



Network organisation within WONCA Region Europe – ESGP/FM

EURACT Council meeting – Cyprus, October 2008





Network organisation within WONCA Region Europe – ESGP/FM

Report of the 2'nd 2008 EURACT Council meeting

Larnaca, Cyprus

October 8-12, 2008

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**Meeting of the Council
of the European Academy of teachers in General Practice
(EURACT)
held in Larnaca, October 8-12, 2008**

Members present:

Dr. Egle Žebiene, Lithuania , President
Dr. Roar Maagaard, Denmark, Honorary Secretary
Ass. Prof. Janko Kersnik, Slovenia, EB member
Dr. Luis Filipe Gomes, Portugal, EB Member
Dr. Mette Brekke, Norway
Dr. Natasa Pilipovic Broceta, Bosnia & Herzegovina
Dr. Francesco Carelli, Italy
Dr. Owen V. Clarke, Ireland
Prof. Jan Degryse, Belgium
Dr. Razvan Miftode Florentin, Romania
Dr. Dolores Forés, Spain
Prof. Elena Frovola, Russia
Prof. Bernard Gay, France
Dr. Sandra Gintere, Latvia
Prof. Georgi D. Ivanov, Bulgaria
Dr. Eva Jurgová, Slovakia
Dr. Ruth Kalda, Estonia
Dr. Monica Lindh, Sweden
Dr. Marina Olynik, Ukraine
Dr. Philios Phylaktou, Cyprus
Dr. Roger Price, United Kingdom
Dr. Smiljka Radic, Serbia
Dr. Bernhard Rindlisbacher, Switzerland
Dr. Mario R. Sammut, Malta
Dr. Georgis C. Spatharakis, Greece
Dr. Wolfgang Spiegel, Austria
Dr. Alma Eir Svavarsdóttir, Iceland
Dr. Howard Tandeter, Israel
Dr. Paula Vainiomäki, Finland
Dr. Mladenka Vrcic-Keglevic, Croatia,
Dr. Stefan Wilm, Germany
Dr. Adam Windak, Poland
Dr. Natalia Zarbailov, Moldova

Members absent:

Dr. Okay Basak, Turkey, Honorary Treasurer
Dr. Givi Javashvili, Georgia
Dr. Yvonne van Leeuwen, The Netherlands
Dr. Llukan Rrumbullaku, Albania
Dr. Peter Vajer, Hungary

PROGRAM OF THE MEETING

Wednesday, 8th of October 2008

Pre-Council Executive Board Meeting

**Session 1: Welcome and introduction. Review and approval of meeting agenda.
Educational research taskforce discussion. Country reports**

Thursday, 9th of October 2008

Session 2: Performance agenda – plenary and small groups

Session 3: Educational research taskforce presentations, part 1

Session 4: Standing committee work, part 1

Friday, 10th of October 2008

Session 5: Business Meeting, part 1

Session 6: Conference day with local Family Physicians

Saturday, 11th of October 2008

Session 7: Standing committee work, part 2 – and reports

Session 8: Business meeting, part 2

Session 9: Educational research taskforce presentations, part 2

Session 10: One slide – 5 minutes presentations

Session 11: Future EURACT activities

Session 12: Review of meeting

Post-Council Executive Board Meeting

REPORT OF THE MEETING

Pre-Council Executive Board Meeting

The Executive Board (only Egle, Roger and Roar present) met at 14.00.

The President went through the agenda for the meeting – and in particular the agenda for the business meeting.

- Election procedures regarding EB-members discussed and planned. New applicants can step forward until election time Friday morning. It will be announced during first Council session.
- Election procedures regarding Director of Communications discussed and planned. New applicants can step forward until election time Friday morning. It will be announced during first Council session.
- Barbara and Okay not present due to different reasons – economy to be dealt with by Janko – and rest of EB to support Roar in production of minutes.
- The paper on opinion and decision making process in EURACT produced by Wolfgang Spiegel should be dealt with at start of the Council meeting. The session should be chaired by a Council Member appointed by Council.
- Leonardo 2 Course piloted in Cyprus – experiences to be presented to Council.
- Travel reimbursement for Larnaca meeting to be decided by Council during Business meeting – the decision during Malta meeting was 50 %.

Session 1: Welcome and introduction.

- Egle Zebiene welcomed the council members – especially the new member from Israel: Howard Tanderer. Howard presented himself to Council.
- Business Meeting agenda was introduced to council.
- The minutes from Malta meeting were approved by Council.
- Legal status documents not ready yet – so we will have to finish with legal issues in St. Petersburg.
- Regarding St. Petersburg: Scanned copies of passport should be sent as soon as possible to Elena to receive invitation to St. Petersburg meeting.
- Election procedure on electing of Hon. Treasurer, a regular EB member and Director of Communications were discussed and an agreement taken in consensus:
 - EURACT Guidelines (Prague, 2006) states a procedure that describes the election procedure – but the elections in Zagreb and Gävle did not meet the described criteria completely – and at this meeting the applications were not distributed to all Council members one month before the meeting
 - At this meeting it should be possible to step forward as applicant at the meeting given that 2 persons support the application.
 - The election of Hon. Treasurer should be run first, then election of the regular EB member and finally the election of Director of Communications. It was also decided that applicants could present themselves to Council in a few minutes before election procedure starts.

- Discussion about decision making process in EURACT. A round allowed Council members to express opinions and feelings about this decision.
- It was decided that Member Services Committee should deal with the questions raised by Wolfgang Spiegel and other questions in general about this topic - and bring suggestions forward to Council.
- Educational research taskforce was discussed. Much interest was expressed! It was decided that interested persons (about 15 persons) should discuss the ways it could be run in the future during the Council Meeting in Larnaca. Mladenka to organize the forming of the group.
- Country reports were not discussed in groups. The reports were sent prior to secretariat and distributed electronically from the secretariat. Remaining reports will be sent additionally.
- The country reports are available in ANNEX 1.

Session 2: Performance agenda – plenary and small groups

Stefan instructed Council how to carry on with the Performance Agenda work started in Malta. Council worked in 6 groups dealing with all areas of the agenda – and groups elaborated case vignettes relating to some of the different abilities described in the Educational Agenda of GP/FM – and also described assessment methods for these abilities.

Group reporters have to send reports from all groups to Stefan by October 30'th at latest.

Afterwards Stefan will try to put it into one format and send it back to group reporters and group leaders for a re-check. The groups must work on their tasks until St. Petersburg meeting – and finish it in St. Petersburg.

A new group (suggested by Jan Degryse) is working on psycho-metrics and this group is going to produce material to the Performance Agenda/a chapter in the final document.

Session 3: Educational research taskforce presentations, part 1

4 research projects were presented and discussed:

Natalia Zarbailov: CME “needs assessment” based on physicians opinion about their current practice in Moldova.

Elena Frovola and Paula Vainiomäki: Continuous Professional Development, Workshop on quality – a case report.

Monica Lindh: Experiences of patient studies in postgraduate programmes.

Mario Sammut: Malta's Specialist Training Programme in Family Medicine – a preliminary evaluation one year after launch.

These presentations will be placed on www.euract.org under the heading “Past EURACT meetings”.

Session 4 and 7: Standing committee work

BME Committee

Francesco Carelli as chair reported from the Committee.

Some members have left – and one new: Howard!

The work in the committee in general was discussed – and apart from that specific discussion

- an update on BME schemes in Europe is wanted – it will be part of the update that ST Committee is going to do very soon. Francesco is coordinating this with Bernard Gay
- “undergraduate profile”: how are schemes really working (Yonah Yaphe started this work)
- the Committee hopes for help from taskforce in educational research to do real research in BME
- how to help our colleagues to use the Educational Agenda as basis for undergraduate teaching?

Full report available in ANNEX 4.

Specialty Training Committee

Roar Maagaard as stand-in for chair (Alma Eir Svavarsdóttir) presented the work of the Committee.

We are working on a survey regarding Public Health and Community orientation in training schemes in Europe – we will polish our questionnaire and ask Council for approval of sending the questionnaire to Council. Approved.

We are working on updating the survey on Specialist Training Schemes in General Practice in Europe.

Regarding Basel Conference: Decision was made to claim one hour of the three hours EURACT has been appointed as a network for Wonca Europe 2009 conference in Basel. Bernard's group on the Specialist Training Schemes in General Practice in Europe and Owens group on re-training in General Practice in Europe will present and run a workshop +/- poster if we get this slot.

Roger will circulate a questionnaire to ST and Euract Council members from the Vasco da Gama Movement. The results of this will be presented by VdGM in Basel.

A suggestion came to have a specific place on our web-page and group together under that everything that has to do with the Specialty Training. This would include the work of the ST committee. Maybe it could be called “Specialist Training in Family Medicine/General Practice in EUROPE”. Under that link we would have all the surveys related to ST-training and make sure they are listed not only with Document name but the year they are done. Also to make sure that the survey on Specialist Training Schemes in General Practice in Europe is updated every two years. Other committees would have their specific place on the web page and that each and every committee would be responsible for updating their part. Suggestion was made to have a calendar on the website with upcoming event, all EURACT meetings and courses and WONCA meetings. Also have one specific space on the page called EURACT - internal affairs.

Full report available in ANNEX 4.

CME/CPD Committee

Paula Vainiomäki presented the work of the Committee

As Paula is stepping down a new chair was proposed: Ruth Kalda. The choice was approved by Council.

The committee worked with these areas:

- follow up of Malta workshop on CME/CPD
- accreditation discussed and a survey piloted in the group – and the group also presented a workshop in Istanbul on this topic
- preparation for Basel Conference (want a one hour slot) for a workshop on reaccreditation and relicensing in Europe

Full report available in ANNEX 4.

Member Services Committee

Janko Kersnik as chair presented the work of the Committee.

For the time being no more Leonardo 1 Courses will be run

Leonardo 2 Course piloted in Cyprus with success – and is ready to be launched.

Assessment Course in Rome in November 2008: 9 sponsored places and 10 paying participants. 7 places still open!

Assessment Course 2009 planned for Portugal (Algarve) in November (4-8'th or 11-15'th)

WONCA Conferences: We were too little visible in Istanbul – to improve our appearance on the booth.

Bled Course: sponsorship for 2009 not decided – Council approved that EB to decide in winter looking into economy – but it was noted that in our list of priorities Bled is perhaps not top priority.

Decision making process in Council. This question had been raised by Wolfgang Spiegel – and there had been some prior discussions and e-mail rounds going to all Council Members.

Adam reported on this question and how MSC had dealt with it. All the mails and correspondances had been read – and MSC had done a review of relevant EURACT papers (Bylaws, Job Description and EURACT Guidelines). MSC found it was too big an issue to be decided by only 4 persons – and instead MSC would shortly mail a questionnaire to all Council Members and enclose the 3 papers. Council Members would be asked to answer the questionnaire and look at the 3 papers – and perhaps propose changes. Approval of this process by Council.

Full report available in ANNEX 4.

Educational Research Taskforce

As coordinator of the kick-off of this group Mladenka reported in plenary – and here is the short written report:

During «lunch» meeting, Thursday, 9.October, Task Force Group (14 members) was established. Jan Degryse was elected as a chair (later approved by Council) and settled down the preliminary working plan.

Preliminary working plan:

1. Continuation with the ER presentation during the Council meeting
2. To define and start joint ER projects: ideas are very welcomed (not only from the group)
3. Involvement in existing ER project, some members have already carried on
4. Carrying on existing Committee projects (EB, VT, CME/CPD...)
5. To promote education in the field of ER, and carry on workshops on ER methods
6. Scientific evaluation of EURACT products (Educational Agenda, Courses...)
7. To establish a «journal club»
8. To publish, at least 2 papers per year, in international peer-reviewed journals
9. To hold on joint meetings with EGPRN on equal basis participating in the preparation of meeting, the next scheduled for October 14-17 in Zurich, Switzerland. For Basel WONCA Conference to serve as an abstracts reviewing committee.....

Group members:

1. Jan Degryse, Belgium – group leader
2. Wolfgang Spiegel, Austria
3. Mladenka Vrcic-Keglevic, Croatia
4. Ruth Kalda, Estonia
5. Bernard Gay, France
6. Francesco Carelli, Italy
7. Howard Tandeter, Israel
8. Sandra Gintere, Latvia
9. Adam Windak, Poland
10. Elena Frolova, Russia
11. Dolores Flores, Spain
12. Monika Lindh, Sweden
13. Bernhard Rindlisbacher, Switzerland
14. Maryna Oliynik, Ukraine

Session 5: Business Meeting, part 1 - and Session 8: Business meeting, part 2

Election of new officers - procedure run by Hon. Secretary.

Election of Hon. Treasurer: George elected unanimously.

Election of EB member: Phil elected (24 votes). Francesco got 8 votes.

Election of Director of Communications: Francesco elected with 23 votes and 9 blank.

Natalia proposed that Director of Communications should be member of EB. This question was discussed. It was expressed that communication between Director of Communications and EB should be very good – but the person should be independent of EB. The job of Director of

Communications is concerned with external communication, so Director of Communications should be seen as an independent body working towards society and not towards EB.

Council decision was: Director of Communications is not added as a full EB member – but he could be invited whenever the issues discussed in EB could be important to be distributed externally.

See report by Director of Communications in ANNEX 5.

President's report

Report was approved. Egle added that she is going to write a chapter in a book celebrating Jan Heyrman in relation to his retirement.

See report in ANNEX 2.

Treasurer's report:

Because of our Hon. Treasurers absence Janko gave a financial report. The report had not been sent to Council prior to the meeting – see Treasurer's report in ANNEX 6.

Janko explained that there possibly would be losses from Assessment Course in Rome because of too few paying participants.

Reimbursement for travel at this meeting was decided in Malta to be only at 50 % - but Council decided that reimbursement at this meeting should still be 90 %. Hon. Treasurer to prepare a recalculation of costs regarding travel reimbursement and prepare a reimbursement plan for St. Petersburg meeting after the EB meeting in winter.

Francesco proposed to create regional courses to reduce costs and make it possible for the participants to have nearly the same circumstances. Member Services Committee to look into this proposal – first Francesco was asked to make a more elaborated proposal.

Organising Council Meetings:

In Malta it was decided to look into the way Council Meetings are run – especially the economy concerning Council Meetings. As a discussion paper the following had been circulated before the meeting:

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Economic consequences of organizing EURACT Council meetings – now and in the future.

Memo prepared on behalf of EB following a decision taken in Malta Council meeting Spring 2008.

Situation today:

- each Council Member pays travel expenditures to the meeting venue and back again
 - o Council Members from low income countries have the possibility to apply Member Services Committee for partially reimbursement for travel expenditures (there is a maximum amount dedicated for this purpose by Council every year)
- each Council Member pays "extra expenditures" as:
 - o for staying extra nights

- expenditures for spouses
 - minibar etc. on hotel
- the host country pays for all the reminding expenditures:
 - accommodation (normally for up to 4 nights) including all meals from coffee Wednesday afternoon to breakfast Sunday morning
 - meeting venue including refreshments during meetings
 - transport during meeting (if necessary)
 - social arrangements
- the host country finds in many different ways the money for all these expenditures (from national college, from medical associations, from funds, from local/regional/national public sources, from industry etc.)

Problems in present situation:

With growing number of Council Members the expenditures from organizing a Council Meeting are now quite substantial. The actual expenditures differ from country to country and in some way reflect the cost level in the actual country. But around 35 persons in a hotel for 4 days with full accommodation and meeting venue is a quite substantial expenditure in all countries!

This situation makes it difficult to many (all!) Council Members to organize a Council Meeting. There are dozens of practical problems to be solved and dozens of things must be arranged – a rather stressful experience to most of us. But solving the financial situation is even a bigger challenge for many Council Members – and very often it makes it impossible for many countries to arrange EURACT Council Meetings. Because of this situation Council decided in Malta to ask for a memo with a suggestion for a new method – a suggestions that should be discussed in Cyprus.

Proposal of a new method for Council Meetings in EURACT:

Overall principles in suggestion:

- the new method is meant to make it economically easier to arrange a Council Meeting
- the new method should still make it financially possible for all Council Members to attend Council Meetings
- the total expenditures seen in a “many years perspective” (arranging meetings and sending members to meetings) should be more equal than today, where the countries arranging meetings bear substantial costs

Suggestion for a new method on arranging Council Meetings:

- new method used from Council Meetings from beginning of 2010
- each Council Member pays travel expenditures to the meeting venue and back again
- each Council Member pays for stay and breakfast at hotel for the nights needed according to meeting schedule. Each Council Member is responsible for the booking of the accommodation in due time – so the host bears no economic responsibility for hotel rooms
- Council Members from low income countries have the possibility to apply Member Services Committee for partially reimbursement for travel and accommodation expenditures
- Council to decide on new rules for this reimbursement. A suggestion could be:
 - to raise the total amount – perhaps double it?
 - to decide if the partially reimbursement perhaps should be calculated in steps:
 - for example 80 % reimbursement for low-low income countries
 - for example 40 % reimbursement for low income countries

- *each Council Member pays “extra expenditures” as:*
 - o *for staying extra nights*
 - o *expenditures for spouses*
 - o *minibar etc. on hotel*
- *the host country pays for all the reminding expenditures:*
 - o *all meals from coffee Wednesday afternoon to dinner Saturday evening – excluding breakfasts*
 - o *meeting venue including refreshments during meetings*
 - o *transport during meeting (if necessary)*
 - o *social arrangements*
- *the host of the Council Meeting should:*
 - o *arrange meeting accommodation at budget hotels/venues to minimize expenditures*
 - o *arrange accommodation in such a way that booking is possible up to 2 months prior to meetings at fixed rates – later room bookings are at Council Members own risk (sold out or higher prices might be a risk)*

Roar Maagaard, Hon. Secretary.

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This question gave rise to a lively discussion in Council – and several proposals were raised:

- the proposal may reduce organisers risk – but increase risk of non-attendance for several countries
- reimbursement could be variable
- the system should be flexible
- we should also think of earning money in relation to Council Meetings (via conferences/meetings etc.)
- meetings could be shorter
- perhaps look to EGPRN and EQuIP
- more figures must be calculated before a decision could be taken
- mixed solution: high income countries to pay? and low income to be sponsored (or partly)?
- EURACT could support organisers economically
- perhaps leave it like it is today?
- OK proposal – but accommodation prices should be “controlled”
- tailored solutions

Conclusion: Council decided to ask EB to carry on with its work on this question – and wanted EB to present more possible solutions/scenarios – and Council later to make a decision.

Approval of new members:

44 new members were approved. See total list in ANNEX 3.

Election of new Council members:

Election had been arranged in Israel (Yonah Yaphe had stepped down and new member is Howard Tanderer), Netherlands (Job Metsemakers had stepped down and new member is Yvonne van Leeuwen) and in the Czech Republic as Jaroslava Lankova stepped down.

In the Czech Republic the members had not proposed a new Council representative. As there had been an e-mail debate regarding the procedure in Czech Republic it was discussed in Council: On behalf of EB Roar explained what had happened.

- 14.5.2008 Jaroslava Lankova resigned, and she asked for at least one month before election procedure started
- secretariat (or EB) did not hear anything from Jaroslava during late spring and summer
- 1st of August secretariat started election procedure and wrote to all Czech members (normal procedure in elections) and asked for proposals for a new Council member with at deadline of one month (normal procedure)
- Jaroslava protested on the election (all Council members are informed by her e-mails)
- on behalf of EB Hon. Secretary wrote to all Czech members 31.8.2009 and prolonged the deadline to 15th of September 2008
- no proposals received – and no comments from Czech members in relation to this mail of 31.8. received

After a lively discussion the conclusions were:

- Council thought that correct procedures had been followed and found no reason to blame EB or secretariat
- Council thought it was unsatisfactory that there was no Czech representative – and Bernhard/Stefan proposed there should be arranged a new election procedure once again. Council voted on that suggestion – and it was approved! (Yes: 21 votes, No: 5 votes, Abstained: 5 persons).

Joint meeting with EGPRN:

EGPRN chairman has been consulted – and EGPRN supports the idea of a joint meeting – dates in autumn 2010 has been proposed (14-17th October 2010 in Zürich). Only a small part (1 day) of the two meetings should be in common – and the reasonable thing would be to have educational research as the joint topic. It might mean that our Council Meeting would last an extra half day. The theme of the EGPRN meeting is “Motivating the physician, motivating the patient”. Bernhard is in close contact with the local EGPRN organisers in Switzerland. Council approved to move forward with this initiative.

Reduced membership fees to retired members:

Monica had prior to the meeting suggested a reduced fee for retired members. Council had a very lively discussion on the question. Decision was not to carry on with this idea (9 voted for carrying on with the idea, 17 said no and 4 abstained for voting).

Election of Hon. Secretary:

For Roar Maagaard it will be end of terms at the meeting in St. Petersburg. Election of the new Hon. Secretary to be organized in St. Petersburg. Applications should be sent to the secretariat with copy to President one month before the St. Petersburg meeting (note: name of 2 supporting council members to be included in the application).

Session 6: Conference day with local Family Physicians.

Phil had produced a Conference day with local Family Physicians. The programme included as well educational topics, clinical topics and a description of FM/GP in Cyprus today – and the intended changes in Cyprus.

Programme of the day: see below.

Note: all the presentations can be found on www.euract.org and look under Past Council meetings.

PANEL DISCUSSION

- 11:00-11:20 PM** **Dr PHILIOS PHYLAKTOU**, MAAFP-Family Physician:
President, The Cyprus Association of Gen/Family Medicine National Representative for Cyprus, Euract Academy of Teachers in General Practice. Welcoming address and Introduction “Barriers and challenges of Family Medicine in Cyprus”
- 11:20-11:40 PM** **Dr MARY AVRAAMIDOU**, GP: Cyprus Public Health Sector
President, Cyprus Association of General Practitioners
“The development of General Medicine in Cyprus under the proposed Health System”
- 11:40-12:15 PM** **Dr BODOSSAKIS MERKOURIS**: President, ELEGEIA, The Hellenic Society of General Practice, Greece. *“Academic General Practice in Greece: The Greek experience”*
Dr ATHANASIOS SYMEONIDES: Gen Secretart/Hon Treasurer ELEGEIA, President Educational Committee. *“Teaching in General Practice in Greece, The Euract influence”*
- 12:15-12:50 PM** **Professor JUSTIN ALLEN**, UK: *“Teaching in General Practice: The UK Experience”*
Dr ROGER PRICE: UK - Euract Council Member, East Midlands health care, Workforce, Deanery UK, *“Specialty training for General practice should be based in General practice and managed by General practitioners. Is this so in your country?”*
- 12:50-13:10 PM** **Dr EGLIE ZEBIENE**, President, European Academy of Teachers in General Practice, EURACT. *“EURACT and its contribution to development of Family Medicine in Europe”*
- 13:10- 13:25 PM** **Dr FRANCESCO CARELLI**, Professor Family Medicine, University of Milan, Italy
“The current status of Family Medicine in Europe”.
- 13:25- 13:45 PM** **Dr MLADENKA VRIC-KEGLEVIC**, MD PhD, Associate Professor of Family Medicine School of public Health “A. Stampar”, University of Zagreb Croatia. *“General Practice/Family Medicine as an Academic Discipline-The Croatian Experience”.*

13:45 – 14:00 PM QUESTIONS TO THE PANEL

14:00 – 15:00 PM LUNCH

SCIENTIFIC SECTION A: 15:00-16:30

- 15:00-15:20** **Dr PHIL PHYLAKTOU**, MAAFP(USA),Family Physician, Director
The LCA Family Health Center: *“Osteoporosis the silent epidemic of our times: A Clinical approach to management for the Primary care Physician”*
- 15:20-15:40** **Dr MICHAEL PIKOLO**, Endocrinologist, Private medical Practice, Nicosia, Cyprus
Adjunct Faculty Cyprus International Institute: *“Diabetes Mellitus-Cases & Case scenarios. Common and uncommon issues in diabetes diagnosis and management”*

15:40-16:00 **Dr VICTOR HADJIROUSSOS**, MRCP, Physician-Rheumatologist, Private Medical practice, Limassol, Cyprus: “Investigational procedures in Rheumatic diseases”

16:00-16:20 **Dr MLADENKA VRIC-KEGLEVIC**, MD, PhD, Associate Professor of Family Medicine School of Public Health “A.Stampar”, University of Zagreb, Croatia. “Living with chronic diseases-Patients’ experience: Research project University of Zagreb, Croatia

16:20-16:30 DISCUSSION

COFFEE BREAK 16:30-17:00

SCIENTIFIC SECTION B: 17:00-18:30

17:00-17:20 **Dr TONIA ADAMIDOU**, *Chest Physician*, Chest Clinic Nicosia General Hospital, Nicosia, Cyprus: “Sleep Apnea Syndrome: A common disorder: Lack of awareness by the public and healthcare professionals ”

17:20-17:40 **Dr GEORGE SPATHARAKIS**, *GP/Geriatician-Gerontologist*, Director Public Primary Healthcare Center of Itea, Itea-Phokida, Greece: “Geriatric training for General Practitioners-Family Doctors in Greece”

17:40-18:00 **Dr ANDREAS THERAPONTOS**, *Rheumatologist-Private Medical Practice*, Nicosia, Cyprus. “Introduction to early arthritis clinic and clinical cases in Rheumatology”

18:00-18:20 **Dr RUTH KALDA**, *Family Physician, Assoc. Professor Dept of Family Medicine*, University of Tartu, Estonia, *Senior Researcher Dept Family Medicine University of Tartu* “Prevalence of common mental disorders in General Practice in 6 European Countries (Slovenia, UK,Spain,Portugal, Estonia,Netherlands)”

18:20-18:30 **DISCUSSION**

Session 9: Educational research taskforce presentations, part 2

2 research projects were presented and discussed:

Mladenka Vrcic-Keglevic:

Paula Vainiomäki: Training first year medical students is rewarding.

These 2 presentations will be placed on www.euract.org under the heading “Past EURACT meetings”.

Session 10: One slide – 5 minutes presentations

Smiljka Radic: Leonardo EURACT course organized in local setting.

Natasa Pilipovic Broceta: Leonardo EURACT course in Bosnia Herzegovina.

Paula Vainiomäki: Should EURACT have Honorary members?

Bernhard Rindlisbacher: Swiss Catalogue of Learning Objectives for Undergraduate Medical Training.

Mladenka Vrcic-Keglevic: AMEE – Association for medical education in Europe (amee.org).*

Mladenka Vrcic-Keglevic: Oral presentation: Accreditation and re-accreditation. Presentation of a guideline addressing this problem – should it be discussed in a GP-setting?

Jan Degryse: “Back to the future” – reflections on general practice in a changing world. A book in honour of Jan Heyrmans work for General Practice.

These presentations will be placed on www.euract.org under the heading “Past EURACT Council meetings”.

*) It was decided to ask a group of 5 persons (including Howard and Stefan – did not get the name of the rest) to prepare some thoughts and suggestions for a possible cooperation with AMEE/EURACT contribution to AMEE. To be done before St. Petersburg.

Session 11: Future EURACT activities

Future Council meetings:

Spring 2009, St. Petersburg:

Elena invites us all to splendid St. Petersburg! Dates are Saturday 25 April – Wednesday 29 April 2009. There will be a meeting (27.4.) with Russian doctors and collaborating doctors from abroad. There are special requirements to be met in relation to going to St. Petersburg:

Important notice regarding meeting in St. Petersburg, April 25-29, 2009:

- you should book your attendance by Elena at latest by 31.12.2008
- Elena is going to have a copy of the “photo-page” in your passport and for accompanying persons before this date
- Elena got many copies in Larnaka – but if she did not get a copy of yours: send it to congress@maps.spb.ru or by fax: +7(812)4446739 att. Anna Pavlova
- afterwards Elena is going to send you an invitation to Russia
- this invitation you must bring to the Russian Consulate in your country to get a visa (note: it is advisable to download the application form – it is rather long – and remember: when applying for visa you must be able to present proof of your health insurance coverage when you are in Russia!!)
- when you have got the visa → inform Elena!
- after entering Russia you will get a registration form at the border and here you must state the dates you are in Russia and afterwards you must go directly to the hotel to register there – you will have to pay the equivalent of 25 Euro at the hotel for that registration
- if you inform Elena about flights she will try to arrange about transport from the international airport to the hotel

- **and: IF YOU DO NOT STICK TO THIS DEADLINE YOU WILL HAVE TO ARRANGE ACCOMODATION YOURSELF, GET A MORE EXPENSIVE TOURIST-VISA – AND YOU ARE NOT GOING TO BE REIMBURSED!! (This was a Council decision taken unanimously).**

Autumn 2009, Witten:

Stefan invites us all to Witten near Düsseldorf, 7-11 Oct. 2009,

The small Dortmund airport, the large Düsseldorf airport and the medium-sized Cologne airport are all useful possibilities – so go for the lowest airfare is Stefans advice. There will be arranged transport from these airports.

In Witten we will have half a day with medical students – and coalmining and singing will be special options in Witten!

Spring 2010: might be arranged in Greece. Negotiations with the president of Greek Society of GP's is going on.

Autumn 2010: planned as a joint meeting with EGPRN in Switzerland (Zürich).

Spring 2011: Israel might be an option?

Autumn 2011: Portugal might be an option?

Spring 2012: Ruth Kalda will explore the possibilities in Estonia.

Courses and Conferences:

Wonca Europe Conference 2009 will take place 16 - 19 September 2009 in Basel, Switzerland. Bernhard explained the details about the conference. Bernhard stressed the very low registration fees in Basel! – and the possibility to arrange accommodation at a GP's home ("take a GP programme").

Note: 5 persons are needed as facilitators in the Vasco da Gama preconference – these persons must step forward and be sure of their attendance by February 1'st 2009 at latest (2 nights accommodation will be paid for by organisers). The preconference will start 15'th of September at 15.00.

Egle reported on dates of WONCA Conferences in Basel and Malaga, with a request for Abstracts. Egle asked for any interest in hosting Leonardo_EURACT course and there was none expressed. She informed Council that WONCA Europe had received interest from WONCA Middle East but no definite arrangements had been made to date. She will update Council if anything is finalised. EURACT Advanced Training the Trainers course was well received by the participants in the pilot, with good evaluation feedback. Greece is interested in hosting this course in Spring 2009. George will liaise with ELEGEIA and course director Justin Allen about this and keep EB informed.

The Assessment course is going ahead in Rome in November 2008. There is a definite commitment to hold another course in Portugal in November 2009, and a possible course in Greece in Autumn 2010. George will keep us updated on that possibility

There is interest from Moldova and Bosnia/Herzegovina in taking up the sponsored places for the Portugal 2009 course. It was clarified that the sponsorship covered the Course fees and

accommodation. Travel and other subsistence is the responsibility of the participants. It was noted that if we run 2 courses in a single year that there may not be enough money to fully fund participants in both courses.

EB will review this at the winter meeting when the budget is clarified.

Any other business:

Mladenka informed Council of a project she was aware of, suggesting that EURACT may be interested in joining the project. This is looking at the education of practitioners of Alternative and Complementary medicine in Europe. We would be asked to complete questionnaires on this. After discussion it was clear that Council was against doing this project; it does not seem to be part of our core work regarding Education relating to the medical profession. It was also pointed out that there did not appear to be a clear research question being posed. Mladenka will inform those who asked her to present it.

Paula's resignation was confirmed by Egle. There was a presentation to Paula on behalf of Council for her invaluable contribution to many aspects of Council work: constant work in meetings and attendance, hosting a Council meeting in Turku, re-juvenating the CPD Committee and presenting work at various meetings around Europe. She has already worked with her colleagues in Finland to identify potential replacements as Council member.

Barbara should be asked to organise an election as soon as possible so that the new member can make arrangements to get to St Petersburg.

Session 12: Review of meeting

Sorry, Roar not present! But this was reported as the general opinion:

Reflections on the Council meeting in Cyprus were all very positive, Phil received unanimous congratulations. The EB was also thanked, in particular Egle for handling a meeting which started with apprehension.

Post-Council Executive Board Meeting

Winter EB meeting was scheduled to take place in Vienna at Saturday 28th of February 2009.

Travel reimbursement list – Larnaca Council Meeting October 08

Figures presented by Hon. Treasurer:

	<u>Claimed</u>	<u>Approved (90%)</u>
Natasa Pilipovic Broceta, B&H	340	305
Egle Zebiene, Lithuania	343	305
Natalia Zarbailov, Moldova	505	455
Miftode Razvan Florentin, Romania	425	380
Maryna Oliynyk, Ukraine	562	505
Smiljka Radic, Serbia	470	420
Elena Frolova, Russia	463	415

Total	3108 Euro	2785 Euro
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Travel reimbursement for faculty, Leonardo II pilot course:

Justin Allen		605,98 Euro
Igor Svab		839,41 Euro

And pending from Council meeting in Malta:

From Malta CM

Mladenka Vrcic Keglavic, Croatia	550 Euro	495 Euro
Olynik Maryna, Ukraine	565 Euro	305 Euro
(200 Euro was paid in Malta by Okay)		