

**Minutes of Plenary Meeting
PWG Spring Meeting
12th-13th June 2009
Brussels, Belgium**

From
PWG Secretariat

To
All delegations

Note

Agenda PWG Spring Meeting 2009
Brussels, Belgium
PWG Plenary Meeting
Chairperson: Laurent Hermoye (BE)
Friday, 12th of June 2009, 16:30 – 18:00
Saturday, 13th of June 2009, 09:00 – 17:00

1. Opening of the meeting by PWG President

The president opened the meeting at 16:50. The floor was given to Harald Engel (BE) to provide information about the city of Brussels and the social programme. The president made a short presentation on the EMOs meeting on the 11th June 2009 and on some technical announcements.

2. Election of Chairperson of the Plenary Meeting

Laurent Hermoye (BE) was elected chairperson.

3. Approval of the agenda

Document for decision:

PWG 09/024 Agenda Plenary Assembly SM09 Brussels **NEW PAPER**

The Austrian delegation suggested to change point 19 (Election of PWG Presidency) to point 13, which was unanimously approved.

4. Organisational matters

Roll call, apologies, address list, and technical announcements

Samuel Ribeiro (PWG) proceeded with the roll call. There were 20 delegations present, including the proxies from Latvia to Portugal and Sweden to Finland. The countries absent were Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark and Iceland.

5. Approval of Minutes of PWG Plenary Meeting in Tallinn, Estonia 2008

Document for decision:

PWG 08/099 Minutes Plenary Assembly AM08 Tallinn **NEW PAPER**

Minutes were approved unanimously.

6. President's Report

Document for information:

PWG 09/025 President's Report AM2008 **NEW PAPER**

Rui Guimarães (PWG) thanked the Belgian delegation for all effort and support. He mentioned that Georgia and Russia were present for the first time and that contacts with Poland and Turkey were in progress. The President also highlighted that PWG had 28

national delegations presently comparing with the 19 at the beginning of his presidents' term. A special effort with the retreated countries was conducted but no success was reached so far and the negotiations were still in progress.

FEMS president, Claude Wetzel and Raymond Lies, AEMH President were introduced to the Plenary.

Raymond Lies (AEMH) said that only now a common strategy and work was reached. There was a proposal to create a confederation; the intention was not to create a new organisation, but to create a common frame. He will act as coordinator of this group and the common work will be continued. Every EMO must have its own place within this confederation he reminded. It is important that the goals be communicated and discussed. At the end of the year, an agreement may well be reached. He ended his speech by stating that joint information will be issued instead of the press statement previously agreed as new elections occurred in the Parliament.

Claude Wetzel (FEMS) said that in 2009, FEMS and AEMH decided to propose a common secretariat in Brussels. However it could not be accepted that some organisations overcame others. There was work done in cooperation but such is not possible anymore. Doors are opened for future cooperation only under the same conditions of equality.

John Morris (IE) said that each EMO had its own agenda. It was a discussion based also on a common voice or at one voice point of view, although progress is on the rise. Samuel Ribeiro (PWG) explained that there were 2 main topics of discussion: the creation of confederation and the settlement of a common secretariat – the Domus Medica.

Noora Riamaki (FI) pointed out that more action should be taken. The main important and common topics of the EMOs should be gathered and spoken upon. Reigo Reppo (EE) showed his appreciation for all EMOs to gather and try to solve and reinforce the cooperation.

Bernardo Pinto (PWG) stress that the content was more important than the way it was done.

Rui Guimarães (PWG) said that junior doctors' opinion was not usually considered. A good approach was reached and the outcomes seem to be promising. As said before a statement will be issued to settle the future.

7. Meeting of the Executive Committee on 11th June 2009 – oral report

This topic was adjourned as the relevant information was provided under point 6.

8. Reports of/on other International Organisations

8.1. Standing Committee of European Doctors, CPME
PWG liaison officer to CPME: Dr John Morris

As John Morris (IE) could not attend the last CPME meeting in Prague, Samuel Ribeiro (PWG) made a short report on the meeting, mainly on the Medical Training subcommittee to which Rui Guimarães was elected vice-chairman. A policy on visitations was approved and a common document could be drafted at the next meeting in October.

Rui Guimarães (PWG) explained his election to vice-chairman and the main aim, to involve the junior doctors in the CPME and to discuss common topics and interests.

8.2. European Union of Medical Specialists, UEMS

Documents for information:

PWG 09/006 Report from the PWG representative at the UEMS PGT WG Meeting Brussels (24-04-2009)
NEW PAPER

PWG 09/024 Report from the PWG representative at the UEMS Council Meeting **NEW PAPER**

Bernardo Bollen Pinto (PT) informed he had attended the UEMS meeting last April.

The Plenary was also informed that the update of Chapter 6 was under construction and the common project on EWTD assessment was in progress. The medical act definition was revised.

Lastly, he added that some PWG lobbying was successful mainly in terms of telemedicine and medical oncology.

8.3. European Union of General Practitioners, UEMO

PWG liaison officers to UEMO: Dr Inês Rosendo & Dr Alex Smallwood

Rui Guimarães (PWG) made a short report and said that the UEMO official registration was concluded.

8.4. AEMH

Rui Guimarães (PWG) made a short report on the latest developments in AEMH.

8.5. FEMS

Rui Guimarães (PWG) made a short report on the latest development in EWTD within FEMS.

8.6. EMSA

No update was provided on this topic.

8.7. EFMA/WHO

Rui Guimarães (PWG) made a short report on the latest developments in EFMA/WHO and their collaboration in the Medical Manpower Study.

8.8 MEDINE

Samuel Ribeiro (PWG) updated on the latest developments in the MEDINE 3 EU application.

The meeting was adjourned at 18:20 and reopened on 13th June 2009, at 09:30. At this point, Bernardo Pinto (PWG) presented his candidacy for PWG President. After this intervention, a new roll-call was made and the discussions continued as follows.

9. European Medical Mobility Project – Official Website Launch

The website on Euromedicalmobility – www.medicalmobility.eu; was presented and explored. Samuel Ribeiro (PWG) requested that all PWG members review and regularly update the contents relevant to their Country.

10. PWG Official Registration

Background: it was decided in the SM07 to wait for the UEMO registration process, which has recently been concluded, before deciding how to proceed with official registration of PWG.

Proposal: Follow-up on UEMO process and decide on how to proceed within the PWG.

Harald Engel (BE) said that it would be fruitful for PWG to be registered for financial, legal and logistical reasons and that registration was most profitable in Brussels. Rui Guimarães (PWG) explained that the official registration of UEMO was finalised. He then explained the whole process, stating that it would cost approximately 2000 Euros. The proceedings include the translation of the statutes and others. For international regulation the recognition of the notary is needed.

The President mentioned that the PWG was the only organisation without legal registration between the other EMOs and that such situation prevented the signature of contracts and fund applications.

Alex Van Bolderen (NL) called the attention to the need for legal registration in terms of contracts and others. He suggested changing the statutes, taking CPME statutes as example, and has this process conducted.

Lukas Starker (AT) stated to be impossible to discuss this subject presently as there was little information about the Belgian Law; besides there was no problem until now in terms of contracts and payments.

John Morris (IE) said that there were important reasons for having legal registration. If PWG was to be taken seriously to hire services, sign contracts or other, it had to be

registered and also stressed that it should be in Belgium since all other organisations are under Belgian law.

The Portuguese delegation supported the legal registration as well as the UK.

Harald Engel (BE) said that as there was no legal registration the misuse of PWG designation could occur.

The Austrian delegation stressed the need for detailed information prior to the decision and the Dutch delegation suggested having a WG to revise this information. This WG would include Austria, Belgium and The Netherlands. The Portuguese delegation supported the creation of a WG to continue the work done so far.

Samuel Ribeiro (PWG) suggested having a motion saying that PWG agreed to register under the Belgian law, position opposed by the Austria delegation.

Germany suggested having all information to be decided on the next meeting.

The following motion, proposed by Samuel Ribeiro (PWG), was set to voting and approved with 15 votes in favor and 3 abstentions: The PWG has the intention to register under the Belgian law. The preparation for this procedure will be done by a Working Group within the PWG to prepare the statutes and timeline.

Before moving to the next point in the agenda, Andreas Boltzar (DE) presented his candidacy for PWG president.

11. PWG Statutes changes

Background: the BMA has proposed 10 motions to change the PWG articles which have been approved for discussion during this meeting. During the PWG AM08, the Austrian Delegation also proposed to add a point "4.7.5. Members with unpaid contributions for more than one year have no voting rights"

Document for approval:

PWG 08/082 BMA Statute Change Motions AM08^{KEY PAPER}

Documents for information:

PWG 08/082B Tabled Comparison BMA Motions to Change PWG Statutes

PWG 08/082C Dutch response on the BMA Motions AM08

PWG 08/082D Italian response on the BMA Motions AM08

UK Motion 1: The Irish delegation showed its support to the UK motion. Netherlands and Austria, on the other hand, considered the text being more unclear than the previous one. The motion was rejected with 10 votes in favour, 6 votes against and 2 abstentions.

UK Motion 2: The UK delegation explained that all official terms had a specific term and that this alteration was meant to involve new people. John Morris (IE) agreed with the UK

as delegates will have to leave the organization when they became specialists. The motion was approved with 13 votes in favour, 5 votes against and no abstentions.

UK Motion 3: It was agreed to split motion 3 into UK Motions 3A and 3B:

UK Motion 3A: To change Article 3.7 (Succession) from “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 headquarters staff until the next Plenary at which time an election will be held in accordance with the procedure set forth in Article 4.7.2.” to “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 PWG secretariat staff until the next Plenary at which time an election will be held in accordance with the procedure set forth in Article 4.7.2”.

UK Motion 3B: To change Article 3.7 (Succession) from “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 headquarters staff until the next Plenary at which time an election will be held in accordance with the procedure set forth in Article 4.7.2.” to “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 PWG secretariat staff until the next Plenary at which time an election will be held in accordance with the procedure set forth in Article 4.8”.

UK Motion 3A was set to voting and approved with 16 votes in favour, no votes against and 2 abstentions. The discussion of UK Motion 3B was postponed for voting until immediately after UK Motion 6.

UK Motion 4: The Croatian delegation agreed with the UK’s motion as it was useful to know exactly the expenses involved. John Morris (IE) said that the number of delegates did not influence the expenses presented. The Swiss Irish delegations referred that it was upon the national delegation to send the number of delegates it found suitable for its representation. The motion was approved with 16 votes in favour, no votes against and 2 abstentions.

UK Motion 5: the UK delegation explained that the balance sheet presented was in fact quite detailed and that it did not have to have everything but should detail more the incomes and outcomes. Sérgio Chacim (PT) said that a detailed sheet was achieved and that this should continue. The motion was approved with 18 votes in favour, no votes against and no abstentions.

UK Motion 6: The UK delegation explained that the simple majority would ease the handling of the work done as it happens in the BMA and in most European countries. Sérgio Chacim (PT) said that consensus could be achieved as it had been proven and the 3/4 should be maintained; the Dutch and Austrian delegations supported the Portuguese position. Finland supported UK's motion. The Emily Rigby (UK) explained that the point was not to prevent consensus but to be able to pass on more documents that could be used positively. John Morris (IE) said that if PWG was to speak at one voice, consensus should be reached. Alex Van Bolderen (NL) said that the statutes presently did not required consensus. The motion was rejected with 3 votes in favour, 15 votes against and no abstentions.

UK Motion 3B: this motion passed with 17 votes in favour, 1 vote against and no abstentions.

UK Motion 7: The motion was unanimously approved.

UK Motion 8: the Portuguese delegation stated that the UK position was good in terms of majority and suggested deleting point 4.7.4. The Estonian delegation said that Veto was important in case some decision demanded for it. The swiss delegation declared that 3/4 majority and veto right were important not to block any decision. The Austrian and Dutch delegations agreed that veto would not be misused. The motion was rejected with 11 votes in favour, 3 votes against and 4 abstentions.

UK Motion 9: Alex Van Bolderen (NL) said that any guest was not a member and therefore he would not be able to vote. The motion was approved with 15 votes in favour, 1 vote against and 2 abstentions.

UK Motion 10: This motion was unanimously approved.

Austrian Motion 1: this motion was unanimously approved.

The approved statutes were then signed by the present members as follows:

The Charter of the Permanent Working Group of European Junior Doctors was approved as follows:

Charter of the Permanent Working Group of European Junior Doctors

*adopted at Bad Nauheim, Germany, 1976;
revised in Madrid 1989, Copenhagen 1996 and Brussels 2009*

Preamble

The Permanent Working Group of European Junior Doctors was founded on 29 May 1976 by unanimous agreement of the following organizations:

*Denmark:
Den Almindelige Danske Lægeforening.*

*Finland:
Nuorten Lääkärien Yhdistys.*

*France (1):
I.S.N.I. H / I.S.N.C.C.A.*

*Germany (2):
Marburger Bund.*

*Iceland:
Felag Ungra Lækna.*

*Luxembourg:
Association des Médecins et Médecins-Dentistes.*

*The Netherlands:
Landelijke vereniging van Artsen in Dienstverband.*

*Sweden:
Sveriges Yngre Läkares Förening.*

*United Kingdom:
British Medical Association.*

Subsequently, the following organisations were admitted as members in the year indicated:

*Austria (1985):
Österreichische Ärztekammer.*

*Belgium (1979) (5):
Association pour la Défense des Droits des Médecins en Formation (ADDMF-AVRAO) ASBL*

*Bulgary (2006):
Bulgarian Medical Association*

*Croatia (2004):
Croatian Medical Chamber*

*Czech Republic (2006):
Czech Medical Chamber*

*Estonia (1993):
Estonian Junior Doctors' Association (EJDA)*

*Greece (1992):
Association of Hospital Doctors of Athens and Piraeus.*

*Hungary (1995):
Hungarian Medical Association.*

*Ireland (1977):
Irish Medical Organisation.*

*Italy (1978) (3):
Associazione Medici Specialisti della Comunità Europea e Specialisti in Formazione.*

*Latvia (1993):
Latvian Junior Physicians' Association.*

*Lithuania (2000):
Lithuanian Junior Doctors' Association.*

*Macedonia (2007):
Doctors Chamber of Macedonia (LKM)*

*Malta (1992):
Medical Association of Malta.*

*Norway (1986):
Yngre Lægers Forening.*

*Poland (1993):
Polish Medical Association, Junior Doctors Section.*

*Portugal (1977):
Ordem dos Médicos.*

*Romania (2007):
The Resident Doctors Association*

*Slovenia (1992):
Sekcija Mladih Zdravnikov.*

*Spain (1977) (4):
Consejo General de Colegios Oficiales de Médicos.*

*Switzerland (1977):
Verband Schweizerischer Assistenz und Oberärzte/innen (VSAO); Association Suisse des Médecins Assistants et Chefs de Clinique; Associazione Svizzera dei Medici Assistenti e Capiclinica (ASMAC).*

- 1) Lapsed 1979, rejoined 1985*
- 2) Collaborating affiliate since 1976, full member since 1980*
- 3) ANAAO member 1978-1996, AMSCE from 1997*
- 4) Lapsed 1997, rejoined 1986*
- 5) FBCSM member 1979, ADDMF-AVRAO member since 2008*

Article 1. Name and Purpose

- 1.1 *The organisation shall be called Permanent Working Group of European Junior Doctors, hereafter referred to as "the PWG".*
- 1.2 *The PWG shall have the following objectives:*
 - a. *to represent and further the interests of junior doctors in Europe;*
 - b. *to exchange information and develop a common approach, and formulate common views on relevant matters such as medical manpower, postgraduate medical education, and working conditions;*
 - c. *to improve relations between junior doctors in European countries;*
 - d. *to improve and protect the standards of health care in Europe.*

Article 2. Membership

- 2.1 *Membership of the PWG shall be open to a single representative, national, nongovernmental organisation representing junior doctors in each of the countries of Europe. For the purpose of this Charter, a junior doctor is defined as a doctor who has not yet attained a final senior post as an independent medical doctor within the health care system of his or her country.*
- 2.2 *Each national delegation shall sign the Charter of the PWG to express that it will abide by its provisions.*
- 2.3 *Applicants for membership of the PWG must fulfil the criteria laid down in the Charter and must be from countries eligible for membership in the Council of Europe.*
- 2.4 *Applicants for observer status must fulfil the criteria for membership. All observers must apply for full membership within two years of being granted observer status. Observers will have the right to speak, but not to vote.*
- 2.5 *Member and observer organisations will be liable to pay an annual subscription fee as levied by the PWG Plenary and set forth in the subscription key.*
- 2.6 *Withdrawal: a member may withdraw from the PWG with one year's notice. However, the withdrawal must be explained in writing to the PWG President and the withdrawing member is liable to pay all outstanding dues, including those due for the year of notice except by special dispensation of the Plenary.*
- 2.7 *Exclusion/suspension:*
 - 2.7.1 *If the Plenary finds that a member organisation fails to continue to fulfil the qualifications for membership, it shall be excluded in accordance with the voting procedure set forth in Article 4.7.2.*
 - 2.7.2 *A member organisation in serious breach of its duties as a member may be suspended by decision of the Plenary in accordance with the voting procedure set forth in Article 4.7.2. Suspension may be followed by exclusion by a decision of a later Plenary meeting in the same manner. Suspended members forfeit the right to vote or to participate in PWG meetings.*
 - 2.7.3 *Except by special dispensation of the Plenary, a member organisation in dues arrears for more than two years will be excluded. Any reapplication for membership will require back payment with interest in full except by special dispensation of the Plenary.*
- 2.8 *A withdrawing or excluded member will have no claim on the assets of the PWG or for dues refund.*
- 2.9 *Applications for membership or observer status will be processed by the PWG Presidency and presented to the PWG Plenary with a recommendation.*

Article 3. President and Secretariat

- 3.1 *A president shall be elected in accordance with the voting procedure set forth in Article 4.8. The President shall be elected by the Plenary Assembly for an initial term of office of three years and may thereafter be re-elected for an additional period of one year at a time, up to a maximum period of five years in total.*
- 3.2 *The President's duties shall include the following:*
 - *to coordinate the activities of the PWG;*
 - *to maintain effective contact among PWG member organisations;*
 - *to represent the PWG in relations with other organisations, including the European Union;*
 - *to carry out the policy decisions of the Plenary;*

- to supervise the preparation and distribution of documents for Plenary meetings and, where appropriate, for meetings of subcommittees and working parties;
- to supervise the finances of the PWG in accordance with the decisions of the Plenary;
- to maintain the records and archives of the PWG;
- to keep a record of representatively, analysis, address list of delegates, and member organisations, etc.

- 3.3 The PWG secretariat will be provided by the national member association of the President unless the national member association or the President requests otherwise and the Plenary so approves.
- 3.4 To carry out his/her function, the President may appoint such officers and arrange for such assistance and staff as he/she deems fit in keeping with the budget for the administration of the PWG Secretariat and financial management to carry out his/her function.
- 3.5 The President shall not have the power to vote in Plenary.
- 3.6 *Impeachment:* In the event that a president does not satisfactorily fulfil his/her duties, the Plenary may decide to remove him/her from office in accordance with the voting procedure set out in Article 4.7.2.
- 3.7 *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 PWG secretariat staff until the next Plenary at which time an election will be held in accordance with the procedure set forth in Article 4.8.
- 3.8 A decision as to the next national delegation to assume the Presidency and the individual to assume the office of President shall normally be made at the spring meeting prior to the rotation. The decision shall be made by vote in the Plenary in accordance with the procedure set out in Article 4.7.2.

Article 4. Plenary Meetings

- 4.1 The Plenary shall be the highest authority of the PWG, and shall consist of one national delegation from each member country. A national delegation shall not consist of more than five representatives. Each delegation shall designate its head for the meeting in question and shall be led by its head or his/her deputy who shall vote for the delegation.
- 4.2 The Plenary shall normally meet twice a year, in spring and autumn; the quorum shall be two thirds of the member delegations.
- 4.3 The working language for PWG meetings and documents shall be English.
- 4.4 The agenda of each plenary meeting shall be sent to all member delegations no later than four weeks before the date of the meeting, and shall include the following items:
- election of Chairman of the meeting;
 - adoption of the Minutes of the previous plenary meeting;
 - report of the President;
 - reports from all subcommittees and working parties;
 - reports from member delegations on specific questions circulated beforehand following decisions of previous plenary meetings;
 - reports on relations with other international organisations;
 - discussion on topics proposed in advance by the President or member organisations; -- allocation of tasks to the President and delegations following decisions of the Plenary meeting.
- 4.5 The agenda of each spring meeting shall also include: a report of the PWG accounts for the previous financial year with a detailed balance sheet and auditor's report.
- 4.6 The agenda of each autumn meeting shall also include: a proposed budget for the next financial year.
- 4.7 Decisions and Voting.

- 4.7.1 *Policy decisions at Plenary meetings shall normally be taken only on matters which have been included on the circulated agenda of the meeting; however, with the consent of the Plenary, decisions may also be taken on other matters of a pressing nature.*
- 4.7.2 *All decisions other than elections and those covered by Article 5.3 require agreement by a vote in Plenary of three-fourths of those member organisations present and voting, with a quorum as stipulated in Article 4.2.*
- 4.7.3 *Any decision to amend the Articles of the PWG shall be in accordance with Article 7.*
- 4.7.4 *In exceptional cases, where any delegation can not, for serious and compelling reasons, accept the majority decision, it shall have the right to invoke a veto upon explanation of its position. The veto will not apply to decisions on exclusion/suspension (Article 2.7), elections (Article 4.8), or dissolution (Article 8). In addition, non-EU/EEA members cannot veto decisions taken by the Plenary on recommendations from the EU/EEA Subcommittee.*
- 4.7.5. *Members with unpaid contributions for more than one year have no voting rights*
- 4.8 *Elections will be decided by a simple majority vote of delegations present and voting (cf. Article 4.2). In cases where there are more than two candidates, if no candidate receives a majority vote on the first ballot, the candidate with the least number of votes will be eliminated and a new ballot held. This procedure will be repeated until one candidate has received a simple majority of votes.*
- 4.9 *Proxy: a delegation not able to be present at a Plenary meeting may provide a written proxy to another delegation with a copy to the President concerning a specific item or items. No delegation may exercise more than one proxy. A suspended delegation has no right of proxy.*
- 4.10 *Guests may be invited officially by the President at his/her discretion or on the proposal of a member delegation. Guests will be allowed to speak at the discretion of the President and/or meeting chairman but Guests shall not be able to vote.*
- 4.11 *The minutes of the Plenary meeting shall be prepared by a rapporteur designated by the President and shall be provided to the President for distribution no later than eight weeks from the date of the meeting.*
- 4.12 *An extraordinary meeting may be called by the President or on the request of a least one-third of the national member delegations with a minimum notice of 4 and maximum of 8 weeks.*

Article 5. Subcommittees and Working Parties

- 5.1 *The Plenary shall establish such subcommittees and working parties as it sees fit, and shall decide their terms of reference, their chairmen, and their membership. Such subcommittees and working parties shall be subject to annual re-appointment and election.*
- 5.2 *There shall be a subcommittee on the European Union and EEA consisting of one member chosen by the delegation from each EU and EEA member country. Its chairman shall be elected by the Plenary from among the members of the Subcommittee in accordance with Article 4.8.*
- 5.3 *The Subcommittee on the European Union/EEA will be convened as necessary to consider matters of specific relevance to the EU/EEA. The EU/EEA Subcommittee will report to the Plenary .*
- 5.4 *The chairmen of all subcommittees and working parties shall be responsible to the President and to the Plenary for the activities of their respective bodies and may act as spokesmen for the PWG within their terms of reference and in agreement with the President and Plenary, as relevant. The President and/or Plenary can delegate further tasks to others.*

Article 6. Finances

- 6.1 *Each member organisation shall be responsible for the expenses of its delegation to Plenary meetings of the PWG.*
- 6.2 *Each member organisation shall make an annual contribution to the funds of the PWG, based on a minimum amount and on the number of junior doctors which it represents. The amount of each national contribution shall be decided at the autumn plenary meeting in accordance with the budget proposal and a subscription key proposed by the President or his staff for presentation to the Plenary.*
- 6.3 *Contributions shall be paid to the PWG within three months of the start of the financial year to which the contribution relates. Failure to pay within two years will invoke Articles 2.7.3 and 2.7.2.*
- 6.4 *The expenses of the President and other members of the PWG secretariat shall be borne by PWG funds. The expenses of PWG delegates shall also, at the discretion of the Plenary and/or President, be borne by PWG funds. In cases where the President exercises this discretion, such expenditure must be declared as a separate item of the financial report at the next Plenary meeting.*
- 6.5 *Expenses of PWG activities shall be borne via national contribution as stipulated in the budget. Expenses of Plenary meetings will be borne in accordance with the established financial guidelines.*
- 6.6 *The Plenary shall decide the period of the financial year of the PWG and shall take into account normal practice in the country of the PWG President/Secretariat.*
- 6.7 *The PWG accounts shall be submitted to the spring meeting of the Plenary each year, after they have been independently audited by a certified public accountant, and an annual proposed budget will be presented at the autumn meeting for the following year.*

Article 7. Amendment of Articles

These Articles shall be binding from the date of ratification. Changes to the Articles of the PWG may be amended by agreement by a vote in the Plenary of three-quarter of those member organisations present and voting with a quorum as stipulated in Article 4.2. Notice of proposed amendment(s) must be given six weeks in advance of the meeting at which said amendment(s) is or are to be voted upon.

Article 8. Dissolution

Dissolution of the PWG can only be done by the Plenary in accordance with Articles 4.7.2 and 4.7.4 and with notice of the proposal to do so at least four months in advance. In the case of such decision, the Plenary shall decide on the method of liquidating the PWG and the manner in which its assets are to be disposed of.

Ratified 13th of June 2009

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

Bernardo Pinto (PT) said that PGT was having a growing influence and urged people to fill in the UEMS Sections and Boards vacancies and referred that most reports were received. He also mentioned that 5 applications to 4 vacancies were received and ended his report by making a brief presentation on the CESMA meeting as well as about the meeting on EQF with the EU Commissioner for Education. A presentation on Emergency Medicine by Francesco Silenzi (IT) was also provided. A discussion on

gender imbalance and medical-legal issues were conducted and the AMEE proposal to have a representative at its Board presented.

PWG 09/019DRAFT PWG Policy on PGT in Private Health Care was set to voting and unanimously adopted.

The voting for PWG representatives in the UEMS Sections/Boards/MJCs was postponed to point 17.

12.2. Economy Working Group

Rui Guimarães (PWG) presented the 2008 Account Report and explained the situation in France and the decision to expel this country till the end of 2008, although on February 9th part of the contribution fee in due had been paid. As he added, there was yet almost 2000€ to be paid but France wished to be part of the PWG and they would try to solve the question urgently. Regarding the question of Latvia's membership fee, it was decided not to accept the proposal to use the support fund to pay for the fee and informed them of this decision. On the question raised by Sweden about the membership fee half payment, as there was no mention in the statutes it was decided that annual fee is to be paid. The support fund was not applied for. It was decided that any support given should be confidential to the Plenary and omitted in official documents. The President said that Georgia and Russia would be supported by PWG in terms of accommodation.

The 2008 Account Report was unanimously approved.

12.3. Medical Workforce Subcommittee

Emily Rigby (UK) mentioned the two questionnaires ongoing, the Salary and Medical Manpower surveys. There was a general concern on what would be the use of the outcomes. It was agreed that the information on manpower was too difficult to gather.

It was decided that women in the medicine will be part of the agenda in the future as well as alternative careers – why people leave medicine and where do they go.

12.4. EU/EEA Subcommittee

Johh Morris (IE) referred the outcomes of the meeting of the Autonomy WG, the reality of the doctors working in hospitals; the lobbying on the EWTD and the Health Services Directive and its influence on the labour conditions.

On the Euromedmobility website, Samuel Ribeiro (PWG) asked for the participation of all members to update the information on the website.

Rui Guimarães (PWG) made a short report on the manifestation on the EWTD in Strasbourg on 15.12.2008.

12.5. Working Group on European Autonomy

Documents for information:

PWG 08/087 Report of the WG European Autonomy AM08^{KEY PAPER}

Samuel Ribeiro (PWG) said that having the secretariat in Brussels was extensively discussed; the European scenario has changed dramatically and it was an opportunity to rethink this subject. The best solution was to have a 6-trial period in Brussels in order to ease the presentation near the European organizations and at the same time exercise some lobbying. The expenses would be covered by the PWG budget. Rui Guimarães (PWG) explained that there was a decision in Brdo rejecting the moving of the secretariat to Brussels but an Autonomy WG was created to assess this option. The Irish delegation defended that a trial period would be fruitful to see if it will be beneficial to PWG or not. Alex Van Bolderen (NL) asked for a written report for the next meeting which was agreed upon.

13. Election of PWG Presidency

Background: After each 1 year extraordinary term, according to the Statutes, elections for the PWG Presidency are to take place. Candidates are expected during the meeting.

Rui Guimarães (PWG) took the opportunity and made a short introduction to the elections, calling the attention to the importance of the future of the PWG through Europe. A proposal to have a joint presidency was made, but after the discussion within the Plenary, Bernardo Pinto (PT) and Andreas Botzlar (DE) ran for Presidency separately. Clifford Caruana (MT) was nominated teller for the proceeding and voting occurred shortly after the candidates presented themselves and answered questions from the PWG members. The voting for Presidency then took place and Bernardo Pinto (PT) was elected PWG President for the next 3-year term with 11 votes in favour, versus 8 votes in favour of Andreas Botzlar (DE).

Oliver Ertl (DE)

Special Guest Presentation on Telemedicine and Teleradiology and the European Health Services Directive

Olivier Ertl (DE) made his presentation about telemedicine and teleradiology and presented a website with services for radiology called R-Bay – www.rbay.org. He explained that this kind of services had strict regulations at national level, but there was no law on a European level. He discussed article 16 on e-health from the health services directive. This directive addresses various issues such as electronic substitutes for direct patient encounter, how patient records be made accessible remotely, legal pathways for

this access and electronic certificates, amongst others. The main concerns towards PGT is the effect this technology may have on training, the insufficient exposure to junior doctors, additional workload during call hours, legal responsibilities of junior doctors, assessment of clinical course and the possibility of an incomplete learning experience.

John Morris (IE) and Sérgio Chacim (PT) thanked Oliver Ertl (DE) for his presentation, stressing the importance of the representatives near the UEMS Sections and Boards.

Document PWG 09/021DRAFT PWG Statement on Telemedicine and Teleradiology was presented and the Austrian delegation suggested adding that telemedicine had limitations and could not replace doctors and personal contact. Bernardo Pinto (PWG) said that this document does not need to be approved at the moment, but that the principles should be agreed upon. Further work will be done and presented in the following meetings.

14. Unforeseen matters

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

Francesco Silenzi (IT) proposed to create a working group focused on the study of sustainable humanitarian projects that could involve PWG as Junior Doctor Association. He stressed that, at the moment as most international Medical Organisations, PWG does not have such a group. He also suggested that this topic could be included in the PGT subcommittee, since it was related to mobility, leadership and telemedicine. The proposal was unanimously approved and will be added in the next PGT agenda including, for now, the active participation of the Italian and Georgian delegations.

15. National Interim Reports – summary

A summary of the main national issues discussed in the PWG Welcome meeting will be presented.

Proposal: to adapt the topics discussed within the PWG to the members needs

Rui Guimarães (PWG) highlighted the most important problems faced in each country, which were presented the day before and proposed that the most pressing be addressed by the corresponding Subcommittee presidents. He furthermore invited all members to presents new topics that may in the meantime gain relevance.

16. Membership issues

A proposal for membership on behalf of Lithuania will be presented. Furthermore, the PWG executive committee will an update on the ongoing negotiations held with the Danish, Swedish, UK and ex-French delegations.

The Lithuanian and Georgian delegations presented their application as a PWG member, which was unanimously accepted.

The Russian delegation stated that they intended to apply for PWG application in 2010 and thanked PWG's the cooperation and invitation.

Samuel Ribeiro (PWG) updated on the negotiations with Denmark, Sweden and UK.

Regarding the French situation, there was no news about PWG re-admission. Alex Van Bolderen (NL) suggested having the French delegation be invited to the next meeting.

17. Decision Procedure on Unforeseen Matters

The following PWG representatives in the UEMS Sections/Boards/MJCs were voted upon:

Nephrology: Dalia Reklaityte (LT) was unanimously approved;

HERMES: Sander Hosson (NL) was approved with 12 votes in favour, versus 3 votes in favour of the alternative candidate and 3 abstentions;

Occupational Medicine: Maria Cruz Rodríguez Jareño (ES) was unanimously approved;

Paediatric Urology: Igor Milosev (MK) was unanimously approved.

18. Allocation of Tasks

Samuel Ribeiro (PWG) will send a document on this topic after the Plenary Meeting.

19. Future Meetings

19.1. Autumn Meeting 2009

The Irish delegation will host this meeting and deliver more information at this time.

This meeting will take place on 29th – 31th of October 2009, in Killarney, Ireland.

19.2 Spring Meeting 2010

Official applications are expected. The Croatian delegation has already suggested hosting this meeting.

The Croatian delegation is no longer able to hold this meeting.

19.3. Autumn Meeting 2010

Official applications are expected.

The Georgian and Italian delegations presented their application to hold a PWG meeting in 2010.

20. Any Other Business

Bernardo Pinto (PWG) thanked Rui Guimarães (PWG) and the remaining team for all work and organisational growth occurred during his term.

21. Closing of the Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 18:10.

Attendance List

Country	Delegate
Austria	Katharina Gordon
Austria	Lukas Starker
Belgium	Harald Engel
Belgium	Laurent Hermoye
Croatia	Hrvoje Vrazic
Czech Republic	Tomas Sindler
Estonia	Reigo Reppo
Finland	Noora Ritamäki
Finland	Tinja Lääveri
Finland	Ossi Kaijanen
Georgia	Konstantine Kheladze
Georgia	Mikheil Shavgulidze
Germany	Andreas Botzlar
Germany	Johanna Janotta
Hungary	<u>Erzsebet Podmaniczky</u>
Ireland	John Morris
Ireland	Claire Camilleri
Italy	Marco Capizzi
Italy	Francesco Silenzi
Lithuania	Dalia Reklaityte
Lithuania	Jonas Korsakas
Lithuania	Kristina Andrekute- Aleksiejene
Malta	Clifford Caruana

Netherlands	Ingrid Desar
Netherlands	Alex van Bolderen
Norway	Hege Gjessing
Portugal	Luís Monteiro
Portugal	Pedro Gomes
Portugal	Sérgio Chacim
Portugal	Bernardo Pinto
PWG	Rui Guimarães
PWG	Samuel Ribeiro
PWG	José Tiago Baptista
Russia	Nino Manvelidze
Russia	Zalina Jemukhova
Slovenia	Helena Haskaj
Slovenia	Jera Groselj
Spain	Manuel Carmona
Switzerland	Homayon Chaudhry
United Kingdom	Jo Attwooll
United Kingdom	Emily Rigby
United Kingdom	Stefan Kuetter