

Minutes of the 42nd EFOSA General Assembly Meeting

Present:

Alexandros Kokkos - AK	President	Greece
Bart Vande Venet - BVV	Vice-Chairman	Belgium
Julian O'Neill – JO	Secretary	UK
Milan Kaminek – MK	Council Member	Czech Rep.
Silvia Silli		Austria
Laura Andreeva		Bulgaria
Mladen Slaj		Croatia
Yiannos Hadjiprokopis		Cyprus
Ivo Marek		Czech Republic
Eva Sramkova		Czech Republic
Janne Gronhoj		Denmark
Eva Karlstedt		Finland
Alain Vigié du Cayla		France
Claude Boudillat-Mikol		France

Sascha Milkereit	Germany
Periklis Panos	Greece
Vegh Andras	Hungary
Rado Stefania	Hungary
Kirstin Heimisdottir	Iceland
Stefan Pallson	Iceland
Luca Lombardo	Italy
Vincenzo D'Anto	Italy
Odile Hutereau	Luxembourg
Geri Mazeland	Netherlands
Melissa Disse	Netherlands
Tone Klepsland	Norway
Ewa Czochrowska	Poland
Gabriela Alexandrovà	Slovakia
Jana Gasparova	Slovakia
Sanja Zupancic	Slovenia

Jasmina Primozic	Slovenia
Martina Drevensec	Slovenia
Lars Medin	Sweden
Barbara Jaeger	Switzerland
Serdar Usumez	Turkey
Ilhan Ramoglu	Turkey
Jonathan Sandler	United Kingdom

01. Opening and welcome:

AK opened the meeting at 09.30hrs and thanked our Turkish hosts for their efficient organisation of our meetings, and also particularly for the excellent get together party which we all enjoyed the previous evening. Serdar Usumez responded on behalf of the Turkish society, and warmly welcomed the EFOSA delegates to Istanbul.



02. Apologies for absence:

JO reported that apologies have been received from the FYR Macedonia, Israel, Portugal and the Ukraine.

03. Introduction of delegates:

The delegates introduced themselves, in turn, to the Assembly.

04. Minutes of the 41st EFOSA GAM:

These were accepted - approved by Jonathan Sandler and seconded by Lars Medin.

05. Report from the Council:

President's report: AK outlined the business that had taken place during the year and in particular the Council meetings, which had occurred in Brussels in November 2010 and Spa in February 2011.

Secretary's report: JO said that it had been a busy year for the council. There were two major issues, namely the future of ESAS and the revamping of our website, being led by BVV. This would be demonstrated later, but JO outlined important potential changes in the website, which should provide significantly improved communications within the society.

Treasurer's report: CS reported on the changeover from our previous treasurer, Claude Bourdillat. CB had forecast for 2010/11 that proved to be accurate. Income for the year was €22,430 and expenditure was €24,300. CS believes our finances to be in good order and presently sees no need to raise membership fees. EFOSA's total assets March 31, 2011 were € 42105.

06. Auditor's report:

Owen Crotty and Lutgard de Ridder had examined the books. LdeR had made some small remarks and both auditors were happy to sign off the accounts for the year 2010/11. At this point item 17 was discussed in order to allow different delegates to attend meetings in the afternoon:

17. Elections

One council member, MK, is stepping down. Jonathan Sandler and the Nominations Committee have suggested Ewa Czochrowska to join the Council. AK asked for other candidates for this position. None were forthcoming. Ewa Czochrowska was voted unanimously as the Council member.

07. ESAS:

Frank de Winter gave a presentation on ESAS. He stated that very little activity had taken place. He personally feels sad and somewhat frustrated. FdeW reminded delegates that entering data only takes between two and eight minutes per patient, and therefore this would only require commitment of two to three hours per year. He reported that the University of Amsterdam postgraduates are using ESAS. FdeW stated that modules can be used separately and he encouraged delegates to give ESAS a further chance. FdeW also pointed out that governments across the EU might start imposing quality systems that may not be as simple to use as ESAS. He suggested that if we demonstrated that we were already using a quality system, government regulation may not be required if ESAS is already doing the job.

AK opened the topic for discussion.

Serdar Usumez feels very enthusiastic about ESAS and felt we should keep on trying to use the system.

Owen Crotty suggested marketing the system to colleagues and perhaps a demonstration at a national meeting would help.

Jonathan Sandler felt the onus was on us as delegates. It was agreed that an ESAS stand at various conferences might be helpful to promote the project. A further suggestion was publication of a paper arguing for ESAS. FdeW was asked whether he might be willing to produce such a paper.

Lars Medin agreed that delegates from EFOSA have a responsibility to introduce the system in their own countries. FdeW has been to Sweden and gave a presentation there. Lars reminded delegates that introducing ESAS to postgrads would encourage them to get involved at the start of their specialisation.

Claude Bourdillat reminded delegates that we have spent €40,000 on the programme. She felt strongly that in France a translation was required and that French orthodontists would be much more likely to use it if this was the case. AK asked delegates was important to them. Five delegates responded that they would like a translation. BVV told the assembly that there were no figures for the previous year related to ESAS usage. CS suggested that we might delegate the use of ESAS to individual societies. Lars Medin asked if delegating responsibility for the programme to individual countries would mean that each country would end up paying separately. A discussion regarding the ongoing costs for ESAS ensued. Jonathan Sandler questioned what the maintenance fee was for, and FdeW explained. AK suggested sending an email to all delegates reminding them about ESAS and the action that individual delegates should take in their countries to promote ESAS. He suggested sending this in September. Claude Bourdillat suggested sending an official letter to each President regarding ESAS.

ACTION: AK

Jonathan Sandler asked whether it would be practical to delegate ESAS to each individual country and for them to pay for it locally. CS said that this should not be a problem as each individual country could use a local platform. Translations have already been carried out in

some countries. AK stated that we were all agreed that we would redouble our efforts to promote ESAS for a further year, and then review the situation. FdeW reminded delegates that he was standing down as Chairman of the Quality Committee. Barbara Jaeger and Alain du Cayla asked whether they might consider taking over as Chairman of this committee. AK said that he would talk further with Barbara and Alain and inform delegates following the discussion.

ACTION: AK

08. New EFOSA projects:

- **European Orthodontic Guide:** AK gave a PowerPoint presentation on the future of the European Orthodontic Guide. Geri Mazeland from the Netherlands raised concerns about possible misuse. She is concerned that journalists may use the data to the detriment of orthodontic specialists. AK assured the delegates that no financial or patient number data would be included in the proposed project. AK asked for any objections to the project proceeding. There were none apart from GMs concern, which was noted by AK. The guide will be developed over the next year and be introduced to the General Assembly in 2012.

ACTION: AK

- **EFOSA Website:** BVV introduced the new, updated website design, which he has been developing with Ton de Laat. In this BVV demonstrated the new ESAS link and also clearly showed the use of Google translate built into the programme to allow the website to be translated instantly into any language of choice. The new design and in particular the translation feature were well received by delegates. The concept of country representatives updating their individual country information was also introduced and accepted by delegates. One individual in each country would be given the password, providing administrator rights to that country's area. It was stressed that, if that person resigned their position, they would be responsible for passing the information on to the next named and designated representative.
- **Radiation Guidelines:** BVV asked for reports from different countries regarding guidelines, especially or particularly with respect to the use of cone beam CT in individual practices. It was suggested that we should produce a questionnaire to be circulated to all delegates. Jonathan Sandler suggested focusing this by asking six specific questions to be answered.

ACTION: BVV

EPSOS presentation

Vincenzo D'anto, President of EPSOS, gave an illuminating presentation about EPSOS. There have been some changes in the Council structure. EPSOS now has "ambassadors" in many countries. The aims of EPSOS were discussed. The results of questionnaire by EPSOS on quality and training were also presented. BVV agreed that he would check the link to EPSOS on the EFOSA website.

ACTION: BVV

Following the presentation AK thanks Vincenzo D'anto for talking to us.

Guest Presentation
Prof. Athanasios E Athanasiou

Prof. Athanasiou gave his presentation:

"Evidence – based perspectives for a quality oriented practice of orthodontics"

This was warmly received by the delegates.

AK thanked Prof Athanasiou for kindly giving up his time to talk to EFOSA, and for providing us with his valuable insight.

09. EFOSA Committee "Orthodontic Training Programmes and Examinations":

The current members of this committee are Krister Bjerklin, Luc Dermaut and Milan Kaminek. It was noted that Milan wished to remain on the committee.

10. Membership status and fees:

Odile Hutereau reported that from Luxembourg there was little change. Luxembourg does not run its own orthodontic programme and therefore those wishing to train go to different countries for their specialist training. This results in different titles. There is no specialist list in Luxembourg and very few specialists. Silvia Silli stated that the situation in Austria is, if anything, worsening. The Masters Programme at Krems is not helping this and the government are not supporting specialists. Silvia is feeling less optimistic regarding Austria moving in a positive direction.

It was suggested that guests attending EFOSA for the first time would not be charged and this was agreed. It was suggested by the Council that, following this, guests would be charged €150 for each subsequent visit unless they applied for membership of the society. This was agreed by the General Assembly.

11. Applications for membership:

JO reported that there had been no new applications for membership and indeed no affiliate or provisional members have applied for full membership.

12. Masters in Orthodontics Programmes – EFOSA position:

The General Assembly unanimously agreed with the Council position that "A Master's degree in Orthodontics should only exist as part of an official three year Erasmus Orthodontic Specialty Programme".

There is concern within EFOSA regarding Masters in Orthodontics programmes that are not part of an Erasmus minimum three-year training programme. Silvia Silli reported that in Austria, where there is an active MSc programme, the universities do not support specialty organisation. The Austrian authority is therefore pushing forward with Board Examinations. It is suggested

that all specialist orthodontists will sit the Board exam and that will act as the standard for the specialty. Jonathan Sandler reported about the MSc in Orthodontics programme at Warwick University in the UK. There is a perception amongst delegates that patients do not understand the difference between orthodontists holding full speciality qualifications as opposed to an MSc only. .

13. EFOSA / CED relations:

BVV reported on his attendance at a CED meeting in Vienna. At this meeting he was confronted by the President and the Council. BVV raised EFOSA concerns that Austria and Spain had no specialist lists. BVV felt that the responses were unhelpful, to say the least. Following this meeting AK wrote to the President of CED asking if EFOSA could attend future CED meetings as observers. CED refused this proposal. Lars Medin commented that he had discussed EFOSA matters with a previous CED Board in Lisbon. He noted that the previous president was Portuguese and was more helpful. It is possible that, under the present President, promoting a better relationship will be difficult and we may need to wait for a change of personnel before pursuing this again.

14/15. EPSOS and the Bolender Award:

JO introduced the idea of a research award in conjunction with EPSOS. It has been suggested that any such award might carry the name of Charles Bolender. Lars Medin felt that providing a research award was not a primary aim of EFOSA. Geri Mazeland echoed this, and suggested perhaps renaming this as a bursary, which could be given to a particular EPSOS student. Postgraduate students could apply for this bursary. Claude Bourdillat supported the proposal of GM and it was decided that this item needs further discussion, which would take place at the next Council meeting.

ACTION: Council

16. European Health Insurances:

AK suggested that with the updating of our website the European health insurances document would be re-launched on the new website.

ACTION: AK

17. Elections (continued):

Following Ewa Czochrowska's nomination to the Board, Claude Bourdillat suggested that in future the GAM may consider asking a previous president to join the board, and this would be discussed.

ACTION: Council

Owen Crotty was suggested as a member of the nomination committee joining Jonathan Sandler, who wishes to remain on the committee, and Melissa Disse, who has one further year to serve.

Owen's nomination was ratified by the GAM.

18. Date and Venue of the next meeting:

The next meeting will take place in Santiago de Compostela in conjunction with the 2012 EOS meeting.

The Council meeting and get together party will take place on Monday 18 June 2012, The 43rd General Assembly Meeting will take place at 09.00hrs the following morning, Tuesday 19 June. These dates are already in the EOS programme for 2102.

20. Closure of meeting:

The meeting was concluded with the presentation of the WFO 8th IOC taking place in London 2015, presented by Jonathan Sandler.