

## **Minutes of the 45<sup>th</sup> EFOSA General Assembly Meeting**

**09.00 hrs June 18 2014. Palace of Culture and Science - Warsaw, Poland**

### **Attendees:**

	Alexandros Kokkas	President	AK
	Bart Vande Vannet	Vice-President	BVV
	Christian Scherer	Treasurer	CS
	Julian O'Neill	Secretary	JO
	Maja Ovsenik	EOS co-opted member	MO
	Eva Sramkova	Council member	ES
Silvia Silli	Austria	Andrej Pavlic	Croatia
Stjepan Spalj	Croatia	Giorgia Sofroniou	Cyprus
Ivo Marek	Czech Republic	Janne Gronhoj	Denmark
Katri Herman	Estonia	Marja Perkiomaki	Finland
Raija Kiuru-Skytta	Finland	Alain Vigie du Cayla	France
Yves Trin	France	Sascha Milkerheit	Germany
Anna Anagnostou	Greece	Kristin Heimisdottir	Iceland
Owen Crotty	Ireland	Alessandro Greco	Italy
Melissa Disse	Netherlands	Geir Kristiansen	Norway
Ewa Czochrowska	Poland	Beata Walawska	Poland
Branislav Vidovic	Serbia	Gabriela Alexandrova	Slovakia
Jana Gasparova	Slovakia	Jasmina Primožic	Slovenia
Adriana Toro Mattozzi	Spain	Luis Carlos Ojeda	Spain

Barbara Jaeger	Switzerland	Otmar Kronenbourg	Switzerland
Serdar Usumez	Turkey	Ilhan Ramoglu	Turkey
Jonathan Sandler	UK	Arni Thordarson	Iceland

## **01. Opening of meeting:**

Alexandros Kokkas (AK) opened the meeting at 09.10. The EOS President, Ewa Czochorowska (EC) kindly welcomed the delegates and council to the EOS Congress in Warsaw

## **02. Introduction of guests:**

All delegates and guest introduced themselves. Luis Carlos Ojeda (LCO) requested that, in view of the problems in Spain, that the EFOSA council would write to the relevant department in the Spanish Government to support recognition of the Speciality of Orthodontics.

**ACTION: JO**

Silvia Silli (SS) briefly mentioned the continuing problem in Austria with lack of recognition for the specialty and also stated that the Government ideally wants patients to have treatment for free.

Janne Gronhoj ( JG) from Denmark stated that the main problem in Denmark was unemployment amongst Dentists and Orthodontists and that there were a diminishing number of postgraduates being trained. Melissa Disse ( MD) reported that in Holland the Government were changing article 13 of their constitution and this may have an effect on insurance companies and their payments.

**Apologies** were received from Luxembourg, Malta, Sweden and Portugal. Latvia was not represented.

## **04. Changes to the agenda:**

Some changes would be deemed necessary later in the day due to speakers' commitments.

## **05. Reports from the Council:**

- **Report from the President**

AK stated that this would be his last general assembly meeting as President and provided a very comprehensive Powerpoint presentation entitled EFOSA Past, Present and Future. AK also reported on his successful meeting at the AAO in New Orleans with representatives from that organisation.

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### **Report from the Secretary**

JO reported that there had been significant increase in ESAS traffic and that this was due to Orthodontists in the Netherlands using ESAS as a revalidation tool. JO also encouraged all delegates to update their contact details to ensure that EFOSA had the right email addresses. Laptops would be available at the break in order that delegates could check and if necessary amend their entries.

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### **Report from the Treasurer**

CS reported that EFOSA holds approximately €57,000. This had been a successful year financially as income was around €31,000, and expenditure had been held at €17,500. No change in the membership fee would therefore be required.

## **06. Auditors' report and discharge of the council:**

Alain Vigie Du Cayla (AvdC) and Kristin Heimisdottir reported that they had examined the accounts and were satisfied with these. They asked that the GAM would accept the Auditors report and accounts. This was accepted by the delegates.

## **07. ESAS:**

JO reminded delegates about the fact that ESAS is available to them. Regarding the increased use of ESAS by Orthodontists in the Netherlands MD explained how ESAS is used as part of the revalidation system. Ten patients per year need to be added to the system. Each Orthodontist must carry out a minimum of 16 hours clinical work a week. This provoked a lively discussion. JO asked whether it was worth having the Netherlands system on the EFOSA website and MD agreed that this would be possible when this is complete.

**ACTION: JO**

## **08. EFOSA projects:**

- **European Orthodontic Guide**

AK has sent this out and suggested that it is updated every two years. AK asked the delegates whether they felt that this should be open access or password protected. It was generally agreed that it should be protected.

**ACTION: JO**

- **Challenges document and article for EJO**

AK reported that he had produced the Challenges Document and felt that in due course that this should be published in the EJO. He hoped that this could be carried out in the future.

**ACTION: JO**

- **Webmaster**

The council has proposed the creation of a webmaster who would sit on the council, but as a non- voting member. AK asked for discussion regarding this, but there were no comments and no dissent. It was therefore, agreed that this position should be created.

- **Radiation guidelines**

BVV provided a Powerpoint presentation including significant new material on the subject of European radiographic guidelines. A discussion ensued about the development of this project and it was suggested that this could be placed on the website. However, this would require creation of a new drop down window and this would inevitably involve some cost.

**ACTION: AcdC**

The GAM was then joined by Dr. Robert Varner, President of the American Association of Orthodontists and also the President Elect of the AAO Dr. Morris Poole. Our guests were welcomed by AK who reminded the GAM that he had first met Drs. Varner and Poole in Philadelphia in 2012 and had enjoyed an excellent working relationship with them since. Drs. Varner and Poole kindly gave a short presentation on problems facing the specialty of Orthodontics in the United States which was followed by a lively question and answer session. It appeared that many of the problems facing Orthodontists in Europe are very similar to those in the United States of America. However, it was noted that the USA is fortunate in having a single organisation to represent Orthodontists and this allowed resources to be used as effectively as possible mainly to educate patients about the difference between specialist trained Orthodontists and Dentists.

**Lunch**

**14. Presentation:**

AvdC provided the GAM with an excellent presentation on problems facing orthodontics in France. He also introduced the concept of ISO 9001 process in French orthodontic practices. This process has been driven by a steering committee within the SSFODF. This system also involves patient responses in the quality process. Alain was warmly thanked for his excellent presentation.

**15. Membership status:**

Croatia has now become a full member of EFOSA since the country joined the EU on 1st July 2013. Serbia was proposed as an affiliate member of EFOSA, having satisfied criteria for membership. This was endorsed by the GAM. Branislav Vidovic was warmly welcomed as the representative of EFOSA's newest affiliate member.

**10. Membership:**

Austria – Martin Brock reported that in Vienna the postgraduates now receive a three-year full-time training. This is a positive move and MB asked members of the Assembly did any countries undergo interim regulations prior to full specialisation recognition? MB also requested evidence from the literature which showed differences between treatment carried out by specialists and that carried out by general dental practitioners. BVV showed a short video clip of a Canadian

news programme which illustrated one patient who had undergone orthodontic treatment by her general dental practitioner and had ended up worse than when she started.

#### **11. NEBEOP:**

Stavros Kiliarides provided the GAM with a presentation and update on progress within NEBEOP. SK told delegates that NEBEOP continues to grow. Vienna has recently become a full member. The universities of Hanover, Ljubljana, Barcelona and Thessaloniki are now applying to join the process.

#### **16. Bolender award:**

It was agreed that we wanted to move ahead with this award and there was a discussion as to whether this could be in the form of an award or indeed a teaching grant. It was suggested that the award could be administered by the teachers' forum at the EOS as they would be best placed to judge the winner.

**ACTION: JO**

#### **12. NEBEOP/EFOSA joint working:**

Delegates were told of the joint meeting between NEBEOP representatives and the EFOSA council in Geneva in November 2013. There was significant progress made at this meeting and a deeper understanding of how perhaps the two organisations could work together. The agreement that we have made to develop a website for NEBEOP and fund this was discussed and BVV demonstrated the initial draft of the NEBEOP website. The delegates had no objections to the Council's initiatives.

#### **17. Election of new council members**

AK had indicated that he is stepping down as President, and also MO as EOS co-opted member. Jonathan Sandler presented the suggestions of the nomination committee. These are: JO to replace AK as President. BVV to remain for a further term as Vice President. CS to remain for a further term as treasurer. Kristin Heimisdottir (KH) to become secretary. Alain Vigie du Cayla to become webmaster. It was noted ES had a further two years to run as committee member. It was suggested that Beata Walawska and Ivo Marek should take over as auditors for two years. AK was suggested to replace Claude Bourdillat on the nomination committee. These suggestions were accepted by the delegates. AK was congratulated for his excellent period as President of EFOSA.

#### **18. 8<sup>th</sup> IOC London 2015**

Jonathan Sandler gave a beautiful presentation, in the form of a film, about the forthcoming WFO congress which will take place in London in September 2015.

#### **19. Any other business**

There was none.

**20. Date and Venue of next meeting:**

Next year's GAM will take place on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2015 at the Venice Lido in Italy. It will be preceded by the 'get together' party on evening of 13<sup>th</sup> June.

**21. Closure of Meeting:**

The meeting was closed at 16.00 hours.