



EUROPEAN COUNCIL OF LEGAL MEDICINE - ECLM

Minutes

6th General Assembly Meeting

Saturday, Sep 25, 1999: 1000 hrs - ca. 1200 hrs

Hörsaal
Institut of Legal Medicine, University of Mainz
Am Pulverturm 3, D 55131 Mainz, Germany

List of Presence_(alphabetical order):

Delegates: Bär, Brinkmann, Marcel Roman (Bonbled), Cohen, DeRoy, Cattaneo (Farneti), Franklin, Gosset, Harbison, Leinzinger, Löwenhielm, Ludes, Mangin, Puts, Pinto da Costa, Puts, Ribeiro, Sprogøe-Jakobson (Thomsen), Topman, Saukko, Simonsen, Vieira, Wennig

Deputies: Bauer, Carneiro de Sousa, Jenkins, Schneider, Spiliopoulou
Observers: Bouska, Novomesky

Apologies were received from: Busuttill, Cusack, Harding, Koutselinis, Rognum, Thomsen

Quorum: reached (13 delegates or deputies)

TOP 1: Minutes / Dublin

No corrections, No amendments. Accepted by acclamation.

TOP 2: Report of the Chairman - Matters arising

There are important revirements in the EC bodies. The ACMT will have only one delegate per country (instead of 3). The procedure to apply for a new speciality has been simplified. New disciplines will be considered now if two EC countries by their competent authorities ask for inclusion and addition to the list of the specialised fields (Legal Medicine in our case). The Board will put up a strategy how to proceed in the most effective and efficient way to be placed on the list. The details of the procedure will be presented to the ECLM members.

TOP 3: Update and Coordination of Representation of ECLM

The secretary emphasizes once more that the national medico-legal societies must update - in case of changes - their representation in the ECLM. This should be done by a written and signed letter with the full addresses, functions (delegate or

deputy) and if possible e-mail-addresses etc. of the representatives and who they replace !

TOP 4: Report of the Secretary

-see TOP 3
-the missing e-mail-addresses of the delegates and deputies are very welcomed (send to baer@irm.unizh.ch)

TOP 5: Financial situation – Report of the Treasurer

-In the absence of A. Busuttill the report is given by W. Bär
-The balance of ECLM is DM 25'918.88 (30 June 99)
- An inquiry by ECLM to SWP regarding a further financial allocation to ECLM has been addressed to Prof. B. Cohen who will discuss it with the SWP
- The Invoices (Membership Fees) for 1999 have been sent to the delegates and good number has already paid (Euro 30 or DM 60). Thank you !

TOP 6: Syllabus

P. Saukko reads a letter of Dr. D. Cusack to the delegates in which he expresses full support and recommends the adoption of the Syllabus (with the admendments 30 May 99, Zurich). The syllabus is unanimously accepted by the delegates (no abstentions). This version (Sept. 25, 1999) will be included in the ECLM homepage.

TOP 7: ECLM Homepage

It is agreed that the homepage as elaborated by W. Bär will be put on the net. It is also agreed (vote) that the names of the Delegates, Deputies and Observers will be included (Country, Titel, Name, Firstname, e-mail-address). The URL will be made available after finalisation of the additions.

TOP 8: Newsletter

B. Cohen has made the (holy) promise to issue a ECLM newsletter in January 2000. Thank you very much.

TOP 9: Varia

P. Franklin proposes to consider the foundation of a „European College of Legal Medicine“ with the aim to create and offer a platform to forward the „Harmonisation of Legal Medicine“ with respect to education and formation. General Discussion. Board will report on the matter.

P. Löwenhielm presents and critically demonstrates the possibilities of the Internet as a platform for teaching and selfstudying of Legal Medicine.

Recommendation No. R(99)3 of the Committee of Ministers to Member States on the Harmonisation of Medico-Legal Autopsy Rules (adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 2 February 1999 at the 658th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies):

Several ECLM Members (B. Brinkmann, P. Mangin, P. Saukko) were active members of a group of experts (former CAHRA Committee) and have made important contributions. An important reference source for the recommendation was the ECLM Document: Harmonization of Medico-legal Autopsy. This EC Recommendation R(99)3 document is without any doubt the „**key-document**“ for Legal Medicine in Europe as no other EC document of comparable content and magnitude has ever been adopted by the Committee of Ministers so far ! It is encouraged that this document should be made available to the competent national authorities that decide in medico-legal matters.

The Recommendation No. R(99)3 will be sent to the ECLM members which have to decide (written ballot) if the recommendation R(99)3 should replace our ECLM Doc: Harmonization of the Medico-legal Autopsy. The 6th General Assembly strongly recommends the replacement.

Elections: According to the statutes the ECLM Board has to be elected every two years (with the exception of the Chairman and Secretary (3 years). The last election took place at Dublin, Aug 97. Therefore and obviously the Board has forgotten to put this Topic on the present agenda (as realized by P. Franklin at the General Assembly). Elections without preannouncement in the agenda would legally not be correct so an election as well as a formal confirmation of the actual Board in office as proposed by several delegates are not possible. Therefore it is decided that the board in office should continue their work but must be confirmed by written ballot. A regular election has to take place at the next General Assembly at the latest.

TOP 10: Place, Date of next Assembly

Two variants will be considered:

A. Santiago de Compostella, Spain: Sept 6-9, 2000
on the occasion of the XVIIIth IALM Congress
(Prof. A. Carracedo, www.usc.es/imlus/doc/ialm.htm)

B. Cross Channel Conference, Den Hague, April 2001

W. Bär (Secretary)
Zurich, 02.10.99