



## **Minutes of the EAPC General Assembly**

**Fiera del Mediterraneo, 7<sup>th</sup> Congress of the EAPC, Palermo, Italy**

**Second call: Sunday 1 April 2001, 16:00 to 18:00, Hall B**

1. Stein Kaasa, the President of the EAPC, welcomed the participants to the General Assembly (hereafter GA). 90 members were present at the second call, of those 8 were represented by proxies. The GA was quorate at the second call and started at 16.15.
2. The minutes of the general assembly held in Jerusalem, Israel Tuesday 21 March 2000 were agreed.
3. There were no matters arising from the Minutes.
4. The Report from the President, Stein Kaasa, was approved (Annex 1).
  - ◆ He informed the Assembly that the Board had accepted the proposal from Xavier Gomez Batiste and the collective member SECPAL and had nominated Carlos Centeno to replace Xavier Gomez Batiste according to the By-laws until the next election to take place in April 2003.
  - ◆ The internal rules proposed by the Board of Directors and circulated to the members in English and in French were approved unanimously (Annex 2, 2/1)
  - ◆ The report from the Webmasters circulated to the members was approved (Annex 3).
  - ◆ The report from the Research Network and circulated to the members was approved unanimously (Annex 4)
5. Silvio Necchi presented the **financial report 2000** (Annex 4, 4/1), which was distributed to all the members present and can be requested to the Head office after the meeting. The report presents a small negative result. But there would have been positive balance of about 9000 Euro without the unexpected expenses for the conclusion of the collaboration of a member of staff of the Head office. The report and the attached details about head office collaborations were approved unanimously.

Heidi Blumhuber presented the update of the **budget for 2001** (Annex 5) on behalf of the treasurer Silvio Necchi. She informed the members, that she had received the confirmation for two grants from pharmaceutical firms, and that she was in the final negotiation with a third one. All three are foreseen in the income of the budget. She underlined that the personal contacts with the representatives of two firms at the First Congress on Research and Development, Berlin December 2000 and the interest of the firms in the EAPC Web site had permitted her to get these grants. The higher income also permitted an adjustment of some items of the expenses. The Contribution of the Core PCO is a fixed amount, which is given yearly by the Congress Organiser for the right to organise the EAPC Biennial Congress.

Heidi Blumhuber drew attention to the increasing running cost. Thanks to the cautious administration and thanks to Franco De Conno hosting the EAPC Head office in his division of the National Cancer Institute, Milano, the running cost could be kept extremely low and reserves have been accumulated during recent years. For 2001 some items cannot be carried any more by Franco De Conno and will need to be paid for by the EAPC directly. The Board anticipated that the estimation for cost for the consultations (staff) and also the cost for the Web site may be slightly higher than the amounts foreseen.

The **budget 2002** will be the same as the one for 2001. Both may be updated by the Board at their meeting in autumn 2001 if necessary. The Budgets were agreed unanimously. It was also unanimously agreed that the reserves may be used to cover any shortfall.

6. Stein Kaasa presented to the General Assembly the intention of the Board of Directors to hold the 9<sup>th</sup> Congress of the EAPC in a Country of Eastern Europe. This would also go in the direction of one of the EAPC priorities, which is to try to help the development of palliative care in these countries. No Country was selected yet. Mati Nejmi, from Morocco informed the GA that also his country could held a future EAPC Congress. He is aware that this could give a great input to the development of palliative care in his country. He invited the EAPC Board to discuss this.
7. Any other Items:
- ◆ Mati Nejmi asked EAPC for support and help to develop Palliative Care in his country. Philippe Poulain proposed that the Association from Morocco should join the EAPC as a collective member. He stated that a future congress could be a way of actively supporting the development in the country.
  - ◆ Nago Humbert from Canada invited the Board to give particular attention to the language use within the Association: He also announced the first congress on Pediatric Palliative Care to be held in Montreal.
  - ◆ Benoit Burucoa, from France wished the Board to keep three important items in mid for their policy. The question of Education is a crucial topic for the development of palliative care and EAPC should be more present and active for this question. The use of the languages must be better defined for the future. The French speaking members do not always feel represented well enough. The last item not to forget is the inter-disciplinarity and Benoit invited members from ALL professions to be more active and participate in the life of the Association.
  - ◆ Stein Kaasa underlined that for this reason the Board has decided to encourage the creation of task forces which were approved in the President's report. The Board felt that by means of task forces more members from different countries and professions may participate to the Board. Also the meeting of the representatives of the Collective Members Associations is an attempt to get a more active involvement in the Associations life. He informed the GA that the request from Carl-Magnus Edenbrandt, distributed to the members before the GA **was discussed** at the collective members meeting the same day. The collective members agreed to establish a task force to study how the collective members can better contribute to the Associations activities. Carl-Magnus Edenbrandt agreed to take the initiative to create and co-ordinate such a taskforce.
8. The EAPC General Assembly of the year 2002 will be hosted by the collective member the Soc. Española de Cuidados Paliativos (SEPAL), at their IV National Congress 24-27 \_April at the venue of the Congress in Granada, Spain. Stein Kaasa thanked the SECPAL and local organisers for this initiative.