

**ERO – Plenary session  
8<sup>th</sup> September 2016, Poznan, Poland**

**Minutes**

**A Welcome / Opening of the session**

Anna Lella welcomes all participants. She is very happy that her first plenary session as president takes place in Poland. A special welcome goes to Orlando Monteiro da Silva, Gerhard Seeberger und Philippe Rusca – past presidents of FDI and ERO and Wolfgang Doneus past president of CED as well as Marco Mazevet, past president of EDSA and now member of the French delegation.

**B Agenda of the business meeting**

**B.1 Roll call – Establishment of the quorum**

Oliver Zeyer reads out the names of the registered delegates and alternates.  
42 voting cards were distributed at this moment: we have the quorum.

**B.2 Approval of the agenda**

The agenda has been sent by the secretariat. The president announces a change. The dental association of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia asked to be admitted as a member of ERO. This is missing in the agenda, but shall be added as point B. 2a.  
The change of the agenda is accepted unanimously.

**B.2a Admission of the Macedonian Dental Society**

The Macedonian Dental Society is a regular member of FDI and has sent all necessary documents for admission to the ERO. Anna Lella asks the delegates, if they approve. This is confirmed unanimously.

The president of MDS, Sonja Apostolska, is present and thanks for being admitted as a member. She assures ERO of the full support of her association.

**B.3 Approval of the minutes of Baku**

We received no remarks or requests for modifications. The minutes of the plenary session of April 29<sup>th</sup>/30<sup>th</sup>, 2016 in Baku are adopted unanimously.

**B.4 Information board**

There were two meetings since the election of the new board (end of June in Warsaw and now just before this plenary session here in Poznan). Anna Lella would appreciate a closer cooperation between ERO and FDI. It is extremely important, that FDI is being noticed in our countries, but this applies as well vice versa. It is equally important to make our profession publicly more visible. In this endeavour, ERO is dependent on the support of the member associations. As an example she refers to a press conference that was held in Poland at the end of June about "sugar and the associated risks".

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The President refers to the newsletter, which all have received and which is published on the website. The ERO Annual Report was distributed on Tuesday in the general assembly A of FDI, as well as the new flyer. Anna Lella makes reference to the statement on “medical education in dentistry” which was submitted to the FDI and which underlines again the importance of oral health in the general health. She is glad that she also could raise this concern in the General Assembly. This action had a very good response. We hope that this document will be useful for the future cooperation with FDI and will soon serve as a basis for an FDI policy statement on this significant topic.

Finally the President extends her sympathy to those countries which have experienced in recent times tragic events (terrorist attacks and natural disasters) and in this context reminds that it is a duty of the dental profession to provide help to those who suffer because of such events.

The new treasurer, Bartolomeo Griffa, notes with satisfaction that the Russian Federation has paid the still outstanding part of the membership fee for the previous year 2015. He now expects the payment for 2016. The deadline was the end of August and he asks all those that not yet fulfilled their obligation to do so without any further delay.

## **B.5 Working groups**

The working groups form the essence of our organization, states Anna Lella at the beginning of this point of the agenda. The working groups are a platform for exchange of experience. Here we talk about the good and bad aspects of our profession and the oral health in our countries. It offers the opportunity to exchange views on new possibilities and solutions; also about errors that should be avoided. The work of these groups is very useful for our member states and associations. Their work shall help to improve the oral health of our patients.

### **1. Relation between dental practitioners and universities**

Simona Dianiskova thanks that she is given the opportunity to present her working group and its members. There is a good mix of university representatives and private practitioners. The new topic is “the mapping of dental specialties around Europe”. They will prepare a questionnaire to be distributed to all member associations. She hopes for a lot of answers and will present the results at a next assembly.

### **2. Liberal dental practice in Europe**

Ernst-Jürgen Otterbach is very pleased that their questionnaire regarding “liberal practice at times of multi-dentist dental offices, office networks and ambulatory healthcare centres” has achieved a return of 27 answers.

The questionnaire is now evaluated, and then a resolution shall be elaborated that will be presented in Geneva. For this purpose a further meeting of the Working Group will be held in January.

### **3. Integration**

Elena Ivanova reports on the activities of this group, whose aim is to introduce prevention and education programs in Eastern European countries. She informs about a national program for early detection and prevention of dental diseases in the Russian Federation, which is also supported by the Ministry of Health. In the field of continuous education they (Russia) are looking for cooperation with Western European universities. There already exists a collaboration with the German Dental Association. For the recognition of diplomas they are looking for cooperation with the Universities of Freiburg , Lyon , Milan and Paris7.

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Here the main issue is an adaptation of the training programs at Western European standards and the recognition of foreign "credit points". The working group integration attempts to contribute in this task and is glad to be supported from Western countries, which is very necessary and welcome when creating standards in prevention, education and training. The main objective is to further develop the dental services in Eastern Europe and this is only possible in cooperation with other countries and representatives of the ERO.

Elena Ivanova thanks for the support of the members of the working group and the ERO board.

#### **4. Dental Team**

In the absence of Edoardo Cavallé who takes part in another meeting, Michael Frank informs about the activities of this working group. It is currently treating the profession of the dental technician. A paper has been drawn up which is to be finalized in autumn and then will be presented in Geneva.

The board has discussed in general about the continuation of the work of the working groups, announces Michael Frank. Once the goals are achieved and the tasks fulfilled, it has to be considered if a working group shall be given a new task or if it is to be suspended and possibly a new workgroup shall be established.

An issue that needs to be treated is the increasing "academisation" of auxiliary professions in the field of dentistry. Then there is also a range of topics about techniques/technical procedures (for example the digitization of our profession). There are certainly major changes to be expected in the near future. They will prepare something on these issues for the next assembly.

#### **5. Continuing medical education in dentistry**

Hande Sar Sancakly gives a brief summary of the work, with which the group has dealt in recent times. She thanks the Board for the great support and especially Anna Lella for the statement regarding "medical education in dentistry", which has been submitted to the FDI and which she also presented at the General Assembly A.

The working group plans to tackle a new project. This will be an "assessment of the "best model" to provide effective and integrative continuing education activities in the dental profession and for updating the medical continuing professional development". It will be realized by means of an online survey and she hopes for the support of the member associations. It is intended to show the state of the integration of medical knowledge or transfer of knowledge within the dental education. Based on the results, the working group will then develop recommendations. Hande Sar Sancakli thanks in advance for the support.

#### **6. Quality care in dentistry**

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#### **7. Aging population**

The aging population is an important issue that affects us now and will affect us more and more in the future, states Philippe Rusca in his introduction. He presents the members of this new group. He himself was elected as chairman. Sophie Darteville is vice president. She

also takes part in the FDI working group "Ageing population" and therefore is the ideal link between ERO and FDI. A first meeting of this group took place in July.

Philippe Rusca explains a Japanese statistic, presented in the form of three pyramids, which shows a complete turn within 100 years (1950 - 2050). The once largest age group of the "under 20" will then (2050) be the smallest. The number of the elderly people is increasing rapidly, the birth rate is declining. The group has discussed the following questions: Who is this "aging population"? Is there precise information about the age at which one is considered to belong to the aging population? We then defined three categories, explains Philippe Rusca, "GoGo" - "GoSlow" - "NoGo". The first group is still able to do everything. The "GoSlow"-group are those with a handicap; those who need some support. The "NoGo"-group, are those who live in institutions and are not coming into the dental practice anymore. Here, the dentist has a moral obligation to care for these people; to address the question of why such patients suddenly no longer come into the practice. So we want to take care of the two latter groups. The working group will treat the subject "manpower", "collection of data", "documentation of the general situation and the basic training in the specific area of the dental care of the elderly people". It is important to keep the care of the elderly and old patients with us. That cannot just be delegated to the auxiliary staff. There is only few or no data at all. Of course, you do not have to reinvent the wheel again, but it would be nice to have an overview. The education and training of dentists in the field of gerontology is important. Philippe Rusca will present more information for the next meeting and concludes his report by asking if there are some more people interested to participate in this group. New members are always welcome.

Anna Lella thanks for all these reports of the working groups.

## **B.6 Plenary session 2017 (April 21/22) – Geneva, Switzerland**

The venue has been presented in Baku. Further information will follow in due time.

## **Plenary session 2017 (September) – during the FDI congress in Madrid, Spain**

## **Plenary session 2018 (Spring) – Salzburg, Austria**

Jörg Krainhöfner is pleased that the decision was taken to organize this plenary session in the spring of 2018 in Salzburg. He proposes the following dates: April 12th to 14th (which is one week after Easter).

## **B.7 Miscellaneous**

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## **B.8 Information on FDI matters**

ERO is part of FDI. Anna Lella shows a slide with the organizational structure of FDI. Then, as it has become a habit, all candidates for the vacant FDI-posts are given the floor to briefly present themselves.

The following candidates for a post in the FDI council are present and address themselves to the plenary: Nikolai Sharkov and Philippe Rusca.

Azamat Baigulakov is a candidate for the "Membership Liaison and Support Committee"; Hande SarSancakly, Norina Consuela Forna and Patrick Druo for the "Education Committee". All of them present themselves once again to the delegates.

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### **C Close of the meeting – adjournment**

Anna Lella thanks the interpreters, Monika Lang and Marek Szewczynski and last but not least the members of the board for their good work and adjourns the meeting at 12.30 h.

The president:

Dr. Anna Lella

For the minutes:

Monika Lang

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