Minutes of the General Assembly of EUPSA
Milano
Main Hall of the Università degli Studi di Milano
June 17th 2016, 12.30 – 13.00

1. Welcome Address by the President
2. The President announces if the Assembly has the necessary quorum
3. Amendments to the Agenda
4. Minutes of the previous EUPSA General Assembly in Ljubljana (Affirmation)
5. Report of the President (Approval)
6. Matters arising from EUPSA Executive Board Meetings (January/June 2015)
7. Reports of the Chairmen of the Offices:
   - Scientific Office
   - Educational Office
   - Network Office
8. Report of the Webmaster
9. Report of the Secretary (Approval)
10. Report of the Treasurer (Approval)
11. Report of the internal auditors
12. Discharge of the Treasurer and the auditors
13. Discharge of the Executive Board
14. Affirmation:
   - Network Office Chairman
15. Budget 2016-2017 (Approval)
16. Future Congresses
17. Other Businesses
1. Welcome  
The president of EUPSA, Prof. Benno Ure welcomes all members of the European Paediatric Surgeon Association to the Annual General Assembly (GA).

2. The President announces that the Assembly has the necessary quorum.  
The agenda had been previously sent to all members and is now approved by the GA.

3. Amendments to the Agenda  
No Amendments to the Agenda are required

4. Minutes of the previous EUPSA General Assembly in Ljubljana  
The Minutes of the GA in Ljubljana, published on the EUPSA web site, are affirmed and approved by the GA.

5. / 6. Report of the President  
The president Prof. Benno Ure summarized the list of the tasks he had set at the beginning of his presidency and accomplishments as follows:

- The new EUPSA Executive Board (EB) cooperation has been excellent.

- The Association has signed long term contracts with supporting companies Stryker and Covidien and is financially secure.

- Increasing the involvement of Young Pediatric Surgeons: We have an active group working in offices but we would like more to be involved. The EB has taken the initiative to have a room assigned for the young pediatric surgeons at the 2017 Limassol meeting, where they can meet, vote and choose a chairman. Augusto Zani will chair this session. We want them to bring ideas and energy to the association.

- There was a memorial for Prof Pascal de Lagausie who passed away. During each GA we will have one moment of silence for those who passed away.

- At the EB meeting we had on June 15, 2016 we decided to have the EUPSA 2018 meeting in Paris.

- The EB has implemented to develop a working group on Evidence&Guidelines&Standards. It has been decided that this working group will be structured and monitored by the three Offices (Scientific, Educational and Network). The working group will establish guidelines for one year and report to the EB. We thank Prof Augustino Pierro for presenting this initiative.

- A Nominating Committee was decided by the EB for the Rehbein Medal and Honorary membership. They will receive nominations and choose among them.

  The GA unanimously approves the report.

7. Report of the Chairmen of the Offices  
Report of the Chairman of the Scientific Office Prof. Tomas Wester  
Scientific Program 2016 - Abstract Selection Process: in total 696 abstracts were submitted for the Congress.

- Oral presentations 123 (18%)
- Poster walks 288 (41%)
- Total 411 (59%)
- Case reports 42/168 (25%)
  - 18 Oral Case Report Presentations (11%)

Formal reasons for rejections were:

- Name and institution
- No template
• Prior presentation or publication
• Lectures at the 2017 Limassol Congress will be:
  European Congress Lecture 2017: George W Holcomb
  Duhamel Lecture 2017: Paul Tam
  European Journal Lecture 2017: Piotr Kalicinski

-Members of the Scientific Office are:
  • Tomas Wester (Chairman): Re-elected
  • George W Holcomb: Completed term
  • Leopold Martinez: Completed term
  • Mikko Pakarinen
  • Ciro Esposito
  • Igor Sukhotnik
  • Marc-David LeClair
  • Paolo de Coppi: Re-elected for second term
  • Jörg Fuchs
  • Jens Dingemann
  • Balazs Kutasy
  • Udo Rolle
  • Richard Keijzer: New member
  • Manuela Hunziker: New member

-EB decided that 2017 Rehbein Medal will be awarded to Prof Michael Gauderer and Honorary Membership to Prof Atsuyuki Yamataka.

The GA unanimously approves the report.

Report of the Chairman of EUPSA Education Office Prof. Amulya Saxena

Approved Educational Activities:
-STEPS 2015, was held on 23-24 October 2015, in Limassol, Cyprus
The subject was Pectus Deformities Revisited- Experts Forum. Local Organizer: Prof. Zacharias Zachariou.

-Advanced Course, was held on 7th-8th July 2016, in Naples, Italy.
The topic was Laparoscopic Neonatal Surgery. Local Organizer: Prof. Ciro Esposito

-Master Course, was and will be held on December 2015 and October 2016, in Bologna, Italy
The subject was Minimal Invasive Pediatric Surgery. Local Organizer: Prof. Mario Lima

-STEPS 2016 Experts Forum, will be held on 2nd-3rd September 2016, in Olso, Norway
The topic is Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease (GERD). Local Organizer: Dr. Kristin Bjørnland

-11th Course on Pediatric Urology, will be held on 16th-17th September 2016, in Rome, Italy
The topic is "How we do it - How we did it" Local Organizers: Prof. Paolo Caione Prof. Nicola Capozza.

- **Advanced minimally invasive pediatric surgery**, will be held on 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> November 2016, in Berlin, Germany.
The topic is International workshop and hands-on course on small animal models. Local Organizer: Prof. Benno Ure.

- **Masterclass Pediatric Laparoscopy**, will be held on 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> December 2016, in Braga, Portugal
The topic is: Live hands-on skills lab. Local Organizer: Prof. Jorge Correia-Pinto

**EUPSA Central & Eastern Course:**
9<sup>th</sup> Central & Eastern European Course, was held on 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> April 2016, in Podgorica, Montenegro
Topic was Surgery of Congenital Malformations.
Local Organizer: Dr. Djordje Suhih
Faculty were: Amulya Saxena, Giovanna Riccipetitone, Jean-Michel Guys, Marie-Klaire Farrugia, Prem Puri, Risto Rintala.
2017 course will be held at Izmir, Turkey.

**EUPSA Minimal Access Surgery Program for East Europe:**
- **Pediatric Minimal Access Live Surgery**: Live Laparoscopic Surgery Workshop and Teaching Course was held on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2016 in Mostar, Bosnia and Herzegovina. Local Organizer: Prof. Ante Kvesic
- **2<sup>nd</sup> EUPSA Laparoscopy Advanced Hands-on Course for Central/Eastern European Trainees**: Advanced Pediatric Minimal Access Surgery Skills Lab was held on 21<sup>st</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> April 2016 in Timisoara, Romania. Local Organizer: Prof. Eugen Boia
- **Hands-on Laparoscopy Workshop**: Skills Lab-Live Large Model Skills Lab will be held on 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> October 2016 Riga, Latvia. Local Organizers: Dr. Ilona Bundze and Dr. Olaf Volrats.

**Education Office Education Exchange/ Visiting Surgeon Program:**
The Centres which applied were: Leuven; Milan, Naples, London, Thessaloniki, Milwaukee, Riyadh

**EUPSA Visiting International Pediatric Surgeon (VIPS) Program**: Program for 10 EUPSA members to assist Eastern European Centers, Host institutions responsible for providing boarding/lodging, Duration of stay 1 day to 1 week, €500/participant for travel. Certificate of Scholarship (VIPS) and Certificate of Appreciation (Host)

**EUPSA Congress CME Points/ Postgraduate Course**
European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (EACCME) has accredited EUPSA 2016 Congress with 18 CME points

**Postgraduate Education Course 2016:**
“Congenital Pulmonary Airway Malformation”

*Fetal Diagnostics in Congenital Pulmonary Airway Malformations*: Giovanna Riccipetitone, MD (Milan, Italy)

*Outcomes in Congenital Pulmonary Airway Malformations*: Mark Davenport, MD (London, United Kingdom)
Education Office Members Tenure:
Amulya Saxena, Cornelia van Tuil, Radoica Jokic, Kristiina Kyrklund, Dristan Alushani, Peter Zimmermann, Martin Lacher, Piergiorgio Gamba, Elke Rüttenstock-Zani, Katrin Zahn are the members and there are no vacant positions for the Educational Office this year.

The GA unanimously approves the report.

Report of the Chairman of the Network Office Prof. Agostino Pierro
Composition of the office has changed and new members have been elected. The list of members are:

Prof. Ernest vanHeurn (The Netherlands) Chairman
- Dr. Joachim Kuebler (Germany)
- Dr. Florian Friedmacher (UK)

Elected members:
- Dr. Sanja Sindjic Antunovic (Belgrade, Serbia)
- Dr. Francesco Morini (Rome, Italy)
- Dr. Antti Koivusalo (Helsinki, Finland)
- Prof. Takashi Doi (Tokyo, Japan)
- Dr. Alessio Pini Prato (Genoa, Italy)
- Dr. Nigel Hall (Southampton, UK)

The Network Office has organised monthly Skype meetings.

Oesophageal atresia registry:
The registry is now operational. Prof. Michael Hoellwarth and his collaborator Markus Dreier in Graz, Austria have developed the electronic format and need to be congratulated. The rest of the office contributed with amendments to the structure of the data to be recorded electronically. At the time of the meeting in Dublin the registry was officially launched. Data is submitted by contributing centres after obtaining from the EUPSA Network office login details and password.

One consultant and one trainee/research fellow is responsible for the data input. The registry is accessible via the EUPSA web page (www.eupsa-registry.org); however this link has to improve for more visibility. Till now: 32 centres are approved for data submission; 155 Patients are fully registered.

Surveys: 6 surveys were carried out and 5 were published by Dr. Augusto Zani

Survey Topics were:
1. Oesophageal atresia
2. Inguinal hernia
3. Necrotizing enterocolitis
4. Congenital diaphragmatic hernia
5. Hirschsprung’s disease
6. CPAM

Hirschsprung’s disease survey had 293 responses from 61 countries. (Augusto Zani using online platform SurveyMonkey)

The Chairman of the Network Office thanked all the EUPSA members for collaboration and support to the Office activities and the Association for being the chairman of the office.

The GA unanimously approves the report.
8. Report of the Webmaster
Dr. Augusto Zani presented the new website. Website is constantly updated with:

- Upcoming events
- Oesophageal atresia registry
- Congress brochure
- Abstract submission
- Congress registration

Newsletter, and news about the life of the Association are published including past and coming events. EUPSA has also a face book and twitter profile.
The Webmaster invites all the members to visit EUPSA website and to establish interactive relationships.
There is a dedicated members area in which documents, top articles from EJPS and previous congress lectures are listed.
An international team is working together to develop the social interactions of the Association.
The GA unanimously approves the report.

9. Report of the Honorary Secretary
Update Membership Situation
During the last year the membership situation has improved very well. At the present time EUPSA has 713 registered members (56 out of them are at risk to be banned because they paid their fee till 2013). Thus the active members are 657.

Important Information
Starting from January 2016, according to the last deliberation of the EB and By Laws, the active membership will have duration of 1 year only.
The EUPSA Office will send by e-mail to each member the registration form at the beginning of the year, explaining the new rules and inviting to perform the annual registration.
Keep yourself informed by reading EUPSA website, now we have a new Website and a New Members Area including all the information relating to opportunity, facilities for members, educational supports and activities of the Offices.
The personal contact with the members is given by the EUPSA Office, Mrs. Gaia Tamaro (+ 39 345 7878729); office@eupsa.org
The GA unanimously approves the report.

10. Treasurer Report:
The treasurer Prof. Arnaud Bonnard presented the Balance of 2015.
The GA unanimously approves the report.

**11. Report of the Internal Auditors**

Internal auditors report is not required anymore.

**12. Discharge of the Treasurer and the auditors**

The GA unanimously approves and discharges the Treasurer.
13. Discharge of the Executive Board
The GA unanimously approves and discharges the Executive Board

14. Affirmation:
The Chairman of the Network Office Prof. Augustino Pierro has completed his term as Chairman of the Office. Prof. Ernest Van Heurn was unanimously elected by the Office as Chairman of the Network Office.
The EUPSA President asks the GA for affirmation. The GA unanimously affirmed.

15. Budget 2016-2017
The EUPSA Treasurer made the following proposal to the GA for the Budget 2017 and explained the running budget of 2016 with amendments that resulted from the last meetings and decisions.
The General Assembly was informed that the Executive Board suggests the continuation of the registration of Prof Zachariou as “sole signatory authority” in the commercial registry as well as for both EUPSA Bank Accounts in the BEKB /Switzerland.

The General Assembly unanimously accepted the Executive Board proposal.

16. Future Congresses

The President informs the GA that the EB decided to perform the EUPSA Congress of 2017 in Limassol (Cyprus) and the 2018 Congress in Paris.

The 2017 Congress will be organized by Prof Zacharias Zachariou. The event will be held on May 17-20th, 2017 and the Congress Venue will be Carob Mill, Limassol, Cyprus. Also the 24th Colorectal Club International Meeting will precede the EUPSA Congress.

The GA unanimously approves.
17. Other Businesses
No suggestions for this section.
The president thanked EUPSA Secretary Gaia Tamaro for her great work and Prof Giovanna Riccipettoni and Prof Ernesto Leva for all their hard work for organizing such a well attended and successful congress.

There being no other business, the EUPSA President declares the termination of the GA at 13:00 and thanks all the members.

Prof. Benno Ure
EUPSA President

Prof. Gonca Topuzlu Tekant
EUPSA Honorary Secretary