

## **Minutes of the 34th EFOSA General Assembly Meeting**

Monday, June 9th, 2003, 15.15 – 19.15 hours "Hotel Holiday Inn Prague, Congress Centre" Prague, Czech Republic

### **Attendance**

The meeting was attended by 31 member participants from 19 countries and 8 guests/observers. The attendance list is enclosed as part of these minutes.

### **01. Opening**

The office-holding EFOSA President, Wolfgang Schmiedel warmly welcomed the delegates and guests of the 27th EFOSA General Assembly Meeting and opened it at 15.15. In order to introduce the delegates the EFOSA Secretary Lars Medin, by tradition, called upon each delegate and handed them their badges.

### **02. Apologies for absence**

The President reported that Ireland had sent apologies for absence due to lack of information in connection with change of people in the Irish board.

### **03. Changes in and amendments to the agenda**

The agenda was approved without changes with the addition of:

Point 23. Any other business: "The future expansion of the EFOSA"

### **04. Minutes of the 26th General Assembly Meeting of June 3rd, 2002, Sorrento, Italy**

The minutes of the 26th EFOSA General Assembly Meeting were approved unanimously.

### **05. Correspondence**

The President reported from correspondence with Austria where Orthodontics not yet is officially recognized as a specialty. A new Minister of Health will be approached very soon reported Silvia Silli from Austria.

Switzerland has reacted upon a manuscript to an article of "European Orthodontic Specialists in 2002" that will be published in the European Journal of Orthodontics in a near future. In "Table 2, Average fee fixed appliances (€)" the Swiss want the authors to leave out that information concerning Switzerland.

The President reported from Germany where the fees for fixed appliances have been reduced with about 50 %.

## **06. Information from the Council**

The President reported that he has given an interview about EFOSA in the July issue of the Portuguese Journal of Orthodontics and also given a speech with information about EFOSA at a professional Conference in Athens, Greece.

## **07. Report of the Secretary**

Dear colleagues, dear representatives from the EFOSA member organizations.

First I want to thank you for electing me last year in Sorrento as Secretary of EFOSA. My earlier experience of EFOSA comes from the Working Committee with the EFOSA Constitution and Bylaws in 1997 where I was the Secretary. I am also the present Secretary of the Swedish Association of Orthodontists and the Angle Society of Europe.

You will be disappointed when you compare my report with the former reports you have received from my predecessor Wolfgang Schmiedel. I am not involved in the management of the organization to the extent that Wolfgang was as Secretary and particularly now is as President. That means that my report is thinner and will be included in the minutes of this meeting.

My first task as Secretary was to represent EFOSA as observer at the FEO General Assembly meeting in Sofia, Bulgaria September 29th 2002 which I reported at the EFOSA Council Meeting November 17th 2002.

I have assisted the President in preparing the agendas for the meetings and discussed with him the content in the semi-annual report. I have also written the report from the November Council Meeting last year.

I have had very few contacts with the member organizations so far. The roster and the web-site is taken care of by our President Wolfgang and I appreciate that very much.

In preparing this meeting I have been involved a lot with the practical arrangements and it is my hope that everything will work smooth without problems for you.

In the future I hope that all parts of the organization even the subcommittees will report continuously to the Council about their activities to keep "the EFOSA" well informed. I am quite optimistic that this will succeed. The web-site will be of great importance to reach this goal.

It was suggested by Adrian Becker, Israel that the EFOSA web-site address, [www.efosa.org](http://www.efosa.org) , should be included in the EFOSA letterhead logo.

## **08. Report of the Treasurer: Status of Account / Resources**

Dear colleagues, dear delegates,

Thank you for having electing me as EFOSA's Treasurer last year in Sorrento.

This is the first time I am a treasurer, so will you please forgive me if I am not very effective this year , I am learning this new job !

This is the annual report about the EFOSA finances.

As decided during our last General Assembly Meeting in Sorrento, the EFOSA account has been transferred from Germany to France, the seat of the treasurer. The bank account in Germany was closed on December 2003, and the new bank Account in France was opened in January 2003.

Consequently I have opened a new bank account in the French "Caisse d'Epargne", which is a National Bank that saves money and is accustomed with Associations.

The amount of money transferred from Germany to France was 27.409,79 Euros.

I was decided by the delegates of last years General Assembly to put a part of this amount in a special bank account, in order to save as much money as possible.

So I left 5.147,99 Euros on a regular bank account, and I opened a saving account of 22.261,18 Euros.

This special account gave a result of 140,00 Euros since January 2003, that is 3% a year.

This is not that much, but we can have the money at our disposal any time when we need it.

Until the end of April 10 countries have paid the annual fees = 8.149 Euros

There were 74,20 Euros of bank fees to transfer money

And there were 506,25 euros expenses

So at the end of April the federation owns: 35.071,54 Euros.

We could save even more money in placing the money for a longer period of time:

If we place for 1 year, we can save 5,65 % a year (interest guaranty),

I propose to place the 10 000 Euros for one year, 5,00 % interest (that means that the money is locked for one year), except if the Assembly decides that we should need the money earlier.

At this time I propose that the 2004 Annual Fees remain the same

#### STATUS OF PAYMENTS:

Since I wrote this report, the all countries have paid their annual Fees

Thank you very much for your attention! Should you have any questions, please feel free to ask me!

The Status of Account is enclosed as part of this report

The Treasurer commented that there are difficulties to check the membership fee for the different countries as one part of the fee (250 €/country + 2 €/member when more than 100) is depending on the number of members. The President recommended to use the EFOSA roster on the web-site and commented that it is important that the roster is updated by member organizations.

At present EFOSA gets 3 % interest rate on its bank savings.

Stephen Richmond asked about the total sum of assets of more than 37.000 Euros when the expenditure per year is significantly less. Frans van der Linden pointed out that the subcommittees will cost money in the future. It is also important that EFOSA can have more than one Council Meeting a year.

### **09. Report of the Auditors / Resolution**

The Financial Auditors, Uli Fellner, Germany and Paolo Picchioni, Italy reported that their report has been delayed due to change of Treasurer and country (from Germany to France). Some documents are still missing.

Paul Karvelas, Greece recommended to hire a specialist to keep the books.

Frans van den Linden suggested that the postponed report from the Financial Auditors can be approved when all relevant documents are available before September 1st, 2003.

The report of the Financial Auditors is enclosed as a part of this report.

### **10. Changes in EFOSA Constitution and Bylaws / Resolution**

The proposed changes were explained by Frans van der Linden and were attached as a supplement to the agenda.

Article 19: It was decided to change the financial year to "The financial year runs from April 1st - March 31st each year".

Article 22: Jüri Kurol suggested that "The Council or a single Active Member can make proposals for amendments in the Constitution etc" instead of "The Council and at least three Active Members etc". Jüri was supported by Stefan Affolter, Switzerland. The proposal was turned down with a 4 to 7 vote.

After this discussion the proposed changes was decided by the General Assembly.

Frans van der Linden suggested that it should be checked that the member countries fulfill the requirements for their member status (Specialty officially recognized, register of specialists and the association gather 70% or more of the registered specialists) every three years starting 2004. Every country shall also send a report of not more than one A4 page before November 1st, every year.

Stefan Affolter claimed that Switzerland has a similar agreement with EU like Norway and Iceland which should make Switzerland an Active Member.

## **11. Duration of provisional membership (see EFOSA Constitution: Article 5.2)**

### **Discussion / Resolution**

Spain has been Provisional Member since 1998 which means 5 years until now. Frans van der Linden reported from contacts with the Spanish colleagues and the problems in Spain to get Orthodontics as a recognized specialty. The Council suggests that Spain gets 2 more years as Provisional Member and should apply for Active Membership before November 1st, 2006.

Paul Karvelas, Greece advised the GA to have strict rules concerning Provisional Members especially as EU is enlarging with 10 new countries.

Jüri Kurol pointed out that it is important with a deadline for the Provisional Membership.

The General Assembly decided to approve the proposal of the Council and sent Spain and Luxembourg a letter which relates to the previous decisions.

## **12. Elections: Auditors / Nomination Committee**

Financial Auditors: According to the Constitution 2 people will be elected for two years.

The Nomination Committee proposed Michael Kalavritinos, Greece and Frank de Winter, The Netherlands. No more proposals.

It was unanimously decided to elect Michael Kalavritinos and Frank de Winter as Financial Auditors until the GA-meeting in 2005.

Nomination Committee: According to the Bylaws the Nomination Committee consist of three people for a term of two years of whom one will act as chairman appointed by the GA. Jüri Kurol was elected 2002.

Charles Bolender, France was proposed by Paul Karvelas and Frans van der Linden, The Netherlands was proposed by Uli Fellner. It was unanimously decided to elect Charles Bolender and Frans van der Linden to the Nomination Committee until the GA-meeting in 2005.

### **13. Applications for membership: Czech Republic, Belgium (?), Portugal (?)**

The Czech Republic has applied for Affiliated Membership. The application fulfils the requirements of the EFOSA Constitution. The Czech Republic is together with Norway the only country in Europe where Orthodontics only can be practised by orthodontist and refunded by the authorities. The Czech Republic was unanimously voted Affiliated Member of EFOSA.

Belgium will probably apply 2004 as Active Member. A new common organization called "Belgium Union of Registered Orthodontics (BURO) will be established.

Portugal will form "A group of orthodontic specialists" inside their organization and accordingly qualify for Active Membership, maybe next year, 2004. There is a need for a change in the Constitution and Bylaws of the Portuguese Dental Association.

### **14. Relations with the EOS**

The President reported that the relations with EOS are extremely good. EOS is co-opted member of EFOSA and vice versa.

The "Forum Meeting" is arranged every year and scheduled for tomorrow June 10th, 2003 at 09.00 hours. The meeting is a joint event the EOS and the EFOSA. This year the meeting will be chaired by EOS President, Milan Kaminek and EFOSA Secretary, Lars Medin.

### **15. Relations with the FEO**

The President reported that the relations with FEO are very good. From 2004 the "Forum Meeting" will be arranged by all three organisations, EOS, EFOSA and FEO.

Jüri Kurol commented that the EOS – EFOSA relationship was established with a written statement regulating the responsibilities and duties of the two organizations. A similar document is necessary and important for the EFOSA – FEO relationship. The president answered that briefly the role of FEO can be explained as the organization responsible

for information to the scientific associations and EFOSA as the organization responsible for the information to the political specialists associations.

The EFOSA decided with a 6 – 0 vote that a document regulating the EFOSA – FEO relationship should be written down jointly by both organizations.

## **16. EFOSA Semi-annual report**

The presidents semi-annual report has been sent to the member organizations as decided. Also Israel as observer wanted a report.

Only five member organizations (Denmark, England, Finland, Germany and Norway) have delivered the decided report of activities in their country of maximum one A4 page.

The President urged the member associations to send the report as soon as possible to the President or the Secretary. The reports will then be published on the EFOSA website.

## **17. Report of the EFOSA "Ethics Committee" (Kettler) / Discussion / Resolution**

The subcommittee consisting of Chris Kettler, Michael Kalavritinos and Uli Fellner gave their report last year and urged the member countries to adopt "the Code of Ethical Behavior".

The Council recommended the national societies to discuss the report and report back to the EFOSA Council of improvements and comments. This should be done before November 1st, 2003 to be discussed at the EFOSA Council Meeting in November.

Stefan Affholter reported that Switzerland has the national rules to follow. It is impossible to act against anybody before somebody has done something wrong (We don't trust rumours)

Paul Karvelas reminded of superstate rules to follow inside the EU.

Charles Bolender commented that too many young dentists practise Orthodontics exclusively without enough profound training.

Michael Kalavritinos believed that in the future the "Internet" will have common "Ethical rules" available.

Jüri Kurol commented that in most European countries every dentist has the right to do orthodontics treatments.

Frans van der Linden suggested the member associations to go through the report once again and send their comments to the Council.

This issue will also be on the agenda 2004 in Aarhus, Denmark.

### **18. Report of the EFOSA Committee "Orthodontic Training Programs and Examinations" (Miotti)**

By proposal of the Council the subcommittee will consist of Francesca Miotti, Italy (chairman), Frans van der Linden, The Netherlands and Krister Bjerklin, Sweden. The subcommittee has so far not had any meeting.

The subcommittee was formally installed by the General Assembly.

Paolo Picchioni, Italy asked for EFOSA help to maintain the specialist training as a three year fulltime program. Some Italian universities have suggested a fourth year. Roberto Martina commented that he was not going to agree. The president promised that the FISO will have a letter on this topic from EFOSA.

### **19. Report of the EFOSA "Quality Working Group" (Bourdillat-Mikol)**

By proposal of the Council the subcommittee will consist of Claude Bourdillat-Mikol, France (chairman), Stephen Richmond, England and Frank de Winter, The Netherlands.

The subcommittee was formally installed by the General Assembly.

### **20. Foundation of the EFOSA Committee "European Health Insurances" (Giuliano Maino)**

By proposal of the Council the subcommittee will consist of Giuliano Maino, Italy (chairman), Charles Bolender, France and Jan Ödegaard, Norway.

The subcommittee was formally installed by the General Assembly.

### **21. WFO: 6th International Orthodontic Convention 2005, Paris**

EFOSA is close related with the preparations of the world congress in Paris in September 2005. The EFOSA Council members Wolfgang Schmiedel, Francesca Miotti and Claude Bourdillat-Mikol are all represented in important COSIO committees.

### **22. EFOSA – Web-site: Presentation / Discussion**

The President Wolfgang Schmiedel made an excellent presentation of the EFOSA web-site. During the year the web-site has undergone a facelift and been supplemented by the missing reports from earlier General Assembly Meetings. In working with this Schmiedel has discovered that in stead of having the 27th meeting this year it should have been the 34th.



The web-site will also be the place where all official correspondence is available.

The President urged the member associations to update their rosters regularly in order to have the directory in order. The recommended format is MS Excel.

The Treasurer Claude Bourdillat-Mikol wanted to know the number of members in each association to be able to charge the membership fee.

### **23. Any other business**

The future expansion of the EFOSA

Next year there will be ten new members in EU. There will be a big challenge for the future of EFOSA to incorporate those countries. An additional subcommittee of 2-3 people will most likely be installed to handle this concern.

Frans van der Linden proposed that the Council approaches the countries accordingly

Uli Fellner commented that Francesca Miotti knows a lot of Othodontics in the countries in Eastern Europe.

Frans van der Linden expressed many thanks from the EFOSA to Chris Kettler for his work in the Nomination Committee.

### **24. Date and venue of next meeting**

The next General Assembly meeting will be held in Aarhus, Denmark, June 4th or 5th, 2004 where the 2004 EOS Congress will be held. The precise date and time will be announced in appropriate time and will also be available on the EFOSA web-site as soon as the program in detail has been known.

### **25. Closing**

The President Wolfgang Schmiedel thanked all delegates, guests and observers for their contributions and closed the Meeting at 19.15 hours.

Lars Medin