

Reports of task forces

**EURACT Council meeting
October 20 – 24, 1999
Zagreb, Croatia**

REPORT OF VOCATIONAL TRAINING TASK FORCE

Present:

Margus Lember	Ivar Østergaard
Dolores Forès	Egle Zebiene
Athanasios Simeonidis	Okay Basak
Janos Szabo	Bernard Gay
Justin Allen	Gertraud Rothe
Igor Švab	Paula Vainiomäki

Two sessions on Oct.22, 1999 in Zagreb

1.Selection of hospital posts (JA) Final draft of the statement has been completed. Prices for publication have been looked for, we have an offer from Poland and Estonia. Later JS proposed also Hungary as a possible country of publication. Number of copies needed 1000. Distribution by central office to all EURACT members directly. The rest distributed to Council members. The work of the task group is completed.

Agreed actions: JA will provide ML with the final manuscript on electronic form

JS will inform ML about publication costs in Hungary within 1 week

ML and AS will find out the payment mechanism

ML will organize the publication by the next council meeting

2.Content and assessment of hospital posts (IØ)

The previously agreed plans on developing questionnaires etc are not valid any more. A new plan was developed: *Quality evaluation of hospital based training for general practice trainees* (I.Ø. and P.V.)

In order to get valid and balanced evidence of quality of hospital based training a European survey is needed, thus creating a solid base for educational initiatives to improve status. A pilot study is planned to establish an instrument for a European survey. The pilot project will take place in Finland, Norway and Denmark. A GP trainee from each country will be recruited to execute the pilot project and form the project group with I.Ø. and P.V. A project protocol will be detailed by the project group. Data needed are to be gathered by questionnaires and semi-structured interviews. Timetable was developed so that the final paper is finished by 31.12.2000, the preliminary budget was prepared. The results will be published as paper(s) in relevant journal(s).

Tasks: trainees recruited from Finland, Denmark and Norway (IØ,PV) by 31.12.99

Project description prepared by 01.03.2000 (IØ, PV)

Funding: 1.apply for EURACT money, 2.apply for ESGP project money?

3.Selection of trainers and teaching practices (ML)

First draft document was distributed and discussed. It was decided to prioritise the criteria of selection and to develop more precise recommendations for the next draft.

Answers and analysis of the questionnaire revealed great differences between different European countries. According to the results of the second key informant exercise done by IS- the decision was not perform something similar in our group. The information gathered by the questionnaire will be only as a kind of background data from different European countries. There is a need to synthesize the data obtained by the questionnaire; in present form it is too complex for generalizations.

Actions agreed: A next version of the draft for the next meeting (ML)

Develop budget for the task group and present to EB (ML)

Prioritising of the criteria- approach all council members (EZ)

Developing precise recommendations- meeting

4.Department/day-release courses (JS)

Overview of the current situation in Europe will be prepared within 2000 (JS, GR):

Construct the questionnaire, approval by Harry and Igor.

Use the questionnaire time of the council in Israel

Ask a second informant (Ost 2000 Turkey)

Policy statement at the beginning of 2001

REPORT OF ACADEMISATION TASK FORCE

Present members:

Adam Windak	Slavek Šipr
Mårten Kvist	Jan Heyrman
Dag Søyvik	

- Survey of university departments

The issue of the present status of university departments of general practice in Europe has been discussed again. The group still regards this issue as an important one. Different ways of presentation of our data were considered. Since our data are already old (1996) it was decided that the survey would be repeated next year. The results will be published in Internet and hopefully in EJGP/FM.

Following steps have been agreed:

Action	Deadline	Responsible
Draft version of the quest.	End of 1999	A. Windak
Comments on the draft version	January 15, 2000	All members
Copy for review to Harry C. & Igor S	January 20, 2000	A. Windak
Distribution to the Council members	February 28, 2000	A. Windak
Review of the Answers	Israel meeting	All members

- European Blueprint on basic medical education and possible contribution of general practice

In the Netherlands successful blueprint describing basic medical education and possible contribution of general practice to it was issued few year ago. The group decided that it would be interesting to repeat this exercise on European scale. Efforts to assess feasibility of such a project will be undertaken.

Following steps have been agreed:

Action	Deadline	Responsible
Discussion with educationalists in Leuven	December 1999	J. Heyrman
Draft of the project		
Final decision about continuation	January 1, 2000	All members

- Ideal Department of General Practice

Within the European discussion on the ideal department of General/Family Practice it would be worthwhile to describe features of such a department. Delphi technique with the participation of well-balanced group of experts from different European countries could give interesting results. The group doesn't see enough capacity to conduct such a project at the moment, but the subject seems to be very interesting and could be considered in the future.

- Scenario for European consulting in the field of GP education

Many countries in Europe (especially eastern part) re-organise medical education of primary health care doctors. International consulting in this field is needed. WHO is quite often involved in this process. EURACT could serve as an excellent source of experienced experts. Prof. Marten Kvist will identify his needs as WHO consultant.

REPORT OF THE BASIC MEDICAL EDUCATION TASK FORCE

Present:

Yonah Yaphe (Chair and recorder)

Harry Crebolder

Gernot Lorenz

Igor Švab

Mladenka Vrcic-Keglevic

The BME task force was revived at the Zagreb Council meeting after a brief period of inactivity. The first task was to re-establish the overall aims of the task force and areas of involvement. The second task was to determine specific short term and long-term objectives, to find members responsible for the specific tasks and set a time-line for completion.

The following frame of reference for the BME task force was proposed:

1. The collection and creation of **policy statements** on general practice in basic medical education in Europe.
2. The collection and evaluation of **textbooks and scientific publications** relating to general practice in BME.
3. The collection and creation of principles and models for **pre-clinical teaching** of general practice in BME.
4. The collection and creation of principles, models and assessment methods for **clinical teaching** of general practice in BME.
5. The promotion of programs for **training of teachers** of general practice in BME.

The following tasks were proposed in the short term.

1. Housekeeping. We plan to collect and publish the work done at past conferences on BME run by EURACT, notably the Harel meeting and the Dublin meeting.

Responsible: Yonah

Completion date: Israel council meeting

2. Key papers on BME. We plan to collect a bibliography of textbooks and papers on BME. The Leuwenhorst BME documents and other papers in the EUROCCUM database will be collected and circulated for inclusion on the website.

Responsible: All task force members, collection by Yonah as Webmaster

Completion date: December 1999

3. Report on BME. We will publish Igor's summary of the history of BME in Europe (presented in Cambridge) as a EURACT document. Igor will circulate the document and members will comment before December. We will aim for submission in the British Journal of General Practice.

Responsible: Igor:

Completion date: Spring 2000

4. Evolution of BME: A large amount of historical material is present in council reports of activities from member countries. We will write a proposal for a grant to fund a research assistant to review all available reports of activities and write a report on the development of general practice in BME in Europe in the 1990s.

Responsible: Yonah

Completion date: Proposal by December 1999, report by autumn 2000.