

## Council Minutes

### Minutes of the EPA/UNEPSA Council Meeting, March 1-2, 2009 Rome, Italy

Present: Prof. Andreas Konstantopoulos  
Prof. David Branski  
Prof. Alexander Baranov  
Prof. Manuel Moya (arrived 1 hour later)  
Prof. László Szabó  
Prof. Fügen Çullu Çokuğraş  
Prof. Josip Grguric  
Prof. Gerhard Gaedicke  
Prof. Armido Rubino

Also present: Prof. Leyla Namazova  
Ms. Anastasia Vatsika, C&C (not present at all times)  
Ms. Christina Lassos, C&C (not present at all times)  
Ms. Irina A Volkova, Academservice (on 2 March 2009)

#### Sunday 1 March 2009

##### ***Agenda 1. Approval of Agenda***

A. KONSTANTOPOULOS introduces the Agenda.

##### ***Agenda 2. Approval of Minutes of previous Council Meeting***

G. GAEDICKE – The Minutes of Council meeting of Moscow were not the same as Laszlo and David published to the Council members. He did not agree with the published Minutes.

D. BRANSKI- Laszlo sent me the Minutes and I sent the draft to Gerhard and Armido.

A. KONSTANTOPOULOS – I am not responsible for the Minutes, but nobody responded to the Minutes published when sent to all of you.

G. GAEDICKE – Something was not included in the Minutes. Andreas has written the 3rd version.

D. BRANSKI explained the procedure and suggested adding Gerhard's additions to the original minutes and then send it to the Council members.

A. RUBINO – I was not in Moscow. I did not have any knowledge what was happening in Moscow. First of all I trusted friends. The Secretary General is responsible for The Minutes. I trust him. On the other hand, we could vote about approval of the Minutes. There are different opinions, but we vote. We will accept or reject the minutes.

G. GAEDICKE – Who has written the last version?

D. BRANSKI – Andreas sent me and I accepted.

G. GAEDICKE – Andreas has his own version of the minutes.

A. KONSTANTOPOULOS – According to the rules of EPA, I sent the minutes and nobody has responded.

A. BARANOV – This is the agreement, that was accepted in Moscow. (*He shows it.*) The letter was not the same as that agreement. I have not seen Laszlo's version.

J. GRGURIC – I was not there. Gerhard's opinion, regarding the versions of the minutes is unaccepted by me. This is not the role of the Council. The role of the Council is to solve the problem.

G. GAEDICKE – The cause of the crisis is that Andreas wanted to move the meeting from Moscow to Berlin. The Minutes were manipulated. This may be my personal opinion.

A. RUBINO – We are here representing millions of children and pediatricians. Maybe we do mistakes. We must not talk about the past. We must talk about the future. We have to speak about the agenda. We have a problem with CESP. We must stop fighting. We must deal with the real problems of Pediatrics. We must respect the rules. We have to stick to our constitution and have to talk about constitution. *Justitia medius est* - The truth is between the two. I respect all the friends who are sitting around this table.

A. KONSTANTOPOULOS – I have documents about everything. (*He shows e-mail letters to Gerhard.*)

G. GAEDICKE – I have never written that it is necessary to move the Europaediatrics 2009 to Berlin.

D. BRANSKI – The future of our society is more important. Let us stop dealing with the past.

F. ÇULLU – I agree with David.

A. BARANOV – I also have a proposal. Let's deal with the future.

D. BRANSKI – I suggest to disapprove the minutes at the present stage. I will send a revised document to the Council members.

VOTE: The Council accepts David's proposition.

### ***Agenda 3. Constitution***

*The General Assembly accepted it in Athens. G. GAEDICKE explains the changes. (We have received the final version by e-mail on 25 February 2009.) Change the name for EPA/UNEPSA. He changed the lawyer. The new lawyer put the amendments into the Constitution.*

A. KONSTANTOPOULOS – Last July, EPA/UNEPSA was not registered in Germany. We request to register it as soon as possible.

G. GAEDICKE – I did not have correspondence about it. Only UNEPSA was registered.

*Armido hands his proposal of amendments to everybody. He says this is not his personal proposals, but he only collected the proposals.*

A. RUBINO: Article 8- (4), it is necessary to simplify.

J. GRGURIC – He has a suggestion for the last sentence at Article 2.

*However, Armido and Gerhad stopped him, because only Articles 1 and 8 are modified..*

J. GRGURIC – I propose up to 18 years.

*Armido explained/reported that we published the new definition of Individual membership.*

G. GAEDICKE – The problem is, that we will get questions from the court after the General Assembly.

#### **Agenda 4. Official Journal of EPA/UNEPSA**

A. KONSTANTOPOULOS – David and I were invited to the meeting of the editorial board of the Cochrane Journal.

C. LASSOS – (*She speaks about cooperation with the Cochrane Collaboration and Blackwell/Wiley.*) The Cochrane Journal is the official journal of EPA/UNEPSA. They have yearly meetings. They will organize a Cochrane Review workshop in Moscow. It will be 2 hours workshop. There will be yearly scientific meetings which will be co-organized by EPA/UNEPSA and Cochrane Collaboration: In 2009 on Nutrition, in 2010 on Vaccination.

*D. BRANSKI congratulates C&C for their excellent work, and asks about the editorial letter.*

A. RUBINO – The Cochrane deals with EBM. How can we publish Éva Oláh or Mehmet Vural's studies if the announcement is only 1 page. How could we publish original papers? Two representative are invited for the editorial board. This is found in the contract. But if this Journal is the official journal of EPA/UNEPSA these 2 positions are not enough.

C. LASSOS – They are real members of the board.

A. RUBINO – But it is not in the contract.

L. NAMAZOVA – Verify the publications. Those are metaanalysis. Original papers are published in other type of journals.

C. LASSOS – (*She reports about their discussion with the journal.*) To establish a totally new journal is next to impossible. It costs 250 000 Euros per year. Wiley-Blackwell gave us 2 options: A new journal or make a partnership and join an already existing journal. The only real possibility was of course to make a partnership. There are obvious benefits: 1st benefit – It exists already. 2nd benefit – Cochrane Collaboration has a well known journal. 3rd benefit – Financial risk is zero.

G. GAEDICKE – What about personal subscription?

*Christina Lassos reports that the Council members will get an extra subscription possibility. (This was written in Christina's earlier e-mail too.)*

F. ÇULLU – What were the results of discussion with other Journals?

C. LASSOS – For example with Acta paediatrica, but the owner is a foundation, so we could not have a partnership with them.

D. BRANSKI – We do not need our own official journal, we need cooperation.

C. LASSOS – Yes, therefore we made cooperation, with Wiley-Blackwell.

*M. MOYA talked about the journal, and its scientific program.*

G. GAEDICKE – We want our own voice and individual members as subscribers.

J. GRGURIC – There is a workshop about EBM at Europaediatrics 2008, in Istanbul and one at the Croatian meeting last year.

L. SZABO – There are two problems. One with the Cochrane Library. They publish EBM, and there is only a few data about EBM in pediatrics. For EBM it is necessary double blind, placebo controlled studies, but this is almost impossible in children. The second: What is the EAP opinion about the yearly organized meeting by EPA/UNEPSA. We agreed that EPA/UNEPSA organizes a European Pediatric meeting in every second year.

A. RUBINO – We have contract with Wiley-Blackwell. The personal membership is important for two reasons. First reason is that it will increase the reputation of EPA/UNEPSA. The second reason is the subscription possibility.

C. LASSOS - The Journal would help the EPA/UNEPSA. The yearly organized meetings are not the same as the bi-annual EPA/UNEPSA meetings. In one year Europaediatrics. In the next year only Cochrane symposium.

G. GAEDICKE – How is it connected to the Europaediatrics with the yearly meetings? There are too many conferences. We live under financial pressure. The doctors could not participate at all meetings, conferences etc.

M. MOYA – There are too many scientific meetings.

A. RUBINO – Let's speak about the journal. We should vote about the journal and about the representatives to the editorial board of the journal.

VOTE - Everybody approves the collaboration with the Cochrane Collaboration.

*Armando reads from the contract: The EPA/UNEPSA representatives are (only) invited.*

L. SZABO – Maybe the one page is the responsibility of our representatives.

A. RUBINO – The tasks of editorial board are more complex.

G. GAEDICKE – Full membership of the editorial board is necessary.

L. NAMAZOVA – Manuel would be the third member of editorial board because of his task editing the newsletter.

M. MOYA refuses.

A. RUBINO – Because this is an official journal of EPA/UNEPSA we need one more member.

D. BRANSKI – Let's speak about the December meeting with Cochrane. Armido will be the president of the scientific committee .

VOTE: Everybody approves.

VOTE: Two members of editorial board of Cochrane are not only invited.

VOTE: A. KONSTANTOPOULOS and D. BRANSKI are the two members in it. Everybody approves.

#### ***Agenda 5. Collaboration with National Societies***

A. KONSTANTOPOULOS – I sent 38 letters to National Presidents, and unfortunately only 13 have answered.

#### ***Agenda 6. Newsletter***

*M. MOYA presents the Newsletter and talks about the content of it. He shows different links in the newsletter and talks about their importancy and priorities.*

*C. LASSOS also reports about the Newsletter.*

G. GAEDICKE – To get the e-mail addresses of pediatricians is very difficult.

D. BRANSKI thanks Manuel and C&C for their excellent job.

C. LASSOS – About the Website. There were 1141 unique visitors, and 4758 page viewers.

D. BRANSKI - Thank you again.

#### ***Agenda 7. Treasurer report***

G. GAEDICKE – There were 41000 EUR in January 2008.  
2009-ben 10 000 in EURO and 105 000 blocked.

D. BRANSKI – It should be reiterated that we are not a profitable organization, we can dedicate money for education, young investigators, for important projects

G. GAEDICKE – I agree.

D. BRANSKI – We can support young investigators with accepted abstracts – these can be published in the next newsletter. Up to 10 pediatricians can be supported.

F. ÇULLU – The authors of the 5 best posters would be invited to the next Europaediatrics 2011.

VOTE: Everybody approves the treasurer presentation.

***Agenda 8. Funding of delegates to Europaediatrics 2009***

A. KONSTANTOPOULOS – How many presidents were invited to Athens

A. RUBINO – 38, 15 were reimbursed.

A. RUBINO – I suggested canceling the membership of societies who do not pay their membership fee. We do much work, it is necessary to put pressure on them. We need fresh blood, we have to stimulate youngsters. To prepare written guidelines for website. We have to change our attitude . Where are the youngsters?

G. GAEDICKE – I saw many young colleagues at the Russian National Paediatric Conference. I am against "strong" regulations.

A. KONSTANTOPOULOS – Earlier only 10 National Societies have paid, but now 15, and tomorrow may be 20.

M. MOYA – The vast majority of IPA members societies did not pay. In Athens they wanted to vote, so most of them paid.

A. RUBINO – Article 6: The President of the Congress is responsible to pay to the EPA/UNEPSA for at least 10 percent of the total income - sponsorship and registration fee . Do you think Alexander, that would be 10%?

A. BARANOV – That was 2 years ago. But now the financial crisis is more established.

L. NAMAZOVA – Many participants would be there, because many visitors were on the website, so they are really interested in the Europaediatrics 2009.

G. GAEDICKE – I suggest that the no paying societies will not vote and not be invited as a speaker at Europaediatrics meetings.

M. MOYA – The membership fee does not depend on the number of the members of the society.

***Agenda 9. Bid guidelines for Europaediatrics 2011 and 2013***

A. KONSTANTOPOULOS – About the future of Euroaediatics meetings in 2011, 2013. It would be better if the candidate societies would present a letter from the mayor of the city, and would introduce their possibilities for organizing the next Europaediatrics at the General Assembly meeting. We could vote about the future place of Europaediatrics at the General Assembly.

VOTE: Everybody approves this suggestion.

Monday 2 March 2009

**Agenda 10. Europaediatrics 2009**

A. BARANOVE, the President of the 4th Europaediatrics 2009 presented the organization of the congress. The main sponsors are 2 Platinum (Wyeth, Protek), 2 Gold (Roche, Novartis), 5 Silver (Schering-Plough, GSK, Abbott, Bionorica, MerckSerono), 2 Bronze (KRKA, Danone Nutrition), 5 Sponsorship (Nestle, Ferrosan, Kimberly-Clark, Solvay Pharma, Merck). Total amount of money which is collected: 1 500 000 Euros. They sent information letter to 135 National Pediatric Societies, who are the members of IPA, to 42 Embassies of different countries from all over the World, and to Health Ministries and Child Hospitals. They sent similar information letters to Governors of regions of Russia, association of pediatric hospitals of Russia, regional departments of pediatric care, medical universities. Informational presentation was on different international congresses: EAP2008 Nice, XVI Congress of pediatricians of Russia. Up to now the number of registration is 168 (153 from Russia). Probable participants from Russia will be more than 1000.

I. VOLKOVA – (She introduces Academservice.) Invitation letters for the visa is important. We need the data from the participants. We can provide accomodation to up to 2000 participants. We organize transport from the airport and from the hotels to the Conference Hall. Academservice desk will be at the airports too. We will organize many intresteing touristic programs.

G. GAEDICKE – A national conference will be in May in Germany and we will need a big informational poster about Europaediatrics 2009.

A. RUBINO – Approximately 200 Italian participants will travel as an organized group. Is there any discount for the huge group?

L. NAMAZOVA gives a spectacular presentation about the conference center, opening ceremony, etc. She shows a summary of scientific program.

Finally they show that there will be 2 separate sub-budgets and 2 congress companies that will negotiate expenses. The President of the Congress is the coordinator of all organizational and scientific activities.

D. BRANSKI – Probably there will be as many delegates/participants as the number of the accepted abstracts.

A. BARANOV - The President of Russia visited us and spent 3 hours with us. Medvegyev was invited to open the Congress. Some ministers also will participate at the opening ceremony, as well as the Mayor of Moscow . Many members of Parliament will also participate at the opening ceremony.

G. GAEDICKE – How can we attract more participants from the west?

A. KONSTANTOPOULOS & D. BRANSKI – We have to attract the pediatricians, the National Societies etc.

J. GRGURIC – It would be useful if we send information about Europaediatrics 2009 on CD to National Presidents.

L. NAMAZOVA – This is difficult, but please visit our website.

J. GRGURIC - They need more and more information.

*C. LASSOS introduces effort. They sent newsletter, electronic newsletter, and in March they will send again newsletter. 3200 new visitors at our website in this year. They sent information letter to 38 National Societies, but only 4 answered so far. They sent information to 12 subspecialties associations too. They sent information to journals, and publishers. They sent information to different conferences. There are two websites in English, and this may create confusion. Individual registrations are also important.*

D. BRANSKI – ESPHGAN logo will be on the Europediatrics2009.

L. NAMAZOVA – We could not put on these logos on the program page.

A. RUBINO – The communication was excellent. Congratulations. We do not wait more for individual registration. It is necessary to look for local organizing companies.

A. VATSIKA – This is our plan. We asked the sponsors to sponsor individual participants too. The target group is the doctors.

A. RUBINO – That was what I wanted to hear.

A. BARANOV – All these activities help collecting participants.

D. BRANSKI – Local pharmaceutical companies have less money. The success of the meeting depends on the number of the delegates.

A. KONSTANTOPOULOS – We suggest for the individual participants to look for the companies.

A. BARANOV – Only one pharmaceutical company (Russian) refused sponsorship, referring to the financial crisis.

D. BRANSKI - The Gala Dinner will be very expensive.

A. RUBINO – Reduced registration for young participants would be necessary.

L. NAMAZOVA – Yes, and nurses too. Gala Dinner was supposed to be €130 they offered €50 ..

F. ÇULLU – This was similar in Istanbul. The rest of money was from the budget of the congress.

M. MOYA – What is the plan for coffee and lunch during the congress?

L. NAMAZOVA – 2 coffee breaks and lunch box per day.

A. BARANOV - How many Presidents will be present at the General Assembly and at the dinner?

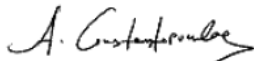
G. GAEDICKE – Only 5 National Associations did answer, from 38?

L. SZABO – The Hungarian Paediatric Association is the 6th. We put the link of Europaediatrics 2009 on our website. We put the information about Europaediatrics 2009 into our calendar too. The council of Hungarian Paediatric Association decided a bigger budget for Hungarian participants who have accepted abstracts in last Board Meeting.

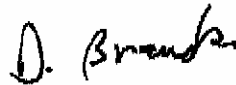
*More council members of EPA/UNEPSA promised that they will speak to representatives of their National Society.*

*A. KONSTANTOPOULOS thanked the Council members for their activities and closed the meeting.*

*(Summarized by L. SZABO)*



Andreas Konstantopoulos  
President



David Branski  
Secretary General