



## CPME 2010/034

### TITLE / TITRE

**President's report**

### AUTHOR / AUTEUR

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### CONCERNING / CONCERNE

All delegations

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**Information**

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**President's report**

Brussels, April 2010

Dear CPME Board Members,

the first semester of 2010 was a difficult time for the CPME and myself. It was the second period of not having French l'Ordre National des Médecins, Italian La Federazione Nazionale degli Ordini dei Medici, Chirurghi e degli Odontoiatri and Spanish Colegios de Médicos as CPME members. I believe that all of us feel that missing our French, Italian and Spanish colleagues is a real pity. I am determined to work continuously on having them back on board.

I attended the good medico-ethical conference (12-13<sup>th</sup> March) at San Remo and the mutual talks with the Italian and French presidents give me some hope. I am very happy that we received in the last days of December letters from Dr Pedro Nunes President from the Portuguese Ordem dos Médicos and Dr Gordana Kalan Živčec President from the Slovenian Zdravniška Zbornica with the good news that they stay within CPME.

In the same period there was a lot of discussion on the relations among CPME and other European Medical Organizations. The idea of closer cooperation within a Domus Medica and the proposal of an Alliance of EMOs were debated at numerous fora.

To be perfectly clear, CPME never signed any agreement on future relations. All decisions are taken at the place they should be taken, the CPME Board.

Thanks to the kind invitation of the German Bundesärztekammer an important meeting of the CPME constituency, namely the NMAs' presidents, took place in Berlin on 13<sup>th</sup> February. All participants declared a wish to have a united strong voice of European physicians. For this a close cooperation of CPME and all specialized EMOs is necessary. A vast majority of the Presidents present was of the opinion that CPME may play the role of umbrella, collecting expertise specialized opinions and lobbying for them at EU institutions with of course all respect to the autonomy of other EMOs'... As you will have seen, I have written a letter to all other EMOs' presidents concerning these issues in relation to our future.

All this happens in the time we have to look for a new secretary general for our organization. Lisette Tiddens-Engwirda announced her intention to move to other activities and leave her position at CPME as of 1<sup>st</sup> July. We therefore advertised the vacancy of the post in December 2009 and started the selection process for her successor. I hope that Mrs Birgit Beger whom the EC presents to you as their candidate will be kindly accepted by the Board.

All this takes place at the same time we have restructured the working process within CPME. A whole lot of Working Groups have been founded and quite a few of them are producing documents to decide on in the upcoming Board meeting. Of course we have to learn how to exactly work this process in the most efficient and optimal format. Therefore we have asked you to participate in a discussion via our website Forum as well as through exchanges of emails leading to the development

of CPME positions. The Executive Committee now regularly meets via a webmeeting. Thus saving costs while at the same time keeping everyone fully informed. I can assure you that this works very well even though we have to get used to new technics. The Board meeting is now preceded by meetings of WG's. I am sure it will turn out that we still will have to adjust some points, but I am optimistic that we can grow to better decision making with the use of modern media.

A new European Commission has been established. A new Commissioner for Health and Consumer Policy Mr John Dalli has been nominated. I sent letters prepared by the EC commenting on the Future 2020 Strategy of the Commission and the CPME views on health priorities in Europe (CPME 2010/009 Final EN) and at the same time Congratulating Mr José Manuel Durão Barroso and Commissioner Dalli. .

At the moment one of the most exciting themes discussed in the European Parliament is the so called Pharma package (info to patients, pharmacovigilance and counterfeit medicines) . One of the issues is information to the general public on medicinal products for human use subject to medical prescription. On 24<sup>th</sup> February I took part in a vivid debate organized by the "European voice" under a significant title "The right to know? Should information to patients be restricted?".

Thanks to the input given by the German Bundesärztekammer we have been able to give our opinion on the Draft Guide for Research Ethics Committee Members.

As always CPME is involved in prevention. I met representatives of the European Federation of Associations of Patients with Haemochromatosis promising CPME readiness for support of their activities.

By sending a letter to the Speaker of the Polish Parliament I supported a coalition of forces struggling for a tobacco ban in the public area in Poland.

On 23<sup>th</sup> March CPME organized together with PA International a workshop on vitamin D nutritional policy in Europe fully based on the CPME position. We managed to collect many politicians from different countries. –An excellent presentation given by prof. Arie Nieuwenhuijzen Kruseman from the Dutch Koninklijke Nederlandsche Maatschappij tot Bevordering der Geneeskunst gave a good start for further action.

On 17<sup>th</sup> March I took part in a workshop organised by DG Sanco regarding data partnership. It was a first consultation on a more efficient and transparent data collection and sharing between DG Sanco and all the stakeholders.

As to the plans for the nearest future there are two areas that are most important for the European physicians. We have to immediately start to work on two consultations that have been initiated by the European Commission: The European

Working Time Directive (93/104) and the revision of the Directive on Recognition of Professional Qualifications (2005/36).

Best regards,

Konstanty Radziwill

CPME President