

**PWG_10_60_A_Minutes Plenary Assembly SM10
Florence_2010May**

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Comments	

**Minutes
PWG Spring Meeting 2010
Florence, Italy
PWG Plenary Meeting
Chairperson: Francesco Silenzi (IT)
Saturday May 1st 2010, 09:00 – 18:00**

GUEST SPEAKER

DR. GIAN LUCA PICOZZI

**MEDICAL PRACTITIONER WRONGLY ACCUSED OF MALPRACTICE: AN EMERGING
PROBLEM**

Dr. Gian Luca Picozzi (IT) made a short report on medical malpractice by referring the number of surgery doctors, the problem to be a surgery doctor in Italy and the number of legal trials. He highlighted the importance of informed consent and the need for doctors to protect him or herself from money interests. Between 1994 and 2004 the insurance price increased significantly and only in 2010 was a course on medico-legal issues created, he referred.

FEMS said that there were complications but also medical mistakes and that for junior doctors, PGT would be the best way to prevent malpractice. Medical insurance is growing each year, but medical mistakes were lowering in Tuscany. The main problem with junior doctors was to learn their job in the best way and assure that the profession was correctly practiced.

1. Opening of the meeting by PWG President

The President opened the meeting and highlighted the presence of the French representatives as observers, FEMS and UEMS, and the apologies of EMSA.

2. Election of Chairperson of the Plenary Meeting

Francesco Silenzi (IT) was elected chairperson.

3. Approval of the agenda

Document for decision:

PWG_10_20_A_Draft Agenda Plenary Assembly SM10 Florence_2010May **NEW PAPER**

The agenda was approved.

4. Organizational matters

Roll call, apologies, address list, and technical announcements

The President proceeded with the roll call. 18 countries were present, including a proxy from Georgia to Portugal.

5. Approval of Minutes of PWG Plenary Meeting in Killarney, Ireland 2010 (PWG AM 2009)

Document for decision:

PWG_09_89_A_Plenary Minutes AM09 Killarney_2009Oct30 **NEW PAPER**

The minutes were approved unanimously.

6. President's report

Document for information:

PWG_10_49_A_PWG President's report for SM 2010_2009Apr

The President shortly explained the meeting with the French representatives, the EC meeting in Berlin and the main decisions taken, the resignation from Norway and the attempts to turn Turkey and Greece PWG members.

The NTO made a presentation on the new PWG website and referred that it would be important to change the PWG acronym. The costs involved are almost none – new acronym –EJD – European Junior Doctors, with a new logo.



John Morris (IE) said that this idea came from the meeting in Killarney. The acronym PWG is not understandable easily and benefits would increase.

Carsten Mohrhardt (DE) supported the idea.

The President suggested having a final version to be presented at the next meeting.

Alex van Bolderen (NL) said that some difficulties were raised if the name was changed, because PWG was known as PWG.

Latvia suggested having an acronym list on the website.

Austria also supported that this acronym was known since 1976 and should not be changed.

Carsten Mohrhardt (DE) said that the point here was that people may found to be a new organization and proposed to have a transition period.

The President reported on the work done in terms of PGT, leadership and the future of the EMOs' alliance. He also mentioned the invitation from UEMS to take part in a Domus Medica, a UEMS project and the CPME WG on e-health and the future involvement of PWG.

Noora Ritamäki (FI) said that task shifting was important.

The President said that task shifting may be seen as an opportunity to spare doctors and suggested to attend the CPME WG meeting along with other members to study PWG's position. He also reminded the topic health inequalities and the cooperation agreement with ENGERA.

7. Meeting of the Executive Committee (January 17th 2010 and April 30th 2010)

Document for information:

PWG_10_04_A_PWG EC Meeting Minutes_2010Jan17

The President made a short report on the points discussed at the EC meeting on 30th April 2010 and the decision to put more effort on the medical workforce manpower survey as well as to have the salary survey present at the questionnaires section in the new website so information can be more easily gathered.

8. EBMeDS (Evidence-based medicine electronic decision support)

Presentation by Tinja Lääveri (FI)

Tinja Lääveri (FI) made a presentation on evidence-based medicine electronic decision support (www.ebmeds.org). The presentation went over EPR implementation, the benefits in patient safety, professionals and quality. EPRS and medication errors were referred. Some errors, decreased, others continued and in some areas even increased.

Noora Ritamäki (FI) suggested PWG to have a WG on e-health as doctors need to get involved.

There are no data about the costs and its implementation as it is difficult to prove that it reduces costs.

Ireland informed that there were several programs and the problem was to create interaction between programs.

Noora Ritamäki (FI) said that the connection between computers is not easy.

Estonia said it had been already done and informed that there was software that collected information from several sources, but this was not the case.

Luis Monteiro (PT) said that some problems were related to training in each program, the same happening in Finland as referred.

Pedro Gomes (PT) reported that at the same hospital there were different types of programs. In Portugal there is no integrated system, and when programs are



implemented, each person is trained but the new arrived do not receive any training at all and lots of time is lost.

Noora Ritamäki (FI) defended that doctors using the programs do not have time to involve in other programs.

The President asked if such platforms could be used by junior doctors in training.

Noora Ritamäki (FI) said that senior doctors did not like to use computers. These programs should be used on a friendly-use base as EPRS are to stay.

Carsten Mohrhardt (DE) supported that this kind of program should be implemented.

The President suggested that Carsten Mohrhardt (DE), Tinja Laäveri (FI), Luis Monteiro (PT) and Marco Capizzi (IT) to continue to work on this topic and relate to the e-health CPME WG.

9. PWG Brussels Office (Marie-Christine Bonnamour will join the meeting by teleconference)

Background: In the PWG AM 2009 it was decided that the PWG should open a Brussels Office for a trial period of one year.

On *January 18th* 2010 the contract was signed with Marie-Christine Bonnamour was signed.

On *February 5th* a meeting was held at Squaris headquarters to decide on the general functioning and priorities of the Brussels Office.

The PWG President will present the EC view on the work done so far by the Brussels Office.

Document for information:

PWG European Newsletter N°1-February 2010

PWG European Newsletter N°2-April 2010

PWG_10_07_O_Relevant contacts for PWG_2010Feb

PWG_10_29_O_PWG Squaris Agreement_2010Abr

The President reported on the activities of the European Affairs Executive since the contract signed at the beginning of the year. She had produced 2 European



newsletters, a list of relevant contacts for PWG and a provisional draft statutes change for PWG to register under the Belgian law.

Marie-Christine Bonnamour presented herself, made a short report on her curriculum, her legal background and her link to the UEMO, health and the European institutions.

Alex van Bolderen (NL) mentioned that her documents were very positive and asked what PWG was to do through CPME and the actions to take through the national junior doctors.

The President argued that there was no clear definition on each side to lobby. PWG's goal when opening the office in Brussels was to enforce its strategy and it should be done as some documents should be channelled through different European institutions.

John Morris (IE) said that the cooperation between CPME and PWG has not always been harmonious. CPME has a powerful lobbying and it is difficult to find a consensus in terms of some specific topics. PWG has work hard in CPME and it should make sure that lobbying should be done as far as it can.

The President said that PWG should have tools aiming for the goals proposed.

Carsten Mohrhardt (DE) suggested having a continued newsletter on the website with the latest EU news. Marie-Christine Bonnamour supported that a news' section on the PWG website could be a solution and/or could be possible to prepare a document with all information in a single newsletter.

10. PWG Official Registration under the Belgium law (will join the meeting by teleconference)

Background: For PWG to achieve full registration under the Belgium law as decided by the Plenary, statutes changes need to be introduced. Head of the PWG Brussels Office is an experienced lawyer that has done similar work with other European organizations (medical and non-medical). Together with the President a draft document was



elaborated with the proposed changes that need to be introduced in the PWG statutes. As much as possible, the current version of the statutes was respected.

As can be read from the document, the PWG standing orders will need to be reformed too. Please note that no changes are to be voted on in this meeting.

Document for information:

PWG_09_53_O_Draft PWG Statutes changes AISBLen_2009Oct

PWG_10_30_O_Proposed changes to PWG statutes_2010Abr

The President explained that the change in PWG statutes, logo and name would converge and if it was to be decided for a new name, it would be the name that will be stated at the new statutes.

Marie-Christine Bonnamour explained that the registration under the Belgian law was quite formal. With the new statutes, there are 3 options: the notary goes to a PWG meeting and approves that the signature was correctly done; a notary from a foreign country goes to a PWG meeting and the Belgian notary approves that recognition or the statutes are approved along with a motion and registered under the Belgian law near a notary.

Germany suggested that a legal representative from PWG should take care of this along with Marie-Christine Bonnamour. The Treasurer stated that it would be a waste of money and that she should be trusted.

Alex van Bolderen (NL) referred that at CPME's registration no legal recognition was asked regarding the new statutes. Marie-Christine Bonnamour replied that at that time this was not needed but it was currently.

Carsten Mohrhardt (DE) asked for a written registration process to be provided.

Alex van Bolderen (NL) asked for a friendly reading version of this proposal because it was not easily readable.

Marie-Christine Bonnamour will draft a new proposal more easily to read and compare articles.

Alex van Bolderen (NL) said that the EC was now present at the statutes and that under article 2.2. *The headquarters can be transferred to any other place in Belgium by a decision of the Executive Board, to be published in the Moniteur Belge (Belgian Official Journal)*, such transfer should be decided by the general assembly and not by the executive board. He also suggested having the new changes in statutes highlighted.

The President mentioned that, referring to Article 10, PWG had EC for some time yet and it was now included at the statutes.

John Morris (IE) said that the NTO had a key role in meetings and it was important to keep the positions and people involved.

The President defended that communication should be improved and it was justifiable that the NTO was present at the meetings.

Alex van Bolderen (NL) asked if the NTO needed to be in the statutes as official position.

John Morris (IE) suggested having a "communication officer" instead of NTO.

The President mentioned that 3 of the 4 WGs were not stated in the statutes.

Marie-Christine Bonnamour said that there was no specific criteria to form an executive committee and suggested to have the president and treasurer and then add the number of experts PWG find suitable without specific functions.

John Morris (IE) proposed the executive board to be comprised at least by 3 members, the President, Secretary General and the Treasurer. In practice the work would continue to be done as it was currently. The other members should be comprised in the ROPs.

The Treasurer disagreed with the elections suggested by Alex van Bolderen (NL) to the position of secretary general and treasurer, as it would go against the idea of a team.

The President argued that different experiences might be good for the organisation with which the Treasurer disagreed, arguing to keep things as they were and not elect each executive board members as he believed it to be a drawn back in the EC work.

Switzerland said that the general assembly might elect the executive committee, but it was of the opinion that would be more suitable to the strategy for the President to elect its own executive committee.

The President suggested the president, the treasurer and the secretary general to be elected by the General Assembly and the subcommittee chairs to be present at the ROPs only.

John Morris (IE) asked that the functions of the secretary general and the president to be cleared defined.

Marie-Christine Bonnamour suggested having a president, a vice-president and a treasurer, instead of the secretary general and then defining the role of each.

Alex van Bolderen (NL) argued that the vice president title would suit better and define the tasks. The role of the treasurer is easy. The work of coordinating should be upon the vice-president and the PWG representation carried out by the president.

John Morris (IE) mentioned that the importance to have someone responsible for the eventual president's resignation, death or other.

Carsten Mohrhardt (DE) suggested the existence of a president, a vice-president and a secretary general, this based on the ever growing work with which the Secretary General agreed.

Alex van Bolderen (NL) suggested that on 12.6 the functions of each should be described.



The Treasurer highlighted the increase of costs if a vice-president is elected. What people need is people that work.

The President said that by improving communication work could easily be done, position supported by John Morris (IE).

There was a consensus that this document was fine, but changes should be done in terms of structure.

The General Assembly is to elect the president, vice-president and the treasurer and the other members (subcommittee chairs) should be elected by the GA but only mentioned in the ROPs and not in the statutes.

Marie-Christine Bonnamour said that it might take 4 or 5 months until the registration to be completed.

The EC will, for the next meeting, put in writing the transition period and the new changes.

On article 12.4: The President is elected for a period of 2 years and can be re-elected for additional periods of 1 year. The same duration of term applies for the Secretary General, the Treasurer and the New Technologies Officer, no comment was produced.

The subcommittees' chairs are to be elected for a period of 2 years, renewable.

It was decided to have a 5-year maximum duration for a president's term.

On Article 12.5 In the case of recall, resignation or death of the members of the Board, the following rules shall apply.

In the case of recall, resignation or death of its representative on the Board, the relevant subcommittee shall present a new representative to the General Assembly for approval.

In the case of recall, resignation or death of a member of the Presidential team (President, Secretary general, Treasurer and NTO):

In special circumstances, the national member association may propose a change of the President, the Secretary General the Treasurer or the NTO subject to the approval of the General Assembly. In the event that the General Assembly decides not to accept the change, an election of a new Presidential team must be held.

Succession: In the event of the President relinquishing his/her post before completing the term of office, the affairs of the PWG will be managed by the Secretary General until the next Plenary at which time an election will be held in accordance with the procedure set forth in Article 11.3.6., it was decided that the general assembly shall be responsible for the nomination.

11. Reports of/on other International Organisations

Introduction by the President on the future relations with the EMOs, the Alliance and the Domus Medica.

11.1. Standing Committee of European Doctors, CPME

PWG liaison officer to CPME: Dr John Morris

John Morris (IE) did not attend the meeting but the president was present. All information can be found under the President's report.

Document for information: President's report

11.2. European Union of Medical Specialists, UEMS

PWG liaison officer to UEMS (PGT SC Chairperson): Dr Carsten Mohrhardt

Note: Due to the ash cloud that affected Europe transportation, there was no UEMS Council meeting in April 2010.

Nothing to add.

11.3. European Union of General Practitioners, UEMO

PWG liaison officers to UEMO: Dr Inês Rosendo

Document for information:

11.4. AEMH

PWG was not represented.

11.5 FEMS

Enrico Reginato (FEMS) said that FEMS future would be the PWG. He added that the use of e-health was easier for junior doctors than for the senior and informed the medical education in Italy was in conflict with the one in Europe.

Francesco Silenzi (IT) said that it was a problem in Italy, a problem between hospitals and universities.

11.6. EMSA

Euromedmobility and the Bologna process are the main co-projects between EMSA and PWG.

11.7. AMEE

The workshop and training on Transitions and Leadership by Students & Junior Doctors was mentioned.

11.8. MEDINE

There was no concrete information as the meeting would take place in 2 weeks.

12. Reports of Subcommittees/ Working Groups

The chairpersons of the Subcommittees/Working Groups shall give a brief report of the meeting of those bodies and present motions that are brought to the Plenary for decision. These motions will also be decided under this point.

12.1. Postgraduate Medical Training Subcommittee

The chairperson referred the situation regarding PWG UEMS representatives. Put to vote document PWG_2007/065Rev_Responsibilities of PWG representatives to UEMS Specialist Sections (S)/European Boards (B)/Multidisciplinary Joint Committees (MJC) which was shortly ammended.

Noora Ritamäki (FI) reinforced that it should be clearly stated the role of the representative.

The document was unanimously approved.

The draft document on European assessment did not receive any comment.

12.2. Economy Working Group

The financial report was presented. The Plenary was informed that there was a positive income, but there were yet some contribution fees to be collected. The administrative expenses decreased 1/3, but the expenditure with meetings slightly increased due to the spring meeting 2009. All expenses are to be found detailed under the financial report.

The financial report was approved with one vote against from Austria.

Both German and Swiss delegations mentioned that the number of junior doctors were incorrect in terms of contribution fee.

About France, ISNIH members contacted PWG to pay for their part and become member again. The President reported on the meeting which he attended to negotiate France's return to PWG and commented on the French situation along PWG's history.

France said that there was a problem between ISNIH and ISNCCA, but they intended to be part of PWG again, supported by Ireland and The Netherlands.

France was readmitted in PWG unanimously.

The Treasurer reported on the Medscape project, but fundraising proposals were still to be pursued.

Alex van Bolderen (NL) said that most members of PWG should attend meetings and that he would try to find companies that pay extra money to the support fund. Money would be received and a receipt issued by an organization of him while PWG is not registered.

The Treasurer suggested the Portuguese Medical Association issuing a receipt if needed.

He also asked for comments on document PWG_10_42_O_Application to the Support Fund_2010Apr, which was fully accepted.

12.3. Medical Workforce Subcommittee

There are 2 surveys in progress – salary survey and medical workforce. Less than 10 countries replied to both surveys and the chairman urged members to reply using the new website section.

Diana Fernandes (PT) made a presentation on gender imbalance and a WG was created to draft a document. John Morris (IE) suggested having a new questionnaire on medico-legal issues also available on the website.

Noora Ritamäki (FI) mentioned that in the case of Spain for instance it was difficult to answer due to different wages in different regions.

It was decided to discuss PGT financing on the EU/EEA subcommittee and medical mobility under the Medical Workforce WG.

12.4. EU/EEA Subcommittee

The chairman reported on topic patients rights and the Spanish case and the common agreement to continue to work and lobby PWG position on the next Public Policy Exchange Symposium called "*Clarity and Quality: transforming the cross-boarder healthcare system in Europe*".

A WG was created to study medical mobility, which is an important project.

EWTD will be followed closely. Each national association will be asked to answer a survey available on the website and the results will be presented at the next

meeting. The response of Dr. Montgomery was discussed and the PWG position paper with draft responses to the consultation read and approved with 15 votes in favour and 1 abstention from Malta.

John Morris (IE) suggested using also this document as lobbying once the questions rose.

Marie-Christine Bonnamour is prone to work on a newsletter updated constantly.

13. **EuroMedMobility**

Background: The aim of the EuroMedMobility Project is to develop a database web-portal promoting mobility for medical professionals and students, to integrate with pre-existing web services to achieve a high functionality.

This project enables young professionals and medical students to enrich their personal development in the context of developing a successful career. After some problems with the e-platform, the website will be ready to be launched worldwide in short time. Additionally, we received the news that EMSA is ready to provide expertise for their part.

The President apologised for the delay in the project.

Luís Monteiro (PT) showed the new website yet under construction.

14. **Health Workforce**

Two main activities need to be taken forward in this matter: conclusion of the Medical Manpower survey and political lobby in face of the EC actions.

The President shall present to the Plenary an action plan.

Document for information: President's report.

Bernardo said this topic to be a priority to PWG.

15. Unforeseen matters

Any unforeseen motions shall be presented here and decided upon in point 16.

Latvia urged members to reply to an online questionnaire on health workforce, mobility and working conditions.

The President will help Latvia in writing a statement and PWG will collect data in order to improve the medical situation in Latvia. A meeting with the Ministry of Health on the 9th June will take place and results should be available by then.

16. Decision Procedure on Unforeseen Matters

No unforeseen matter was raised.

17. Allocation of Tasks

Economy WG – increase the support fund; work on lower the cost of meetings.

PGT subcommittee – continue to work on transition medicine, bologna process, European assessment, PGT finance, UEMS representatives and e-portfolio.

EU/EEA subcommittee - continue to work on EWTD, patient safety, reply to questionnaire on EWTD, open an EU/EEA questionnaires' section on the website.

Medical Workforce subcommittee – continue to work on medico-legal issues, salary survey, gender imbalance.

Plenary and Executive Committee – surveys on PWG website; discussion of name and logo in the next meeting; coordination on task shifting with Alex van Bolderen (NL); creation of a list of activities; coordination of the PWG e-health WG with CPME; draft a new version of statutes; revision of ROPs; conclusion of EuroMedMobility.



18. Future Meetings

18.1 Autumn Meeting 2010

Official applications are expected.

Next meeting to take place on 28 – 30 October 2010 in The Netherlands.

18.2. Spring Meeting 2011

Croatia will host the spring meeting 2011.

18.3. Autumn Meeting 2011

Malta will host the autumn meeting 2011.

19. Any Other Business

A Memorandum of Understanding PWG, Engera, EOE was signed.

20. Closing of the Meeting

The meeting was closed at 18:00.

Attendance List

Country	Delegate
Austria	Katharina Gordon
Croatia	Hrvoje Vrazic
Czech Republic	Tomas Kocourek
Estonia	Martin Tall
Finland	Tinja Laäveri
Finland	Noora Ritamäki
Germany	Johanna Janotta
Germany	Andreas Botzlar
Ireland	John Morris
Ireland	Claire Camilleri
Italy	Marco Capizzi
Italy	Francesco Silenzi
Latvia	Anna Savinkova
Malta	Clifford Caruana
Netherlands	Alex van Bolderen
Netherlands	Ingrid Desar
Portugal	Pedro Gomes
Portugal	Diana Fernandes
Portugal	Cláudia Melo

PWG PERMANENT WORKING GROUP OF
EUROPEAN JUNIOR DOCTORS

Slovenia	Helena Haskaj
Spain	Manuel Carmona
Spain	Fernando Rivas Navarro
Switzerland	Homayon Chaudry
UEMS	Giorgio Berchicci
FEMS	Enrico Reginato