

## Minutes of the WONCA Europe Council Meeting 2016

## Wednesday, 15 June, 8.30 – 16.00

## Copenhagen, Bella Center

### Delegates:

1. Ilse Hellemann, The Austrian Society General Practice/Family Medicine OEGAM
2. Christel Foriers, The Belgian Society of General Practitoners/Family Physicians
3. Radost Asenova, BGPSRE
4. Mario Malnar, The Croatian Family Physicians Coordination KOHOM
5. Nevenka Vinter- Repalust, The Croatian Association of Family Medicine
6. Bohumil Seifert, The Czech Society of General Practice
7. Anders Beich, The Danish College of General Practitioners DSAM
8. Pekka Honkanen, The Finnish Association for General Practice
9. Jean-Pierre JACQUET, Collège de la Médecine Générale
10. Tobias Freund, DEGAM, Germany
11. Bodosakis-Prodromos Merkouris, The Greek Association of General Practitioners ELEGEIA
12. Imre Rurik, CSAKOSZ, Hungary
13. Thorarinn Ingolfsson, The Icelandic College of GP´s
14. Fergus O'Kelly, The Irish College of General Practitioners
15. Shlomo Vinker, The Israel Association of Family Physicians
16. Ernesto Mola, ASSIMEFAC, Italy
17. Leonas Valius, College of General Practitioners of Lithuania
18. Martin Sattler, The Luxemburgish Scientific Society for general Practice SSLMG
19. Jason Bonnici, Malta College of Family Doctors
20. Petter Brelin, Norwegian College of General Practitioners
21. Godycki-Cwirko Maciek, The College of Family Physicians in Poland
22. Rui Nogueira, The Portuguese Association of GP and FM
23. Rodica Narcisa Tanasescu, The Romanian National Society of Family Medicine
24. Mirjana Mojkovic, Serbian Medical Association/ Section of General Practice
25. Petar Pekarovic, Slovak Society of General Practice
26. Zalika Klemenc Ketis, The Slovenian Family Medicine Society
27. Jose Miguel Bueno-Ortiz, The Spanish Society of Family and Community Medicine
28. Ulrika Elmroth, The Swedish Association of General Practice SFAM
29. François Heritier, Swiss Society of General Internal Medicine
30. Rob Dijkstra, The Dutch College of General Practitioners
31. Erdem Birgul, The Turkish Association of Family Physicians (TAHUD)
32. Oleksii Korzh, The Ukrainian Association of Family Medicine
33. Valerie Wass, The Royal College of General Practitioners (United Kingdom)

### Observers:

1. Manfred Maier from the Austrian Society General Practice/Family Medicine OEGAM
2. Luc Lefebvre, The Belgian Society of General Practitoners/Family Physicians
3. Ljiljana Čenan, KOHOM
4. Jachym Bednar, The Czech Society of General Practice
5. Tomas Raboch, GUARANT
6. Karin Mette Thomsen, The Danish College of General Practitioners DSAM
7. Pierre Louis Druais, Collège de la Médecine Générale
8. Bernard Gay, Collège de la Médecine Générale
9. Ermofilos-Dimitrios Merkouris, ELEGEIA
10. Marie Barth, The Luxemburgish Scientific Society for general Practice SSLMG
11. Adam Windak, College of Family Physicians in Poland
12. Luis Pisco, The Portuguese Association of GP and FM
13. Daciana Ioana Toma, The Romanian National Society of Family Medicine
14. Jana Bendova, The Slovak Society of General Practice
15. Stefan Krnáč, The Slovak Society of General Practice
16. María Fernández-García, The Spanish Society of Family and Community Medicine
17. Josep Vilaseca, The Spanish Society of Family and Community Medicine
18. Murat Unalacak, TAHUD
19. Maureen Baker, The Royal College of General Practitioners (United Kingdom)
20. Sandra Mather, The Royal College of General Practitioners (United Kingdom)
21. Andrey Gladkov, The Royal College of General Practitioners (United Kingdom)
22. Victoria Tkachenko, The Ukrainian Association of Family Medicine
23. Jelle Stoffers, EJGP
24. Jo Buchanan, EURACT
25. Dimitrios Karanasios, EURACT
26. Piet Vanden Bussche, EQUIP
27. Ulrik Bak Kirk, EQUIP
28. Oleg Kravtchenko, EURIPA
29. Mateja Bulc, EUROPREV
30. Peter Sloane, VdGM
31. Berk Geroğlu, VdGM
32. Elisabeth Stura, VdGM
33. Dermot Ryan, Primary Care Allergy and Immunology Group PCAIG
34. Richard Hobbs, EPCSS
35. Knut-Arne Wensaas, European Society for Primary Care Gastroenterology ESPCG
36. Jim Reid, IPCRG WONCA Representative

### WONCA Europe Executive Board:

1. Job Metsemakers, WONCA Europe President

2. Anna Stavdal, WONCA Europe Vice President

3. Carl Steylaerts, WONCA Europe Hon. Treasurer

4. Harris Lygidakis, WONCA Europe Hon. Secretary

5. Roar Maagaard, WONCA Europe Executive, EURACT Member at Large

6. Mehmet Ungan, WONCA Europe Executive, EGPRN Member at Large

7. Andree Rochfort, WONCA Europe Executive, EQuiP Member at Large

8. Raluca Zoitanu, WONCA Europe Executive, VdGM Member at Large

9. Barbara Toplek, WONCA Europe Secretariat

### Invited Guests:

1. Michael Kidd, WONCA World President

2. Amanda Howe, WONCA World President Elect

3. Garth Manning, WONCA World CEO

4. Karen Flegg, WONCA World Member at large & WONCA Editor

### Minutes:

1. **Opening and Welcome by the President**

Job Metsemakers welcomed the council members and guests - Michael Kidd (WONCA World President) and Garth Manning (WONCA World CEO)

1. **Word by WONCA World President**

Introduction round took place.

1. **Word by WONCA World President**

Michael Kidd welcomed the council and presented his positive reflections from the VdGM preconference .

Information about cooperation with WHO (global health agenda).

1. **Quorum**

At this point of the meeting, 26 delegates were present (25 paying countries with voting right).

1. **Approval of the Agenda**

An additional item was proposed: Rob Dijkstra, Chair of Nominating Committee, would inform the Council on the Election of President-Elect and the possibility to propose candidates from the floor.

Agenda was approved.

1. **Approval of the Minutes, Istanbul, October 2015**

Minutes were approved. A question from Val Wass about the migrations topic. It was explained that this topic will be dealt in cooperation with UEMO.

Matters arising from the Minutes: Harris Lygidakis reported:

* Working conditions of family doctors, Recognition of Professional Qualifications in the European region

We have been dealing with this topic in collaboration with UEMO. Will be on the table for Friday session with UEMO.

* Daily fee for access to specific sessions of the Congress  
  This fee would be for internal use only, not for external participants. Limited number.

A question from Dermot Ryan about the fees in Prague for WESIGs activities outside the conference programme. It is possible to collect the fees for these activities in agreement with HOC.

1. **Financial Matters:**

Honorary Treasurer’s Report: Presented by Carl Steylaerts.

Question from Rob Dijkstra: How much are we in control of membership payment? There is no control, it is in hands of WONCA World. Short explanation was given by Garth Manning.

Comment from Rob Dijkstra: many of the budgeted items are fixed with money under spent. A space left for innovations?

A proposal from Val Wass to have a complete audit report for the next meeting. Carl Steylaerts replies that it would cost us a lot of money.

**ACTION:** For further discussion in EB.

**A proposal from Martin Sattler for VdGM was presented to the Council: an additional levy of 5 euros per registration towards supporting doctors from LMICs and young doctors.**

EB is in favour of supporting the colleagues from low income countries and young doctors, but not in this way. This is a good start to address the issue. It is not very wise to increase the levy. We will look for resources within our own budget. We recognize the need of support but are not in favour of increasing the levy at the moment. We might find other sources to help VdGM and low-income countries. Topic will be taken into account and presented in the Rio budget.

Council supported the proposal with some suggestions:

* Investment in scholarship programme
* Lower limit of registration fees as one of the options to add the proposed 5 EUR to it.
* When registering to the conference, a tick box could be added to the form in case the registrant wishes to support the registration of another colleague.

Decision: Council supported the proposal, also to keep the registration fees as low as possible.

**ACTION:** New plan for bursaries will be prepared by the Executive Board and presented in Rio.

1. **Montegut Global Scholars Program 2016**

Job Metsemakers presented the Montegut 2016 winner: Eunice Carrapiço will not be present in Copenhagen. She will be awarded in Rio de Janeiro.

1. **WONCA Europe 5 Star 2016**

Job Metsemakers explained the reasons why we have no 5 Star Doctor for 2016. We received only a few nominations. The committee that reviewed the applications concluded that the candidates are very active in the community but are not practicing doctors. There was also lack of academic experiences. They didn’t meet the requested criteria.

Decision: EB will revise the text for applications to make it clearer what are we looking for. We will advertise the Award harder – using our Newsletter for that.

**Procedures for Election of President-Elect were explained by Rob Dijkstra, Chair of Nominating Committee. Up till now we have one candidate: Anna Stavdal**

**Nominations from floor will be accepted until 10.30.**

1. **Copenhagen 2016 Legacy Document:**

The current version, prepared by HOC in collaboration with WONCA Europe EB was presented to the Council for comments. Discussion will take place after lunch break.

1. **Networks Presentations Round 1: EGPRN, EURACT, EUROPREV**

Every network will have 10 min for presentation and 5 min for questions.

EGPRN: Mehmet Ungan gave a presentation.

EURACT: Jo Buchanan gave a presentation. Council was invited to the PREPARE meeting the following day.

Comment from Dermot Ryan: Allergy is not taught in undergraduate program and very little in post graduate. An opportunity for cooperation to prepare educational material together?

On-line courses could be an option. A small working group is working on on-line resources – we are at a very early stage. Help from colleagues interested in this topic is welcome.

A meeting between networks on this topic will be held to share the resources.

A question about assessment tools: EURACT assessment course has been incorporated in Level 1, 2, 3 – there is no special tool at the moment.

A stronger link between EURACT and WWWP on education.

What is the added value of projects to our organisation? If we produce a text book, it should be for free, available online, only in electronic version.

**ACTION:** Networks should let us know about their conferences so our program doesn’t clash. The dates to be put on the website.

EUROPREV: Mateja Bulc and Leo Pass gave a presentation.

Networks to meet and talk about what need to be done in specific tasks. Linking with other networks.

1. **EJGP**

Job Metsemakers inform the council that the impact factor of the Journal has grown again - to 1.364.

Jelle Stoffers sent a written report on the journal.

Anna Stavdal updated the Council on the Journal. EB asked the Council for a mandate to negotiate with Taylor and Frances about the contract on financial issues so we can sing it when ready. A draft arrived only yesterday so there is no contract to be presented. There are changes that have to be done. The negotiation process has been difficult.

Information given by Val Wass: “Education for primary care” joined Taylor and Frances. Can we share the open access system?

Decision: There were no objections from the Council on the proposal from EB, EB is given the mandate to close an agreement and sign a contract with T&F within the economical frame given by Council in Istanbul 2015 . EB will report on the progress asap.

**Report on the Election of President-Elect from Rob Dijkstra, Chair of Nominating Committee:**

**There were no other candidates from the floor.**

**Conclusion from the Nominating Committee: Anna Stavdal has been unanimously accepted as the new WONCA Europe President after Rio de Janeiro for the period 2017 – 2019 - with applause.**

**Anna Stavdal addressed the council and thanked the delegates for their support.**

1. **Future conferences - a new plan**

Roar Maagaard presented the proposal to establish a WONCA Europe Conference Committee with the following objectives:

* Ongoing assessment of the current situation and determining the future needs of the WE conference;
* Development of a framework for future conferences:
* Liaising with the core PCO;
* Evaluation of the work of the core PCO.

Members of the committee, elected for a 5 year period:

* 2 members from Executive Board
* 2 members from Member Organisations
* A representative from past/present/future conference (up to 4 in total)

**DECISION:** Elections of the 2 committee members from the Council will be done in Rio de Janeiro.

Comments from the Council:

* in favour of establishing such a committee. There is a need of continuity – Rob Dijkstra supported the idea of PCO. This is not about the scientific part so we might also have a scientific committee for that.  
  Consequences are missing in the proposal – the power of the committee is not clear. There seem to be huge commitments for this committee –it will cost us money.
* We will have to re-define a part of a local HOC. Can we manage two PCOs? In case of core PCO – relation to local HOC should be well defined. It is important for MOs to have the authority to organize it their way.
* Important to include the Networks.

This conference committee will be able to set up a plan only from 2020.

**DECISION:** Council accepted the proposal with the remarks to be taken into account. The question of PCO will be on the table in the future. About the composition of the Committee, we have to find a solution how to include the networks and scientific committee. A plan will be presented in Rio de Janeiro. And how to assure continuity!

1. **Presentations of 2019 Conference Bidders:**

Harris Lygidakis explained the bidding procedure and reminded the council that with the

comments on the bids, EB tried to support the efforts of the candidates -not to influence council’s decision.

At this point of the meeting, 33 delegates were present (29 paying countries with voting right).

Voting procedure was explained: Bidding organisation will need 15 votes to get the conference.

If we don’t get a winner after the 1st round, the three highest ranked will go to the 2nd round. If still no winner, two highest will go to the third round. Votes received will be announced for every round.

Bids were presented alphabetically from Bratislava, Dubrovnik, Florence, Kos, Paris and Vilnius.

After presentations, voting took place: There was no winner after the first round. Three cities (Bratislava 12 votes, Dubrovnik 5 votes and Paris 5 votes) went to the 2nd round.

**Results after 2nd voting: Bratislava won the conference for 2019 with the majority of votes received.**

1. **WONCA World Bylaws**

Karen Flegg gave a presentation of the proposed changes in the WONCA World Bylaws that will be presented in Rio de Janeiro. Some of the aims:

* To simplify the constitution;
* A new member category (ProTeam Membership);
* Terms of office instead of “Years”;
* Omit the opportunity for nominations from floor of WORLD Council;
* Addition to Mission Statement (role of Family Medicine).

If needed, there will be further discussion in Rio de Janeiro followed by voting on the proposed changes.

1. **Networks Presentations Round 2:**

EURIPA: Oleg Kravtchenko reported.

EQUIP: Piet Vanden Bussche gave a presentation.

Comment from the council: a problem with the growing number of quality indicators in Europe.

VdGM: Peter Sloane reported.

A question from Val Wass about the legal status of the networks. Some are legal entities and some not. All of them receive funding from WONCA Europe. VdGM is not a legal body and cannot formally participate in the projects without WONCA Europe. VdGM is accountable to WONCA Europe.

VdGM is very strongly engaged with other networks.

Comments from the council:

* some networks are more equal than others. It was explained that we treat all the networks the same – all get the same share of funding.

Comments on the presentations in general: we failed to make it more interactive. This was about information and stimulation to networking. Next time we want to hear more about the content and less about the structure.

Young doctors to get into the Networks.

1. **Legacy document:**

Decision: Council accepted the proposed document with some minor remarks which will be incorporated. The following members will work on the final statement: Anna Stavdal, Roar Maagaard, Val Wass, Maciek. Amended version of the document will be sent to the council by email for approval.

There will be no press present due to important political event in the city.

1. **Future WONCA Europe Council meetings:**

Rio de Janeiro: October 29 (12.30 – 18.00)

* Future plan will be discussed
* Triennium budget will be presented
* EB Elections 2017 – 2019 and Statutory Committees will take place. Are the current members willing to continue? Email to be sent shortly. Proxy possibility in Rio!

Prague 2017: June 28 (8.30 – 15.00)

* WHO – WONCA meeting to be planned in the programme

Reflections on the meeting:

* Rob Dijkstra gives his position of Chair of the Nominating Committee back to Anna Stavdal
* Presentations of Networks: content to be more discussed next time
* Let’s give floor to the networks every year – shorter presentations?

Comments from newcomers:

* Discussion missing
* All learned a lot about the networks
* Good basis for a fruitful collaboration
* Meeting chaired very well
* Video presentations of things for noting in future to have more time for discussion?

Council was informed about the meeting with UEMO and invited to interactive session with WHO.

At the end, all participants were invited to send news for the Newsletter – by the end of June.

The meeting was adjourned at 16.00.