join his working group.

6.7 Women in Dentistry

Vesna Barac-Furtinger is quite happy that her group is slowly growing. She presents new data; it is a comparison of their own results in the years 2006-2008. She refers to demographic figures and notices that in a few years there will be more than 50% of women in dentistry. The decision makers in dentistry

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are still male. Women vote, but do obviously not elect other women. She further locates specific female related problems regarding postgraduate education. It could be solved by the increasing number of e-learning courses for instance, especially because the access to internet services seems to be given in most of the countries. Her presentation is attached to these minutes.

She thanks the members of her group and all those who have contributed to this data collection.

6.8 Dental Team

The Dental team has had its kick off meeting right now in Istanbul. Bartolomeo Griffa would like more people to join his WG. The secretariat is waiting for new names on the list. The foundation for the future work has been laid. He himself will be following the work of this group on behalf of the board and he will be the contact point. Edoardo Cavallé has agreed to be the new chairman and Stefaan Hanson the vice-chairman.

We looked at two basic points, informs Edoardo Cavallé. The first one was the content of the scientific session of tomorrow; the 2nd aspect was the situation for the various different individuals involved in the dental team. In the CED this was already assessed on the basis of the EU manual. We try to see what the specific characteristics of the individual situations are. We need to establish a clear vision of the various different roles of the team; how we can best organise ourselves. This will take quite a lot of time. Patrick Hescot thinks that the WG has presented a very interesting program and he looks forward to the first report in Stockholm.

Wolfgang Sprekels is somewhat worried about the direction the work of this group could take. He is a strong defender of the role of the dentist as the only one that is in charge of what is done in the patient's mouth. Dental technicians should not to treat dental problems of the patient. People who work in prevention may assist, but they cannot set up a business as dental surgeon. This applies for dental hygienists and dental technicians. Attempts are being made in Europe to change this. The new Bologna Process does even contribute to this trend. We have to deal with people like dental technician and DH who try to take a piece of this cake. It is known that there are countries where there have not enough dentists, but it would be like an airline company that lets air hostesses fly because of a lack of pilots. He wants the WG to work on a resolution that the mouth of the patient where the teeth lie is in the sole responsibility of the dentist/dental surgeon.

Edoardo Cavallé is aware of the problem. What we want to do is provide the patients with the guarantee that the professional who is looking after them has the best possible training. We must get it right because our profession depends on it.

Jiri Pekarek invites all to take part in the international workshop on the controversial theme "dental hygienists/dental therapists yes or no".

There are big expectations, which this working group has to fulfil, resumes Patrick Hescot the discussion. Edoardo Cavallé promises to come up with first results in Stockholm.

6.9 Approval of the reports of the working groups / theme of the year 2009

The reports of the working groups are approved; the president is very proud of their work. He thanks the plenary session for their approval. A working schedule has been fixed in Moscow and everybody can notice already now that ERO is very well on its way.

The Board proposes the theme of the year 2009: "The role of fluoride in dental prevention matters". There is no opposition, so Denis Bourgeois take the responsibility to work out a scientific session on this topic.



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C.7 Pan European Congress

Patrick Hescot regrets that there has not been enough time to discuss this in Dubai and this is why we put it on today's agenda.

Our friends from the Turkish dental association will organise their congress in Istanbul in July and celebrate their 100th anniversary. In this frame the Pan European Congress will take place. The president clearly states, that ERO is only "giving the umbrella". There is no question of organising this congress by ERO; it is going to be organised independently from ERO.

Juan Antonio Lopez Calvo remarks that the Spanish delegation was concerned about this subject. He states that they are in favour of these types of congresses being held. They should - if possible - go together with ERO plenary session. ERO should organise these congresses with the support of the local association and the profits should go directly to ERO and not to any intermediate body or other organisation.

Jiri Pekarek wants to know what the profit for ERO is and if there are any rules for using our name.

ERO only provides its support, responds Patrick Hescot. We do not give the name to any private company. The organiser must be a national body who is member of ERO.

Burton Conrod informs that FDI recently received several calls from some of their corporate partners asking if they were actually running two world congresses this year. They were a little confused by the term Pan European Congress and ERO, because where there is ERO is FDI. But he explained them in the same manner as Patrick Hescot has done right now. Part of the problem of the name "Pan European" is that it sounds so big and seems to like on an equal foot with the annual world dental congress. In FDI they had the idea that we should have more regional meetings in partnership with FDI and with perhaps the regional organisation. He has just been in Singapore with the IDM meeting which is held every three years. There are no business meetings but a nice exhibition and scientific program. It might be an idea in the future to have a regular regional meeting between ERO and the FDI. FDI supports the work of ERO, but it does not want any confusion over the Pan European Congress.

Stefaan Hanson suggests that the ERO plenary session asks the ERO executive to prepare for the next plenary a paper about the eventual organisation of a Pan European congress as from 2009 on.

The idea of a PEC is excellent in itself, remarks Peter Engel. He just fears that the industry might not follow all congresses since it is travelling from one country to another. We have to think carefully about how to make such a congress a success. Further the financial implications would have to be discussed thoroughly. And if ERO is going to lead it, there should be a little "leftover" for the ERO.

Vladimir Margvelashvili agrees that the idea of a PAN European Congress is wonderful. That would give much more dentists in Europe access to continuing education than it is possible now. The idea should get all our support.

Patrick Hescot resumes the interventions. He promises that the board will work on these ideas and come back in Stockholm with ideas or proposals.

C.8 Finances

8.1 Settlement of accounts 2007

Philippe Rusca gives some comments on the figures that have been published on the website. The accounts are more or less in the line of the budget. The spring plenary is the major part of our expenditures. This is unavoidable and we try to manage as good as possible. In terms of income we met the budget as well. There is a benefit of 10'662 €. It is not the aim of the association to create a big profit, but we want to make some savings that would amount pretty much to the sum of an annual budget which is quite a normal thing to do.

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Profit and loss account - The flat fee for the president and the members of the board are well below the effective costs. Thanks to the national associations of the Board members which support them in a large manner and thus help ERO to keep the expenditures low on this side.

Balance – we have now a fortune of about €55'000. The treasurer is very proud of this figure, because when we started 4 years ago accounts were next to nothing. Now we have a very balanced situation.

The accounts 2007 are approved unanimously. Patrick Hescot confirms that once we are financially on the safe side, we will be able to give some financial support to certain, well defined projects.

8.2 Outstanding fees

There are only 500 € of non paid fees. Philippe Rusca is sure that he will be able to settle this in the near future, too.

8.3 Budget 2008

The treasurer presents the budget 2008. The figures are almost identical with the ones of the previous year. The increase in the income (that is the annual membership fees) results from variations in the GNP and the higher number of the dental surgeons. These figures are in accordance with FDI.

The budget 2008 is approved unanimously.

Wolfgang Sprekels congratulates Philippe Rusca for the excellent figures. He states that the income of the medical persons, especially the dentists does not seem to rise in the last years; on the other hand the burdens (duties) are steadily increasing. The gap in regard to other professions is getting bigger. Germany is financing about 25% of the income of ERO; that is a lot. Generally he thinks it will not be possible to couple the membership fees with the GNI for ever. Wolfgang Sprekels wants this remark not to be taken as criticism, but as information and an expression of concern.

Philippe Rusca fully understands his argument and is of course very grateful for the huge contribution of German. Still, there has been no increase of fees for Germany over the last 4 years. He points to the minimum and maximum fee which has been decided and has remained unchanged. However, should FDI change its method of calculation, ERO will most probably follow it.

C.9 Next meetings / FDI

9.1 Plenary session 2008, Stockholm

The exact date is not yet known, but will be communicated as soon as possible.

9.2 Plenary session 2009

That it will be in Rome has already been decided last year. It will be on 17/18 April 2009. Bartolomeo Griffa presents a short video about the city of Rome. The presentation has been made by ANDI, but of course the event will be organised by the Italian delegation which means by the representatives of both associations.

Gerhard Seeberger has listened attentively to criticisms and wishes of the participants. He assures that the price for the accommodation will be affordable for everybody. The hotel they have chosen is in the middle of Rome and all places of interest can be reached on foot. We are awaiting all of you in Rome.

9.3 Plenary session 2010

Candidature for the organisation of the plenary session 2010 shall be presented until January 2009 and will be voted on at the plenary session in Rome. A "call for bids" will be sent out by the secretariat together with the "rules of procedure".

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European Regional Organisation of
the Fédération dentaire internationale



FDI - As usual there will be elections at the FDI general assembly in Stockholm. The information about it has already been distributed by FDI. Patrick Hescot gives those candidates that are present the floor for a short announcement.

Peter Engel is going for re-election as FDI council. Alex Mersel is a candidate for FDI-council, too. They present themselves. In respect of Alex Mersel's speech Alex Mahinson declares not to be sure about the role of ERO in this matter. The national association must choose, present and support a candidate and not ERO. Patrick Hescot defends ERO. No one said that ERO is choosing candidates; we are just giving them the opportunity to present themselves. Wolfgang Sprekels wants to avoid any long discussion at the general assembly and likes the situation to be clarified beforehand. The ERO president once again points out, that things are absolutely clear: ERO does not propose. Of course the ERO board would be glad, if many of our members would be elected. But the member association must propose and support their people.

Then Taner Yücel presents himself as candidate for the science committee, Denis Bourgeois and Paolo Melo will go for the World dental development & health committee.

C.10 Miscellaneous

D Close of the meeting

Patrick Hescot adjourns this meeting. He reminds everybody to participate at the scientific session of the following day.

Celal Yildirim refers to the Pan European congress which will be realised in Turkey. In order to eliminate certain misunderstandings, he remarks that the only reason that TDA accepted to hold this congress is that it is organised with the permission of ERO. We never considered this to be an alternative to FDI organisations. He emphasizes that it would not appropriate for them to carry out such kind of organisation through a commercial entity. If such an organisation is to be realised, it has to be done by ERO. Istanbul has been chosen as cultural capital by EU and we hope that you do enjoy your stay.

The president finally thanks the Turkish Dental Association for their hospitality and all the efforts to make this plenary session a success. He thanks as well the interpreters for their patience and most of all for their precious work.

Dr. Patrick Hescot
President

Monika Lang
Minutes

President: Dr. P. Hescot (France) • President-Elect: Dr. Gerhard Seeberger (Italy) • Secretary General: Dr. Ph. Rusca (Switzerland) •
Boardmembers: Dr. Bartolomeo Griffa (Italy) • Dr. Vladimir Sadovski (Russia)

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