

**Meeting of the Council  
of the European Academy of Teachers in General Practice  
(EURACT)  
held in Eilat, Israel, March 1 – 4, 2000**

**Members present:**

Prof. Jan Heyrman, Belgium, President  
Dr. Adam Windak, Poland, Secretary  
Dr. Athanasios Simeonidis, Greece, Treasurer  
Dr. Justin Allen, United Kingdom, EB member  
Dr. Igor Švab, Slovenia, EB member  
Dr. Okay Basak, Turkey  
Dr. Owen Clarke, Ireland  
Prof. Harry Crebolder, The Netherlands  
Dr. Dolores Forés, Spain  
Dr. Bernard Gay, France  
Dr. Eva Jurgová, Slovakia  
Prof. Michael Kochen – invited  
Dr. Mårten Kvist, co-opted member  
Dr. Margus Lember, Estonia  
Prof. Gernot Lorenz, Germany  
Dr. Ivar Østergaard, Denmark  
Dr. Gertraud Rothe, Austria  
Dr. Andreas Rothenbühler, Switzerland  
Dr. Philip Sciortino, Malta  
Dr. Dag Søvik, Norway  
Dr. János Szabó, Hungary  
Prof. Paula Vainiomäki, Finland  
Dr. Mladenka Vrcic-Keglevic, Croatia  
Dr. Bernardina Wanrooij – observer  
Dr. Yonah Yaphe, Israel  
Dr. Egle Žebiene, Lithuania

**Members absent:**

Dr. Michael Boland, co-opted member  
Prof. Maria Luciana Couto, Portugal  
Dr. Gio Batta Gottardi, Italy  
Prof. Igor Denisov, Russia  
Prof. Grigoriy Lisenko, Ukraine  
Prof. Bengt Mattsson, Sweden  
Dr. Adrian Restian, Romania  
Prof. Květoslav Šipr, Czech Republic  
Prof. Chris van Weel, President ESGP/FM (invited member)



## **PROGRAM OF THE MEETING**

**Wednesday 1 March 2000**

### **Pre-Conference Executive Board Meeting**

#### **Session 1: Review of activities**

**Thursday 2 March 2000**

### **Session 2: Business meeting**

- Report from Zagreb
- EURACT membership
- New Council members
- Financial report
- Teaching Cancer Care Network
- New Council members
- Report from EB meeting in London
- The WONCA conference in Vienna

### **Session 3: A Task Related Organization**

- Group 1 – Council Membership
- Group 2 – Task Forces
- Group 3 – External Task Forces

### **Session 4: Landscape**

### **Session 5: Five minutes one slide presentations**

**Friday 3 March 2000****Session 6: Miscellaneous****Session 7: Supporting Committees****Session 8: Standing Committees****Session 9: Task Forces****Saturday 4 March 2000****Session 10: Reports from small groups sessions**

- Supporting Committees
  - Communication (Publicity) Committee
  - Member Services Committee
- Standing Committees
  - BME Committee
  - Specific (Vocational) Training
  - CME Committee
- Task Forces
  - Academisation
  - Attractions of the profession
  - Hippocrates project
  - Membership

**Session 11: Future meetings****Post-Conference EB meeting**

- Membership
- Co-optation and observers
- Procedures for acceptance of business plan
- Travel reimbursement
- Reporting about payments
- Spain 2001
- Next Council Meeting

**Summary of EURACT Council decisions – Eilat 2000**

## **REPORT OF THE MEETING**

**Wednesday 1 March 2000**

### **Session 1: Official opening of the meeting, review of activities**

The President of EURACT Professor Jan Heyrman welcomed all the Council Members. He especially thanked Dr. Yonah Yaphe for his efforts in organizing this meeting. Then Dr. Yaphe expressed his thanks to the sponsors of the conference:

- The Israeli Minister of Health Mr Yair Amikam
- The Israel Medical Association (Dr. Udi Kantor)
- The Israel Association of Family Physicians (Dr David Zacharovich)
- Claliat Health Services (Dr. Michael Rosenbluth)
- Maccabi Health Services (Dr. Anthony Heiman)
- Mediline Ltd (Mr Ronen Rosenberg)
- Department of Family Medicine, Tel Aviv University (Dr Eli Kitai)

The President also welcomed the new observers to the Council: Dr Bernardina Wanrooij (Teaching Cancer Care Network) and Prof. Michael Kochen who used to be a Council Member and now can contribute to the work of the Council again. His official position in the Council will be discussed latter.

The country reports were read in silence by all the present and questions were asked for clarification. The full version of the country reports can be found in Annex 1.

By request, Dr Gertraud Rothe explained the idea of a Master Degree for General Practice. It is seen as an effort for better university education, which could be the first step towards the development of family medicine as an academic discipline. Dr Justin Allen remarked that it could be also dangerous to create two different standards of GPs.

Prof. Harry Crebolder was astonished to read that it is not possible to introduce the ICCP system in Germany. Prof. Gernot Lorenz explained that ICD-10 is obligatory for the whole German health care system. There were some efforts to introduce ICCP in the past but they

were not successful. Many colleagues agreed that introduction of ICCP could be crucial for the discipline in Europe. Some efforts should be undertaken on the European level.

Dr Allen noticed in the Irish report that Ireland is probably one of very few glorious exceptions where there is no shortage of candidates to VT in GP. Dr Owen Clarke explained that it is perhaps due to new regulations on this field. This gave rise to the discussion about what is the right number of trainees in family medicine. How should one evaluate it? The shortage of candidates could also be due to the “burn out” syndrome and to the tendency that doctors do not want to practice separately any more e.g. in rural area (UK). Dutch GPs observe however the opposite tendency (shortage of candidates for this profession in big cities). This topic was very crucial for many Council Members, so the President proposed to create the “ad hoc” committee to discuss it further.

Dr Eva Jurgová explained the credit point system for CME introduced in Slovakia. This system is rather new. At the end of 2001 first doctors who will not fulfil the criteria can lose their contracts with the insurance funds. A similar revalidation system in which doctors may lose their certification is going to be introduced in UK.

The changes to the program of the Council Meeting due to the changes of the Israeli Conference were announced and accepted.

### **Thursday 2 March 2000**

#### **Session 2: Business meeting**

- Report from Zagreb

The Zagreb report was discussed. Prof. Crebolder asked for the list of the decisions or tasks committed by the Council Members to be attached to the next report. The possibility was discussed in view of the new working style. It is generally possible and welcomed.

- EURACT membership

Agnes Goethuys presented the list of new applicants. They all were approved. Albania has reached already the threshold of three members and has the right to nominate the national representative to the Council. This is going to be a problem due to the fact that new council

election is coming in one year. It was decided to create “ad hoc” council membership committee to discuss it.

- New Council members

Election for Switzerland was finished. Dr Andreas Rothenbühler was present for the first time. The procedure for Sweden and Portugal is still going on. Some members did not show up for three consecutive meetings (Dr Adrian Restian, Dr Gio Batta Gottardi). According to the bylaw the new representative should be elected. This was widely discussed. Different views were presented. This issue was also shift to the “ad hoc” membership committee.

- Financial report

The treasurer reported his problem with data collection about the finances. He reminded the decision about collecting fees every year, and bringing it in cash to the spring meeting or sending to the bank account. He also reminded the meeting of the three paying categories of the countries which are as follows:

< 5000 GDP	- 5 EURO
5000-10000 GDP	- 20 EURO
> 10000 GDP	- 40 EURO

Some countries moved to a higher group. Now members from Greece and Portugal have to pay 40 EURO, Slovenian members have to pay 20 EURO. Malta as a new country has to pay 20 EURO. The rule is that the first payment is valid for two years so those who paid the first fee in 2000 do not need to pay higher fee in 2001. The new higher rates will be valid from January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2001.

Expenses of the Council members are allowed due to the mailing and printing. Expenses up to 100 EURO do not need prior EB approvals. The Council members seeking travel reimbursement for travel to Council meetings (only those who were not sponsored for the travel from other sources), should apply for it on the first day of the meeting. The amount claimed should be calculated in DM and, together with a copy of the ticket, presented to the Treasurer. The Post-Council EB Meeting will then decide on the reimbursement on the basis: 90% for Council members from the countries with the fee of 5 EURO, the rest divided between other applicants.

There is money available for the projects, but Council members do not apply for it. It was a general feeling that we need clearer rules and maybe even application forms.

- Teaching Cancer Care Network

Dr Bernardina Wanrooij presented the European Network of Teaching Cancer Care in General Practice. The group originated from the small group of 5 countries (Denmark, Ireland, UK, Netherlands, Sweden) which was created in 1993. In 1997 the group was enlarged to 15 countries. They focus on three areas:

- Smoking prevention
- Communication skills
- Palliative care

The group members meet each other three times a year and exchange the experiences from their countries. The group has critical problems with the funding from the EU. However they still work together to share ideas and information about the projects carried out in different countries. The Network outcomes are as follows:

- mutual inspiration for courses
- definition of evaluation techniques
- common reporting format to compare efforts
- mutual support in obtaining funding
- recognition of the work to be done

It is currently working on statements on morphine use and euthanasia in Europe. The organization wants to get in contact with EURACT to promote its expertise in the field and make their outcome more visible and useful across the Europe. The EURACT Council offered space on its website to the organization and any other help we can afford.

- New Council members

Dr Philip Sciortino from Malta introduced himself to the Council. He works full time as a GP in a single-handed practice. He is involved in many activities leading to the professional development of general practitioners in his country. He is a member of the Malta College of Family Medicine. He presented also the work of his society towards the development of the discipline. The establishment of the first university department of family medicine was mentioned by him as an example of successful efforts. Maltese GPs are also developing the VT program for family physicians.



Dr Andreas Rothenbühler has been practised since seven years. In EURACT Council he replaces Prof. Werner Ringli – the former Swiss representative. Dr. Rothenbühler is going to continue his policies. In the near future he is going to join the university for 20% of his professional time.

- Report from EB meeting in London

The London report had been distributed for comments.

Dr. Mårten Kvist proposed the change of regulations about the national expenditure of the Council members. He suggested that every expense needs a receipt, but for amounts of less than 100 EUR does not need a previous EB approval. The Council generally accepted this.

Legal status was discussed again. The President explained again that the efforts to be registered by the court in Luxemburg were abandoned due to the costs.

The issue of the audit was discussed and the decision was made – Mårten Kvist and Albert Hercek were appointed auditors.

The EB report from London was approved.

- The WONCA conference in Vienna

The issue of attendance at the coming WONCA conference in Vienna was discussed due to the political situation. Most of the members did not want to cancel the meeting in order not to isolate the Austrian GPs who cannot be held responsible for the situation. However most of them want to avoid the participation of any government officials present at the conference. This position will be presented to the EB of ESGP/FM with the request to make it public. The EURACT representatives to EB of ESGP/FM were asked to pass the decision of EB to all the EURACT Council members.

### **Session 3: A Task Related Organization**

The new working style of EURACT had been widely discussed by EB in London. Several changes were proposed. The new working structure was presented by the President. He briefly described the whole idea and pointed out following issues:

- Council membership
  - enlarged role description
  - local secretariat / budget
- Running task forces
  - central task forces leaders
  - “ad hoc” task forces
  - business plan / budget control
- External task forces
  - opportunities / weaknesses
  - “Saturday – TF day”?

The above topics were subject for discussion in three small groups. After the discussion the group leaders reported to the Council.

- Group 1 – Council membership (*Reported by Dr. Athanasios Simeonidis*)

The previous document describing the duties of the Council member has been used as a basis for the discussion. The following changes were suggested:

- change in the layout: first requirements, then duties
- adding to the requirements: “should be general/family practitioner”
- procedure for the situation of consistent absence:
  - warning letter after two meetings;
  - after the third absence – a letter to members (wait four weeks for response);
  - new election
  - if this failed – contact with the national organisation represented in WONCA

- Group 2 – Task forces (*Reported by Prof. Jan Heyrman*)

The clear terminology and division of tasks is needed. The group proposed the following:

- Standing committee - new term used in relation to BME, VT and CME task forces
- Support committee – new term used in relation to the Members service committee (former Service Task Force) and Communication committee (former Publicity Task Force)
- Task group - task oriented and time limited group appointed to perform clearly defined tasks. Every task group should be linked to one of the standing committees.

Further to the above discussion the group members concluded that there is a need to devise plans to execute those out of 10 basic aims of ESGP which are related to education. Each plan should consist of the following parts:

- Statement of aims
- Strategic plan
- Business/funding plan

The next issue discussed by the group was “How to maintain “production” between the meetings?” More extensive use of e-mailing contacts and telephone conferences when needed was recommended as one of possible solutions. All task forces must appoint responsible people linked to the activities. Inclusion of external experts was also advised. Each of the standing committees should be obliged to prepare a brief presentation (kind of a short report) describing the progress of its work at Council meetings.

- Group 3 – External task forces

The role of external members would relate to the products. Workshops or other working meetings could be needed in some cases to allow external members fully contribute to the work of task forces. The work of standing committees (BME, VT, CME) with the participation of external members must be well co-ordinated. The group suggested for consideration the creation of a new officer post (academic director?) who would be responsible for these issues and would support the President in this field.

External members should be also involved in courses, literature production or even preparation for Council meetings. Probably there should be a possibility to create the local task forces. Anyway there must be a clear relation between structure → process → outcome. During the discussion following the presentations several Council members stated that more detailed description of the expertise available within the Council would facilitate planning of the work and help to assess the needs for external support.

## **Session 4: Landscape**

Dr. Igor Švab presented the latest version of the document. The Council members were asked to read it and correct it, especially dealing with the existing discrepancy between two informants in many points. The corrected document should be returned to Dr. Švab

who is going to develop the final version. After the language corrections the document will be published on paper and in the website. Hopefully it can also serve as a basis for a journal article in the future.

### **Session 5: Five minutes one slide**

- Dr. Dolores Forés presented on the conference of EUROPREV in collaboration with EURACT which is going to be on November 24/25, 2000. The main topic will be how to teach GPs about the counselling on tobacco and alcohol cessation.
- Dr. Justin Allen presented the project of a Danish trainee who got a grant from the Danish College of General Practitioners. The project is aimed at exchange of training in different European countries. Short tours of two weeks in five European countries are predicted. Council decided that it wants to consider in more detail the aims of the project and the content before the final decision on support will be taken. Such decision would help the applicant to get further funding from ESGP/FM, Socrates/Erasmus or Leonardo da Vinci Funds. The decision was postponed.
- Dr. Allen presented UK experiences of trainee involvement in educational development of General Practice. Dr. Allen had approached the president of this organisation, who expressed his interest in international exchange of the expertise. Professor Heyrman did the same in Belgium. Belgian trainees want to organize themselves and expect some support from the EURACT. Many Council members agreed that EURACT should support such an action.

**Friday 3 March 2000**

### **Session 6: Miscellaneous**

- Dr Giora Almagor, the member of the original Leeuwenhorst Group, welcomed EURACT Council in Israel. He presented a short lecture on the importance of good medical records for family medicine and wished EURACT Council a successful meeting.
- Prof. Michael Kochen presented the development of European Journal of General Practice. He described the efforts to get indexation for the journal. These efforts are partially successful. The journal nowadays is indexed in EMBASE, the

procedure for Medline and Current Contents is going on. Prof. Kochen asked Council members for contributions to the journal. He also proposed himself to be an observer or co-opted member of the Council. This decision was postponed to the EB meeting, however many Council members supported this idea.

- Prof. Harry Crebolder presented an idea to develop a form to collect information on all the available expertise in the Council. Every member will be expected to fill in the form and it will be published together with the report. This is going to be the dynamic database helpful for course or conference organizers. The Council approved his proposal.
- Prof. Jan Heyrman presented the idea of a key new conference in Spain in 2001. This is going to be a conference which should respond the following aspects:
  - A. What is GP/FM: the core definition
  - B. What are the competences: BME and specialist training
  - C. How to train best: good practice examples
  - D. How to assess: blueprint of assessment

The conference would produce necessary statement documents. Probably external funding would be needed. Possible sources are WHO and EU. The conference would be prepared in Tampere. The group discussed all the aspects, especially those related to the aims of the conference. To develop further the topics, “ad hoc” committees and leaders for them were appointed. They were as follows:

- Justin Allen – topic A
- Harry Crebolder – topic B
- Ivar Østergaard – topic C
- Mladenka Vrcic-Keglevic – topic D

A fifth group led by Jan Heyrman discussed the financial issues. The groups discussed the topics separately and reported to the Council.

- Reports from groups:

Financial and organisational issues: Spain conference will be held within two days (Friday + Saturday), Thursday will be reserved for Council Meeting only. Spanish Association will provide funding for EURACT Council. Additional funding has to be found (WHO, ESGP/FM).

“Ad hoc” group leaders presented short reports:

- A. The group has decided to work by finding out all the existing publications, which would be relevant to the subject. Individuals are going to look for them separately and collect them together. A problem will be communication within the group and between the groups.
- B. The group regarded competencies in different dimensions but finally defined it as the end-goal of BME and VT. Possible differences between the competencies required at national and individual university level were noted. A scheme to allow considerations in different circumstances (different health care systems) will be proposed. However there are some common features of every GP regardless of the system in which he works. This could be a subject for further work.
- C. The group regarded separately the training in general practice of students who do not know what kind of doctors they want to be, and vocational training, where specific training for general practice has to be provided. For the first group only experience may be needed. For the second one, specific training both in general practice and in hospitals is needed. To define which place for which purpose would be the best is not easy. The group is going to work on it.
- D. The group regarded the problem of assessment in different dimensions. Firstly, the level of assessment – which part of the training should be assessed – BME, VT or CME. Secondly, the present situation should be established. Thirdly, a review of the existing evidence in the literature would be sought out (methodology, purpose, circumstances, implementation, assessors). These subjects are going to be developed.

Additional issues were discussed in the plenary session. Firstly the feasibility of the conference was addressed. To be successful, a lot of preparative work has to be done. Probably a working draft of the final document should be prepared before the conference. The financial issue is also unclear at the moment. Some costs would be provided by Spanish Society (regular Council Meeting). There is however strong need to look for funding outside (WHO, ESGP/FM).

The idea of the conference was approved. The organizational details have to be discussed and decided by the EB.

## **Session 7: Supporting Committees**

The Council split up to two groups:

- Communication (Publicity) Committee
- Members Service Committee

The groups worked separately. Short reports were presented during the last session of the Council Meeting on Saturday. Full reports are available in Annex 2.

### **Session 8: Standing Committees**

The standing committees were confirmed. They are as follows:

- Basic Medical Education
- Vocational (Specific) Training
- Continuous Medical Education

These committees worked separately. Short reports were presented on Saturday. For the full reports see Annex 3.

### **Session 9: Task Forces**

Following task forces worked during this session:

- Academisation Task Force
- Attractiveness of the profession group
- Hippocrates project group
- Council membership group

Short reports were presented on Saturday. Full reports see Annex 4.

<b>Saturday 4 March 2000</b>
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### **Session 10: Reports from small groups sessions**

#### **SUPPORTING COMMITTEES**

- Communication (Publicity) Committee *(reported by Dr. Justin Allen)*

Presentation booklet was reviewed. Minor changes were introduced. The booklet is going to be printed in Estonia and then distributed.

Updating of the Website was discussed. Secretarial support for Yonah Yaphe as a Web-master was discussed. A half-day a week was proposed. Probably this will ensure regular updating. It was also decided to introduce to our Website the addresses of these institutions which support the Council. Protection of personal data of EURACT members was also discussed. This is going to be without any extra charge to EURACT, and will be protected by a password. Only paying members will be included. Every Council member is responsible for provision of up-to-date list of members from his/her country.

The communication section of the EJGP/FM was discussed as well. Meeting, and reports are still going to be published together with country news from selected countries providing a range of general practice experiences.

- Member Services Committee (reported by Dr. Egle Žebiene)

Possible current benefits to members were discussed. Among them are lower fees for EURACT courses, Website information, reports from the Council meetings and contribution to local meetings, and are widely available.

New potential possibilities were also discussed. Probably discussion groups in the Website, information on relevant literature or important events could be offered as well. New sites are still being found. Every Council member was asked to think about it and to propose ideas.

## STANDING COMMITTEES

- BME Committee (reported by Dr. Yonah Yaphe)

The draft of the paper on the review of basic medical education in Europe has been reviewed. The necessary changes were discussed. The article is going to be submitted to the JGGP/FM. The idea of model curriculum for BME in the field of GP was introduced. First the review of the existing curricula at least at the universities of the Council members is going to be done, as well as available literature. The special project to draw up the ideal curriculum is going to be developed.



- Specific (Vocational) Training (reported by Dr. Margus Lember)

The first task group has finished the statement on the selection of hospital places for training. It is going to be printed and distributed. A second task group is working on the selection of trainers and training practices, a third task group is going to work on the content and assessment of hospital training, and a fourth subgroup is working on release courses. The work of the group is going to be based on the business plan submitted already in Zagreb. This is going to be assessed by the EB.

- CME Committee (reported by Prof. Paula Vainiomaki)

The group started from the exercise to establish their aims and goals. The results of this allowed them to define potential consumers of the work (GPs, associations, employers, financial bodies, teaching organisations). They are going to reach their goals by collecting examples of good practice, statements, recommendation, evidence and finally by developing EURACT policy statements.

## TASK FORCES

- Academisation (reported by Dr. Adam Windak)

The group discussed the necessary preparations for the study aimed at the review of current situation of university departments of family medicine in Europe. Practical arrangements were done. Different models of academic career were presented by Michael Kochen. Feasibility of the project aimed at definition of possible contribution of General Practice to BME in Europe was also regarded.

- Attractions of the profession (reported by Dr. Andreas Rothenbühler)

The group had a kind of brainstorm session, which enabled them to catalogue the obstacles which can discourage potential candidates to the profession, and on the other hand issues which can be attractive, which there are in many countries. The group did not see the need for much work for EURACT in this field at the present time.

- Hippocrates project (reported by Dr. Igor Švab)

The group is positive about the project. However the content of the project within each participating country must be agreed with the local Council member. The group advised the EURACT Council to support the project. (This proposal has been approved by the Council.)

- Council Membership (reported by Dr. Justin Allen)

The issues related to the absence on three consecutive Council meetings were discussed. The procedure was agreed. The enlargement of the Council when new countries in Europe will appoint their representatives was discussed. Possibly there will need to be contributions to meet the accommodation costs of Council members in the future. This issue is going to be discussed after the Spanish meeting.

## Session 11: Future meetings

The following future meetings with EURACT involvement are predicted:

Event	Date	Place	Comments
WONCA 2000 6 <sup>th</sup> European Conference on General Practice & Family Medicine	July 2-6, 2000	Vienna, Austria	We are not responsible for any arrangements as a group. However, individuals can be asked to contribute as session leaders. <b>Warning: see post meeting mail from the President.</b>
Council Meeting	October 18-22, 2000	Kusadasi, Turkey	
Council Meeting	April 4-8, 2001	Hungary	The venue to be announced later
WONCA World 2001	May 10-17, 2001	Durban, South Africa	
WONCA Europe & Open Network Conference 2001	June 3-7, 2001	Tampere, Finland	There is an opportunity of using 24 sessions 75 min. each for educational purposes to be decided by EURACT. The 2001 EURACT general assembly will take place during this meeting.
Council Meeting	October 10-14, 2001	Barcelona, Spain	

The following EURACT Courses are predicted:

Date	Place	Subject
September 5-9, 2000	Bled, Slovenia	Teaching the EBM
November 11-12, 2000	CNG Paris, France	CNGE course (formerly known as "Riom Course")

At the end of the meeting the President of EURACT, on behalf of all the Council Members present in Israel, expressed his grateful thanks to Dr. Yonah Yaphe for excellent arrangements and all his organizational efforts.

## **Post-Conference EB meeting**

- Membership

There are only 380 paying members. This is due to a very inactive attitude of some Council Members. The absent members will be contacted individually to warn them. There will be a special letter to Dr Adrian Restian. The letters will be sent out by the President and the Treasurer to solve the problem.

- Co-option and observers

Observers were not aware that they are responsible for their accommodation costs. The rule is as follows: a co-opted member has full rights and does not pay accommodation costs; an observer must pay all the costs related to his/her participation in the meeting. In the case of this meeting, the accommodation costs of Bernardina Wanrooij will be negotiated by the President. The proposal is to meet it fifty-fifty from EURACT and from the Teaching Cancer Network.

There will be also need to be prepared a letter to Dr Michael Boland clarifying his position. Prof. Michael Kochen was accepted as an observer, on the above terms. A letter to him will be sent out by the President.

- Procedures for acceptance of business plans

Dr. Justin Allen and Dr. Adam Windak will develop jointly a template and regulations about the procedure in applying for project funds.

- Travel reimbursement

This time 10 out of 23 Council members have applied for reimbursement of their travel costs. Due to the budget restrictions and high travel costs the Treasurer was unable to reimburse applicants according to the previously agreed schedule. The maximum reimbursement approved was 75% of the costs for applicants from the countries with 5 EURO fee. High numbers of applications can cause problems for the EURACT budget, however the rules must

be clear to everybody before the meeting. For the future the following model has been approved:

- a) 90% of the costs for 5 EURO fee countries applicants
- b) rest of the travel budget divided proportionally between other applicants
- c) in case of the budget shortage the reimbursement may be lower, but not lower than 80% for 5 EURO fees countries and 20% for other applicants
- d) if the procedure described in point c) turns out to be too expensive new decisions will be taken by the Council

The travel reimbursement for the Eilat meeting was 6675 DM. The amounts paid to the Council Members were as follows:

1. Mladenka Vrcic-Keglevic	1255 X 75% =	940
2. Eva Jurgová	1370 X 75% =	1030
3. Okay Basak	990 X 75% =	740
4. Philip Sciortino	1400 X 75% =	1050 (21500 BEF)
5. Janos Szabó	736 X 75% =	550
6. Adam Windak	1350 X 75 % =	1010 (20600 BEF+20 DEM)
7. Paula Vainiomäki	830 X 30 % =	250
8. Dag Søvik	1216 X 30 % =	365
9. Marten Kvist	1460 X 30 % =	440
10. Gertraud Rothe	1010 X 30 % =	300 (credit)

- Reporting about payments

An overview of paying members is already big problem. Neither the Treasurer nor Agnes has reliable data on it. The situation must be improved before the new election. Council members will be asked to attach the list of paying members from their countries to each review of the activities presented to the Council.

- Spain 2001

The need for extra funding is obvious. Mårten Kvist is going to discuss this issue with Mila Garcia Barbaro. Jan Heyrman and Igor Švab are going to present it at the EB meeting of

ESGP/FM. Further decisions will be taken afterwards, hopefully during the telephone conference.

- Next Council Meeting

Dr. Sakis Simeonidis is going to be EB contact person for the next Council meeting in Turkey.

## **Summary of EURACT Council decisions – Eilat 2000**

- Since the beginning of 2001 higher membership fees (40 EURO) for Greece and Portugal. (see page 13)
- Malta as a new country in EURACT has to pay 20 EURO membership fee. (see page 13)
- Expenses of the Council members are allowed due to the mailing and printing. Expenses up to 100 EURO do not need prior EB approvals. (see pages 13 & 15)
- The travel reimbursement request (in DM) together with the copy of the ticket must be submitted to the treasurer at the first day of the Council meeting. Reimbursement rules: 90% for the countries with the fee of 5 EURO, the rest divided between other applicants. (see pages 9 & 10, see also post-conference EB decisions)
- The EURACT offered its website to the Teaching Cancer Care Network. (see page 14)
- The efforts to register EURACT in Luxemburg should be abandoned due to the costs. (see page 15)
- Mårten Kvist and Albert Hercek are appointed auditors for EURACT management. (see page 15)
- The EB report from London was approved. (see page 15)
- EURACT takes the position that WONCA congress in Austria shouldn't be cancelled, but any of Austrian politicians shouldn't be invited to the conference. This is going to be announced to the EB of ESGP/FM as an official stand of EURACT.
- Special form about the professional expertise should be filled in by each Council member and sent to Agnes. It will be attached to the Council meeting report. (see page 17)
- The idea of the Spanish conference was approved. (see pages 19 & 20)
- EURACT supports the Hippocrates project. However the content of the project within each participating country must be agreed with the local Council member. (see page 23)
- The dates for next EURACT meetings have been agreed. (see page 24)
- The dates for EURACT courses in 2000 have been announced. (see page 24)

***For the post-conference EB decisions see pages 25–26.***