



Minutes from
Meeting of the Executive Committee of Wonca Europe
Ankara, Turkey, September 19-21, 2003

Present

President	Philip Evans
Vice President	Igor Svab
Honorary Secretary	Bjørn Gjelsvik
Honorary Treasurer	Vaclav Benes
EURACT	Justin Allen
EGPRN	Christos Lionis
EQuIP	Luis Pisco
Secretariat	Helene Flottorp

The President of ELEGIA Bodossakis Merkouris attended the meeting during Item 18.

1. Welcome by President

The President welcomed the Executive Committee and gave an orientation of the plan for meetings outside the agenda:

- Friday evening: Meeting with the Turkish Association of Family Physicians (TAHUD) and representatives from the Faculty of Medicine. Joint dinner after the meeting.
- Saturday at 12:00 a.m. – Meeting with the Turkish Minister of Health together with representatives from TAHUD.
- Saturday evening: Dinner with representatives from TAHUD and the Faculty of Medicine.

2. Approval of agenda

The agenda was approved with the following amendment:

- A letter from Kurt Zehnder regarding the SIMG fund to be added to the Treasurers Report.

3. Minutes from meetings in Ljubljana, June 2003

I) Approval of Executive meetings' Minutes.

The minutes were approved with the following comments:

Minutes from June 17

Under item 6 Honorary Treasurers report: "including all costs" should be deleted from the Decision.

Under item 15 Wonca Award: "Secretariat sends request to Wonca World about what happens" should be added.

II) Consideration of Council Meeting Minutes

The minutes were considered. Misspelling in the name of the Kyrgyzstan Assoc. To be corrected.

III) Consideration of Open Meeting Notes

The notes were considered. The President underlined the great number of active delegates in the meeting. The Executive Committee concluded that the theme of

the meeting and the day and time had been a success.

IV) *Matters arising*

There were no matters arising.

The action sheet was checked and adjusted.

4. President's Report

The President gave a verbal report.

The President's travelling to European meetings is very restricted due to the need of cutting costs. It is a disappointment for the networks and for the connection with UEMO. The South East Asian Conference in Beijing, November 5-8, may be cancelled due to very few registered participants. The reason is believed to be the fear of SARS. Whether the Wonca World Executive will meet in Beijing will be decided shortly.

5. Honorary Treasurers Report

The Honorary Treasurer gave a verbal report.

There is still a problem of late payers of the membership fee.

Action: The President to send a letter to the member organisations.

The Honorary Treasurer and the Secretariat to send a follow-up letter directly to the council members and the treasurers.

The net bank contract Business Online was signed.

SIMG fund – The President had received an email from Kurt Zehnder regarding the loan of SFR 15000,- to the Slovenian congress organisers. The organisers had received no reminder.

Action: Igor Svab will take the reminder to Janko Kersnik, the chair of the organising committee in Ljubljana.

6. Revised Budget 2003-2004

The budget was approved with the correction of Secretariat expenses US\$ 40 000 for 2004.

7. Secretariat – Contract between Wonca Europe and Faculty of Medicine, NTNU, Norway

The contract has been sent to the Director of the Faculty of Medicine for signing. The contract is valid from 01.01.2002 to 31.12.2003 with an option of renewal. The renewal should be completed before the expiry date. There was a discussion about the contract. The intention is to have a stable secretariat, based on appropriate financial arrangements. The contract should have a clause for yearly renewal. Before the Council meeting in Amsterdam, the Executive Committee should decide the contract for 2005.

Action: The President to follow-up.

8. Constitutional Working Party

The report was accepted by Council for a minimum period of three years.

Action: President to write to National colleges and collagorative organistations.

9. European Definition of General Practice/Family Medicine

A draft letter of information was presented to the Executive committee. Agreed.

Action: Secretariat to send this out to the member organisations.

The definition has been translated into more languages: Turkish, Russian and Czech. Total 12 languages.

There is a need to add a short summary: What does this mean for the politician? What does it mean for the patient?

Action: President

10. Report from Network meeting in Ljubljana

A summary from Hanny Prick was supplemented by verbal reports from Christos Lionis, Justin Allen and Luis Pisco. A collaboration task group has been set up. The Executive Committee strongly supports this and will receive reports from future meetings.

Action: President to send letter.

11. Special Projects Fund – applications Autumn 2003

The Honorary Treasurer gave an account of the applications and the decisions made by the group. Since a new budget for 2003-04 was approved by the Council in Ljubljana, only US\$ 2500 is left for 2003.

The Executive Committee decided to transfer US\$ 10 000 from the reserve account.

Action: Honorary Treasurer/Secretariat to send letters to applicants.

12. New Target Strategy of Wonca Europe

The proposed plan was supported.

Action: New questionnaire to be made by C. Lionis, J. Allen and I. Svab. To be sent to council members of Wonca Europe.

Time table: data assembled and analysis made by Mid June 2004. Consideration to be given for an invitational conference Autumn 2004.

If possible to be linked to the Dutch college to host an EU/Wonca Europe conference on GP/FM whilst the Netherlands hold the Presidency of EU in collaboration with UEMO.

Action: The President to discuss with the Dutch College and UEMO. To report back at Executive Meeting in February 2004.

13. Future conferences of Wonca Europe - Working Party

The President gave a brief orientation. The following persons was proposed by the Executive Committee to form the Wonca Europe Future Conferences Working Party

Bjorn Gjelsvik - chair

Igor Svab

Marteen Klomp

Adam Windak

Luis Pisco

Terms of reference are:

To consider the future of annual Wonca Europe conferences in relation to:

1. The finance
2. The content

3. The participation
4. The role of the executive and the liaison person

The working party should prepare a report with recommendations/guidelines for future conferences. Reports to be submitted Mid January 2004. Final report to be sent to all interested parties after the Executive meeting in February 2004.

Vaclav Benes suggested putting together a Wonca Europe conference committee to ensure the continuity of experience. The proposal will be taken to the working party.

Action: Bjorn Gjelsvik/Secretariat to contact the appointed members of the working party. Send letter to member organisations, networks, collaborative organisations, regions and Wonca World.

14. European Journal of General Practice

The President advised that there had been no news from Mediselect since the meetings in June.

Action: The President to contact Mediselect again.

There were discussions on different strategies for handling the situation, and the Executive Committee decided to review the situation. Mediselect will be asked to present a decision by 31.12.03. Different options should be presented for the Council in June 2004. The Executive also discussed the purpose of the Journal (Scientific publication, information, brand name, possibility of sponsoring/advertising)

Action: President, Igor Svab and Justin Allen to draft a discussion paper for the next Executive Committee meeting.

15. Letter from Royal College of General Practitioners

The President had received a letter from the RCGP asking for financial support to cover some of their financial loss related to Wonca Europe 2002. There was an extensive discussion and the Executive Committee unanimously decided that it was not appropriate of possible to provide financial support.

Action: President to reply.

16. Proposal from Belgian Society of General Practice re web

The President referred to the minutes from the council meeting in Ljubljana, where the proposal was addressed first. Due to the financial situation it was decided that it was not possible to support this proposal.

Action: President to send a letter.

17. Proposal from the Dutch College to host an EU/Wonca Europe conference on general practice/family medicine whilst the Netherlands holds the Presidency of EU.

This item was dealt with under Item 12. The President will discuss with the Dutch college and report back at the executive meeting in February 2004.

18. Future conferences

2004 June 1 – 4

Amsterdam, The Netherlands

The liaison Christos Lionis will visit in November. Looking at how the networks can contribute in the Young Doctor's

Programme. 3 from 10 countries + 30 Dutch.
Action: President to contact A. Timmermanns re the progress and especially the economy.

- 2005 September 3 – 7 Athens, Greece.
Bodossakis Merkouris attended the meeting and informed about the situation re Athens. A new venue has been proposed based on excellent conference facilities in the Island of Kos. The reason for this was because of the excessive costs of facilities in Athens. After detailed discussions the Executive agree to change the venue. 2000 rooms are pre booked at Kos. Transportation is okay, the organisers expect to have a minimum of 1.500 participants.
Decision: The Executive committee accepted the new venue.
Action: President to send an official letter.
- 2006 August 27 – 31 Florence, Italy
The liaison Bjørn Gjelsvik is invited to meeting in Riccone. Will report at the next Executive Committee meeting.
- 2007 March or Oct Paris, France (dates to be considered by CNGE)
No news received from the organisers re the dates.

Action: Secretariat to send letter to the organisers regarding dates and other details. Ask for answer before the next Executive Committee meeting.
- 2004 October 13 – 17 Orlando, USA
President reported that abstracts are wanted from the European networks. The New Definition should be presented.

Action: The Secretariat will prepare a full programme of dates and times for European meetings in Orlando to be sent early in 2004 to all members organisations and networks.

19. The leaflet

Corrections are necessary. New leaflets to be printed (at the Secretariat) prior to the conference in Amsterdam.

Action:

Secretariat to write to the President of EQuIP and ERPGN.

Justin Allen will review for EURACT.

The President will review for Wonca Europe and EJGP.

Reports to Secretariat within Mid October 2003.

20. Any other business

- Letter from David Jewell on annual conferences. To be submitted to Future Conferences Working Party.

- Letter from Dr. Rupert Gude, British GP re Israeli choir in Ljubljana. Received and discussed.

- Justin Allen reported regarding EURACT elections.

– 2004 Elections to Wonca Europe Executive. These elections will take place at the European Council meeting in Orlando in October 2004. Details of the elections and requests for nominations will be sent to all national colleges in March 2004.

21. Next meeting will be held in Lisbon, Portugal, Jan 30 – Feb 1, 2004.



Bjorn Gjelsvik
Honorary Secretary