

Minutes

ECLM 14th General Assembly, 21st June 2016, Sala Zorzi, Palazzo del Cinema, Venice, Italy

List of attendees (delegates in alphabetical order by country):

Heldi Kase (Estonia), Marika Vali (Estonia), Bertrand Ludes (France), Yves Schuliar (France), Anna Razou (Greece), Eva Keller (Hungary), Zoltan Szolosi (Hungary), Denis Cusack (Ireland), Santo Davide Ferrarra (Italy), Romas Raudys (Lithuania), Christopher Vosniak (Poland), Duarte Nuno Vieira (Portugal), Jozef Sidlo (Slovakia), Patrice Mangin (Switzerland), Peter Franklin (United Kingdom).

Topic 1. Informations.

The ECLM Chairman gave a background of developments since the last General Assembly meeting, which was the 13th General Assembly held in Istanbul, Turkey on Friday July 6th 2012.

Topic 2. Discussion and approval of ECLM Statutes revision.

The Chairman outlined a number of proposed changes in the Statutes to the General Assembly. The first was in relation to membership and in particular how national delegates to the European Council of Legal Medicine are nominated. The second issue was a proposal regarding the period of office of the Executive Committee. The third proposal related to alteration to the Statutes for the numbers of ECLM countries required to be present at a meeting for such alterations having regard to the increasing difficulty to reach this quorum at recent meetings. The proposals were approved to go forward to the next General Assembly and a draft of the proposed amended Statutes is attached as an Appendix. This discussion included a proposal to alter the requirement for physical presence of delegates to change the Statute so that this could also be achieved through verified postal or e-mail voting.

Topic 3. Discussion and approval of ECLM Guidelines.

A number of guidelines were presented for approval to General Assembly, those being: Guidelines for the examination of child abuse (leader – M. Vali); Guidelines for the examination of living persons (leader – B. Ludes); Guidelines for examination of victims of sexual assault (leader – B. Ludes); and Principles for on-site forensic and medico legal scene and corpse investigation (leader – D. Cusack). A small number of amendments was made to the guidelines for examinations of victims of sexual assault as proposed by Peter Franklin from the United Kingdom. All of the guidelines were approved by the General Assembly and the Chairman will co-ordinate with the authors of the various guidelines so that they will now be submitted for publication in the International Journal of Legal Medicine as had already been done for the ECLM document on accreditation of forensic pathology services in Europe.

Topic 4. Discussion of ECLM Executives and Deputies.

Following the discussion on the method of nomination for ECLM delegates, it was agreed that the current Statutes set out a method which has not been successful and in accordance with the proposed changes to Statutes a new method of nomination for national delegates would be followed subject to approval by the next General Assembly. In the meantime, the Secretariat of the ECLM will review and update the delegates list from each of the member countries.

Topic 5. Election of ECLM Executive Board (2016-2018).

In conjunction with the discussion for proposed changes in the ECLM Statutes and of the nomination of national delegates, it was agreed by the General Assembly that in the exceptional circumstances that the current Executive Board continue in office to ensure continuity with the proposal that the new Executive Board be elected at the next General Assembly. Discussions took place regarding the place and date of the next General Assembly and possibilities were the venue for the next International Academy of Legal Medicine Congress which would be in either Greece or Japan (which had not been decided at the time of the ECLM GA). Another proposal was that the 15th General Assembly take place during the Baltic Forensic Conference to be held in Tallinn, Estonia, in September 2017. The proposal for Estonia was agreed subject to confirmation of arrangements.

Topic 6. Other Subjects.

No issues raised.