



Wonca Europe Council Meeting, Istanbul, September 2008

Date: Thursday, 4 September 2008

Time: 13:00 – 16:00

Meeting Venue: Istanbul Convention and Exhibition Centre (ICEC)
(Dolmabahce A, B)

Delegates:

1. Ilse Hellemann, Austrian Society General Practice/Family Medicine
2. Bruwier Geneviève, Belgian Society of General Practice/Family medicine
3. Olivera Batić-Mujanović, Udruženje ljekara/liječnika poroične/obiteljske medicine u Federaciji Bosne I Hercegovine
4. Dragomir Petrič, Croatian Association of Family Medicine
5. Bohumil Seifert, Czech Society of General Practice and ESPCG
6. Roar Maagaard, Danish College of General Practice/Family Medicine
7. Paula Vainiomaki, Finnish Association for General Practice
8. Didier Duhot, Societe Farncaise de Medecine Generale (SFMG)
9. Bernard Gay, CNGE
10. Michael M. Kochen, German College of General Practitioners and Family Physicians DEGAM
11. Bodossakis-Prodrornos Merkouris, ELEGEIA
12. Mark Walsh, Irish College of GP
13. Ernesto Mola, Italian Scientific Association, ASSIMEFAC
14. Giorgio Visentin, CSERMEG
15. Gisle Roksund, Norwegian College of General Practitioners
16. Adam Windak, College of Family Physicians in Poland
17. Carlos Canhota, Portuguese National Society of General Practice
18. Haber George, Romanian National Society of General Practice
19. Zlatka Markov, Serbian Medical Association/ Section of General Practice
20. Eva Jurgova, Slovak Society of GP/FM
21. Jana Govc Eržen, Slovenian Family medicine Society/ Slovenian Medical Association
22. Toni Dedeu, Spanish Society of Family an Community Medicine/ SEMFYC
23. Madelene Andersson, Swedish Association of General Practice
24. Kissling Bruno, Swiss Society of General Medecine SSMG/SGAM
25. Arno Timmermans, Dutch College of General Practitioners (NHG)
26. Erdem Birgul, Turkish Association of Family Medicine
27. Grygorii Lysenko, Ukraine Association of Family Medicine

Observers:

1. Erwin Rebhandl, Austrian Society of general Practice/Family Medicine
2. Manfred Maier, Austrian Society of General Practice/Family Medicine
3. Carl Steylaerts, Belgian Society of General Practice/Family Medicine

4. Draško Kuprešak, Udruženja porodičnih ljekara u Republici Srpskoj
5. Peter Torsten Soerensen, Danish college of General Practice/Family Medicine
6. Danica Rotar Pavlič, European Forum for Primary Care
7. John Wynn-Jones, EURIPA
8. Pierre-Louis Druais, CNGE
9. Jean-Pierre Jacquet, CNGE
10. Donatella Sghedoni, CSERMEG
11. Luis Pisco, Portuguese Association of General Practice
12. Mirjana Mojovic, Serbian Medical Association/Section of General Practice
13. Jose Miguel Bueno, Spanish Society of Family and Community Medicine/SEMFYC
14. Peter Tschudi, Institute for Family medicine in Basel
15. Nezh Dagdeviren, Turkish Association of Family Physicians
16. Isabel Caixeiro, The European Union of General Practitioners (UEMO)
17. Humberto Martins, The European Union of General Practitioners (UEMO)
18. João Sequeira Carlos, Vasco da Gama Movement (VdGM)
19. Jasna Vučak, Vasco da Gama Movement (VdGM)
20. Theo Verheij, General Practice Respiratory Infections Network (GRIN)
21. Peter Buijs, International Commission on Occupational Health (ICOH)
22. Jim Reid, Internatiol Primary Care Respiratory group
23. Johan WENS, Primary Care Diabetes Europe (PCDE)
24. Alfred Loh, CEO of Wonca World
25. Chris van Weel, President of Wonca World

Wonca Europe EB:

1. Igor Švab, President of Wonca Europe
2. Meta Wiborgh, Vice President of Wonca Europe
3. Job F.M. Metsemakers, Hon. Secretary of Wonca Europe
4. Anthony George Mathie, Hon. Treasurer of Wonca Europe
5. Marianne Samuelson, EQUIP Representative
6. Egle Zebiene, EURACT Representative
7. Eva Elisabeth Hummers-Pradier, EGPRN Representative
8. Barbara Toplek, Wonca Europe Secretariat

AGENDA

1. Welcome by the President
2. Approval of the Agenda
3. Approval of the Minutes, Paris 2007
 - Matters arising from the Minutes
4. President's Report
5. Honorary Treasurer's Report
6. Reports from the Network Organisations
 - European General Practice Research Network (EGPRN)
 - European Academy of Teachers in General Practice (EURACT)
 - European Association for Quality in General Practice /Family Medicine (EQUIP)
7. Collaborative organisations
 - Vasco da Gama Movement (VdGM)
 - European Rural and Isolated Practitioners Association (EURIPA)
 - European Network for Prevention and Health Promotion in Family Medicine and General Practice (EUROPREV)
8. European Journal of General Practice

9. Wonca World Matters
 - Working document on the corporatising of Wonca Europe
10. Relationship with Wonca Europe Special Interest Groups (WESIG)
 - Wonca – ICOH Special Group on GP-OP Co-operation
11. Changes to the By-laws
12. Wonca Europe Bursary
13. Network Funding
14. Wonca Europe Projects/Special Project Funding
15. Preventive health care – Norwegian Proposal (1/2 hour presentation to the Council)
16. Petition '15 by 2015' and the Wonca Campaign – Submitters: Swiss Society of General Medicine SSMG/SGAM, German College of General Practitioners and Family Physicians DEGAM, Austrian Society of General Practice/Family Medicine ÖGAM
17. Summary of group work at the Paris Council meeting in October 2007
18. Future conferences: Measures against language barriers – 5 proposals to the Wonca Europe Council
19. Wonca Europe 2008 and Future Conferences:
 - 2008 Istanbul, Turkey
 - College Conference 2009
 - 2009 Basel, Switzerland (16-19 September 2009)
 - 2010 Malaga, Spain (7-9 October 2010)
 - 2010 Cancun, Mexico (19-23 May 2010)
 - Wonca Cancun 2010 Scientific Programme
 - 2011 Warsaw, Poland
 - 2012 Bid
20. Any other business

New item: Co-operation WONCA Europe, UEMO, European Forum

Minutes

1. Welcome by the President

Igor Svab welcomed the Council. Chris van Weel, president of Wonca World addressed the Council and gave a short presentation of the new membership category – Wonca academic membership. Furthermore he introduced the programme on mental health which has been set up in collaboration with the WHO.

2. Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda was approved. Two items added under any other business: 1)co-operation with the UEMO and EFPC, 2) Bruno Kissling's presentation of the Swiss request for a Wonca Europe resolution on a specialist title of Family Medicine.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the last meeting held in Paris, 2007

The Minutes were approved.

Matters arising from the minutes: no matters arose.

4. President's Report

Igor Svab reported – Appendix 1. No questions were posed.

5. Honorary Treasurer's Report

Tony Mathie reported – Appendix 2. From now on 20% from every conference will go to Wonca World. Arno Timmermans raised the question of the high Council expenses in 2007. Tony Mathie explained: we had two Council meetings in 2007 with some extra expenses (gifts for executive board members leaving the executive). Arno Timmermans suggested that the EB might stay in less costly accommodations. Tony Mathie explained that the EB is booked in these accommodations by the HOC and for several reasons needs to be close to the conference site. The Executive Board will take these concerns into account at future meetings.

6. Reports from the Network Organisations

- European General Practice Research Network (EGPRN)

Eva Pradier Hummers gave a verbal report. A draft of the European Research Agenda for GP will be presented for the first time during the open meeting of Wonca Europe.

- European Academy of Teachers in General Practice (EURACT)

A report was given by Egle Zebiene. Arno Timmermans raised the question of EURACT registration as a legal body – what it means for Wonca Europe. Job Metsemakers gave an explanation: it should not affect EURACT's position within Wonca Europe. EURACT will discuss this in the Council.

Arno Timmermans proposed networks' meetings during the conferences to involve networks in Wonca Europe's activities and vice versa.

- European Association for Quality in General Practice /Family Medicine (EQUIP)

No questions posed.

7. Collaborative organisations:

- Vasco da Gama Movement (VdGM) – report sent.

A special meeting with VDGM will be held during the conference.

- European Rural and Isolated Practitioners Association (EURIPA) – report sent.
- European Network for Prevention and Health Promotion in Family Medicine and General Practice (EUROPREV) – report sent.

8. EJGP Matters – Informa Healthcare (Hakan Parup, Ylva Haraldsdotter) joined the meeting.
 Job Metsemakers presented the current situation (explained in the letter sent to the editors) and the future plans. Many of the editors believe in the future of the EJGP. A new editor has to be found in an open procedure. A job description of the editor should be prepared (a job of 4 hours per week). The editorial board should meet every year during Wonca Europe conferences. Non active members will be invited to decide on their future collaboration.
 Decision: The Council accepted the proposed strategy.
9. Wonca World Matters: a late proposal from Wonca World was received – **working document on the corporatising of Wonca Europe**. This topic was discussed a year ago in Paris. Alfred Loh had promised to prepare a new proposal .The document was circulated within the Wonca Europe Executive Board only very recently. Wonca World wants to establish clear and transparent relations. Wonca Europe certainly agrees with Wonca World on the aspect of clear and transparent relations but feels that the current proposal is unacceptable to Wonca Europe; we do not want a legal partnership; we suggest developing a memorandum of understanding between Wonca Europe and Wonca World to establish the current relations on paper.
 Igor Svab read the proposal to the Council.
 Decision: The proposal is unacceptable to Wonca Europe. Wonca Europe will develop its own proposal – a memorandum of understanding between Wonca Europe and Wonca World. A draft proposal will be ready for the next Wonca World Executive in Hong Kong (June 2009), presented in Basel 2009 to the Wonca Europe Council and approved in Cancun 2010.
10. Relationship with Wonca Europe Special Interest Groups (WESIG)
 An agreement to have an official link with Wonca Europe (included in the papers) was sent to 5 groups. Four of them signed the agreement (IPCRG, ESPCG, EPCCS, GRIN) and the PCD will sign the agreement shortly.
 Decision: The Council approves these groups as Wonca Europe Special interest groups for the next three years.
 Arno Timmermans congratulated Wonca Europe Executive on this success. WESIGs will be presented during the Wonca Europe open meeting.

IPCRG	International Primary Care Respiratory Group Chair: John Haughney
ESPCG	European Society for Primary Care Gastroenterology Chair: Greg Rubin
EPCCS	European Primary Care Cardiovascular Society Chair: Richard Hobbs
GRIN	General Practice Respiratory Infections Network Chair: Sigvard Molstad
PCD	Primary Care Diabetes group Chair: Eugene Hughes

International Commission on Occupational Health (ICOH) has a group on GP-OP Co-operation. Peter Buijs gave a short presentation of the ICOH. In 2006 the presidents of Wonca and ICOH (International Commission on Occupational Health) - Chris van Weel and Jorma Rantanen - decided to form a common working group/committee on GP-OP Co-operation. On 9-11-2007 this group was founded in Dubrovnik, and the secretary, Peter Buijs, gave the Counsel Meeting a short presentation of the aims and proceedings of the group. The Wonca members are: Igor Svab, Chris van Weel, Carlos Brotons and

Jacintha van Balen. Wonca Europe is looking at ways to proceed collaboration on this topic. Contact has been made with the Basel-organisers, in order to have a work shop or mini-conference, september 2009. Later during the Istanbul Congress the Wonca-ICOH group have had its second meeting. It is not a special interest group

11 Changes to the Bylaws

Job Metsemakers presented the proposal of the Bylaws Committee (Job Metsemakers, Gisle Roksund, Erdem Birgul) – Appendix3.

- The HER statement – proposal accepted.
- The election issue – proposal accepted with a change: Executive Board membership in any capacity will be for a maximum of nine years. Except for the president who could serve a second term as president and stay in the EB for twelve years. This will guarantee continuity and at the same time promote new membership of the EB
- Are the bylaws in line with our current practice? – EU in the proposal should be changed to Wonca Europe.

New proposal: WESIG to be mentioned as observers – listed and invited (Article 7).

Decision: the new bylaws will be voted on in Basel 2009.

12. Wonca Bursary – proposal for a Wonca Europe bursary to attend Wonca World conferences (Cancun 2010 and Prague 2013) prepared by Tony Mathie and Egle Zebiene.

Bursaries should be offered to allow doctors who would not otherwise be able to attend the Wonca World Conferences to go to Cancun, Mexico in 2010 and Prague in 2013. Bursaries would be available to doctors from any region of the world, in a competition and each for a fixed sum of money.

A minimum total of USD 30,000 will be available stemming from the USD 5,000 available annually from Wonca World for European presidential expenses which we have traditionally not used, and a matching amount from Wonca Europe's own resources. It is hoped to be able to increase this amount to a total of USD 50,000. Between 30 and 50 bursaries would be available.

The subject was fully discussed.

Decision: The proposal was accepted. The WE Executive will go on with the proposal and will keep in touch with the Council.

13. Network Funding – the item is on the agenda and a proposal was prepared by Egle Zebiene and Tony Mathie. Unfortunately the paper has not been distributed. The matter was presented by Tony Mathie and Egle Zebiene.

The Council reacted positive but a formal decision will be taken in Basel.

14. Special Project Funding – the next round is November 1.

15. Preventive health care – Norwegian Proposal: Gisle Roksund gave a short presentation of the policy document to the Council.

Decision: To establish an ad hoc committee in collaboration with EUROPREV to prepare a policy document for strategies in preventive health care for Wonca Europe. EUROPREV to lead this activity.

16. Petition '15 by 2015' and the Wonca Campaign – Submitters: Swiss Society of General Medicine SSMG/SGAM, German College of General Practitioners and Family Physicians DEGAM, Austrian Society of General Practice/Family Medicine ÖGAM:

Bruno Kissling presented the idea to support the petition with stronger promotion in every country. Colleges were invited to use mailing lists and sign the petition.

17. Summary of group work at the Paris Council meeting in October 2007

Meta Wiborgh has gone through all the suggestions clustered and prioritised them. She presented the proposal which contains two activities:

- 1) The Wonca Europe website to be updated with events in general practice in Europe.
- 2) Database of abstracts to be added.

Proposal accepted by the Council.

18. Future conferences: Measures against language barriers – 5 proposals to the Wonca Europe Council

Job Metsemakers gave a short report. A working group prepared a proposal which should be accepted in the Council.

Decision: Proposal accepted. We will incorporate it in the responsibilities of the future conference organisers.

19. Wonca Europe 2008 and Future Conferences:

- 2008 Istanbul, Turkey: Erdem Birgul reported.
- College Conference 2009: The Greek College is thinking of organising the 2nd conference in 2009. They will give more information in the future.

So far we have no candidates – we could try to link it to Basel 2009.

- 2009 Basel, Switzerland: Bruno Kissling reported. The conference will have the lowest registration fees in the last few years. A whole-day Council meeting will be organised in Basel.
- 2010 Malaga, Spain (6-9 Oct): Luis Gálvez-Alcaraz reported. Tony Mathie reminded the HOC that the contract should have been signed by the end of this month.
- Cancun 2010: promotion in Istanbul at the WE booth.
- 2011 Krakow, Poland (8-11 September): Adam Windak reported. The website will be available in a few weeks.
The venue was moved from Krakow to Warsaw.
- 2012 Bid: We received one bid – Vienna, Austria. Fully accepted by the Council.

HOCs were kindly asked to invite WESIGs as active partners in the Conference programme.

20. Any other business

Bodossakis Merkouris observed that it is very difficult for some countries to organise a Wonca Europe Conference. He proposes a kind of lottery system which would give all countries an opportunity. He will send a written proposal to the Executive.

- Collaboration WONCA Europe, UEMO, European Forum
Arno Timmermans invited Wonca Europe to become more active in the relation to both UEMO and the European Forum on Primary Care (EFPC). All three have their own goals but they should at least inform each other, plan and work together. The President of the

UEMO Dr. Isabel Caixeiro, present as a guest, expressed willingness of the UEMO to be involved in future co-operation with WE.

Decision: Executive Board will meet with the UEMO and EFPC in Basel.

- Bruno Kissling presented Swiss request for a Wonca Europe resolution on a specialist title of Family Medicine:

In view of the growing importance of family medicine for all health systems, the guarantee of high quality primary health care, the need to keep the profession attractive to young and future doctors and for the migration of family doctors between European countries, the Swiss Society of General Medicine SSMG/SGAM requests the Wonca Europe Council to prepare a resolution on a specialist title for family medicine equal to the titles of the other disciplines in all European countries; specific vocational training of 5 years for family medicine - to be published at the Wonca Europe conference 2009 in Basel. Co-operation with the UEMO should be considered.

The EB will put this on its agenda.

- Toni Dedeu presented the DVD "Wings of life" (a kaleidoscopic look at important issues that may arise in the final part of the life cycle, a documentary feature that focuses on the very core of medical practice in our society...), which has been produced with the SEMFYC's contribution and delivered to Council members.
- Manfred Maier raised the question of the new membership category – Wonca academic membership. He proposed that the EB thinks of a simple way to collect membership fees for all the different networks at the same time. Tony Mathie to look into the feasibility of this proposal.

Next Wonca Europe Council meeting: Basel, 16 September 2009 (probably starting in the morning).