



ESPA

European Society for Paediatric Anaesthesiology

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**Minutes of the General Assembly of the European Society for Paediatric Anaesthesiology,
Friday September 3rd 2010, Berlin**

The Executive Board was represented by Marcin Rawicz, president (MR); Nigel Turner, vice-president (president-elect) (NT); Ehrenfried Schindler, honorary treasurer; Ton Schouten, honorary secretary. The attendance list was signed by a further 62 members (list available on request).

1. Opening and welcome by the president

2. Apologies for absence
One apology for absence has been received.

3. President's report

Marcin Rawicz read the complete presidential report, describing the activities of society in the previous year and the strategy for the coming year. The presidential report was distributed with the convocation of the meeting. No comments were made.

Report of the meeting of the Advisory Board of Representatives of National Societies

The president also read a report of ACORNS meeting of September 1st. From the ACORNS members there was a strong support for the development of guidelines and defining competencies and requirements for giving anaesthetic care to children.

4. Treasurer's report

A. The financial statement of ESPA 2010

Nigel Turner, as out-going honorary treasurer, presented the society's financial statement for 2009-2010, including a statement of transaction for the transfer of money from FEAPA to ESPA. For tax reasons FEAPA's assets were initially transferred to the ESPA as a loan. After ESPA received ANBI status (which means we are not liable to capital transfer tax on donations and legacies), this loan was automatically converted into a donation. The total assets at 30th June 2010 were just under € 200,000. This capital is needed to provide a buffer in the case of the failure of a congress. An overview of the financial statement of assets and balance was presented.

The following motion was proposed: *The General Assembly approves the financial statement 2009-2010 as distributed with the convocation of this meeting, and subject to an account's audit.*

This motion is unanimously carried by the attending members and 8 email voters.

B. The membership fee

The ExBo has decided that it is reasonable that the annual general costs of the Society should be partly covered by an annual membership fee. Based on the expenses of previous years a fee of € 30 was considered reasonable.

The following motion was proposed: *The General Assembly approves an annual membership fee of € 30 to be levied from 1st January 2010.*

This motion is unanimously carried by the attending members and 8 email voters.

There were a some comments on the presentation and requests for clarification of the financial reports

- There was a suggestion to have the facility to pay the annual fee by credit card (Martin Jöhr)
Nigel Turner: A web based secured payment system will be developed for the ESPA website, using credit card payments.
- Approval of the financial report by the GA is not possible and correct if the report has not first been audited by an accountant (Elly Vermeulen).
Nigel Turner explains that approval is asked for the financial report, not for the account's audit. The audit was delayed for several reasons, but next year the financial reports will be presented, including the declaration of the accountant.

Nigel Turner announces that Ehrenfried Schindler will take over the office of treasurer with immediate effect.

5. Presentation of the business plan including the budget for the next five years

Ton Schouten presented the ESPA business plan, which was distributed with the convocation of the GA meeting. The suggested main objectives of the next 5 years, in the line of the aims of the ESPA, are to continue the current activities of FEAPA, to instigate committees with the following portfolios: Simulation in paediatric anaesthesia; Education including training in paediatric anaesthesia; Patient-safety to consider setting up a European register of adverse and critical incidents for paediatric anaesthesia; instigating at least one research or educational travel grant. The main income sources to support these activities and to carry the general costs of the ESPA will come from the annual member fees and the positive results of the annual congresses.

There were some comments on the presentation of the business plan and the budget for the next five years.

- Are individual members liable for financial losses or the case of bankruptcy? (Walid Habre)
Nigel Turner explained that this has been discussed during the foundation of the Society with the notary and according to the Dutch law, individual members are not responsible, nor liable. In case of severe financial losses the ExBo might be held responsible, but only in case of demonstrable malpractice or abuse.

The following motion is proposed: *The General Assembly approves the business plan 2009-2015 as distributed with the convocation of this meeting.*

This motion is unanimously carried by the attending members and 8 email voters.

6. Approval of the activities of the Executive board in the previous financial year

According to the statutes the activities of the Executive board in the previous financial year need to be approved by the GA.

The following motion is proposed: *The General Assembly grants discharge from liability to the Executive Board for the policy conducted during the past financial year, in so far as that policy appears from the annual accounts or statements made in the General Assembly about that policy*

This motion is unanimously carried by the attending members and 8 email voters.

7. Motions and issues received from the members

There were no comments, motions or issues from the members

8. Closing of the General Assembly

Marcin Rawicz closed the meeting, thanking the members for their attendance and announced that the next meeting will take place at Friday September 23rd 2011 in Mallorca.

Dr Ton Schouten
Honorary Secretary ESPA.