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## **Minutes from the General Assembly of the European Society of Pathology.**

**Wednesday, 3 September 2014, from 12.00 to 13.00 hrs.**

**ExCeL, London, United Kingdom.**

### **Minutes from the meeting:**

1. Welcome.

The President prof. Han van Krieken welcomed the participants. A total of 65 participants were present.

2. Approval of the Agenda.

The agenda was approved unanimously.

3. Approval of the Minutes from General Assembly in Lisbon, 4 Sept 2013.

The minutes were approved.

4. Report of the President.

Prof. van Krieken reported on the main goals of his presidency to improve the scientific content of the congresses of the society, and to improve the visibility of pathology in Europe. The London congress included sessions aimed at making pathology more visible in the society. The ESP is also making efforts to improve collaboration with clinicians. A memorandum of understanding has been signed with ESMO, and representatives of the ESP will participate in its congresses in almost all of its faculties. A closer collaboration will be established with the American Society of Clinical Pathology with joint sessions organised in congresses of both societies. A joint congress of

Pathology will be organized with the German Division of the IAP in Cologne in 2016. The External Quality Assurance programme of the ESP is becoming an important part of quality assurance of pathology in Europe. A foundation will be set up by the ESP to participate in a quality assurance network together with UKNeqas, NordicQ, and national quality assurance programmes to form an umbrella organization. Diagnostic and pharmaceutical industries have also approached the ESP in this respect.

The ESP Newsletter has been improved under new editorship of prof. Gordan Vujanic and prof. Aurelio Ariza. The President thanked them for improving the Newsletter. Participation in the London congress has been approximately 2800 registered pathologists. The ESP will need more staff in the future and a scientific director will be hired in the coming months.

#### 5. Report of the Treasurer.

Prof. Marco Santucci reported on the financial situation of the ESP. For the first time the ESP accounts have been professionally audited. The balance sheet of 2013 indicates a final surplus of 184.374 € with an increasing from 2012. There has been an increase in revenues. The Prague congress was financially successful, and the society has also received revenues from the stock market. The total assets of the society at the end of 2013 were 2.528.737 €.

#### 6. Report of the Chairman of the Advisory Board.

Prof. Fred Bosman reported on the activities of the Advisory Board, which have included intensification of the participation of trainees in the congress programme, creation of a junior academy to foster new research talents, reaching out to the public to improve the perception of pathology, and improving the proportion of science in the congress programme.

#### 7. Report of the Chairman of the Working Group Chairs.

Prof. Fatima Carneiro reported on the meeting of the Working Group Chairs. Thanks to the contribution of the 19 Working Groups and 3 associated societies, 73 sessions have been organized for the London congress. The programme of the Belgrade congress is almost completed. The Working Groups have been encouraged to organize joint sessions between different Working Groups, and to participate in educational activities including collaboration with ESMO. A letter will be sent to all members of the ESP to encourage them to become members of the Working Groups.

8. Report of the Chairman of the Education Subcommittee.

Prof. Helmut Popper reported on the creation of the new education portal. The taxonomy project of the portal has now been completed. A memorandum of understanding with the American Society of Clinical Pathology is expected to increase material for educational training. Prof. Popper reported also on the EScoP branches and ESP courses which will be redefined by the Education Subcommittee.

9. Report of the Editor-in-Chief of Virchows Archiv.

Prof. Fred Bosman reported as the Editor-in-Chief of Virchows Archiv. The impact factor of the journal has slightly decreased in 2013 from 2012 and is at 2.56. The number of quotations and the number of source items have been stable, and the review issue on prognostic biomarkers attracted a large number of citations. An invited review is planned to be published in each monthly issue. Teaching cases of the month are being worked upon. A renewal of the cover of the journal is planned.

10. Approval of Honorary membership to prof. Manuel Sobrinho-Simoes.

Prof. Han van Krieken presented a proposal for Honorary membership to prof. Manuel Sobrinho-Simoes. Prof. Sobrinho-Simoes has served the ESP as the organizer of the Porto congress in 1989, the President of the ESP in 2001-2003, the organizer of the Madeira congress in 2000, the Symeonidis lecturer in 2007, and the Chairman of the Local Organising Committee of the Lisbon congress in 2013. The proposal was approved unanimously.

11. Progress report of the 26th European Congress of Pathology in London 2014.

Prof. Han van Krieken reported on the ongoing congress with a theme of understanding disease. A large participation of 2700 pathologists has been registered, with more than 500 pathologists from the UK. The collaborative effort between the ESP and Pathological Society has worked well.

12. Progress report of the 27th European Congress of Pathology, Belgrade 2015.

Prof. Jovan Vasiljevich presented a progress report on the Belgrade congress in 2015. The scientific programme of the congress is almost completed, and there will be a well-organized social programme.

13. Any other items.

None.

14. Place and date of the next General Assembly of the ESP.

- 9 September 2015 in Belgrade