

## **Minutes of the 14. EFOSA Meeting**

60 Boulevard La-Tour-Maubourg, 75007 Paris, on Friday, 14 November, 1986.

### **Attendance**

1. Prof. C. Bolender - who took the chair.
2. Dr. J. Bailey - Britain.
3. Dr. S. Unterer - Germany.
4. Dr. A. Ferrini - Italy.
5. Dr. C. Gysel - Belgium.
6. Dr. N. Flood - Ireland.
7. Dr. R. Bylstra - Netherlands.

An apology was received from Dr. C. Munck - Denmark.

The minutes of the previous meeting in 1985 were read and approved. The policy document prepared by the Secretary, Dr. N. Flood, was read by him to the delegates, who ratified it unanimously. It was proposed by the President, Prof. C. Bolender, that further papers be prepared or adapted on other topics such as education, the limitation of the field of activity of the orthodontist, and the problems of practitioners with non-EEC qualifications. These matters were discussed, and the Secretary agreed to write draft documents on these issues, and distribute them to all delegates, so that they could be debated at the next EFOSA meeting. There was a suggestion that all these papers could be reproduced later in booklet form as an EFOSA publication, should finance be made available.

An amendment to the Regulations was proposed by the Secretary, and passed by the meeting: Countries whose per capita expenditure on meetings is more than ten times the average can recoup- half their air fare on the second or subsequent meetings in the one calendar year.

### **REPORTS FROM MEMBER DELEGATES.**

It was proposed by Dr. Unterer (Germany) that delegates prepare written reports that could be sent to the Secretary, who would then prepare synopses to be circularised with the minutes.

### **GERMANY**

The Public Health Budget was overspent by 2.4 billion marks during 1985, and this has resulted in further reductions in fees. Although the contribution of orthodontics to this deficit was negligible, there has been a cutback of 14.1% in their turnover, and the 30% of orthodontists who use mostly fixed appliances suffered a reduction of 18 to 20%.

German orthodontists must be in practice two years before they can treat patients paid for by the insurances companies. No such restrictions affect immigrants from other EEC countries. In 1980, there were 12 Dutch dentists registered in Germany; in 1986, the number had risen to 188. (Ironically, Dutch orthodontists face similar restrictions in the Netherlands).

Eighty new orthodontists graduate in Germany each year, well above the estimated requirements of fifteen. The falling birthrate also reduces the number of patients available for orthodontic treatment. There is a proposal that patients should pay a certain amount towards their orthodontic treatment. This sum could be refunded on the satisfactory completion of treatment.

## **BRITAIN**

Average fee for Class 11 Division 1, ten mm. overjet and a crowded lower arch is £300. All sections of orthodontists have combined to produce a report on training and the provision of a specialists' register. The minimum training period is three years full time plus two years general. Fifteen orthodontists qualify each year, but some of these are from overseas.

## **ITALY**

There are now seven schools where three year courses in orthodontics are given. No dentally qualified students are studying orthodontics as yet, but some may enter in a year or two.

## **BELGIUM**

Six dental schools remain, each having about four postgraduate students.

## **IRELAND.**

A new Constitution has been written for the Orthodontic Group. (Copies of which were distributed.)

## **FRANCE.**

Fees have been freed from Government control, and are now about Fr. 4,000 to Fr. 5,000 per annum. Half of this is refunded to the patient. There are now 800 registered orthodontists in France. About fifty new orthodontists qualify each year.

It was proposed that the next EFOSA meeting should be held in Paris during November 1987. Apart from Dr. Unterer, no written reports were received by the Secretary.