

## Council Minutes

### Minutes of the UNEPSA Council Meeting, April 17th-18th, 2005,

#### Debrecen, Hungary

The meeting has been held in Hotel Silver- Hajduszsoboszlo near to Debrecen and the host was Eva Oláh.

The meeting was generously supported by the Hungarian Paediatric Society.

Guests: 1. Kean Eaton and Zdenek Broukal, both experts in paediatric stomatology.  
2. Members of the council of the Hungarian Paediatric Society.

#### 17.04.05

- A. Rubino: Approval of the agenda and minutes of the UNEPSA Council and General Assembly in Istanbul.  
According to the Agenda of this very important meeting, we will discuss the actions to be taken by UNEPSA. This afternoon we will start by looking at where we are and what are the actions presently undergoing. Tomorrow morning we will discuss about the future of UNEPSA, its mission, the matters of European Society of Pediatrics, Europediatrics, and Relations with CESP. Tomorrow afternoon we will discuss on a number of proposed specific projects.
- D. Branski: UNEPSA is the only organization who represents all the pediatricians and of course the children in whole Europe.
- J. Ehrich: (while presenting the publications of UNEPSA) Nobody knew how many pediatric nephrologists existed in Europe before our study. These data should be discussed with politicians. 1% of all pediatricians in Europe are pediatric nephrologists. Is it enough? Is it too much? There are eastern European countries who do not offer kidney transplantation to children although they offer it to their adults. Do we want to continue similar projects? UNEPSA should show that pediatricians can influence the attitude of politicians.
- J. Janda: I had a phone call from Ukraine and Moldavia. They are changing their system for pediatric care and they asked me our articles.
- E. Oláh: We can adapt this project to other subspecialties but we should be sure about the quality of the data.
- J. Ehrich: In our study the completeness of the data were guaranteed by the co-authors. For the accuracy of the data, we counted on our correspondents.
- D. Branski: Jochen had an important experience on these types of studies. We can ask him to moderate our multi-centric studies. Another issue is where should we publish? We should choose a European Journal.
- J. Ehrich: Can we precise the topics?
- J. Janda: Adolescent project is going on. Pediatric stomatology and obesity in children can be the next topics.

J. Ehrich: Jacqueline Collier has all the data concerning the past projects. So she can be the one who can gather all the new data also.

A. Rubino: Performing and publishing studies on important issues concerning child health should remain a main goal of UNEPSA and should be extended and developed further. As far as I know there are no or few such studies published by CESP. Now we may think about other projects concerning other subspecialties. The actions to be taken might be:

1. Sending the full text of our papers to the national webmasters.
2. Get into contact with European Pediatric Journals for publication of future papers.
3. Stimulate papers on the organization of subspecialty fields. It seems appropriate that each study has a coordinator and a supervisor who will guarantee the quality of the study on behalf of the council.
4. Get into contact with European subspecialty societies.
5. Write a letter to national societies, outlining the political results of these types of data.
6. What should we do with the politicians? I think we should leave this task essentially to national societies, because a direct contact with politicians at national levels may produce problems with our local colleagues. Our role should be limited to interact with political bodies at international level (EU, WHO, etc.).

G. Gaedicke: I think that each country should decide its system. We cannot unify European Medical world.

J. Ehrich: No European ranking, no recommendation. I analyzed the data of the last 33 Nephrology Congresses, and found big differences between publications of different countries through this period. We should choose 2 other subspecialty topics. I propose two topics: Oncology-Hematology and gastro-hepatology.

This Erich's proposal is unanimously approved by the Council.

A. Rubino: Who will coordinate these projects?

G. Gaedicke: I can do it for Hemato-Oncology.

D. Branski: I can do it for Gastroenterology.

The Gaedicke and Branski proposals are unanimously approved by the Council.

A. Rubino: We may also need somebody from outside the council who may be a reference person and an advisor for us. Jochen, could you be our advisor?

J. Ehrich: Yes. We should update the data concerning the societies.

This President's proposal is unanimously approved by the Council.

A. Rubino: Now I ask Gerhard for reporting on the financial situation of UNEPSA.

G. Gaedicke: The president and the treasurer are the owners of the account. I tried to move the account to Berlin. I had many obstacles. So we decided to leave

it in Hanover. We have 56 350 Euros. Countries are not paying their annual fees.

A. Rubino: I will write to the presidents of the national societies and I will explain what UNEPSA is doing. I will try to call them by phone one by one.

J. Janda: For the website, I would like to ask the council to pay 30 € / month to the team who is taking care of the website.

This Janda's proposal is unanimously approved by the Council.

A. Rubino: We should decide how to spend our money!

J. Janda: We can sponsor some pediatricians from Eastern Europe to pass short visits in more developed countries.

J. Ehrich: Instead of sending the young pediatricians to London, which will cost a lot to us, we can organize some educative programs in their own countries.

A. Rubino: We should establish some rules and regulations on this subject. We can prepare a draft and discuss it by E-mail interactions.

J. Ehrich: We should also choose these centers.

A. Rubino: We shall now discuss the relations with CESP.

D. Branski: The best solution will be to meet two representatives from each institution and eventually create a confederation.

The Branski's proposal of two representatives of each institution in a meeting group is unanimously approved by the Council

E. Oláh: Both pediatric bodies are necessary. CESP is responsible only for EU countries.

A. Rubino: A short history of Europediatrics is made. Europediatrics is a very important ground for collaboration between CESP and UNEPSA. CESP has done an important work concerning guidelines and documents on pediatric education and ethics. We must respect their work. On the other hand we should go ahead with our programs. We are representing the entire Europe. One weak point is that both CESP and UNEPSA are scarcely known to pediatricians of Europe, due to the lack of direct contacts with individual pediatricians.

G. Gaedicke: We should register this Europediatrics brand name.

M. Vural: I agree with Gerhard. We should also register the name "European Society of Pediatrics".

J. Ehrich: UNEPSA should organize Europediatrics 2008 in Istanbul, as it is already decided.

This Erich's statement is unanimously shared by the Council.

## 18.04.2005

- A. Rubino: Short history of the idea of changing the name from UNEPSA into European Pediatric Society (ESP)  
In 1996, we started to discuss about ESP in Berlin (see the minutes).  
In 1998 Jochen proposed the foundation of ESP and a draft of its constitution.  
In 2002 Schmitz proposed to have a meeting concerning this issue.  
In 2003 GA in Prague: This issue was not discussed.  
In 2004 GA in Istanbul: The idea of foundation of European Society of Pediatrics was advanced but not voted.  
In the President's opinion, now it is time to decide whether we proceed along this direction or not. This year is the 30th one of UNEPSA. It is the right time to change!  
Let's start from the mission of UNEPSA and then let's ask ourselves, why founding the European Society of Pediatrics? In the President's opinion the instruments to realize the original mission of UNEPSA are now:
- Improving the communication among our membership and also with the public. For this purpose we may need a press office or a "public relation office" both at the national and international levels.
  - Changing the constitution of UNEPSA to transform UNEPSA into European Society of Pediatrics. According to the present constitution, the proposal of changes should be sent at least 3 months before the GA. If the new constitution is approved we should go to the notary and register the new name and constitution.
- D. Branski: We should justify the reason why we change the name.
- J. Janda: CESP is the union of specialists in Pediatrics. We should emphasize the importance of general pediatrics.
- J. Ehrich: We do not need to justify the creation of the ESP. Our congresses should differ from the subspecialty conferences. We should strengthen the position of pediatricians in Europe. Creation of organ centers may endanger the health of children.
- E. Oláh: We should be careful about the overlapping activities between CESP and UNEPSA. I agree with Jochen that we should emphasize the importance of primary care. Will we be open to individual memberships?
- A. Rubino: Individual membership is an important point. It was included in the original idea of ESP. I think it is still valid. We might consider an additional fee for these individual members. I think that this individual membership in some way should be represented in the GA: one possibility might be that if a certain number of individual members are reached within a specific national society, this society might have the right of additional vote(s) in the GA.
- G. Gaedicke: You have to offer something when there is a second membership. It may be lower fees for the congresses.
- J. Ehrich: Most of the national pediatric societies are not organized professionally and the presidents are changing regularly. There are many countries where there is more than one society. We can propose a European approach to our individual members:  
\* Reduce the fees.

\* Create special teaching team to organize special symposiums or courses (future of pediatrics, career chances of pediatricians).  
We can ask pharmaceutical companies to sponsor these activities and use our money for these kinds of projects.

M. Vural: I wonder whether we should keep the name UNEPSA while we are changing our name to ESP, in order not to have any problems in our relations with IPA.

A. Rubino: These changes should be guided by a lawyer. I think that we should proceed step by step:  
1st step: to define a draft of the constitution. We can work by E-mail. As soon as possible we should agree on a draft and send it to the membership three months before the GA.  
2nd step: to decide where and when we might gather the GA with the national presidents. If you agree, I will be ready to organize a symposium in Italy. We might invite some speakers also. We should also have the notary there and register the name.

The Council agrees on the President's proposals. The President receives the mandate to define the draft of the constitution starting from that prepared by Ehrich and including the new name. Then to circulate it by e-mail among the council members, to reach the agreement. The Council also agrees to meet in Italy, both as GA and as Council, (date and place to be decided) in connection with a symposium. Hopefully the new name and constitution should be approved there.

J. Ehrich: If we dissolve UNEPSA, the money goes to UNICEF according to our constitution.

A. Rubino: What we do is not dissolution; we are only changing the constitution.

J. Ehrich: Do we accept that UNEPSA has an inner circle with countries which are more active than the others, (like Italy, Turkey, Czech Republic, Israel, etc.)?

D. Branski: We should include the countries that are ignoring UNEPSA.

E. Oláh: We should include Eastern-European countries.

M. Vural: We should contact the leading persons from these countries.

G. Gaedicke: Concerning Israel, it is belonging to Europe.

A. Rubino: IPA accepts Israel as part of Europe.

M. Vural: We should also contact 10 other non-member countries and call them to contact us.

A. Rubino: I will let you know as soon as possible about the dates and venue of the meeting. What about inviting 4-5 distinguished people to talk on general topics like for instance:  
\* Political trends in Europe  
\* Demography and health systems in Europe  
\* Trends in Education  
\* Role of scientific societies

\* European registries in pediatrics, vaccination programs, etc.  
We might have the symposium in the morning and the GA in the afternoon.  
I am glad to inform that the Italian pediatric society is ready to finance the meeting. The precise program will be agreed on by the Council through e-mail interconnections

The Council agrees on this proposal.

- E. Oláh: CESP had no contacts with national presidents. The 1st time was only last December that they were gathered in Brussels.
- A. Rubino: In CESP there are two delegates from each country, one from the national society and one from the syndicate.
- J. Ehrich: We should also discuss the ideal pediatric hospital definition, because there are many centers which are getting renovated.
- A. Rubino: Now Europediatrics 2006 in Barcelona is under discussion.
- D. Branski: It will be held between 18-22 October. The last meeting we had was June, 2004. I have heard nothing from them since that time. The chairperson did not attend the meeting of the scientific committee.
- A. Rubino: Do we have any information concerning the scientific program? Is UNEPSA officially involved in Europediatrics 2006? What is the role of UNEPSA in this congress?
- D. Branski: It is the same as the role of CESP in the Prague congress.
- G. Gaedicke: Europediatrics might be organized every year once by CESP and once by UNEPSA. Is it too much?
- A. Rubino: Our next UNEPSA congress (or ESP?) will be held in 2008 in Istanbul. We could organize a big congress every two years and a symposium in between.
- G. Gaedicke: Why don't we send a letter to the CESP president discussing these points?
- A. Rubino: I will try to promote a meeting of the two presidents and two general secretaries of CESP.

Now the proposed projects are under discussion.  
Eva Oláh proposed three important and interesting projects.

- E. Oláh: I prefer to start with the neonatal project. I ask Mehmet to help me.
- M. Vural: With pleasure.
- D. Branski: Neonatology project should be accepted. We also discussed two other projects yesterday (E. Oláh will represent them next meeting).

The Council unanimously accepts the neonatology project as an UNEPSA project, coordinated by Oláh.

**Break**

Presentation of invited speakers by Rubino.

Prof. Ildiko Marton (Dean of the Faculty of Dentistry) presented the pertinent situation in Hungary.

Prof. Zdenek Broukal (pediatric stomatologist from the Czech Republic) and Prof. Kenneth Eaton (U.K.) (advisor of the council of European Chief Dental officers) propose a survey entitled "Can providers of pediatric primary care help in improving oral health of preschool children?". The aims of this study are:

- to collect data on primary care related to oral health in European countries.
- to find examples of good clinical practice.
- to offer them to local health authorities for implementation.
- to promote collaboration between UNEPSA, European Association of dental health, CECDO, EADPH.

The council agrees on cooperating with Prof. Broukal and Prof. Eaton for their projects.

Prof. Csongor Kiss (Dept of Pediatrics, Univ. Debrecen) presented their EUROPE (European Pediatrics thematic Network) for creating a database.

M. Vural: Short summary concerning the Adolescent health project and the questionnaire which is now ready to be distributed.

The Council unanimously approves that M Vural will be the responsible for the project. He will prepare a draft of letter which will be sent to national presidents by the president. In this letter a summary of aim and expected results will be mentioned. Beside the national president, another person implicated in adolescent health in this country (which will be indicated by the national president) will be included in the project.

J. Janda: The Obesity project should also be considered. It touches children both in developing countries and developed ones. You can have more information from a website: [www.iotf.org](http://www.iotf.org).

The Council approves the Janda's proposal.

D. Branski: He presented the summer courses project. The topics are:

1. Health economy.
2. Drugs tailored for pediatric patients (including Infants and children, PICU and NICU).
3. Policy of immunization.
4. The dying child.
5. Priorities in Pediatrics.
6. How to help children living in war zones.
7. Pediatric HIV (various aspects).
8. Poverty and health.
9. Ethical issues in neonatology (including decision making, priorities).

Z. Meszner: This may be a good occasion to include nurses.

G. Gaedicke: I would appreciate this project and take part in it.

J. Janda: What is about the financial background?

G. Gaedicke: There should be a fee.

The Council approves unanimously this summer courses project. The Council will receive from Branski specific proposals in details concerning the topics and the financial supports: communications and decisions will be taken by e-mail connections.

D. Branski: We should get financial support from pharmaceutical companies.

J. Ehrich: Do you have an example for this summer courses where it has worked?

A. Rubino: ESPGHAN is quite active in summer courses.  
He summarizes the projects approved as UNEPSA projects, and the coordinators:

- Onco-hematology (Gaedicke)
- Gastro-hepatology (Branski)
- Neonatal Health (Olàh)
- Adolescent health (Vural)
- Pedo-stomatology project (Jan Janda will be liaison officer).
- Summer courses project (Branski).

Under "any other business" it is mentioned that a letter was received from Moldova concerning three projects. They want to publish it in our web-site. What kind of control do we have for our web-site? Can we accept such publications?

J. Janda: Jan Vejvelka presented in Istanbul the clear concept of our web-site. We should inform national societies about our web-site and ask them to have links to their national congresses and guidelines.

J. Ehrich: These publications should be accepted by the national societies and their presidents.

G. Gaedicke: You cannot judge the scientific interest from an abstract.

J. Ehrich: I think we cannot accept scientific abstracts or publications.

A. Rubino: He closes the Council meeting. He addresses feelings of the warmest gratitude for the unforgettable hospitality to Prof. Eva Olàh, the Hungarian society and all Hungarian Colleagues who have cooperated.  
He looks forward to the next Council meeting and GA to take place in Italy at the date and location which will be decided.

**Prof Armido Rubino**  
**UNEPSA President**

**Prof David Branski**  
**UNEPSA Secretary General**