



UNION EUROPÉENNE DES MÉDECINS SPÉCIALISTES EUROPEAN UNION OF MEDICAL SPECIALISTS

Association internationale sans but lucratif

International non-profit organisation

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UEMS SECTION OF RADIOLOGY

Report on the meeting of the delegates to the Radiology Section

9th February 2013

Brussels Airport, Regus Center,

From 14.00 to 17.30

**UNION EUROPÉENNE DES MÉDECINS SPÉCIALISTES
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Executive summary:

The meeting of the delegates of the UEMS Section of Radiology discussed the strategy of the Section, notably in the light of the recent developments in the relationship between the European Society of Radiology and the UEMS Section.

The Section decided to continue discussion with Scientific Societies in order to set the basis for healthy co-operation paving the way to constructive dialogue and a coherent approach to advocating for the needs and expectations of European Radiologists, both at the National and the European level.

The Section decided that the proposal from ESR was to be further discussed. It was also decided to contact Scientific Societies in Neuroradiology to involve them in the Division's activities.

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Dr Demuth (*President Section*) welcomed the participants and thanked them for their attendance. He listed the apologies that had been received from several members. He also welcomed the UEMS Secretary General, Dr Edwin Borman, and thanked him for accepting his invitation.

1. Approval of Agenda

Dr Demuth informed the audience about the email he had received from Prof. Jim Reekers which requested postponement of the discussions on item 6 – Report from Interventional Radiology – as he was not able to attend this meeting and important developments were to be discussed in the framework of the European Congress of Radiology (ECR) in this regard.

Dr Demuth expressed the concern that without representatives from the Division, discussing this item would be inappropriate. He pointed out that there was a need to improve the communication between Executive Officers of the two Divisions and of the Section in order to better co-ordinate activities. He also stressed that there was no official representative to this Division, unlike for the division of Neuroradiology.

The Section decided that, despite the absence of formal representatives, a general discussion on the role and responsibilities of both Divisions could be held.

2. Approval of Minutes of last meeting (Vienna, 4th March 2012)

Dr Demuth explained that the Section had not met since March 2012 due to the stepping down of the Section's Secretary. He pointed out that the minutes had been written by the administrative assistant from CIRSE.

The Section approved the minutes of the last meeting.

3. Reports of Section activities

Dr Demuth expressed his gratitude toward the former Secretary, Dr Dierk Vorwerk, for his endeavours in favour of the UEMS Section of Radiology. In the regard, he presented Dr Eric Guillemot who had accepted serving as interim Secretary pending formal elections during the next Section's meeting.

- *MOMENTUM*

Dr Demuth reported on the latest activities of the Section that had been rather intensive. He recalled the last UEMS Council in Larnaca (October 2012) at which Dr Tziakouri Shiakalli (*Cyprus*) had participated and highlighted the role of the Section in the EU-funded project MOMENTUM.

Mr Rouffet (*UEMS Office*) presented the rationale underpinning this project and welcomed the involvement of the Section of Radiology within this project. The aim of MOMENTUM is to develop a

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blueprint for the deployment of telemedicine in routine care. In this regard, the input from Medical Specialists having an interest in telemedicine was highly appreciated.

Dr Demuth added that Dr Nicola Strickland (*United Kingdom*) had been appointed by the Section to provide Radiologists' input on its behalf. Despite the fact that she had demitted office in 2012, and is no longer the UK delegate to the Section, Dr Demuth suggested that, for the sake of continuity, she would continue her involvement, should she be willing to.

- *ETAP*

Dr Demuth also presented the European Training Assessment Program (ETAP) which is an ESR-run project and to which the Section could contribute. He suggested that the Section nominate another delegate in order to ensure continuous representation of the Section within this project.

- *ESR - Amsterdam National Leadership Meeting*

Dr Demuth reported on his participation in the Amsterdam Leadership Meeting as the delegate for the Luxembourg Radiology Society and not as President of the UEMS Section of Radiology. He shared his concerns about the message conveyed by some attendees who had spread erroneous information regarding the UEMS.

Prof. Flodmark (*President Neuroradiology Division*) backed-up Dr Demuth's concerns as he also had attended this meeting. He had been astonished to see such disagreements between organisations that have common objective: to promote Radiology in Europe.

- *Section's finances*

Dr Demuth briefly commented on the financial situation of the UEMS Section, in the absence of the Treasurer, Dr Verstraete. The Section has opened an account in Belgium, as part of the UEMS account structure, but still needs to fill in the administrative requirements to be able to manage the funds. This process is currently ongoing.

The financial report of the Section will be formally presented during the next meeting of the Section.

- *EACCME*

Dr Demuth asked Dr Borman to present the new UEMS policy with regard to the EACCME. Dr Borman referred to the policy document adopted at the last UEMS Council meeting in Larnaca regarding the new criteria for the accreditation of live educational events (UEMS 2012/30) which is available on the UEMS website. He explained that the aim of this document was to improve the quality of evaluation of European CME events and to enhance transparency regarding the provision of CME activities. CME events accredited by UEMS-EACCME will be evaluated against stricter criteria, thus contributing to improvements in the quality of CME events. These new criteria were derived from the criteria already implemented for the evaluation of e-learning materials since 2009.

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Dr Borman highlighted the reliance of the UEMS-EACCME mechanism on reviewers whose evaluation directly affected the quality and credibility of the process.

- *Nomination process of delegates*

Dr Borman reminded those present about the nomination process of delegates to UEMS Sections and European Boards. According to the Statutes and the Rules of Procedure, all delegates to UEMS Sections and European Boards have to be nominated or confirmed by the National Medical Association representing their country within the UEMS Council. The list of those Associations is available on the UEMS website. As Secretary General, he is mandated to ensure that only duly nominated delegates attend the Section's meeting and participate in its activities. He therefore recommended that all delegates contact their National Association to clarify their status and their right to be represented at the Section's meetings.

He referred to the database of delegates held at the UEMS Office which includes the contact details of duly nominated delegates. He had this list circulated among the delegates present, so that they could check whether their contact details were correct. The UEMS Office will verify these details with the relevant NMA.

4. Relationship with the ESR and other external societies

Dr Demuth explained that the relationship with the European Society of Radiology (ESR) had been rather complex over the past few years but acknowledged that, through direct contact with the Executive of ESR, the dialogue was progressively improving. He added that he had had a meeting with the ESR President, Prof. Gabriel Krestin, on 29th January 2013, in order to explore potential ways of fruitful co-operation between the UEMS and the ESR.

In this regard, Dr Demuth unveiled the ESR proposal to improve co-operation between the UEMS Section of Radiology and the ESR which encompassed four items:

- ESR would nominate one delegate to the UEMS Section per country
- Delegates to UEMS Members would be invited to the ESR Professional Organisation Committee (POC)
- The President of the UEMS Section would be a member of the Board of the POC and of the Executive Council of ESR
- The ESR would offer to provide administrative support to the UEMS Section

While not commenting on these proposals, Dr Borman insisted that good co-operation with Scientific Societies was seen by the UEMS Executive as a key element toward fruitful impact of UEMS Sections at the European level while promoting and defending the needs and expectations of their Specialty.

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He also stressed the fact that UEMS Statutes included some provisions on ways of organising co-operation with Scientific Societies, namely through UEMS Boards. He therefore strongly encouraged the Section to engage in fruitful discussions with the ESR, using existing organisational options.

Dr Demuth welcomed this proposal and explained that some statutory issues were to be clarified first before taking any further action in this regard.

The delegates also welcomed the ESR proposal as a first step toward restored collaboration and stressed the need for mutual recognition as equal partners between all interested parties active in Radiology.

The Section decided to further explore the ESR proposal taking into consideration the provisions of the UEMS Statutes and Rules of Procedure. Delegates to the Section will attend the next meeting of the ESR Professional Organisation Committee further to the invitation received from Prof. Menu.

5. Report from the Division of Neuroradiology

Prof. Flodmark (*President Neuroradiology Division*) presented the latest developments of the Division of Neuroradiology. He recalled the history of the document submitted to the UEMS Council – Chapter 6 on Interventional Radiology.

- *Clarifications on the Charter on Interventional Radiology*

Further to the Council meeting in Naples (October 2011), Prof. Flodmark had published in the Journal “Stroke” an article on the Training Charter in Interventional Radiology as he believed that it had been adopted by the UEMS Council. He stated that during the European Congress in Radiology (Vienna, March 2012), Dr Bernard Maillet, then UEMS Secretary General, had confirmed to him that two documents had been submitted and approved by the UEMS Council. Despite this confirmation, he had been aware that rumours had circulated that only one document had been adopted. It was only in October 2012 that a letter had been sent to him indicating which document had been adopted. Further to the reception of this letter, Prof. Flodmark had written a letter to the Journal “Stroke” to explain that the UEMS had not endorsed the document on Interventional Radiology due to a technical problem.

Dr Borman (*UEMS Secretary General*) presented the information he had dealt with in this regard. Given the fact that this issue had been raised before he formally took office as Secretary General, he had had difficulties in having a full, detailed overview of what had happened. He confirmed that while the agenda paper for the UEMS Council meeting in October 2011 had referred to two documents, for unknown reasons only one document had been disseminated to the members of the Council. Consequently, hence only one document formally had been adopted. Accordingly, as was stated in his report into this matter, the document on Interventional Neuro-Radiology had not been adopted as UEMS policy.

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Dr Borman was aware that this situation was difficult for all concerned and proposed three options:

- To re-submit the document to the UEMS Council, though this will now require adherence to the structure of European Training Requirement documents as adopted in Larnaca
- To recognise that the content of this document had been questioned and therefore that a re-writing should be performed
- To launch a formal consultation on the document, in order to receive input from all interested parties and to submit a revised document.

Dr Demuth highlighted the need to ensure that a proper decision-making process is implemented in order to prevent any potential criticism regarding UEMS internal functioning.

- *Collaboration with scientific societies*

Prof. Flodmark stated that during the last meeting of the Division (Edinburgh, 26th September 2012) which had been held in the framework of the Congress of the European Society of Neuroradiology, they had discussed the Chapter 6 in Interventional Neuro-Radiology. Positive support from the International Society of Neuroradiology had been received.

Dr Demuth referred to the provisions of the UEMS Rules of Procedures that state that the UEMS Sections can contact relevant Scientific Societies and ask them to propose two delegates with observer status to the Division. Such provisions aim to foster co-operation between the UEMS and Scientific Societies and could be implemented so as to improve relationship with societies.

Prof. Flodmark agreed with this proposal and stated that he would start identifying which organisations would be relevant. He highlighted the fact that several organisations could be involved.

Prof. Flodmark also reported on the request of the Division to have a bank account under the aegis of the UEMS.

The Section agreed that the division of Neuroradiology could have its own account in Brussels and invited its President to propose relevant scientific societies which would be invited to propose delegates to the division.

6. Report from the Division Interventional Radiology

Given the absence of representatives from the division, no report on the activities of the division was received. It was agreed that further discussion should be deferred until a future meeting.

Dr Demuth asked whether the UEMS Executive could send a letter to all National Associations to appoint or confirm the delegates to the Division of Interventional Radiology, particularly given the absence of a list of national delegates to this Division. He reminded those present of the rules

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governing the functioning of UEMS Divisions that state that they have to report to the parent Section.

Dr Borman agreed to send a letter to UEMS National Associations in this regard.

7. Strategic decisions

Dr Demuth recalled that the aim of this meeting was to take strategic decisions for the Section.

Based on the exchange of views, the Section decided as follows:

- Healthy co-operation with Scientific Societies is essential to ensure the promotion of Radiology at the European level
- Relevant Scientific Societies will be contacted to propose observers to the division of Neuroradiology
- The proposal from ESR is interesting but needs to be further discussed in order to overcome statutory barriers and come to a mutually acceptable agreement
- Delegates to the Section have to be appointed in different functions to support the elected officers of the Section
- A new secretary for the Section has to be elected during the next meeting.

8. Expansion of Section Officers

Dr Demuth explained that the Executive officers of the Section by themselves could not address all the issues faced by the Section and proposed that national delegates receive a specific function within the Section on a voluntary basis. He emphasised the important workload for evaluations for the EACCME and stressed the need for increased involvement of other delegates to ensure proper functioning of the Section.

9. Next meeting

The next meeting of the Section will be held in the framework of the European Congress of Radiology in Vienna on 9th March 2013 either before or after the meeting with Professional Organisation Committee (15.00 to 17.30).

Jean-Baptiste ROUFFET
UEMS Office
February 2013

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Annex I

List of national delegates

Present:

Name	Country	Section / Division
Dr Dimiter Tscholakoff	Austria	Radiology
Dr Jean-Paul Joris	Belgium	Radiology / Neuroradiology
Prof. Vassil Hadjidekov	Bulgaria	Radiology
Dr Damir Miletic	Croatia	Radiology
Dr Chrysa Tziakouri Shiakalli	Cyprus	Radiology / Neuroradiology
Prof. Dr Hannu Aronen	Finland	Radiology
Dr Eric Guillemot	France	Radiology/ Section interim Secretary
Dr Istvan Battayàwy	Hungary	Radiology
Dr Paolo Ricci	Italy	Radiology
Dr Remy Demuth	Luxembourg	Radiology / Section President
Dr Miraude Adriaensen	Netherlands	Radiology
Dr Antonio Madveira	Portugal	Radiology
Dr Pablo Valdes	Spain	Radiology
Prof Dr Olof Flodmark	Sweden	Neuroradiology
Dr Ahmet Tuncay Turgut	Turkey	Radiology
Dr Edwin Borman	UEMS	UEMS Secretary General
Mr Jean-Baptiste Rouffet	UEMS	UEMS Office

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Apologies

Prof. Koenraad Verstraete	Belgium	Radiology
Prof. Jim Reekers	Netherlands	Interventional Radiology
Dr Peter Pattynama	Netherlands	Radiology