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EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF SALARIED DOCTORS**

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FIDES Report – PULA 2007

Since the last FEMS meeting in Ljubljana, in October 2006, FIDES has been at the forefront of very active negotiations together with other public sector trade unions about the new public sector collective contract. Negotiations have been going on for several years now, consequently the salaries have been frozen and the discontent has been increasing, especially amongst us – doctors. Doctors have big expectations for a new professional collective contract, negotiations for which are dependant upon the signing of the new public sector collective contract. The time is running out. According to the Government and trade unions estimation, there is little more than one month left to successfully complete negotiations and establish a new payment system in 2008.

After we gained better paid turn of duty in amendment on General Practitioners Services Act, complications occurred with the Government Decree about the proportion of active and inactive hours during turn of duty. The Decree demands measuring doctor's turn of duty work in order to determine the proportion, but unfortunately, there are no means to measure it. FIDES attempted to solve that situation by discussing a change of the Decree at the ministerial level. The Minister was encouraging, but the final answer has not been given yet, due to waiting for harmonization between the Government sectors.

In December 2006, FIDES election conference was held, and the presidential mandate was again given to Konrad Kuštrin, Phd. Med. A new Central Committee was also elected. The number of delegates had to be increased due to a need for more balanced regional presence and a wider scope of work. At the first Central Committee meeting, Damjan Polh Phd. Med. was again named a vice president after he was nominated by the FIDES President.

Ljubljana, 23rd June 2007