



European Regional Organisation of
the Fédération dentaire internationale



ERO-Plenary Session
27th/28th April, 2012, Prague, Czech Republic
Marriott Hotel

Minutes

A Welcome

A.1 ERO-President

Gerhard Seeberger welcomes all participants to this plenary session. He thanks the Czech Dental Chamber for the excellent organisation of this event.

A.2 President of CDC

Pavel Chrz, President of the Czech Dental Chamber is glad to greet all delegates and alternates in the city of Prague.

A.3 Greetings of guests

Gerhard Seeberger welcomes the deputy minister of health of the Czech Republic, Dr. Ferdinand Polak; the executive director of the FDI, Dr. Jean-Luc Eiselé; the president of CED, Dr. Wolfgang Doneus, a guest from our affiliate member ESDE, Anna Szymanska and from Kazakhstan as an observer, Kurabayev Kuralbay.

Jean-Luc Eiselé emphasises to the audiences the FDI paper "vision 2020".

The deputy minister, Dr. Ferdinand Polak, excuses the absence of the Czech minister of health, who unfortunately could not be present today. He is very pleased that the Czech Dental Chamber after 12 years has again the opportunity to host this meeting. It is a great honour for the city and the Czech health care system. He hopes that it will be a fruitful and pleasant meeting and that the delegates will not just enjoy the working part, but also the city of Prague.

B Presentation of Czech Dental Chamber

Pavel Chrz welcomes all participants on behalf of the Czech Dental Chamber. He presents the CDC, founded in 1991, and its activities, which are: organising the list of members (all dentists in the Czech Republic must be members), the lifelong education and the pursuit of common interests. He reports that there is a shortage of dentists in the Czech Republic. They have more women in dentistry than men and the dentists are quite old, although in this regard the situation is slowly improving. They count 318 dentists from abroad. The major event is the Prague Dental days which take place annually in October, usually about 1300 dentists, DH and technicians attend this congress. The Prague Dental days include a workshop; one of the hot topics lately was teeth whitening which has become quite a business. Unfortunately people that are not dentists or DH are practising it. The CDC celebrated last year its 20th anniversary. (The presentation of CDC is part of the annexes to these minutes.)



C Standard agenda of the business meeting

C.1 Roll call

1.1 Establishment of the quorum

Anna Lella presents the delegates and alternates by name. With 53 delegates present the quorum is achieved.

1.2 ERO members

C.2 Approval of the agenda

The agenda is approved.

C.3 Approval of the minutes of Mexico

There are no comments or changes – the minutes are approved unanimously.

C.4 Reports of the Board

4.1 President

Gerhard Seeberger starts his report with a question – Quo vadis ERO? Where do we go? Are we on our way with all we are doing to achieve better health care in dentistry and medicine? We all know that we have in the future to go a common way. Where are we starting from? From a healthcare model which is based on our economic and financial situation; on treating an average patient; on the knowledge that 50% of the pathologies are untreatable and 25% pharmaceuticals are associated with adverse effects. Results we gathered from bio-medical researches show the relation between genetic heritage, environmental influences, diet and life-style. It determines also our personal characteristics. We are living in a liberal and free society and we have the liberty to develop to free individuals; we have also the privilege to develop our individual pathologies with our personal response to pharmacological therapy.

Where do we want to go? Do we want to change something or maintain our status quo of quality of life? We should go for concepts of a new health care model which is based on cost and time effectiveness relying on value principles. We need a personalized healthcare in dentistry and medicine. We can take advantage of the knowledge of the bio-medical research of the last decades which gives us an insight into the relation between genetic heritage, environmental influences, diet and life-style. The dental profession can contribute to the relevance of what in the profession is done, to the success of our treatments, to individuality and punctuality of our treatments. It should be more prevention based and rely on individual risks. It can be more precise and we can take advantage of early diagnosis as the dental profession is practising since several decades our so called recall system which gives us the opportunity to visit patients who are potentially ill. Oral and pharmacological therapy is oriented on higher success and less adverse effects. Common data from dentistry and medicine should be shared and we should take advantage of genetic heritage, state of health and anamnesis. He cites Prof. Schleyer of the University of Pittsburgh who said that the “separation of dentistry from medicine is a historical accident”. This might give us some courage to develop e-health which is speaking a common language between all the specialists that are active in medicine (dentistry included). We can combine the medical act with technology. We can develop in the future more effective diagnostic models, we can do screening and monitoring, we should do more and take advantage of research and do a data analysis of large population groups.

We should go for a democratisation of dentistry and medicine, sit at a table with all the stakeholders and open the discussion. The patient’s willingness is already high, if we look at the results of the surveillances, but we also have to avoid hyper-control and assure data-protection.



Gerhard Seeberger concludes his speech by saying: "I have a dream and I hope you share with me this dream" and wishes everybody a very fruitful meeting.

4.2 President-elect

Philippe Rusca: "First of all may I start by saying that in the board we are united and a strong team. Although we may speak individually, we form a team and we work together in carrying out our activities. And I would also like to mention those who work in the background. Monika, who is the person with whom we usually have contact; she settles the problems promptly, takes care of us, writes the minutes and so on. I think it is only normal to thank her for her work."

For the first time Philippe Rusca had the opportunity to participate in the FDI midyear meeting. He reports about the gathering of the representatives of the regional organisations from all around the world, where he had the honour of representing the ERO. "This gave us the opportunity to discuss our own problems, to hear from the different organisations how they are dealing with their work. In the way it operates, ERO is probably the one closest to the FDI. We are also fortunate to have our legal bases; not all have that. And when it comes to finances there are countries and regions where they have much more difficulties. What is the role of the regional organisations under the umbrella of FDI? Exchange of information among other things; but sometimes communication can be difficult and that's a problem just about everywhere. We are trying to improve.

A number of common objectives were discussed and several wishes expressed: that the regional organisations would like to have again voting right in the general assembly of FDI (as in the past before the governance was changed. Philippe Rusca does not think that this would make a fundamental difference in the voting arrangements, if we had 5 votes from the regional organisations). Then to have an FDI advisor as a direct contact in case a regional organisation had a problem. It was also stated that NDA's should be members in both organisations (regional and FDI). The regional organisations would like the FDI to have clear policy lines; there were a lot of changes in recent years. We need clearly established guidelines which the presidency must stick to and last but not least we would like to be consulted, when FDI sets up development programs in the regional organisations. After all we share common purposes and it does not make sense for a regional organisation to move in one direction while the FDI moves in another. So let's make a best possible use of synergies and improve our work. These are the main points that were discussed at the meeting. It was a very fruitful and interesting event.

4.3 Secretary general

Anna Lella praises the activity of Hana Stepankova and the Czech Dental Chamber. It has been a great pleasure to prepare this meeting. The website should undergo some changes. One element will be the forum. She encourages the delegates give input and to let her know if they have any suggestions.

Please give us information when members of WG change, so we can put it on the website too. She thanks Monika Lang for her work.

4.4 Members of the Board

Michael Frank reminds that all members of the board have a supervisory function in some of the working groups. I'd like to begin with the WG on quality for the simple reason that I am extremely sorry that in this WG - despite the commitment of the members - the feedback they are getting is pretty low. The chairman really worked hard last year trying to explain to you, why it is so important to take an interest in these matters. Working groups and the Board can only be as good as the input we get from you. And if we are not receiving responses to questions it is extremely difficult to draw a common position paper or statement. Roland L'Herron has been trying to find how the situation is in your country. The feedback has been a quite frustrating. It is really important that quality principles are established, so that we can speak with one voice in Europe.



The ERO working model is a result of joint efforts. After Mexico the president had called for response. We received some feedback and tried to incorporate in the document what has been brought to us. In the present form we can use it as bases for our work. Why the liberal dental practice is the foundation of this “house”, you can find out by looking at the mission statement on the ERO website; the most important thing is, to promote the dentistry as an independent profession based on the freedom of choice between patient and dentist.

Bedros Yavru-Sakuk: Communication and cooperation is very important. This applies in the relation with our members, but as well with our working groups, which are important entities of the ERO. The WG have to coordinate their work and their members should be present in the meetings. He thanks all the delegates for helping us to work better and more efficiently.

Patrick Hescot totally agrees with what Philippe Rusca has said regarding the role of the regional organisations in the FDI. Having Gerhard Seeberger as a member of the FDI council the information flow should be secured. The regional organisations are important and should not be considered as a barrier. The March meeting showed that the FDI president is willing to find solutions. Patrick Hescot comments on the “working model house”. We need to defend the liberal profession, but the role of the ERO foremost is to promote oral health in Europe. I am sure we all agree on how important liberal exercise of the profession is, but it is a question of how you present it. This diagram without explanation might be misunderstood.

We all want optimal oral health; that is the most important thing, confirms Michael Frank. If this is all done on the bases of liberal practice, it is even better. Liberal is, when you can make your own decision and no one is telling you what to do. Even working for a university or another institution can be liberal exercise. It is having the free choice. First of all we have to deal with the interests of our members and only secondly, if it is compatible, with what the FDI wants.

Wolfgang Sprekels refers to the WG quality. He wants to draw the delegate’s attention to the fact that we are going to witness a revision of the qualification directives in Europe. And this directive is going to be international law and member states will have to adopt it. It will oblige us to establish an error notification and an error elimination system. What we do not determine for ourselves, will be forced on us. Hence it is very important to answer this WG’s questionnaire.

According to Nermin Yamalik working groups and working methods should be in line with the ERO aims and goals. She would like the WGs to have an opportunity to come up with projects and proposals to the ERO board. In this diagram it is described as a one way relationship.

Liberal dental practice doesn’t just mean that we have to be self-employed dentists in our own practices, recalls Ernst-Jürgen Otterbach. It is much broader than that. We are talking about implications such as free choice of treatment, free choice of dentists, and independence from state models or insurance dictated models. This is what liberal dental practice is all about.

Michèle Aerden disagrees about the remark that the FDI eliminated the regions’ voting rights. It has been voted on in a general assembly and 95% of the delegates present were in favour. So no one should say now “unfortunately it was changed”. We have to look back on the history of things before start undoing what we have done. Are we going to make the FDI a federation of regions or a federation of national associations?

This is not a request, explains Philippe Rusca, it was just part of a discussion. We voted on this governance change and we respect it. On the other hand, why couldn’t we consider going back?



Here starts an extensive discussion about the “working model”. Stefaan Hanson thinks the problem could be resolved by a change of the wording. Whereas Patrick Hescot states: we all agree that the practitioner’s choice of therapy has to be independent. If that’s what we are talking about then we should introduce the notion of independence rather than use the word liberal. Perhaps we should say independent dental practice. Then the dentist is independent regardless of his status of his employment.

Susanne Andersen does not know how to explain this to the Scandinavian dentists. In Denmark a lot of dentists will not understand your explanation about liberal dental practice. Liberal is when you have your own office and so dentists in the university do not feel they are a part of them.

Jürgen Fedderwitz is a bit surprised by this discussion. We had a really deep look at the matter, submitted it and I believe that the outcome was adopted. He can understand that not everybody sees his practise reflected in this. The principles for liberal dental practice were already defined a year ago and they are the point of departures. We don’t have to start now a discussion about the right wording, unless we want to re-open the whole debate.

Michael Frank just tried to visualize what had been discussed. For this he has chosen a house; every house has a foundation. Some things can be changed, others not. Not to be changed are the arrows on the top of the house. There is a legal relation between ERO and FDI; whereas the other arrow is not filled in, because there is no legal relation. And then you cannot change the word “independent”.

The working model has been discussed at the last plenary session, and it was sent to all NDA to give their inputs, recalls Bedros Yavru-Sakuk the events. There were no reactions. Stefaan Hanson now proposes to change the word liberal into independent.

Gerhard Seeberger makes a résumé of the discussion. He thinks that we cannot just cancel years of productive work.

The question is: did we vote on this paper or did we not? In Mexico it was said, that the paper is adopted but remains under construction.

Nick Sharkov reads the definition of liberal profession:

- *they have a highly intellectual character,*
- *they require a high level of qualification*
- *and are usually subject to specific and strict professional regulations*
- *a personal element is very important when exercising such a profession*
- *exercising such a profession requires a great deal of independence in professional practice*

Free practice, free choice of therapy, free choice of doctor, that’s what it is all about, emphasizes Ernst-Jürgen Otterbach. It is not a question of being employed or self-employed. Even as an employed dentist you are free to take your own decision with your patient. We lived with this concept very well for years. On the flyer created by Anna Lella it is written: “The liberal professions are the pillar of any free society”.

Do we leave it the way we have approved it in Mexico or do we take into consideration the today’s discussion and vote on the amendments, asks Gerhard Seeberger.

Michael Frank thinks that everybody has understood what we mean and everyone has now to translate the word “liberal”, reflecting what we have explained today.



In France “liberal” and “independent” are not the same, adds Roland L'Herron. “Independent” by definition is not regulated, “liberal” means it is a highly technical regulated profession. I don't mind if everyone translates that in their own language, but for me liberal should be included.

In Spain we could have some difficulties as well with these terms, says Juan Antonio Lopez Calvo. Bedros Yavru-Sakuk proposes to put both words – maybe this solves the problem and is acceptable for everybody.

In several statements and resolutions we have expressed what we mean by liberal dental practice. These resolutions have been accepted unanimously by this body. Why suddenly change? Ernst-Jürgen Otterbach would be happy to take a decision, but it would be on the definition of a term we have been using for years and we would have to decide not to accept it anymore.

Finally the president brings the “working model” to a vote. 27 delegates want to keep it the way it was adopted in Mexico.

To conclude Nick Sharkov requests that in the future, when we are voting on documents, they have to be projected on the screen.

C.5 Member countries

5.1 National reports

Anna Lella presents her résumé of the national reports. She begins by highlighting the significance of national reports, which are an important source of information about the situation of dental profession in Europe. The submitted reports show in particular that in some countries there are a growing number of actions aimed at expanding the scope of professional rights of the dental auxiliary professions, especially the dental technicians. Dr Lella notes that in France there was a complaint filed by the National Union of prostheses manufacturers against dental profession. The Competition Authority rejected this complaint. A similar case is pending in Spain.

It is interesting to note that in the Czech Republic – according to their president's report – there are only few dentists registered from other EU countries, whereas in Switzerland the number of dentists having asked for the recognition of their diploma by the federal authority is alarmingly high, remarks Philippe Rusca. This is a huge problem for such a small country.

Other noteworthy issues mentioned in the report include the following:

- there is a new law in Turkey which prohibits dentists who are employed in public dental facilities to also exercise the profession in the private sector, e.g. to have an individual practice where they work after the employment hours;
- the French Competition Authority was dealing with one more issue related to dentistry that regarded alleged anti competitive practice of dental organizations in the field of tooth whitening; the complaint however was withdrawn;
- another important legal development is noted in the Italian report, namely a decision recently rendered by the European Court of Justice regarding fees for organizations representing artists and phonographic producers for background music played in dental practices;
- the dental studies in the Netherland are extended to 6 years;
- in Germany new dental licence regulation are expected - there is an intention to update the dental curriculum, to adapt it more closely to the medical curriculum, also it is planned to reduce the number of the intake of students;
- the Spanish colleagues who are trying to introduce vocational training as a requirement before the award of the right to independent dental practice;
- on the other hand in Poland the 1-year postgraduate internship is cancelled for those students who will commence their dental studies in 2012, despite that the dental profession, including dental students, was firmly against this proposal;



- in France the number of formally recognized dental specialties was increased, there are similar plans in Spain. (All reports as well as Anna Lella's summary are on the ERO-Website.)

Edoardo Cavallé points to the report from Malta, where dental technologists are fully registered. They have four years of training and are allowed to work in the mouth of a patient. Migration into Switzerland happens namely in the region of Zurich, declares Gerhard Seeberger. And this is the only canton of Switzerland where denturists are allowed to work at the patient. If in Malta the technologists are dental technician, then we should really watch it carefully.

Michael Frank refers to the FDI paper "vision 2020" that Jean-Luc Eiselé has mentioned. It asks NDAs, but also industrial representatives and other stakeholders to define the roles and responsibilities of health care workforce based on appropriate and approved formal structured education and training. This document will be presented in Hong Kong, informs Jean-Luc Eiselé. It should open questions; it might be as well controversial. The final draft will be circulated, inputs can be made.

C.6 Presentation of the candidates for the FDI Election

All candidates which are present at this meeting and which are running for a position in the different FDI committees have the floor. Bedros Yavru-Sakuk and Ward van Dijk are running for the Dental Practice Committee; Nikolai Sharkov for the Communications and Member Support Committee; Edoardo Cavallé for the Dental Development and Health Promotion Committee. Taner Yücel presents the candidature on behalf of Ilhan Duyguy for the Communications and Member Support Committee and Michael Frank the candidature on behalf of Georg Meyer for the Science Committee.

No doubt that we support our members, remarks Gerhard Seeberger and adjourns the first day of this plenary session.

C.7 Working groups

The president starts this point of the agenda by praising the commitment of all WG members and announcing the presentation of interesting results.

7.1 Liberal Dental Practice in Europe

Ernst-Jürgen Otterbach: Under the headline of "how free or compulsive are dental fee schedules in the different countries of the ERO" we tried to find answers to the following questions: is there a need for a fee schedule at all? Which volume has a fee schedule to cover? How are the methods and rules for payment? Is there a dissent between liberal practice and fee schedules in the member states of the ERO and who is the main author of the fee schedule? The discussion in yesterday's WG meeting made it clear: in our today's society, ethical principles, treatment's transparency, patient's protection and security and a fair economic calculation for our practice make a fee schedule necessary.

Only 15 countries answered to the survey started at the beginning of this year. This feedback is not very encouraging. So he would be glad to receive some more answers in a second round. Ernst-Jürgen Otterbach presents the answers received so far (see presentation which is an annex to these minutes). Very interesting is the answer from the Netherlands, where they have a free price system. Every dentist can fix the price himself, the market is free for the next 3 years. Alexander Tolmeijer confirms that they are very happy with the free system, although it has been quite a challenge for the dentists at the beginning. The insurance companies have their own system and of course they are fighting for limits.

Gerhard Seeberger hopes that this animates more NDA to answer the questionnaire.



7.2 Relations between dental practitioners and universities

Nermin Yamalik: it is a great pleasure to present the work of the group since Mexico. Only 36 of 173 dental schools replied to the questionnaire. She gives a short analysis of the answers (see presentation which is an annex to these minutes). In order to bring NDAs and dental faculties together electronically, to aid in exchanging ideas and further improving their collaboration and partnership, the Forum has been opened on the website. Monika Lang explains how to accede the Forum (see presentation which is an annex to these minutes). More information will be presented in Hong Kong.

7.3 Integration

Elena Ivanova looks back at the successful meeting of October 7th in Antalya with the presidents of the dental associations of the CIS countries. Nermin Yamalik was representing the ERO and made a presentation. The next meeting will be in November where 3 topics proposed by Prof. Vagner (Discussion of scientific research, the prophylaxis problem and the organisation of control of quality of dental health care) shall be discussed. One of the most actual topics for Eastern Europe is new dental technologies and innovative knowledge. They intend to improve and enhance their knowledge using the opportunity of Russian MosExpoDental in Moscow to organize another meeting of the Presidents of the dental associations of CIS countries and members of the ERO WG Integration.

This initiative of the Integration WG can serve as a good base for a fruitful cooperation between Western, Central and Eastern Europe. (See report and presentation which are annexes to these minutes.)

7.4 Prevention

Denis Bourgeois presents the preliminary results they have obtained from the study which took place one year ago in Sofia. He remembers a few key words. First we talked about oral health and diabetes, then about oral health and cardiovascular diseases and now about non transmissible diseases and oral health. The prevention group decided to first ask what relationship there might be between oral health and cardiovascular health. The purpose of the questionnaire was trying to identify the links and relationship between practitioners in cardiovascular medicine and dentists. What contribution can our profession make to reduce or prevent cardiovascular diseases? A questionnaire which tries to take the pulse has been issued. He presents the preliminary results (see presentation which is an annexe to these minutes). We want also to have cardiologists to become more aware of oral health problems, declares Denis Bourgeois.

Next steps to take – we are going to further develop the questionnaire, make it more general. We want to look at it from different points of view; we want to look the other way round and see if there is any possibility to merge the two approaches and to develop common strategies. A paper should be circulated soon.

7.5 Quality in Dentistry

Gerhard Seeberger opens this point by deploring the very sparse response to the questionnaire.

Roland L'Herron has already informed in Mexico about the results. Although the feedback to his questions is not much worse than in other groups, it remains little encouraging. There are always the same countries answering. So there is no news since Mexico. Anyhow, there will be no way of evading questions about quality, security and transparency. Self-control will always be necessary, because no one is perfect.

7.6 Basic + continuing education

Due to health problems Alex Mersel could not participate in this plenary session. He will present his report Hong Kong.



7.7 Women in Dentistry

Michèle Aerden predicted an increase in the number of women in dentistry and she was right, remarks Vesna Barac-Furtinger and looks back. The working group disappeared for a certain time and then reappeared. Their first wish was to connect women, to raise a women's network. She gives a short overview of the things accomplished. They want to continue collecting data, which is not always so easy and make a yearly comparison. Further a leaflet will be produced and establishing a women's corner on the ERO website is necessary. Vesna Barac-Furtinger informs about Great Britain, where they were looking for 4000 dentists... and found them: all women and all in a dependent position. Where does that leave the liberal dental practice? Who are these women? She was very surprised. Vesna Barac-Furtinger expects a big change in women's income in the future and closes her presentation by saying "every serious organisation needs/has a women organisation". (See as well her presentation as annex to these minutes.)

7.8 Dental Team

Edoardo Cavallé informs about the work of his group, whose task is to define the position of dental auxiliary personnel in Europe and to develop a common European perspective on the qualification and tasks of employees (beside the DCA) within the dental team. Currently the WG is discussing the tasks, the technical and professional skills and the training profile and learning outcome of the dental prevention assistant (see presentation as annex to these minutes). A first draft is to be shown in Hong Kong. There will be another WG meeting before the summer vacation. Edoardo Cavallé thanks Barbara Bergmann-Krauss and Corinne Genin for their support in organising these WG meetings.

7.9 Approval of the reports of the working groups and the theme of the year 2012

Discussion of the WG reports - WG "Relation between dental practitioners and universities": Nick Sharkov would have liked to have the questionnaire and the results as well, in order not to lose the indirect control. Patrick Hescot affirms that the reason why so many French universities answered was because the questionnaire was sent by the NDA. He expresses his opinion that all should do that this way. Wolfgang Sprekels is of the same opinion and adds: why not checking once if we are satisfied with our universities? In response to Ward van Dijk question about geographical differences Nermin Yamalik declares that there were not enough responses to make a statement on this point. She hopes to have more information after sending out the reminder. Michael Frank would like to know if there is any data regarding practitioners lecturing at the universities. Nermin Yamalik thanks for the constructive contribution of ideas. She promises to follow the suggestions and to come up with more information for the next plenary session.

WG "Integration": Nick Sharkov proposes Borislav Milanov as a new member for this WG.

WG Quality: Nick Sharkov considers it very important. Sometimes our associations are just following the political advices instead of going ahead some steps. Nevertheless he reminds to beware of possible political traps. Michael Frank seconds Nick Sharkov's request to look out for new members for the WG quality. This should be done now.

WG „Liberal dental practice in Europe“: We must be very careful about the tariffs for dental treatments. We have a monopoly on the prices of practice and too much regulation, says the EU. We have to protect ourselves of the wrong competition, warns Roland L'Herron. In Spain dentists wished to have fixed fee schedules and tariffs, declares Juan Antonio Lopez Calvo, but this is prohibited by law, because the competition commission thinks that fixed tariffs restrict the free competition. So they have penalized them with fines that are quite high. How is the situation in the other countries? We have these problems all over Europe, answers Stefaan Hanson. He thinks that



it is very difficult to answer to the LDPE questions. Ernst-Jürgen Otterbach thanks for the interest in the work of his WG. He is aware that we have to manage a balancing act between competition and regulating organisations. But the goal is to know how free we are to set up our fee schedules. We have as well a responsibility towards our patients.

WG “Women in dentistry” – The message comes across that women are seen as a problem, but they are not, affirms Roland L’Herron. In some countries there seems to be segregation along occupational lines between the genders. He does not know if this is really the case.

Georgios Tsiogkas notices considerable changes in the members of the WG. Some are too big, some too small; one never knows how many members there really are. Feedback and connections between NDA and WG should occur via WG members. He further criticizes the late sending of minutes and information about the plenary session and asks that everything should be on the website as soon as possible. Gerhard Seeberger promises that (at least the presentations) will be on the website quickly after this session. Bedros Yavru-Sakuk confirms that it is always difficult to know how many people are present in a WG meeting. New members should present themselves to the chairman of the group.

All working group reports are accepted.

Taner Yücel makes a short presentation of Istanbul where the FDI congress 2013 will take place. He begs all the delegates to give them their support.

C.8 FDI

Jean-Luc Eiselé, executive director of FDI, expresses his great pleasure to be here. He informs about the financial report on the accounts 2011, which will soon be published. The Hong Kong congress should produce a profit, which though may not be high enough to cover former losses. The organizers of the last years’ congresses always overestimated the number of participants. FDI wants a budget system which is predictable and sustainable. He believes that the Turkish Dental Association will be able to organise a very good congress. Having changed to a franchise model will make the budgeting easier. Jean-Luc Eiselé explains the reasons for moving the 2013 congress from Korea to Turkey. There were already three big events with exhibitions planned in the area next year and this was a too big risk to take for FDI and the Korean Dental Association.

Jean-Luc Eiselé points to the FDI news. He encourages the NLO and presidents of the member countries to contribute with articles and by translating and distributing the FDI to their members. If a NDA wants to promote its congress, we will integrate in this news.

The FDI executive director reports about very positive news from Hong Kong. They count the highest number of submitted abstracts. He begs to encourage the members of the European NDA to come to Hong Kong and in doing so to contribute to FDI’s success.

The “vision 2020” is a very important document for FDI as a political organisation, explains Jean-Luc Eiselé. The market has changed, FDI is no longer “only” congress organiser; it is a political body in the interest of dentistry, supporting the regional agencies and national dental associations in their efforts to reach a liberal health care system. The “vision 2020” shall be presented in Hong Kong. He thanks the delegates for their support.

C.9 Finances

9.1 Settlement of accounts 2011

Budget und Accounts are published on the website. Michael Frank is pleased to present very positive results. He gives a short explanation on the main points and thanks the bookkeeper, Monika Lang, for her work.

Enrico Lai, who has been elected as auditor, confirms that everything is in order and all documents were available and accurate. He reads his report.



9.2 Outstanding fees

Michael Frank refers to the constitution which states that dental associations that become members of ERO have to accept the terms of membership, which consist as well of fulfilling the financial obligations. Unfortunately there are always member associations which are not respecting these terms. If an NDA does not pay the annual fee for two years in succession it loses automatically its voting rights. There is the possibility to keep an observer status for one year, if the delegates agree, after which – if there is no payment of the outstanding annual fees – the NDA is automatically excluded from the ERO. The treasurer invites the NDA that have problems with their payment to contact the Board, which will try to help in all possible ways. But – of course – if we do not hear from you, we cannot do anything, explains Michael Frank. As from today's session 3 countries (Lithuania, Ukraine and Uzbekistan) will only have an observer status. The delegates present do not oppose to this. Michael Frank will contact them. If they want to stay members, they have to pay their dues.

9.3 Budget 2012

Michael Frank explains the budget. Some adjustments relating to increasing costs had to be made. There will be higher costs for the plenary session, because the FDI informed us that we have to contribute to the meeting costs in Hong Kong. This is something new. There is good news regarding the membership fees 2012. The board decided that the fees will not increase, but that there will be a reduction of 10% for all those who pay more than the minimum of € 250. The contribution is based on a formula which the FDI has established: it is the number of dentists multiplied with the GNI of the country and then multiplied with a coefficient and divided by 10'000. The treasurer points out that this 10% reduction is an extraordinary decision for this year: next year we will look at it again.

Nick Sharkov is happy about the news, although the correct number of dentists in Bulgaria would be 8247. He asks for a correction. Michael Frank explains these are the figures that have been reported to us by FDI. And FDI has got them from the countries. If we start correcting now, we will never be able to put up a budget.

Nick Sharkov withdraws his request and begs FDI to check their figures.

Voting: The accounts 2011 are accepted without a dissentient vote; the same applies for the budget 2012.

C.10 Next meetings

10.1 Plenary session 2012, Hong Kong

There have been some changes in the meeting schedules. The ERO plenary session will be on Thursday morning, 30th August, 8.30 – 12.45. If there is any need for WG meeting, the chairpersons are requested to arrange this for Wednesday evening.

10.2 Plenary session 2013, Potsdam

Michael Frank has the pleasure to invite the delegates and alternates on behalf of the German Dental Chamber to attend the spring plenary session 2013 in Potsdam (near Berlin). He shows a short presentation. It will take place on April 19/20, 2013.

10.3 Plenary session 2014

Candidatures to host the 2014 plenary session are very welcome. So far Georgia and then as well



European Regional Organisation of
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France showed interest in organising this event. Please let the secretariat have your official candidature.

C.11 Miscellaneous

Gerhard Seeberger thanks the delegates for their collaboration and the interpreters for their precious work and last but not least the Czech Dental Chamber for the organisation of this successful meeting.

D Close of the meeting

The president adjourns the meeting at 12.20 h.

Dr. Gerhard Seeberger
President

Monika Lang
Minutes

President: Dr. Gerhard Seeberger (Italy) • President-Elect: Dr. Ph. Rusca (Switzerland) • Secretary General: Dr. Anna Lella (Poland) •
Boardmembers: Prof. Bedros Yavru-Sakuk (Armenia) • Dr. Michael Frank (Germany)

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