

Minutes of the 43rd EFOSA General Assembly Meeting

Present:

Alexandros Kokkas	Greece
Bart Vande Vannet	Belgium
Christian Scherer	Germany
Ewa Czochrowska	Poland
Julian O'Neill	UK
Mihovil Strujic	Croatia
Mladen Slaj	Croatia
Iva Sramkova	Czech Republic
Ivo Marek	Czech Republic
Yiannos Hadjiprokopis	Cyprus
Janne Gronhoj	Denmark
Marja Pertiomaki	Finland
Jarkko Vuoriluototo	Finland
Alain Vigie du Cayla	France
Claude Bourdillat	France
Sascha Milkereit	Germany

Konstantinos Paradissis	Greece
Kristin Heimisdottir	Iceland
Owen Crotty	Ireland
Tamar Finkelstein	Israel
Yocheved Ben-Basset	Israel
Odile Hutereau	Luxembourg
Melisse Disse	Netherlands
Idsar Vekseth	Norway
Americo Ferraz	Portugal
Francisco Fvale	Portugal
Jana Gasparova	Slovakia
Gabriela Alexandrova	Slovakia
Tanja Lah	Slovenia
Jose Gandia	Spain
Heidrun Kjellberg	Sweden
Birgitta Obrant	Sweden
Serdar Usumez	Turkey

Ilhan Ramoglu

Turkey

Jonathan Sandler

UK

01. Opening and welcome:

1. AK opened the meeting at 09.00hrs and thanked the Spanish organising committee of the EOS for their generosity in arranging our meetings, and also for providing the Get-together party which had been much enjoyed on the previous evening.

02. Apologies:

JO reported that these had been received from Silvia Silli, Laura Andreeva, Geri Mazeland and Barbara Jaeger. AK reminded our colleagues of the death of Juri Kurol and asked the delegates to stand for a minute's silence. .

03. Changes to the agenda:

It was agreed to bring forward point 12 – the application by Luxembourg for full membership as Odile Hutereau needed to leave early. AK asked for any objections to Luxembourg being accepted as a full member, and there were none. AK then welcomed Luxembourg as a full member to EOS.

04. Minutes of the 42nd GAM Istanbul, Turkey:

These were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

05. Correspondence:

- Although AK had supported Italy's bid for the 2020 9th IOC meeting, Jonathan Sandler reported that this had recently been awarded to Japan.
- JO reported on the letter received from Alan Thom and AK explained the background regarding EFOSA support for a three-year full time programme.

06. Reports from the Council:

- **Report from the President:**
AK discussed the council meetings which had been held in the UK and the previous day. He also reported that he had represented EFOSA at the FEO General Assembly in Dresden, and in Santiago. AK had also presented to the EOS Council in London, February 2012. Finally, AK said he was unable to attend the AAO meeting in Hawaii.
- **Report from the Secretary:**
JO stated that it had been a busy year. He stressed that it was important to maintain

accurate and up to date information from the individual countries and to this end would be discussing how this could be improved under item 9 later in the meeting.

- **Report from the Treasurer:**

CS reported on EFOSA assets. In the year 2011-12 money on account was left untouched and so in view of this CS recommended that membership fees should stay the same. Owen Crotty reported that he and Lutgard De Ridder as auditors had examined the accounts and were happy to accept these. AK stated that all delegates had received the accounts from CS and asked for comments. There were none. AK recommended adoption of the financial report, and this was accepted.

08. ESAS:

BVV reported on progress with ESAS. A number of people had contacted JO in particular over the last year. These were mainly Dutch orthodontists and it would appear that a limited number in the Netherlands have reactivated ESAS for themselves. Three others had contacted JO from other countries, for example Chile. BVV stated that we have asked Sunsoft, who wrote the programme, to keep ESAS going. He reiterated that if individual members required access they should send an email address to JO, who would activate the account for them. BVV also reported that no statistics were available for ESAS this year but perhaps these would be available in 2013.

Claude Bourdillat (CB) told delegates that there was a new law in France regarding continuous professional development for GPs and orthodontists. This would require practitioners to carry out self-assessment. CB believes that ESAS could be used for this purpose but would need to be translated into French. AK asked whether this was mandatory and that we would like to discuss this further, but we would need to know the costs involved in translation and any amendments required to the programme. JO discussed the difficulty of extracting personal data from the programme, such as PAR scores, but BVV felt that this would be possible by adaptation of the software. AK reminded delegates of an article in the Angle Orthodontist showing that specialist orthodontists produce better results than general dental practitioners. AK feels that this could be used in those countries where there is a problem with general dental practitioners and specialists. There followed a discussion between AK and Kristin Heimisdottir that, ideally, all countries should allow only specialists to carry out orthodontics, as happens in Iceland, and it was agreed that this occurs in very few countries. Jonathan Sandler stated that the British Orthodontic Society includes general dental practitioners who carry out orthodontics. In the UK it is believed that this is a good arrangement as the government negotiates with the whole professional society regarding all orthodontic matters, rather than with separate groups. AK reminded delegates that the EFOSA goal is that all orthodontics should be provided by specialists only. AK then took a straw poll of those countries present in which orthodontics is provided only by specialists, and there were five – Norway, Denmark, Czech Republic, Slovakia and Slovenia. In Greece patients tend only to attend specialists but general dental practitioners can carry out orthodontics if they want. In Croatia, insurance companies pay only specialists; however, any dentist can do orthodontics by law. In the Czech Republic, one must be licensed after a three-year specialist training, whether treatment is provided privately or by state funding. BVV asked whether in any country the government contracts with selected providers only.

Jonathan Sandler stated that in the UK the government pays only selected providers by specific contracts, but that these did not need to be orthodontists.

AK asked Eva Sramkova to present the Czech system to the General Assembly next year as an example.

ACTION: AK/ES

09. EPSOS:

Vincenzo d'Anto (Vd'A) reported on the EPSOS meeting which had taken place in Santiago. At this different postgraduate programmes had been discussed and a survey was being carried out. Vd'A expressed a wish for EPSOS to work more closely with EFOSA. He reported that the Teachers' Forum had asked EPSOS for their opinion on training programmes and it was agreed that this was a step in the right direction.

10. EFOSA projects:

- **European Orthodontic Guide:**

AK provided a powerpoint presentation on the European Orthodontic Guide. In this he described its history where Franz van der Linden, Luc Dermaut and Wolfgang Schmiedel had initially collected the data. This had been first produced as a poster in Paris in 2005 and then in Sydney in 2010. The current plan is to enrich and update this dataset. We already have the European Insurance Guide and individual country reports. AK reminded delegates that it is in our constitution under Article 4 that we carry this out. AK asked for data from 28 countries and to date 23 had responded. AK hopes to have this report completed for next year and that member countries will be able to access this on the website. AK also hopes to produce this in hard copy.

- **EFOSA Website:**

JO described the concept of updating the website to provide administrator rights to individual country members. BVV supported the plan, and reminded delegates that we discussed this last year. This would make individual country members responsible for updating their own information, and the cost would be around 1,500 euros. Jonathan Sandler suggested that the update is date stamped and also has the name of the person performing the update. Kristin Heimisdottir stated that we may need a password reminder system as we have for ESAS, and BVV said this could be done. There were no objections to this and so it was agreed to proceed with the system.

ACTION: JO

- **Radiation Guidelines:** BVV gave a powerpoint presentation on the production of radiation guidelines by EFOSA. Jonathan Sandler suggested that the articles be placed on the website under a new section called "resource".

ACTION: BVV

Following the lunch break Professor Stavros Kiliaridis (SK) provided a stimulating presentation on postgraduate education in Europe and NEBEOP. In this he asked what is NEBEOP trying to achieve, and provided an update on activities. SK stressed the key points of NEBEOP -“bottom-up”, together and active. SK stated that we need to move ahead with NEBEOP and that more countries will need to have their programmes signed up if this is to be a success.

11. Membership status of different European countries:

JO reported that there had been no change in the membership of EFOSA, apart from the inclusion of Luxembourg as an active member.

12. Application for membership - Luxembourg:

This had been dealt with earlier under item 2.

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.

13. Masters in Orthodontics:

BVV reminded the delegates that EFOSA does not accept a Masters programme alone as a mark of specialist training. JO reminded delegates that we had suggested a patients' section on the website which would allow patients to access information about specialist qualifications in their own countries. He had requested data regarding specialist qualifications in individual countries from EFOSA members and so far had received this from six countries only.

14. EPSOS:

This had been discussed when Vd'A gave his presentation.

15. Bolender Award:

It was announced that Charles Bolender had agreed to allow his name to be appended to this award. JO suggested the concept that this award should be provided to a postgraduate in orthodontics who would carry out a project related to EFOSA's activities. This could, for example, take the form of a survey of postgraduate training throughout Europe. The award would have competitive entry and the winner would carry out his research and then present this at a future EFOSA meeting. It had been agreed that an award of 1,000 euros and up to 500 euros for expenses would be made available. AK invited suggestions for topics from the membership and asked them to send these to JO.

ACTION: Council

16. Elections:

Nominations committee:

Martina Drevensik had been proposed. There were no objections.

Auditors:

Alain Vigie du Cayla and Kristin Heimisdottir had been proposed. There were no objections.

Council:

Eva Sramkova had been proposed. There were no objections.

The above members were congratulated on their new roles.

17. Any Other Business:

Claude Bourdillat discussed the problem of recycling brackets. She told the delegates that there would be an EU directive in 2015 regarding this issue. BVV discussed the evidence base for the use of recycled brackets.

18. Date and venue of next meeting:

The next General Assembly meeting will take place at 09.00hrs on 26 June 2013 in Reykjavik, Iceland. The Icelandic society have suggested that the get together party should take place at the Blue Lagoon and that some cost for individual members would be involved. This was accepted. Kristin Heimisdottir gave a presentation on the EOS Congress in Iceland.

The EFOSA council meeting will take place on 25 June 2013.

19.

Jonathan Sandler provided a presentation on the 8th IOC meeting in London on September 2015 and reminded delegates to sign up early in order to enjoy a reduced registration fee and VIP events.