



EUROPEAN COUNCIL OF LEGAL MEDICINE - ECLM

2nd meeting of the General Assembly
Wednesday June 1, 1994, 1030 - 1230 hrs

Salle KLEBER, Palais des Congrès, Strasbourg

Minutes

Present (alphabetical order):

Delegates: Bär (Secretary), Brinkmann, Busuttill (Chairman), Cusack, DeRoy, Eisenmenger, Farnetti, Consigliere, Franklin, Geirsson, Gosset, Gregersen, Grundin, Harbison, Knight B, Löwenhielm, Mangin, Penttilä, Piette, Piga Rivero, Pinto da Costa, Puts, Saukko, Simonsen, Thomsen, Villanueva

Deputies: Bauer, Druid (Rammer), Haugen (Rognum), Carneiro de Sousa, Castellano, Vieira, Vujuklakis

Observers: Jenkins, Ollier

Observers from Eastern Europe: Scotony

Apologies: Bolster, Buijze, Rammer, Rognum

Quorum: 14 / 33 delegates and deputies present

TOP 1: Protocol:

No corrections or amendments. Accepted formally.

TOP 1a: Business of the Executive Board:

-Mutations:

Prof. Epivatianos, Thessaloniki died in March 94. The meeting stood in silence for a few moments in memoriam.

-New delegates: IRELAND: M. Bolster, D. Cusack; ITALY: F. Consigliere, A. Farnetti, S. Ferrara; LUXEMBOURG: J. Wilske and P. Wennig; NETHERLANDS: F. Buijze; SWITZERLAND: T. Harding; UNITED KINGDOM: P. Franklin.

All E.U. and E.F.T.A. countries are now represented in ECLM.

-Finances: P. Saukko will send an invoice for the Membership Fees 1993 and 1994 (30 ECU/year for both 1993 and 1994) to each delegate. If possible the Fees should be paid by Credit Card.

-SWP: there has been no final decision regarding funding transfers.

-IALM: Broad discussion on the relation of ECLM to IALM. To realize a "una voce" an approach to be made to the newly founded "European Academy of Legal Medicine (EALM)" for official representation of the ECLM in its board.

TOP 2: Syllabus of Postgraduate Specialisation in Legal Medicine ("Job Description")

Broad discussion of the document. P. Franklin presented several amendments in written form; some of his propositions are covered by the Perugia Document. Cusack also stressed the importance of the clinical aspects of Legal Medicine.

Vote: The Syllabus is acceptable to the vast majority of the Delegates.

Written minor amendments can be forwarded to the Secretary until the end of June 94 and the Executive were given leave to issue the final version.

TOP 3: Harmonization of the Performance of the Medico-Legal Autopsy:

B. Knight proposed that the paragraphs 1 and 2 be deleted. In contrast, DeRoy would like to always see two doctors to perform medico-legal autopsies. Piga stresses the importance of appropriate installations, health and safety measurements undertaken for the co-workers.

Vote: The recommendations are accepted by the vast majority of the Delegates.

Written minor amendments can be forwarded to the Secretary until the end of June 94 but the Executive were given leave to produce and publish the final version.

TOP 4: UEMS:

The recognition of Legal Medicine by UEMS as a monospeciality is more difficult than anticipated.

A. Busuttill asks the assembly to consider two strategical alternatives:

1. To become an associate section of Pathology monospeciality group with the possibility to have accreditation, separate "board" of its own etc. and to completely separate later from Pathology to become a full member of UEMS or

2. To continue our work of harmonisation and to wait until the ECLM can fulfill all the rules of accreditation for full membership in UEMS.

Brinkmann, Saukko, Gosset, Piga, Mangin, Cusack strongly advocate to abstain from becoming a section of Pathology (historically legal medicine is much older than Pathology, status of UEMS is that of a private organisation, clinical legal medicine cannot be attached to pathology).

The assembly rejected the option of seeking to become an associate section of Pathology at UEMS by a vast majority. A meeting with Dr. Peiffer was timetabled later on in the week where these matters would be discussed further.

TOP 5: A.O.C.B/Varia

News letter: ECLM will not issue a Newsletter of its own but announcements can be included in the Newsletter of the IALM (published in the Intern J Leg Med).

Cross-border cooperation in death investigation: (suggested by J. Thomsen):

"In the spirit of co-operation between professionals that the European Union wishes to foster and in the light of such documents adopted by the World Medical Association as the "Declaration of Geneva" and the "International Code of Medical Ethics, the "European Council of Legal Medicine" hereby declares that on all occasions its members will treat professional colleagues from other countries, who have been instructed as medico-legal experts and who are visiting their country in its capacity, with all due courtesy and respect and will provide them with all reasonable and legally permissible assistance in the pursuance of their investigations".

J. Harbison proposes to put the issue of the different regulations of Cremation on the agenda of one of the next meetings.

TOP 6: Next General Assembly (3rd) :

London, Saturday, June 10, 1995, 1400 hrs - venue to be announced (Portugal could be available as a future venue).

W. Bär
Zurich, 26.9.1994