

### **Minutes of the foundation of the EFOSA on 14th January, 1977, Paris, France**

The Inaugural Meeting of the European Federation of Orthodontic Specialists Associations took place at 22 Avenue de Villiers, Paris on the 14th January 1977 to approve the formation of the Federation and to approve the Constitution submitted by the Steering Committee.

Dr. Charles Bolender was Chairman and Convenor. The Constitution submitted by the Steering Committee was further discussed and amended.

It was established that each delegate from the National Associations had a mandate to act on behalf of his association.

The amended Constitution was accepted unanimously.

It was agreed that a European Federation of Orthodontic Specialists Associations be formed and that Dr. Carlos Gysel be authorised to register the Federation in Brussels. The Authorisation (appended) was signed by all delegates present.

**Election of Officers.** The following proposals were made and accepted unanimously:

1. President: Dr. Charles Bolender.
2. Vice-President: Dr. Carlos Gysel.
3. Hon.Secretary/Treasurer: Mr. Herbert E.Wilson.

It was agreed to accept Professor Duterloo's offer to prepare a set of Bylaws (inner regulations) for discussion at the next assembly.

It was decided to include in the agenda for the next assembly a discussion on finance.

The next General Assembly was to be held in Copenhagen during the week of the Congress of the European Orthodontic Society.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the President, Dr.Charles Bolender, for all his work and enthusiasm which led to the formation of the Federation.

## **Minutes of the 2. EFOSA Meeting 21 June 1977, 5 pm., Copenhagen**

### **Attendance**

1. France (2)
2. Britain (1)
3. Belgium (1)
4. Holland (2)
5. Denmark (1)
6. Ireland (1)
7. Germany (2)

### **I)**

The meeting notes the unauthorized absence of Italy.

### **II)**

Wilson reads out a funny short protocol of the last meeting (attached).

Some points of the constitution are modified in the interest of greater clarity without changing their content. Due to translation problems, discussion on this point takes up approximately one hour.

The following amendments are made to the constitution (as of January 1977):

1. "Annual General Assembly" must be changed to "Ordinary General Assembly" throughout the text.
2. Under Title V, "Meetings" (new wording!): "There will be one Ordinary General Assembly each year. Extraordinary General Assemblies may be convened at the request of the President or of at least two delegates. At least..."
3. Under Title VII, "Election...": "The election of officers will take place at an Ordinary General Assembly."
4. Under Title IX, "Changes..." Elimination of "at least" in the second line.
5. Under Title XI, "Language": "The French text of the articles will be the official text."

By way of explanation, this latter title will be amended by the following "inner regulations": "An English translation will be made available to the member associations." In addition, every member association shall be required to arrange its own translation.

### **III)**

The issue of finances remains unsolved, because it has not yet been decided in which country and in which currency the EFOSA account will be opened.

Wilson proposes the establishment of a permanent secretariat, even if it did not run to capacity for the time being. On Seidler's suggestion, this issue is postponed.

#### IV)

In a discussion with Bertzbach which he requested prior to the meeting, Bolender makes clear that he strongly favours an early adoption of the Guidelines, especially in view of the fact that France will probably recognize the specialty of orthodontics by 1 October 1977.

Bertzbach attempts to explain to him that we cannot agree to the EFOSA Guidelines as long as they contradict German regulations on further vocational training which have been accepted by the BDK.

Bolender asks Bertzbach to introduce the discussion. Bertzbach elaborates on the legal situation in Germany described above.

In particular, he emphasizes the following points:

1. In Germany, the right to train specialists lies not with an institute, but with an individual.
2. Training time is three years.
3. Two years of this time can be spent in an orthodontic practice.
4. As an exception, a three-year-training programme may take place within a practice (which hardly ever happens)
5. Final examination.
6. Limitation to the specialty of orthodontics, with the official designation "Fachzahnarzt für Kieferorthopädie".

Bertzbach further argues that the American Guidelines are unacceptable for us because they are not in accordance with German training regulations.

Bertzbach asks whether agreement could be facilitated if we focussed not on the training procedures, but on the content of that training.

Bolender emphasizes that the Guidelines should point the way ahead for the next 10 to 15 years, independently of any national training regulations valid at this point in time.

Seidler argues that the right to training should be extended not to individuals, but to institutes, because in his opinion the latter are better equipped to guarantee continuity.

Seidler believes that in Denmark all training in the practices will be transferred to clinics within ca. 5 years. He gives no reason or justification for this. (It is doubtful whether such plans are really motivated by purely professional considerations or rather by the force of other objective necessities such as the decline in the birth rate due to the pill, lack of finances etc.)

Bolender proposes that every country drafts its own guidelines and sends them to him. These guidelines should not refer to the present situation, but be elaborated with a view to developments during the coming 10 to 15 years. He will form a synthesis out of these various guidelines which will then serve as a basis for discussion at the next meeting.

## V)

Bolender asks us to send him the results of the European survey on reimbursement procedures carried out by the BDK.

At the EOS Conference, several lectures dealt with the delineation of necessary treatments for various anomalies. As Bolender considers the clarification of this problem to be a task of the EFOSA, he asks the members to send him the criteria for necessary orthodontic treatments as defined in their respective countries.

Bolender also asks the members to draw up a list of all treatment techniques used in orthodontic specialists' practices, in analogy to the American Agenda (for details, see attachment).

Seidler reminds everybody of his letter dated 5 June 1977.

The next EFOSA meeting will convene on 25 November 1977 in Paris.

The meeting closes at 7.45 pm.

Langenhagen, 27 June 1977

Signed: Schneemann

Attachment to the minutes taken from memory

Key to the various methods of treatment in the European practices of orthodontic specialists, following the American Agenda:

1. Activator
2. Begg
3. Crozat
4. Edgewise
5. Labio-lingual

6. Bioprogressive
7. Twinwire
8. Universal (give exact technique)
9. Multitechniques

Bolender would like each specialist to categorize his methods according to this schema, so that in the case of transfers within Europe it will be immediately clear whom to contact.

The problems of conducting and financing a survey were not addressed in Copenhagen.

### **Minutes of the 3. EFOSA Meeting Meeting Paris, November 1977**

The meeting opens half an hour late at 2.30 pm., because Mr. Gysel has not yet arrived. Mr. Duterloo is absent, too. Mr. Bolender welcomes those in attendance and requests a report from each country. We are asked about the BEMA restructuring, about regulations on further vocational training and about reports on the different chamber laws in the states of Bavaria and Hesse as well as in the city of Bremen.

An interesting piece of information from Denmark is that orthodontic specialists in that country have to be recognized by the Home Office. Virtually all countries exhibit an unmistakable tendency towards government regulation, i.e. control. Recognition of the specialty of orthodontics is particularly difficult in Italy and France, but also in Britain. In France the date set for recognition has been postponed until November 1978, the reason being that vocational training will hopefully be transferred to clinics alone, with the proviso that the government can accredit universities as training centres on application. However, the universities are demanding more money for this training which the government is not prepared to approve. In Ireland, orthodontic treatment remains a purely private service, however, a National Health Service is in the offing. No special provisions exist for treatments with fixed appliances, a demand which the orthodontists are prepared to go on strike for if necessary.

Mr. Wilson has provided but a very sketchy protocol of the last meeting. The original protocol was lost during his move.

Discussion on the first item on the agenda (regulations on further vocational training) begins at about 3.30 p.m. As it turns out, no other country beside West Germany has presented a draft. Once more, our draft has been translated from the German in Britain, but the translation contains a number of deviations from the German text, so that it cannot as a basis for the following discussions. Mr. Bolender has arranged a translation into French. Based on the American Guidelines, Mr. Bolender then proposes to draft regulations for further vocational training and asks Mr. Wilson to read out the Guidelines paragraph by paragraph, so that the passages referring specifically to the American situation can be reformulated. After the first paragraph I interrupt him, saying that this procedure is not in accordance with the agreement reached in Copenhagen. We could have had the American Guidelines back in Copenhagen. Mr. Bolender immediately gives way, saying that his only concern is to get things started. Also, he says, the training regulations have a specific function when presented to the administrations. The text of the German professional association (BDK) is then summarised as an introduction to the discussion. In the course of the following two hours, we don't get beyond page 1. Still, the discussion proceeds in a difficult but, all in all, fruitful manner and with no fundamental differences occurring. The meeting ends at around 6 pm. Every country is asked to inform Mr. Bolender of its conceptions and any proposals for changes. Mr. Bolender will then

attempt to co-ordinate these suggestions. Mr. Flood, Ireland, will edit the text. It will then be made available to the member countries in good time, leaving them sufficient time to discuss it in their national associations.

The regulations for further vocational training will be addressed once more at the next meeting which will convene during the EOS conference in The Hague.

Mr. Bolender urges all countries to present their lists of orthodontic specialists. We reiterate our proposal to drop the names of the national presidents. After all, the reason why the lists were proposed in the first place was to avoid difficulties with transfers. However, we are now planning to draft lists of all orthodontists who belong to the national associations. Mr. Schneemann and myself inform Mr. Bolender of our intention to present this proposal to the executive. The printing costs will be divided up between the individual countries according to the number of copies they acquire (1 copy per member plus 10%). Furthermore, letter paper and envelopes bearing the EFOSA imprint are distributed at the meeting.

In response to the question of how far registration of the EFOSA has progressed in Brussels, we are informed that the English text has been edited in a few details. It was signed once more by all delegates at the meeting. A French translation will be sent to the national associations prior to registration.

Conclusion: As nothing much happened during the past six months, the meeting in Paris was quite unnecessary.

Signed: Bertzbach

Bremen, 29 November 1977

**Minutes of the 4. EFOSA Meeting, The Hague, Thursday, 8 June 1978 / 2. pm to 4.45 pm.**

**Attendance**

1. France: Bolender, Attia
2. Britain: Wilson
3. Ireland: Flood (in the beginning: Duterloo)
4. Belgium: Gysel
5. Denmark: Caspersen
6. Germany: Schneemann, Bertzbach

Mr. Wilson gives up his office. Mr. Flood is not in a position to succeed him. A certain Mr. Bailey (?) is proposed and shall be approached. Mr. Wilson agrees to stay in office until clarification.

Mr. Duterloo announces that he has ceded his office to Mr. R. Bijlstra and proceeds to leave the room.

On the agenda:

The meeting notes the unauthorized absence of Italy.

**1. Discussion on the directory**

A decision must be taken whether a new edition of the directory should be published annually, every two years or every three years. An annual edition seems inappropriate (if one relates its necessity to the amount of work required and the costs involved). There is agreement on a new edition to be published every second year. Mr. Bolender wants it to be included into the "world directory". According to Mr. Bolender, this is only feasible if the directory is structured in accordance with the French section of the present EFOSA edition. We reiterate our reservations and say that this issue must first be considered within the BDK Executive. It has to be clarified whether the telephone number may be added to the address. Mr. Wilson intends to speak to his prospective successor Mr. Bailey who edits the world directory.

The printing costs are about DM 5,- per copy. The brochures will be sent to the state associations for further distribution. The costs are to be paid directly to the printing house.

Mr. Bolender has paid his secretary 6.165 new French francs for clerical work. These expenses will be divided up in the same proportions as the brochure costs and reimbursed to Mr. Bolender.

**2. Constitution**

As soon as it has been signed, the constitution will be sent to Mr. Gysel who will immediately arrange registration. Mr. Gysel points out that because of its international character this procedure will take a while ("cannot be had in a month").

### **3. Guidelines for postgraduate education in orthodontics:**

Mr. Flood slowly reads out the draft he has elaborated, and at the end of each section we discuss our amendments or proposals for change. It strikes me that Mr. Flood has invested not only a lot of hard work, but also great care regarding professional politics in compiling this draft from the documents at his disposal (American Guidelines, BDK draft, Danish regulations on further vocational training). Our proposals are essentially taken up. On our suggestion, the first sentence of the "General Objectives" is modified in order to lessen the emphasis on "development" and facilitate the inclusion of areas which were neglected before (treatment of adults, preprosthetic care, functional strengthening of the mandibular joints, etc.). On Mr. Bijlstra's request, the formulation "should receive it from a specialist" is changed to "...practitioner", because otherwise Mr. Bijlstra fears difficulties in his dentists' association.

Just as the Guidelines as a whole, the statement on the top of page 5 (examining board) should be interpreted as a suggestion. On a state level, the exam committee responsible may be composed in a manner different from this proposal.

### **4. Any other business**

There are plans for contacts with the FDI which Mr. Bolender intends to establish. However, we also want to establish relations within the individual countries.

The EFOSA can join the FDI. Annual membership fees amount to 100 US dollars. Membership gives us the right to send up to three observers to the FDI General Assembly Meeting, who, however, are not entitled to vote (if needed it is asked for). Mr. Gysel has certain reservations (100 dollars, but no vote). We stress, and Mr. Bolender agrees, that the presence of the EFOSA is of symbolic importance, and: "Whoever is not represented cannot be consulted."

The next meeting is due to assemble in Paris on 24 November 1978, 2 pm.

Signed: Dr. Bertzbach

### **Minutes of the 5. EFOSA Meeting, Paris, 24 November 1978**

The meeting opens at around 2.40 pm. By 2.30 only Mr. Bolender, Mr. Gysel and Mr. Bertzbach have arrived. Mr. Flood and Mr. Falconi arrive at around 3.30 pm, both got stuck in a traffic jam on the road from the airport to the place where the meeting convenes. Mr. Wilson from Britain is severely ill, while there is no notice from Mr. Bailey. Mr. Caspersen from Denmark has sent his apologies due to a pressing obligation in Denmark. Mr. Bijlstra has not sent any notice.

Mr. Bolender reports on his efforts to establish contact with the Comité de Liaison which has been working in an advisory capacity for the EEC Commission for about seven years. Its current president is Mr. Michelsen from Denmark, who is the successor of Mr. Gardinjer, France. What makes the establishment of contact difficult is the Liaison Committee's pronounced reserve towards the specialties. It emerges from all discussions during the meeting that, since the establishment of the Advisory Committee in accordance with the Council's guidelines, the role of the Comité de Liaison has been totally unclear. In a telephone conversation, Mr. Michelsen said that the reason why our letter had not been answered yet was that due to a packed agenda the accession of the EFOSA could not be addressed at the last meeting. Mr. Gysel reports that this reserve towards the specialists is typical for Belgium, too.

Mr. Gysel further reports that the registration of international associations is dependent on requirements which are not met by the EFOSA constitution.

On the basis of a model constitution, a lengthy discussion ensues on possible changes to the EFOSA constitution. Essentially, these changes concern the following points:

1. Registration is not extended to associations which are primarily devoted to the defence of joint economic interests. It is, however, extended to organisations such as religious associations, international scientific societies or societies pursuing pedagogical aims. The EFOSA constitution must be changed accordingly, so that these requirements are clearly met under Title III, "Objectives".
2. It is agreed that, due to the EFOSA's relationships to the EEC, registration of the EFOSA in Belgium is desirable. However, Mr. Bolender should still attempt to achieve registration of the present constitution in France. On a national level, Mr. Bolender also pursues the accession of the EFOSA to the ADF, the CNSD or the FOFTA, because, according to Mr. Bolender, the French government negotiates with those organisations which have been officially recognised. Recognition depends on the number of members.
3. The seat of the EFOSA must have an address. For reasons of administrative expediency, Mr. Gysel suggests an address in Brussels (which should be an

orthodontic specialist's practice, given the tensions with the Belgian dentists' associations). Any change of this address must be publicised within one month. Any move within Brussels requires a decision by the General Assembly.

4. The membership association must be a "person in physical standing", but it is not clear whether this person must be identical with a registered society. Re article IV/ 4 of the constitution, it must be added that members who leave the association lose any entitlement to its financial support.
5. In Title V, it must be explicitly stated that all powers lie with the General Assembly Meeting. It must be clarified whether voting rights on one or more items on the agenda may be transferred onto another county if a delegate is unable to attend. Furthermore, it must be stated that there can be a vote only on matters previously listed on the agenda.
6. The Executive Committee must have 5 members. There is no way to bypass this requirement. One of these members must be a Belgian (not necessarily the President, Treasurer or Secretary). This regulation is discussed at length. It cannot be avoided. As all powers lie with the General Assembly, there are no reservations. In my opinion, however, the voting powers of the Executive Committee are not clear, particularly on issues concerning the Executive itself. There must be provisions according to which members of the executive can be voted out of office by a  $\frac{3}{4}$  majority at the General Assembly Meeting. It has to be included that the Aggregate Meeting must take a vote on the Treasury, following a summary of its work by the Executive (in other words, the Aggregate Meeting has to discharge the Treasurer).
7. The constitution must determine who is authorized to sign in the name of the EFOSA when its president is not available. During the discussion, it is suggested that the President should propose a member for that specific purpose. This solution is recommendable due to its great flexibility.

In Denmark, orthodontic specialists are now no longer recognized by the dentists' association, but by the government.

Mr. Bertzbach reports on the development of medical and dental specialties in Germany. The ensuing discussion provides us with the opportunity to point to the impending problems arising from the decline in the number of children for orthodontics in general and for the German orthodontic specialists in particular.

Following the report, Mr. Bolender suggests that every country provides the EFOSA with a written summary of the actual situation in that country regarding dental specialties, but also the social insurance systems in relation to orthodontics. This strikes me as a good solution, as it will enable the BDK to voice its opinion on issues which are generally accessible in the first place.

Mr. Falconi reports on disturbing developments in Italy, where dental technicians frequently practice as dentists (or orthodontists), even at dental medical institutes. University lecturers from abroad (Gugino is mentioned, but also a Frenchman has been named) offer courses in orthodontics which are open to everybody. In Italy, large number of technicians are thus trained. This situation will in all probability continue on the basis of an established right accruing to those technicians who are already practicing as dentists, once the licence to practice as a dentist has been introduced as announced.

The meeting closes at 5.45 pm. There is some discussion on the next meeting. It will probably convene on 1 June 1979, again in Paris. The French orthodontic society will hold its conference at that date.

Signed: Bertzbach

Postscript:

Mr. Gysel will provide all member associations with the model constitution and suggestions for the necessary changes.

Bremen, 5 December 1978

## **Minutes of the 6. EFOSA Meeting, 31 May 1979, Paris**

**The national associations are represented by the following delegates:**

1. France: Bolender
2. Britain: Bailey
3. Ireland: Flood
4. Belgium: Gysel
5. Denmark: Caspersen
6. Germany: Bertzbach
7. Italy: Falconi
8. Netherlands: Bijlstra

Mr. Bolender opens the meeting and asks Mr. Flood to report on the ERO Conference in Dublin. Mr. Bolender provided the members with the lectures on principles which were held in Dublin (Ireland: Prof. Dockrell, Germany: Prof. Schmuth). Professor Dockrell's presentation is very revealing. His obvious aim is to replace the dental specialist for orthodontics with a paediatric dentist. In the short term, however, the FDI is unlikely to propose any changes.

According to Mr. Bolender, official recognition of the specialty of orthodontics may be expected for the year 1980. At present, large numbers of orthodontic specialty practices are being opened up in France, in the hope that transitional arrangements will provide for official recognition on the basis of established right. Any such transitional provisions will in all likelihood be limited to 1980 at the latest. They will probably differentiate between specialists who have practiced as orthodontists for more than 5 years and those who have practised for less than 5 years. As soon as these transitional arrangements have expired, an official university diploma following an exclusively clinical vocational training will become the only basis for recognition.

There is some discussion on how the EFOSA can influence decisions by the EEC. Such influence appears feasible via the "Comité de Liaison" and via the "Advisory Committee on the Training of Dental Practitioners" which is listed in the Official Journal of the European Communities. Mr. Michelsen from Denmark, who is a close personal acquaintance of Mr. Caspersen's, was once president of the Comité de Liaison. The Comité de Liaison is obviously not clear on the role of the EFOSA. Therefore, Mr. Caspersen requests information on the precise number of orthodontists represented by the national associations in relation to the total number of dental specialists practicing in the respective countries. A survey brought the following results:

### **Germany**

- Total: 850 (estimate)

- Members of the professional association: 707

## **France**

- Total: 500
- Members of the professional association: 90 % (estimate)

## **Britain**

- Total: 300-350

## **Italy**

- Total: 12
- Members of the professional association: 100 %

## **Ireland**

- Total: 12
- Members of the professional association: 100 %

## **Holland**

- Total: 130
- Members of the professional association: 98 %

## **Denmark**

- Total: 97 (including 60 employed by the public health service)

## **Belgium**

- Total: 30
- Members of the professional association: 60 %

Denmark voices definite concerns that, as a consequence of the European right of establishment, dental specialists from abroad will be allowed to settle in Denmark, thus acquiring the Danish official designation on the basis of substandard foreign diplomas. Holland also expresses its opposition to the recognition of inferior training programs. The delegates are unable to discern any unequivocal information on the right to specialists' titles from the Journal of the European Communities.

Professor Lee, the current President of the Comité de Liaison, is Mr. Flood's teacher. Therefore, Mr. Flood will establish contact with the Comité de Liaison on behalf of the EFOSA. Both Mr. Caspersen and Mr. Flood will probably be in a position to inform the EFOSA about any results of the Comité's deliberations. As the EFOSA is apparently

not in a position to directly influence either the Comité de Liaison or the Advisory Committee, we have to renew our proposal to first articulate the EFOSA's orthodontic concerns via the delegates of the individual countries within the existing organs and institutions. Obviously, the relationship of the dental specialists to their dentists' associations is somewhat difficult in other countries, too.

Mr. Caspersen considers the Guidelines elaborated by the EFOSA to be a first important step by the EFOSA. Caspersen is obviously referring to the fact that these guidelines recommend professional training to be confined to clinics alone. It is proposed that the Guidelines be made available to the national dentists' representatives.

The registration of the EFOSA in Brussels continues to be difficult. Having obtained legal advice, we learned that it is not possible to have the EFOSA registered according to international law. Since registration according to Belgian law is a long-drawn-out procedure, even if all requirements are met, it is agreed to take the registration to Strasbourg. According to Mr. Bolender, it should be possible to have the EFOSA registered at short notice in Strasbourg.

According to a decision taken in 1978, a new edition of the directory is to be published every two years, so that the next edition is due in 1980. It has to be clarified whether the telephone number can be added to the address. Bolender requests the member countries to hand in their lists by September / October 1979. The printing house will be asked to send out the directory directly this time.

Signed: Bertzbach

Bremen, 14 June 1979

## **Minutes of the 7. EFOSA Meeting, 23 November 1979, Paris**

### **Attendance at the opening of the meeting is limited to:**

1. France: Bolender
2. Belgium: Gysel
3. Germany: Bertzbach

Mr. Bijlstra from the Netherlands arrives half an hour late. As the French air traffic controllers are on strike, the representatives from Denmark and Italy have sent their apologies. However, the British delegate is absent, too.

Prior to the meeting, Mr. Bolender gives me a briefing on the impending ratification of regulations on dental specialties in France. Mr. Bolender urgently requests the Bavarian regulations. The difficulties in France regarding regulations on further vocational training are obviously similar to those previously encountered in Germany. Mr. Bolender also asks for a copy of Mr. Pohl's letter containing legal advice on the mutual recognition of diplomas within the EEC.

The meeting opens about half an hour late. Mr. Bolender reports that the constitution drafted by the EFOSA members has been handed over to a law firm which specializes on contracts involving associations. This law firm has passed on the documents to a communicating firm dealing with international associations. Mr. Bolender affirms that there have been no proposals or suggestions on any amendments to the constitution as presented by the EFOSA. The present draft has been elaborated independently by the firm, based on accepted agreements which are already in place. The final drafting of the constitution will cost about 4000 to 5000 French francs. There is some discussion whether this amount should be taken from the regular membership fees or divided up according to the numerical strength of the individual member associations. Mr. Gysel thinks that the contributions should be graded according to membership. I raise the objection that all countries benefit from this work, independently of their numerical strength, and Mr. Bolender agrees that we are dealing with a fixed fee anyhow. No final decision was taken.

During the next hours, the draft constitution is being discussed in detail. It is first noted that in France there is a difference between a federation and a confederation. A federation is a union of different association, whereas a confederation unites associations of the same kind. So the EFOSA might have to become the ECOSA. This issue has yet to be clarified, Mr. Bolender will try to keep the current designation, which might be possible even if an analogous difference does not exist in the English language. The EFOSA has to be registered as an association in contrast to a society, because the membership of a society must be composed of 99 % Frenchmen. Mr. Gysel confirms that the EFOSA cannot be registered in Brussels as an international association for the time being. The

details of the draft constitution are discussed at length. No vote can be taken because only 4 countries are represented. The newly revised draft will again be made available to the member associations. After all, the new draft is clearly different from the previous one, which had only been elaborated in very general terms. All in all, I consider it acceptable. It has not yet been clarified whether the Executive Committee must include a French person. According to Mr. Bolender, this is required by law, and according to Mr. Gysel a corresponding rule applies in Belgium.

Reimbursement of the Executive's expenses is discussed at length. According to the old constitution, every member association has to cover the costs of its delegate. There is concern – which I think is legitimate – about the exact interpretation of this rule. It is therefore proposed that all expenses be paid from the membership fees of the EFOSA, including the travel costs of the national delegates, because otherwise the smaller associations who have to travel long distances might lose interest in the EFOSA. I don't believe that the BDK will be much affected by this change. As Holland unreservedly agrees to this proposal and deems it correct, I withhold my reservations.

The election of the individual Executive members is again relegated to the General Assembly Meeting. There is no conclusive clarification whether the Executive Committee is required to have 5 members or whether – based on the structuring of the EFOSA – the number of 3 Executive members will be accepted. Most of the changes appear to be of no specific significance to any individual member country. It should be added that according to my proposal, which was not objected to by any other delegate, the tasks of the BDK enumerated in paragraphs 4 c, d and e (f has been dropped) have been amended to the effect that the EFOSA can only intervene in national affairs at the request of the national member association. On dictating these minutes, I recall that this should be reformulated to read: "... at the request of the national member or, if there are several members, at the request of the majority of the member associations".

The discussion on the constitution is followed by a brief exchange on the EEC Guidelines. I tell those present about the assessment provided by Dr Pohl.

Mr. Bolender suggests that the individual member countries make known to him, for the general information of the EFOSA, which foreign certificates of orthodontic training have been recognized in their respective countries. Recognition determines whether a citizen of one EEC country may use such a diploma to establish himself in a host country. This request by Mr. Bolender strikes me as entirely legitimate, and for him it is apparently very important in view of the upcoming negotiations in his own country.

The meeting closes at around 7 pm.

Signed: Bertzbach

Bremen, 26 November 1979

## **Minutes of the 8. EFOSA Meeting, 2 June 1980 in Paris**

### **Attendance:**

1. France: Dr. C. Bolender
2. Ireland: Dr. N. Flood
3. Belgium: Dr. C. Gysel
4. Netherlands: Dr. Bijlstra
5. Britain: Dr. Bailey
6. Italy: Dr. Genone
7. Germany: Dr. P. Bertzbach

The main part of the meeting is devoted to the discussion of the draft constitution. No essential changes are made. However, it is obvious that the finances of the EFOSA require further consideration, even with the rules established by the constitution. According to the constitution, the basic costs are covered by uniform fees claimed by all member associations, while the financing of special tasks must be decided upon by the General Assembly. Apparently there is a tendency to find formulations and definitions which keep the basic costs low, so that most of the EFOSA's expenses require a special decision. Thus, the financing of the EFOSA has not really been settled yet. Initially, several members (Belgium, Ireland, Holland) apparently intended to define all issues of funding in the procedural rules. However, French law requires the division now incorporated in the constitution. Undoubtedly the work of the EFOSA places a particularly large burden on the individual members of the small associations (above all Ireland). This was expressed in the fact that at the end of the meeting the Irish delegate ceded his vote to Mr Bolender for the next meeting. The French version of the constitution will once more be checked against the English translation by Mr. Flood, Mr. Bolender and Mr. Gysel. The objections raised by the BDK were taken into account. There was a lengthy discussion on the conditions under which the Executive Committee and the General Assembly Meeting actually have a quorum. However, all members feel that the present draft guarantees the EFOSA's ability to function even under difficult circumstances. The French version of the draft is then signed by all members in attendance.

I raised the point that, according to the constitution, any member association whose country leaves the EC will be forced to quit the EFOSA. It is decided that this rule be upheld.

I agree with Mr. Bolender's concern that the ability of the EFOSA to exert influence on the EC authorities in charge would suffer if the EFOSA included associations from non EC countries.

I relate the request by the BDK executive for the EFOSA to propose in Brussels that orthodontic training within the EC should take place exclusively on a university level. Mr. Bijlstra relates that the Liaison Committee is currently hampered by financial difficulties. Therefore, following the proposals of the BDK, it is decided on the suggestion of Mr. Bolender that the EFOSA directly contact the relevant offices in Brussels. For this reason, the next EFOSA meeting is scheduled for October/ November this year in Brussels.

In passing, some interesting pieces of information were relayed at the meeting:

There are plans in France to limit vocational training to 2 ½ days a week (for reasons of finance). The rest of the week can be spent in a free practice (which may be a general dentist's practice). Professional training is provided by four universities.

In Holland, the social insurance authorities are regulating patients's admissions to the practices in such a way that 280 patients per year are fully funded, and a further 90 patients receive 70% funding. This applies to treatments with removable appliances, in the case of treatment with fixed appliances one patient counts for three. This modus operandi prevents the emergence of oversized practices. However, it must be taken into account that only about 70% of Holland's total population are covered by the social insurance system.

In France, health insurance benefits are limited to patients whose treatment has begun before the age of 12. Also in France, the numerus clauses for medical studies and dentistry will be lowered in order to avoid a glut of doctors (and dentists). There are about 600 orthodontic specialists in France at the moment. As soon as the total limitation of professional training to universities sets in, about 60 orthodontic specialists will be trained every year. This training is accompanied by continuous theoretical intermediary examinations.

Belgium is planning the introduction of a four-year training programme, which will also be limited to universities, in particular to the four Belgian universities of Brussels, Ghent, Liège,...

It is again agreed upon that the next edition of the annuary will be send out directly by the printing house. Members' address stickers must be sent to the printer's as soon as possible (Imprimerie Sarregueminoise S.A.R.L., 12. Rue Poincaré, 57202 Sarreguemines, France). As all members, the BDK will receive an additional 10% of copies for distribution to new members. I suggest that the annuary be bound in a manner suitable for filing with the BDK manual (suitable eyelets).

Mr. Bolender again raises his concern that some countries might recognize inferior diplomas, which would cause difficulties for orthodontists to gain recognition abroad. He requests information on which EC diplomas have been recognized by the relevant

authorities in the individual countries. We agree that the BDK shall seek this information. In the opinion of Mr. Bolender, which is shared by all members, the EFOSA should make every effort for Brussels to pass a rule which prevents any dodging of the guidelines. As an example, Mr. Bolender points to the widely differing training periods and regulations within the United States (attachment). Mr. Genone (Italy) reports about major difficulties in the preparation of orthodontic training, the validation of training facilities and training management. He asks for an official letter drawing out the conditions of orthodontic facilities at institutes and universities which he can then use in his negotiations. For example, he would like to know whether the orthodontists employed at those institutes and universities are required to be full-time orthodontic specialists (sideline jobs, working hours, etc.) Mr. Genone obviously attaches a lot of importance to this matter, as he repeatedly reiterates his request during our ensuing joint lunch.

The meeting closes at around 2 pm.

For the BDK, it is important that procedure rules are now drafted, on the basis of the constitution, which regulate the financing of any expenditures (including travel costs).

In the course of our discussions, I relate that in Germany there are demands that a fourth year of training in orthodontics be introduced for dentists, too (even though against a different background). I also mention that remuneration of orthodontic services is expected to drop significantly in 1981. Furthermore, I relate that the decrease in the number of children has caused employment problems to some orthodontic practices, so that one place of residence has been moved already.

Dr. Peter Bertzbach

Bremen, 3 June 1980

**Minutes of the 10. EFOSA Meeting at 159 Avenue de Malafoff, Paris, on Saturday 16th January, 1982 at 14.00 hours.**

**Attendance**

1. Professor C. Bolender
2. Dr. N. Flood
3. Dr. C. Gysel
4. Dr. B. Genone
5. Dr. H. Quist-Jensen
6. Dr. P. Bertzbach
7. Dr. J.C. Bailey

The Meeting had been called to receive reports on present conditions in each members country, and also to receive suggestions from each country for improvements in the practice of Orthodontics, as Professor Bolender had arranged an invitation to meet with the Chef de division Monsieur J.J. Beuve Mery of the Commission Des Communantes Europeennes in Brussels. This was an invitation not usually extended to Specialist Groups.

Professor Bolender and Dr. Gysel were to meet with M. Beuve Mery on January 22nd, and wished to have a brief to discuss from representatives of each country. Professor Bolender stressed that this was an exploratory Meeting at which he hoped to promote EFOSA.

**1. The Practice of Orthodontics, specialisation and the requirements for specialisation.**

**FRANCE**

Professor Bolender circulated a report on the situation in France where a specialist training programme had been instituted. The course was for three years, part-time with examinations at the end.

There is a 'grandfather clause' to cater for those in practice before the scheme commenced, they may be considered for certification having been in exclusive practice for more than six years, and on examination of their 'curriculum vitae'.

**DENMARK**

Dr. Qvist-Jensen circulated a report on the Directories for specialisation in Denmark, for which there is a prescribed specialist course. There are 130 specialists, but with a

decreasing birth-rate, there is about 1 specialist to 300 children. The problem is that too many specialists are being trained.

## **IRELAND**

Dr. Flood discussed the present situation in Ireland, and stated that a new Dentists Act was about to be introduced with a possibility of including Specialist Registration. There were 19 Practitioners with postgraduate degrees engaged in full time orthodontic practice.

## **BELGIUM**

Dr. Gysel gave an account of the very complex situation in Belgium caused by the fact that there were three Governments which gave rise to differing requirements. The speciality is not officially, legally recognised and there were some 80 exclusive Practitioners.

The Universities organised the Orthodontic course which was of four years' duration, full time, but the separate Professors did not agree on the curriculum.

Fees were limited to a maximum, and all patients received a refund from the state, even those who are having treatment under private contract. The main problem at present was that there was disagreement with the state over the percentage of fee which would be refunded to the patient.

## **GERMANY**

Dr. Bertzbach said that since 1972 all malocclusions were defined as diseases by law, and as such the State would pay 90% of cost. The payments were arranged by private insurance companies under the supervision of the Government. Post-Graduate training is variable. The problems in Germany are:

1. Decreasing patients, but increasing Orthodontists.
2. No restriction on type of practice so that General Dentistry is possible - practice is not exclusive.
3. Specialist requirements vary from one State to another.
4. There are four different titles.

From Germany the Specialist Orthodontists request that there should be:

1. Exklusive practice.
2. 3 year full time post-graduate course.
3. Designation of specialist by one title.

## **THE NETHERLANDS**

Dr. Bijlstra had circulated a comprehensive document giving details of post-graduate training and lists of accredited specialists. In the Netherlands there has been an agreed training programme, and specialist recognition for some years. Orthodontists are limited to the number of cases under treatment, and the main problem would seem to be that of decreasing numbers of patients, and increasing orthodontists.

In 1981 examples of the fees for orthodontic treatment were:

### **Removeable appliances**

1. 1089 dutch florins 1st year
2. 884 2nd year
3. 622 3rd year

### **Fixed appliances**

1. 3915 1st year
2. 1599 2nd year
3. 618 3rd year

## **ITALY**

Dr. Genone said that in Italy there were five post-graduate schools providing a three year full time course, and that there were about 120 orthodontic specialists.

There was no basic Dental qualification in Italy, so that first a medical degree had to be obtained (6 years) followed by Stomatology (3 years) and orthodontics (3 years).

The profession would like to simplify the system.

## **2. The Directory**

It was agreed that this should be published on a 3 yearly basis.

## **3. Offices**

It was agreed that voting for offices should be carried out every two years.

## **Minutes of the 11. EFOSA Meeting**

5 Rue de la Source Paris, on Friday 29th April, 1983 at 14:00 hours.

### **Attendance**

1. Professor C. Bolender (in the chair)
2. Dr. N. Flood
3. Dr. C. Gysel
4. Dr. R. J. Bijlstra
5. Dr. H. Qvist-Jensen
6. Dr. J. C. Bailey
7. Dr. P. Bertzbach

### **1. Minutes of the Previous Meeting (16th January, 1982.)**

These had been circulated, necessary corrections were agreed, and the corrected copies would be sent to members. Representatives requested that Minutes should be made available three weeks after the Meeting.

### **2. Meeting with M. Beuve Mery, Chef de division Brussels Commission.**

Professor Bolender and Dr. Gysel had met M. Beuve Mery who was the Civil Servant responsible for all the papers produced from the Health part of the E.E.C. The purpose of EFOSA was explained thoroughly. There could be no official pathway directly to the Commission, but only through official representatives. It was suggested that members might be able to brief their own representatives if only to prevent misunderstandings about the practice of orthodontics, such as a U.K. representative stating that the normal length of training for orthodontic specialists in the U.K. was 10 years. The latest directive on part-time specialist training was circulated.

### **3. Reports on the present situation of orthodontics in members countries.**

**U.K. - report circulated.**

**Netherlands.**

There is a four year postgraduate training period for orthodontics. Some prefer to study in U.S.A. or Switzerland, where courses tend to be shorter. The Netherlands has been producing too many dentists, and 200 dentists are now unemployed. To meet the situation, two of the five dental schools are to close. The annual output of orthodontists is to be reduced from ten to six. There are currently 170 orthodontists for the fourteen million population.

The fees for private patients are regulated by the Government. This year they have been cut by 7%. Another innovation is that, anyone treating more than 270 patients has his fees reduced progressively. Fixed appliances count as three, so that here the limitation is 90.

### **Germany.**

The main problems in Germany are:

1. The falling birthrate means fewer patients for their 1200 orthodontist. They need 15 new orthodontists annually and graduate 60.
2. Educational and training requirements vary from state to state. Although 3 years full time training is necessary, Two of these may be spent in an authorised private practice.
3. There are four different titles for orthodontists. The German Orthodontic Association (BDK) would prefer:
  1. Exclusive practice mandatory for those registering as specialists.
  2. Three years full time in university for Trainees.
  3. Designation of specialists by one title.

### **Ireland.**

Both medical and dental graduates enjoy reciprocity with the United Kingdom. There are currently 20 orthodontists for the population of three million. About half the orthodontic patients are private: the other half receive free treatment paid for by the State. The present rate for publicly funded patients is IR£ 112 per annum plus the cost of appliances. (IRC112 = approximately £90 sterling)

All main water supplies are fluoridated and the caries rate has halved in the last fifteen years. This also means that paedodontists and others may be tempted to do the simpler orthodontic cases.

### **Denmark.**

Over the years private practice has been slowly eliminated, and virtually all patients are now treated in the State system. Due to the recession and severe financial problems, the Government is cutting back on all services. Perhaps 500 dentists are threatened with unemployment. The outlook for orthodontists is similarly depressing.

### **Belgium.**

The complex political situation makes progress difficult. With Flemings, Walloons, Catholics and non-Catholics each requiring separate Universities, there is no unanimity among them as to what the curriculum should be.

Fees are limited to a maximum and patients receive a refund from the State, but there is disagreement about what percentage of the fee this should be.

## **France.**

Out of 1200 applicants for registration, some 600 will be registered as orthodontic specialists. The Universities are combining to produce seven centres of postgraduate orthodontic training although no full-time courses or salaried posts are available. About 50 orthodontists are to graduate annually.

Having failed to agree terms with the Government, a grant-in-aid scheme has been introduced as a temporary measure. The State pays 2000 francs per annum towards the cost of treatment, though fees of four or five thousand may be charged. The maximum treatment period is three years.

## **4. EFOSA Directory**

To be published January 1984. All members to provide lists by 1st September 1983. The same arrangements as previously. Professor Bolender arranging the printing and member countries to pay the printers.

## **5. Offices 1983/1984**

1. President - Professor C. Bolender
2. Vice-President - Dr. J. C. Bailey
3. Secretary/Treasurer - Dr. N. Flood

## **6. Next Meeting**

May 1984 in Paris.

## **7. Any other Business**

Internal Regulations were discussed, and it was agreed to circulate the amended draft to be put on the Agenda for the next Meeting.

## **Minutes of the 12. EFOSA Meeting held at 159 avenue de Malakoff, Paris, on Saturday 50th June, 1984**

### **Attendance**

1. Prof. C. Bolender (France)
2. Dr. C. Gysel (Belgium)
3. Dr. J. C. Bailey (Britain)
4. Dr. A. Perrini (Italy)
5. Dr. P. Bertzbach (Germany)
6. Dr. N. Flood (Ireland)
7. Dr. R. J. Bijlstra (Netherlands)

### **Minutes of the 29th April, 1983**

These had been circulated to the delegates in May, 1983. They were now accepted by the Assembly.

### **Reports from member delegates.**

#### **BRITAIN**

There has been an attempt at orthodontic unity between consultants, orthodontists in the school service, and orthodontists in practice, with some convergence of the activities of the various societies, and mutual discussions on subjects such as training and postgraduate education.

There has been little progress towards a specialist register. The General Dental Council is not in favour, while both the Government and the British Dental Association wish general practitioners to continue doing orthodontics. The General Dental Council does issue orthodontic specialist Certificates, but these are only for use outside the country. Some Masters' degrees, which are awarded for research but involve no clinical content, also create difficulties in registration.

There is an annual intake of 940 students in the United Kingdom, while 70 postgraduates are taking a two year course in orthodontics. Some 30 oral surgeons are unemployed, and one dental school (Royal Dental) has been closed. The maximum fee for a fixed multiband is £250 in the National Health Service. In the South of England about 10% of patients are private; there are virtually none in the North. Except for hygienists, dental auxiliaries are prohibited.

#### **IRELAND**

A new Dentists Bill is passing through the Senate and the Dail (Parliament) and should be law by the end of the year. A new Council to replace the old Dental Board will consist of 19 members, of which 12 will be dentally qualified. They will have the power to establish classes of auxiliary workers, and determine their training, the nature of their work, and create a register. It is probable that such auxiliary workers will be confined to hygienists.

Despite opposition marshalled by a hostile campaign from within the Irish Dental Association, it is likely that the Council will have the power to establish a Dental Specialists Register with the consent of the Minister for Health. While such opposition is still being engendered, however, little can be done. Ireland will remain a country that recognises orthodontics as a speciality, but won't recognise those who practise it exclusively as orthodontists.

#### **NETHERLANDS**

An unemployment list of 450 practitioners means that newly qualified dentists will have to wait about six years before they get permission to treat patients under National Health Insurance. Further dental schools in Utrecht and Amsterdam are to close, and by 1987 there will be only three left. The three centres left for orthodontic training take about two graduates annually.

Paradoxically, there is a shortage of orthodontists and most have a waiting list of two years. Forty-one per cent employ hygienists, who, following a two year course, take impressions, apply bands and bonding brackets, and do Xray tracings.

## **BELGIUM**

There is no recognition of orthodontics as a speciality, and as a result, orthodontists cannot negotiate with the Government as a Group. Three Universities train postgraduates students on four year orthodontic courses.

The six dental schools are reducing the intake of undergraduate students, but the number is still too high.

Auxiliaries are not permitted.

## **GERMANY**

Three new Universities with orthodontic departments have been created, and there are now 19 in the country. Too many new orthodontists are being trained.

Fees have remained unchanged during the past year.

Auxiliaries are used solely at the responsibility of the orthodontist and are usually trained by him. They may perhaps take Xrays, instruct patients, clean teeth.

## **ITALY**

A school in Bari take students on a two year course for hygienists. However no auxiliaries are permitted by law. It is hoped that their existence will in time change the law .

Dental schools were started throughout the country from 4 years ago, and now have an annual intake of 400. The first dental graduates are due next summer.

Orthodontic schools must still take students with no dental qualification on their three year courses.

## **FRANCE**

Since the establishment of a specialists' register, 800 orthodontists have now been recognised. Since there were 1200 applicants in all, it must be assumed that some 400 who do not reach the required attainments have been practising orthodontics to some degree.

The orthodontic schools graduate a further 50 each year. The current three year course may become a four year one.

About 95% of the French population are in the Social Security system. However, for an orthodontic patient to qualify for social security, he must be examined by the orthodontist before the age of twelve.

The average fee for fixed appliances is Fr 4000 p.a. of which the Government pays half.

## **REGUALTIONS**

The discussion on the Regulations was confined to expenses incurred by member delegations in relation to their size. The matter is to be raised again at the next annual general meeting.

The last EFOSA DIRECTORY SHOWED THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE NATIONAL ORTHODONTIC ASSOCIATION WAS AS FOLLOWS:

GERMANY	969	equals	59.0 %
FRANCE	604	"	24.5 %
BRITAIN	295	"	12.0 %
ITALY	201	"	8.1 %
NETHERLANDS	166	"	6.7 %
DENMARK	150	"	6.5 %
BELGIUM	64	"	2.5 %
IRELAND	15	"	0.6 %
<hr/>			
TOTAL	2462		100.0%

#### RETURN AIR FARES:

Cost for each delegate to attend Paris meeting (Calculated in £ sterling for convenience. Times 4/7/84.)

	Currency	in £	Cost to individual
orthodontist in each Assoc.			
GERMANY	DM 964	255.70	£ 0.26
FRANCE	Fr 1100	95.16	0.16
BRITAIN	f. 120	120.00	0.41
ITALY	Lire 400,000	173.16	0.86
NETHERLANDS	G 800	188.24	1.13
BELGIUM	B.Fr 3580	46.70	0.75
IRELAND	Ir. £ 396	321.95	21.46

As can be seen, there is a wide variation in costs between the Irish and all others. A possible solution would be to create a Central Fund to which all member countries would contribute equally. This fund could be used towards other expenditures should they arise. The amount need not be large - say €25 or £30 sterling.

Any delegate who could show that the individual members of his association were having to contribute more than ten times the national individual average, would apply to the treasurer for a refund of, say, half his return air fare. All other expenses would be his own responsibility.

#### This suggested solution would have the following advantages:

1. It would be simple to understand and easy to calculate.
2. Does not conflict with the Constitution, so no alteration would be necessary.
3. Requires little extra work.
4. It could be flexible, ie. levels could be altered.
5. Meetings could be held more easily at other venues. (indeed, no refund would be required for meetings in Dublin.)
6. It would ease the obligations on small delegations.

A more complex system of assessing financial need - eg. 25% for 5 times average, 50% for ten times average etc. - could be adopted later, but at present, with only one member likely to be affected, the simplest system would probably be the best.

It has been requested that the next annual meeting should not be earlier than the end of June 1985.

Norman Flood. (Hon. Secretary.)

Minutes of the 13. EFOSA Meeting was held at 60. Boulevard Letour Manbourg, 75007 Paris, on Saturday 28 September 1985 at 9am.

### **Attendance**

1. Prof. Ch. Bolender (France) who took the chair,
2. Drs. P. Bertzbach (Germany)
3. R.J. Bijlstra (Netherlands)
4. A. Ferrini (Italy)
5. C. Gyeel (Belguim)
6. N. Flood (Ireland)

An apology was received from Dr. C. Munck (Denmark). Drs. M. Faure (France) and P. Picchioni (Italy) attended as guest visitors. The minutes of the 1984 meeting were read and approved. With the accession of Spain and Portugal to the EEC due in the New Year, it was decided to invite orthodontic representatives from these countries and from Greece to attend our next EFOSA meeting. It is unlikely that either Portugal or Greece will be eligible to join EFOSA as members for some time, as they have not enough exclusive orthodontists to form an association. An additional problem is that all three countries graduate stomatologists.

### **1. REGULATIONS**

These were read, debated and corrected. The finalised copy is enclosed. It was agreed that "Other business", "autres questions", were to be included in each agenda in future.

### **2. POLICY DOCUMENT**

The tentative policy document prepared by the Secretary, Dr. N. Flood, and circulated to all delegates earlier in the year, was read and discussed. It was agreed and accepted by all those present, that this document was useful, and should be developed and enlarged on the basis of the draft submitted. The Belgian and Italian representatives have been requested to prepare submissions that they would like included, and to send these to the Secretary.

### **3. REPORTS FROM MEMBER DELEGATES**

#### **BELGIUM**

An attempt was made to propose the creation of a specialists register, but the dissolution of Parliament thwarted any action.

## **ITALY**

S.U.S.O., the Italian national association now has 450 members. The Government has been trying to limit the number of medical and dental specialists, including orthodontics.

## **GERMANY**

A new President of the Orthodontic Association, Dr. Dummmler of Kiel, has been elected. A decrease of 15% in Social Insurance payments has been incurred last year. New restrictions are proposed on private fees. The two large Social Insurance Corporations are combining to try to limit or reduce fees further. The threat of unemployment adds to the difficulties.

## **IRELAND**

The new Dentist Act creates a Council that may initiate a specialists register or establish classes of auxiliary dental workers.

## **NETHERLANDS**

Both private and Social Insurance fees have been reduced.

## **FRANCE**

No change in fees. Some general practitioners have been trying to push orthodontists out of the Welfare or refund system, which affords about a 50% refund to the patient.

## **4. ELECTION OF COUNCIL OFFICERS FOR 1985-87**

1. Prof Ch. Bolender (President)
2. J. Bailey (Vice-President)
3. N. Flood (Secretary)

were all re-elected.

It was agreed that the next annual general meeting should be at the end of September 1986.

## **Minutes of the 14. EFOSA Meeting**

60 Boulevard La-Tour-Maubourg, 75007 Paris, on Friday, 14 November, 1986.

### **Attendance**

1. Prof. C. Bolender - who took the chair.
2. Dr. J. Bailey - Britain.
3. Dr. S. Unterer - Germany.
4. Dr. A. Ferrini - Italy.
5. Dr. C. Gysel - Belgium.
6. Dr. N. Flood - Ireland.
7. Dr. R. Bylstra - Netherlands.

An apology was received from Dr. C. Munck - Denmark.

The minutes of the previous meeting in 1985 were read and approved. The policy document prepared by the Secretary, Dr. N. Flood, was read by him to the delegates, who ratified it unanimously. It was proposed by the President, Prof. C. Bolender, that further papers be prepared or adapted on other topics such as education, the limitation of the field of activity of the orthodontist, and the problems of practitioners with non-EEC qualifications. These matters were discussed, and the Secretary agreed to write draft documents on these issues, and distribute them to all delegates, so that they could be debated at the next EFOSA meeting. There was a suggestion that all these papers could be reproduced later in booklet form as an EFOSA publication, should finance be made available.

An amendment to the Regulations was proposed by the Secretary, and passed by the meeting: Countries whose per capita expenditure on meetings is more than ten times the average can recoup- half their air fare on the second or subsequent meetings in the one calendar year.

### **REPORTS FROM MEMBER DELEGATES.**

It was proposed by Dr. Unterer (Germany) that delegates prepare written reports that could be sent to the Secretary, who would then prepare synopses to be circularised with the minutes.

### **GERMANY**

The Public Health Budget was overspent by 2.4 billion marks during 1985, and this has resulted in further reductions in fees. Although the contribution of orthodontics to this deficit was negligible, there has been a cutback of 14.1% in their turnover, and the 30% of orthodontists who use mostly fixed appliances suffered a reduction of 18 to 20%.

German orthodontists must be in practice two years before they can treat patients paid for by the insurances companies. No such restrictions affect immigrants from other EEC countries. In 1980, there were 12 Dutch dentists registered in Germany; in 1986, the number had risen to 188. (Ironically, Dutch orthodontists face similar restrictions in the Netherlands).

Eighty new orthodontists graduate in Germany each year, well above the estimated requirements of fifteen. The falling birthrate also reduces the number of patients available for orthodontic treatment. There is a proposal that patients should pay a certain amount towards their orthodontic treatment. This sum could be refunded on the satisfactory completion of treatment.

## **BRITAIN**

Average fee for Class 11 Division 1, ten mm. overjet and a crowded lower arch is £300. All sections of orthodontists have combined to produce a report on training and the provision of a specialists' register. The minimum training period is three years full time plus two years general. Fifteen orthodontists qualify each year, but some of these are from overseas.

## **ITALY**

There are now seven schools where three year courses in orthodontics are given. No dentally qualified students are studying orthodontics as yet, but some may enter in a year or two.

## **BELGIUM**

Six dental schools remain, each having about four postgraduate students.

## **IRELAND.**

A new Constitution has been written for the Orthodontic Group. (Copies of which were distributed.)

## **FRANCE.**

Fees have been freed from Government control, and are now about Fr. 4,000 to Fr. 5,000 per annum. Half of this is refunded to the patient. There are now 800 registered orthodontists in France. About fifty new orthodontists qualify each year.

It was proposed that the next EFOSA meeting should be held in Paris during November 1987. Apart from Dr. Unterer, no written reports were received by the Secretary.

## **Minutes of the 15. annual meeting**

Friday, 27th November 1987, at the Domus Medici, 60 Boulevard Latour Maubourg, 75007 Paris

### **Attendance**

1. Prof. C. Bolender - France
2. Dr. R. Bijlstra - Netherlands
3. Dr. S. Unterer - Germany
4. Dr. A. Ferrini - Italy
5. Dr. C. Gysel - Belgium
6. Dr. N. Flood - Ireland

Also in attendance were Dr's Markostamos (Greece) and Picchioni (Italy). Apologies for absence were received from Dr. J. Bailey (United Kingdom) and Dr. C. Munck (Denmark).

The minutes of the 1986 annual General Meeting were read and approved. Also read to the members and adopted by them were papers prepared on:

1. Limitation of the field of activity of the orthodontic.
2. Education programme.
3. Harmonisation of orthodontic standards within the EEC.

### **Secretary / Treasurer:**

It was agreed that the posts of Secretary and Treasurer should be kept separate. To accommodate this, the first sentence of Article 9 of the Constitution must be amended to read:

"The Federation is administered by a Council composed of four members"

In addition, Article 10 is amended to read:

"The Council consists of a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer."

These alterations were prepared by Dr. Gysel, seconded by Dr. Ferrini and passed by all members present. The Secretary undertook to write to the absent delegates Drs. J. Bailey (Britain) and C. Munck (Denmark) to obtain their written consent to the amendments.

### **EFOSA DIRECTORY**

It is planned to publish a new Directory of Orthodontists during 1989. The costs of publication and distribution are to be assessed in time for the annual general meeting of 1988. In the meantime, the proposal of the Treasurer, Dr. Unterer, to set up a fund was

adopted by the meeting. Each country is to donate 4 German Mark per member of its association as published in the last Directory. Reports from member delegates:

**France:**

Regulations governing postgraduate orthodontic training and education have been issued. The eight centres of training throughout the country between them passed 70 candidates during 1987. It is expected that this number will be reduced to 50 in the coming year. About 950 are now in the orthodontic register. A four year course is now required though this may include some part-time studies. Until recently orthodontists could take enlarged radiographs but general practitioners were restricted to periapicals. The regulations have been changed to permit all dentists to take the larger radiographs.

**Belgium:**

No changes during 1987.

**Italy:**

To become an orthodontist, one must first obtain a degree in medicine. Having qualified, there are three specialties open to the graduate: Stomatology, Oral Surgery, or Orthodontics. Unlike other countries in the EEC, a graduate in dental surgery is not at present permitted to become an orthodontist. The orthodontic course for doctors is three years part-time. About 40 to 50 graduate nationally each year. Although in some cities, orthodontic treatment is paid for by the municipality, most patients in Italy attend privately. Average fees for treatment by multiband appliances are 2 million lira per annum.

**Germany:**

Dr. Peter Bertzbach, who retired as EFOSA delegate during the year, conveyed his sentiments of goodwill to all other delegates. By Government regulation the fees charged to private patients have been reduced by 20% to 30%. The fees paid by Insurance Companies remain the same, but this may be subject to revision. Orthodontic training consists of one year in general practice, followed by two to three years' orthodontics in a University, and a final year in an orthodontic practice.

**Netherlands:**

Some year's ago there were 7 dental schools in the country, now only two remain. About 600 dentists are unemployed. About 8 to 10 orthodontists graduate every 2 years.

**Ireland:**

The report of the Orthodontic Manpower Subcommittee found that with increasing numbers of postgraduates returning from Britain and the U.S.A., there will be an overabundance within the next few years. The problem of obtaining employment may become acute.

### **United Kingdom:**

A written report was sent by Dr. Bailey and circulated among the members. All postgraduate courses are now of three years full time duration. The National Health Service Fee Scale has been altered but is unlikely to provide a satisfactory reward for ideal treatment. A guest, Dr. Markostamos (Greece), informed the meeting that at present, Greek orthodontists study and qualify abroad, especially in Germany, Denmark or the United States of America. Orthodontic training courses of three years duration are to be established in Greece by about 1990. At present, about 80 practice orthodontics full-time, while another 25 work abroad. No orthodontic association has as yet been formed in Greece.

A letter was received from the President of the Spanish Orthodontic Association regretting his inability to attend owing to illness.

The following members were elected to Council for the period 1987-1989:

1. President: Prof. Charles Bolender (France)
2. Vice-President: Dr. John Bailey (Britain)
3. Secretary: Dr. Norman Flood (Ireland)
4. Treasurer: Dr. Siegfried Unterer (Germany)

## **Minutes of the 17. annual general meeting**

Saturday, 18 November, 1989 at 92 Avenue de Wagram, Paris 75017.

### **Attendance**

1. Prof. C. Bolender (France), presiding
2. Dr. C. Gysel (Belgium)
3. Dr. S. Unterer (Germany)
4. Dr. R. Bijlstra (Netherlands)
5. Dr. P. Picchioni (Italy)
6. Dr. A. Ferrini (Italy)
7. Dr. N. Flood (Ireland)

An apology was received from Dr. J. Bailey (United Kingdom). The minutes of the 1988 meeting were read by the Secretary, Dr. Flood. A correction was made in the German report, as under the present System of payments, the Insurance Company, (not the patient) pays the full fees to the orthodontist. The minutes were then approved by all members.

### **1. DIRECTORY**

The new directory is to be published during 1990 at a cost of 12.50 German Marks per copy plus 18% VAT. The financial provisions for publication were agreed and signed. All remaining countries should pay by 15 December, and return lists by the end of that month, so that printing can commence. The members listed number 1225 (Germany), 647 (France), 88 (Belgium), 20 (Ireland), 182 (Netherlands), 565 (Italy), 358 (United Kingdom).

### **2. REPORTS**

#### **Netherlands**

With over five hundred dentists unemployed, dental undergraduate training has been restricted to two centres, and postgraduate facilities are similarly reduced. As only five orthodontists now graduate each year, there is paradoxically a shortage of orthodontists. As a result, more general practitioners do orthodontic work, often working as assistants. Others go abroad to train. Dental hygienists are legally allowed to work in the mouth, doing bonding, scaling or impressions.

#### **Germany**

About 10% to 15 % of patients are private, the rest coming under the social welfare scheme. Under a new reform law, the payment system has been changed. In fifteen provinces the patient pays 20% of the fees at three monthly intervals in advance, and applies to the Insurance Company for the remaining 80% that is to be paid to the orthodontist. If treatment is completed, the patient may apply for a refund of his 20% from the Company. In ten other provinces, a dental society collects all payments - a surer System for the orthodontist.

## **France**

About sixty new orthodontists graduate each year. At present a grant in aid system operates, the Government paying Fr 2.600 per annum, and the practitioner setting his own fee according to his estimate of the work involved.

## **Belgium**

Due to political inertia, there is still no progress on establishing orthodontics as a specialty despite the efforts being made.

## **Ireland**

A new Orthodontic Society of Ireland has been formed to advance the science and practice of orthodontics, and encourage research and education in orthodontics. It aims to seek the establishment of a Specialists Register in accordance with E.C. Regulations, and promote international relations.

## **United Kingdom**

A written report was submitted:

During the past year there has been little changes in the U.K. orthodontics. There has been no implementation of a Specialists' Register, numbers of post graduate students are roughly the same and there is no change in the organisation of the NHS scheme. From next year there will be quite a few changes, two undergraduate schools are due to close and there will be a new contract for Dentists with Health Service; up to the moment there has been little consideration of those restricting their practices to Orthodontics. There will be other changes where there will be a reduction in the necessity to get approval for certain Orthodontic treatment. Orthodontists are concerned that payment may be withheld where the Authorities may say they would not have approved treatment if they had been asked.

## **Italy**

Dental hygienists are to be trained in four new schools. When graduated, they will be permitted to work in the mouth for scaling, bonding etc. Orthodontists in Italy study medicine for six years, then orthodontics for three more. Although dental schools have been established, no dentists have as yet graduated as orthodontists.

## **Greece**

A letter received from Dr. Markostamos listed the following observations

1. The council set up to deal with the transitory measures relating to the speciality of orthodontics has not completed its work.
2. It is thought that there will be about 200 orthodontists in exclusive practice and another 150 in mixed practice.
3. Orthodontic training will be three years full time.
4. No training schools as yet exist.

A discussion regarding the future role of dental hygienists then ensued. In Holland, where there is a shortage of orthodontists, hygienists are widely used, but in most other European countries they are still illegal. All member associations of EFOSA are asked to prepare a report outlining their views on the status and utilization of hygienists. This report is to be submitted to the next meeting of EFOSA.

The next meeting of the EFOSA will be held in Paris on Saturday, 24 November, 1990.

## **Minutes of the 18. annual general meeting of the European Federation of Orthodontic Specialists' Associations**

Saturday, 24 November 1990 at 54 Blvd. Latour Maubourg, Paris 75007.

### **Attendance**

1. Prof. C. Bolender (France), presiding,
2. Dr. P. Picchioni (Italy),
3. Dr. C. Gysel (Belgium),
4. Dr. R. Bijlstra (Netherlands),
5. Dr. N. Flood (Ireland).

A new delegate, Dr. Wolfgang Schmiedel (Germany), replacing the previous German delegate. Dr. S. Unterer, was cordially welcomed. We were also pleased to see in attendance Dr. R. Gonzalez-Giralda, President of the Spanish Orthodontic Society, Dr. Michiel Bierman, President of the Dutch Orthodontic Society, and Dr. B Faure (France).

Apologies were received from Drs. J. Bailey (Britain) and A. Ferrini (Italy).

The minutes of the 1989 meeting were read by the Secretary, Dr. Flood. With some minor corrections to the Dutch report, the minutes were approved by all members.

### **1. DIRECTORY**

The new EFOSA directory (1990) has just been published. Copies will be circulated to all members within the next few weeks.

### **2. REPORTS FROM DELEGATES; STATUS OF HYGIENISTS AND AUXILIARIES.**

#### **NETHERLANDS**

Hygienists are legal and widely used, as they help fill the gap caused by the shortage of orthodontists. Their work includes scaling and polishing. Hygienists sit a State examination after a two year course in dental health, periodontal care, etc.

#### **IRELAND**

Hygienists legal from the 1st January, 1991. They will clean and polish teeth, do scaling, apply fissure sealants. They will not be allowed to do fillings, give local anaesthetics, or fit bands. Current hygienists available have been trained in Britain, but future hygienists will be trained in the Dental Hospitals of Dublin and Cork, when courses start in a few years time.

## **GERMANY**

The reunion of East with West Germany will add about 500 more orthodontists, bringing the overall total to about 2000. Previously, all East German orthodontists worked in public clinics, but most now wish to start private practice. Standards vary throughout East Germany, and there will be a transition period during which the exchange of orthodontists between East and West Germany will be restricted. Hygienists are permitted in Germany and undertake a three year training period. As well as scalings, hygienists may take impressions if the orthodontist is present in the room. Those who own an additional course may also take x-rays.

## **ITALY**

Dr. Picchioni supplied written reports on both orthodontics and auxiliaries which were most helpful. One school in Bari trains hygienists who do scalings. Auxiliaries are restricted to receptionist work, cleaning and sterilisation of instruments.

## **BELGIUM**

Hygienists are not recognised in Belgium. Talks on specialisation of orthodontics continues, but no changes yet.

## **FRANCE**

Hygienists are not legalised, but courses exist for dental surgery assistants to learn administration, reception work, and four handed dentistry. The duration of the course is two years part-time.

## **BRITAIN**

Hygienists are legal now. Talks on the establishment of a specialist register continue, but progress very slow.

## **SPAIN**

There are 468 members of the Spanish Orthodontic Society, of which 150 are in exclusive practice. From 1948, Spain graduated Stomatologists, but in 1985 dentistry was reintroduced as a separate profession. The first dentists will be qualifying during 1991, and it is hoped that some of these will start training as orthodontists from 1992.

Reciprocity exists between Spain and some Latin American countries, and about thirty per cent of dentist working in Spain are of Latin American origin. The situation is to be revised during 1992.

No hygienists exist yet, but there are some proposals to train them.

### **3. SPECIALISTS REGISTER**

Under this heading there began a discussion concerning the rights of orthodontists to work in other E.C. countries and the restrictions placed on them. It was decided to make this the theme of the next EFOSA meeting. Delegates are requested to prepare information regarding the requirements imposed by their respective countries on prospective immigrants, and the standing of foreign orthodontists as compared to their own. These are the details that young orthodontists wishing to work abroad will be seeking in the future from us, as their representatives. Written reports will be most welcome.

### **4. ELECTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS**

Re-elected were:

1. Prof. C. Bolender (President),
2. Dr. J. Bailey (Vice-President),
3. Dr. N. Flood (Secretary).
4. Dr. W. Schmiedel accepted the post of Treasurer vacated by Dr. Unterer.

### **5. 1991 MEETING**

It was proposed to hold next years meeting in Paris in September. When the actual date has been fixed all delegates will be informed.

Norman Flood. Hon. Secretary.

### **Minutes of the 19. EFOSA Meeting**

8 Avenue Simon Bolivar, Paris, 75019, on Tuesday, 26th November, 1991.

The President, Professor C. Bolender, took the chair. The other delegates attending were Drs. R. Bijlstra (Netherlands), W. J. Schmiedel (Germany), C. Gysel (Belgium), J. Bailey (Britain), A. Ferrini (Italy), and N. Flood, (Ireland). With delegates of all member countries present, no apologies were received. Visiting observers included Mme Duque-Morens (Belgium), Dr. K. Markostamos (Greece), Dr. B. Faure (France) and Dr. P. Piccioni (Italy).

The minutes of the 1990 meeting were read and approved.

Dr. K. Markostamos, in presenting the application of the Greek Orthodontic Society to join EFOSA said that the Society had been formed as the result of the amalgamation of previous orthodontic groups in Greece. There were now nearly a hundred members. Dr. Gysel and Dr. Bijlstra pointed out that the provisions of the Constitution allowed the admission of non-specialists to the Greek Society. On discussion, Dr. Markostamos disclosed that a majority of its current members were not qualified specialists, though they intended to restrict entry in the future. As EFOSA was formed to represent the rights of orthodontic specialists, it requests that all new societies confine its members accordingly. The Greek application would regretfully have to be deferred until a society could be formed that would meet EFOSA requirements. It was hoped it would not be too long before a new Greek Society of Orthodontic Specialists could be formed and a new application submitted.

In Britain, a discussion document has been produced by the General Dental Council with the view of establishing a Specialist Register in line with EC recommendations. It is hoped that the new Register will come into being early in 1992. Ireland has also announced its intention of applying to the Dental Council for the establishment of an Irish Specialist register for Orthodontists.

### **TRANSITORY MEASURES FOR RECOGNITION OF SPECIALISTS.**

France is concerned that some practitioners may be obtaining recognition in other EC countries for certificates that would not meet specialty requirements in their own countries. For instance, the Diplome Nationale is awarded to successful candidates in two examinations centrally directed from Paris, following a four year official course. The Diplome Universtaire, on the other hand, is for overseas students, and is not recognised in France as it does not meet official requirements. There is a danger that holders of the Diplome Universtaire may be applying for registration in other countries who are not aware of the distinction between the two diplomes. Stressing the need for standardisation

Professor Bolender welcomed the Erasmus report on ideal specialist training being produced by Van der Linden.

It was proposed that for the next meeting of EFOSA, each delegate was to prepare a written report concerning:

1. The official training available in his country for postgraduate orthodontics.
2. What parallel unofficial training systems exist.
3. What recognition his country gives to people trained outside the EC.

All members were requested to send their written reports to the Secretary, Dr. Flood, before the next EFOSA meeting.

It was decided that next year's AGM would be held in 8 Avenue Simon Bolivar on the Saturday in November preceding the S.F.O.D.F. meeting in Paris.

Norman Flood, Secretary, 167, Booterstown Ave., Blackrock, Co. Dublin. Ireland.

## **Minutes of the 20. EFOSA Meeting**

8 Avenue Simon Bolivar, Paris 75019, on Saturday, 28 November, 1992.

Prof. Ch. Bolender (France) presided. Other delegates present included:

1. Drs. W. Schmiedel (Germany)
2. Attilio Ferrini (Italy)
3. R. Bijlstra (Netherlands)
4. C. Gysel (Belgium)
5. Norman Flood (Ireland).

Also in attendance were

1. Drs. R. Moerens-Dugue (Belgium)
2. B. Faure (France)
3. Paolo Picchioni (Italy).

An apology was received from Dr. J. C. Bailey (Great Britain) whose absence was occasioned by a family behavement. Dr. K. Markostamos was welcomed as the delegate from the Professional Association of Orthodontists of Greece.

The minutes of the 1991 meeting were read by the Secretary and approved by all delegates.

Reports were given by each delegate regarding:

1. The official training available in his country for postgraduate orthodontics.
2. What parallel unofficial training systems exist.
3. What recognition his country gives to people trained outside the E.C.

## **1. REPORTS**

### **GERMANY.**

1. Postgraduates must undertake four years training that includes one year in general dentistry, one year in a University Clinic, and two years in an authorised specialist orthodontic practice. Ideally, the Universities would prefer students to attend two to three years in their Clinics, but with about 800 qualifying each year, it is difficult to provide sufficient training posts even under the present one year system.
2. It is interesting that general practitioners in Germany who practise exclusive orthodontics are legally obliged to treat patients who demand fillings or extractions.

3. No parallel unofficial systems exist.
4. No recognition is accorded to postgraduates obtaining diplomas outside the E.C. Germans returning from training courses in the U.S.A. must sit a written and oral examination to obtain a recognised orthodontic diploma.

#### **NETHERLANDS.**

1. Two dental and two orthodontic schools provide a four year postgraduate orthodontic course for 18 students, of which 4 to 5 qualify each year.
2. Some unofficial courses are given by orthodontists receiving fees from general practitioners.
3. Dutch dentists wishing to obtain orthodontic training outside the E.C. must first apply to the Registration Committee before going abroad. The Committee (consisting of University teachers and specialist orthodontists) will study details of the curriculum before giving official approval to the specified training course. If the course abroad consists of two years, the student must do a further two years on his return to Holland before he can obtain a diploma.

#### **BELGIUM.**

1. Orthodontic training in hospitals and universities consists of four year, full-time courses leading to a diploma. As orthodontics is not considered a specialty in Belgium, their diploma has no official recognition. Courses are not standardised, so training is variable.
2. One private school offers orthodontic training.
3. None. As there is no specialist register, no recognition is given to anyone from abroad.

#### **UNITED KINGDOM.**

1. Postgraduate Orthodontic Training. Official courses held at some of the undergraduate teaching hospitals and the Eastman Dental Hospital for postgraduates. A three year full-time course leading to the M. Orth. from one of the Royal Colleges. About 60 students, but probably 50% from outside the U.K.
2. No unofficial training programmes.
3. As there has not yet been ratification of the Specialists' Register, specialists are not officially recognised from anywhere.

#### **IRELAND**

1. The Dental Hospitals at Dublin and Cork offer a limited number of training posts, which are recognised for those sitting the primary and final examinations for the

Fellowship of the Faculty of Dentistry, R.C.S.I. Most Irish postgraduates spend some years training abroad, either in the U.K. or the U.S.

2. No unofficial training programmes.
3. Orthodontists not recognised as specialists, irrespective of origin.

## **ITALY**

1. Three year full-time official courses given in Schools and Universities to stomatologists and qualified dentists. Diplomas recognised by the State.
2. Shorter courses exist, but are given no status.
3. Not recognised.

## **FRANCE**

1. Four years part-time training leads to examination for orthodontic diploma: a postgraduate student may still spend three days weekly in a University, the remaining two days in private practice. Current transitory measures will cease in 1996, after which University training will be essential.
2. Many unofficial courses exist, but these are not given official specialty status in France as they do not meet University requirements. There is a danger that holders of these "inferior" diplomas may seek registration in other countries who are unaware that they are not recognised in France. French academic circles would like to see all courses standardised to University requirements.
3. All French postgraduates returning from abroad must appear before the Conseil National for assessment as to their suitability for specialist registration. The Conseil National consists of University professors who will consider the facilities available in foreign Universities. There are written, clinic and practical examinations; candidates also present five treated cases.

## **GREECE**

1. There are about 200 orthodontists in Greece. A University diploma is obtainable after a three year full-time course. At present, four students are enrolled annually.
2. Unofficial courses have been discontinued.
3. Students returning from two year courses abroad are obliged to do a further year in Greece before facing an examination organised by the Department of Health.

## **2. GREEK APPLICATION TO JOIN EFOSA.**

Copies of the Constitution of the "Association Professionnelle des Orthodontistes de Grece" were presented to the meeting. The application of the Greek Association to join the European Federation of Orthodontic Specialists' Associations was accepted

unanimously. Our new colleagues are warmly welcomed, especially Dr K. Markostamos who attended as Greek delegate.

### **3. OTHER BUSINESS**

1. The seat of the Federation of Orthodontic Specialists' Associations is to be changed from the University of Strasbourg to a new address in Paris.
2. The report of the Treasurer, Dr. W. Schmiedel, was approved and accepted.
3. Ireland has hitherto been represented by the Orthodontic Group, Irish Dental Association. This title has now been changed to the Orthodontic Society of Ireland.
4. Our Treasurer, Dr Wolfgang Schmiedel, wrote to Dr C. Munck inquire if the Danish Association would consider reactivating their membership of EFOSA. No reply was received.

### **4. RESOLUTION.**

Article 4 of the E.C.Council Directive of 25 July 1978 states that:

"Each Member State... shall recognise the diplomas, certificates, and other evidence of formal qualifications of dental practitioners specializing in orthodontics... awarded to nationals of Member States by other Member States in accordance with Articles 2 and 3 of Directive 78/687/EEC... by granting such qualifications the same effect in its territory as the diplomas, certificates and other qualifications which it itself awards."

The Federation of Orthodontic Specialists' Associations meeting in Paris on the 28 November 1992 is concerned that, despite this Directive of 1978, some countries of the E.G. have yet to introduce a register of orthodontic specialists. The Federation invites these countries to establish conformity with this requirement and with each other, so that orthodontists of equal qualifications should have equal status.

### **5. EF05A MEETING 1993.**

The next annual meeting is scheduled for the end of November 1993.

Norman Flood, Secretary, 167 Booterstown Avenue, Blackrock, Co. Dublin, Ireland.

## **Minutes of the 21. EFOSA Meeting**

8 Avenue Simon Bolivar, Paris 75019, on Saturday, 27 November, 1993.

Prof. Ch. Bolender (France) presided. Other delegates present included:

1. Drs A. Ferrini (Italy)
2. K. Markostamos (Greece)
3. W. Schmiedel (Germany)
4. R. Bijlstra (The Netherlands)
5. R. Moerens-Duque (Belgium)
6. N. Flood (Ireland)

Also in attendance were Drs B. Faure (France) and P. Picchioni (Italy). An apology was received from Dr. J. C. Bailey (Great Britain), while Dr C. Gysel (Belgium) was sadly absent due to ill health. All present expressed their concern, and asked that their good wishes for a full recovery be conveyed to our old friend.

The minutes of the 1992 meeting were read by the Secretary and approved by all delegates.

## **1. REPORTS FROM MEMBER DELEGATES**

### **NETHERLANDS**

The economic recession has pushed the Government into cutting back expenses for health care. Orthodontic fees are to be reduced. Nonetheless, the Government is contemplating reopening one of the dental schools it closed a few years ago.

Within the orthodontic profession there is a proposal to introduce regulations obliging further education, inter-collegial inspection and quality control. The two Universities are now inspected every five years.

### **GERMANY**

Political union has cost much more than anticipated. Fees in Western Germany have been reduced by about 20%; orthodontic fees in the East are about 80% of the Western level, but these will tend to converge to a lower level. Other restrictions include a reduction of fee levels by 10% on those orthodontists reaching an annual limit of 490,000DM; the reduction increases to 20% from 607,000 DM:, and 30% from 750,000 DM.

There are regulations restricting the number of orthodontists that can practice in any one region. At present the ratio is one orthodontist to 30,000 population. The BDK would like this changed to one per 16,000.

A further regulation prohibiting any orthodontist over the age of 55 from establishing a new practice is now being contested in the German Courts. If necessary, the BDK is prepared to take the issue to the European Court. By a unanimous vote, EFOSA has pledged its assistance and support to the German Orthodontic Society.

## **GREECE**

The Orthodontic Society has 150 members, of whom, 100 are qualified specialists. All new members must have suitable orthodontic qualifications to be admitted.

Orthodontist treating patients financed by Mutual Insurance schemes are perturbed that some general practitioners are trying to obtain patients from the system by offering cut rates. The Greek Dental Association has offered to write to the Insurance Companies suggesting that only qualified orthodontists should be contracted.

Every two years, the University of Athens accepts four postgraduate students for its three year orthodontic training.

## **ITALY**

The political and economic crisis overshadows all else. Fees have been reduced, and too many are practising orthodontics. The profession want a register, but the Government is too preoccupied with other problems.

There are now eight orthodontic schools accepting medical doctors or dentists for postgraduate training.

## **BRITAIN**

In a written submission (circulated to all delegates) Dr Bailey outlined the fluctuations of expectations within the U.K. Early in 1993, the various orthodontic associations had reached agreement with the General Dental Council on proposals for the establishment of a Specialist Register. Now, all developments are frozen pending new EC legislation or clarification. Some authorities are claiming that all specialities should require seven years postgraduate training.

The proposed merging of the British Associations of Orthodontist with the Consultants and Community orthodontist or form a new organisation may have the unwanted side-effect of including Generalists with an interest in Orthodontics. This would effectively exclude the U.K. from EFOSA.

## **IRELAND**

The Orthodontic Society of Ireland has petitioned the Dental Council to establish a specialist register along EC guidelines. Events in Britain have suspended negotiations until the overall picture becomes clearer.

## **BELGIUM**

A Commission has been set up to examine the principles of specialisation. Many Generalists are opposed to the idea of a specialist register. Postgraduates receive four year part-time training at a University. There are 7,000 dentist and 200 orthodontists practising in Belgium.

## **FRANCE**

The SDODF now has 768 members. The National Association of Schoolteachers has approached the Society for an Insurance Contract to augment the National health Insurance.

The age limit for commencing orthodontic treatment for National Insurance patients has been raised from twelve to eighteen.

This propose has not been accepted by the goverment.

## **2. TREASURER'S REPORT**

Dr. Schmiedel reported a healthy balance of plus 18,700 DM.

## **3. ELECTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS for 1993-95.**

1. PRESIDENT: Prof. Ch. Bolender
2. VICE-PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY: Dr N. Flood
3. TREASURER: Dr W. Schmiedel.

Prof. Bolender expressed his desire to retire from the Presidency in 1995. By agreement of the meeting, his place is to be taken by Dr Flood.

## **Minutes of the 22. annual general meeting**

8 Avenue Simon Bolivar, Paris 75019, on Saturday, 1 st October, 1994.

Prof. Ch. Bolender presided. Other delegates present included Drs R. Bijlstra (Netherlands), C. Degroote (Belgium), W. Schmiedel (Germany), A. Ferrini (Italy), and N. Flood (Ireland).

Also in attendance were Drs Bourdillat and Faure (France), and Dr P. Picchioni (Italy). An apology was received from Dr J. C. Bailey (Britain).

The minutes of the 1993 meeting were read by the Secretary and approved by all members.

### **1. REPORTS FROM MEMBER DELEGATES**

#### **ITALY**

Last year has been another difficult one for Italian orthodontists. Taxes, Medical Defence Insurance, and practice expenses all increased markedly, while the devaluation of the Italian Lire added to the cost of imported items and equipment. Fees, on the other hand, have remained static for four or five years, partly due to the recession, and partly as the falling birth rate reduced the number of orthodontic patients.

The country's political and economic problems would appear to dominate the immediate future.

#### **GERMANY**

Such is the economic recession that ten per cent of orthodontic practices may close down within the next few years. Higher expenses, lower fees are again the problem as the Government constricts annual payments. In addition, the German training produces too many graduates annually: postgraduate students spend two years at University, plus two years at an approved specialist practice. This is not a system that provides adequate controls.

#### **BELGIUM**

While still maintaining their separate identities, the four Belgian associations have combined to conduct discussions with the Government. In the past year, orthodontics has gained official recognition as a specialty, but those who practice orthodontics are not recognised as specialists.

A grant-in-aid system operates in Belgium, though the Government contribution is only the equivalent of 2,000 Fr. francs (about £250) for 3 years treatment. Nonetheless, some generalists find it worth their while to travel abroad for crash courses in orthodontics.

## **NETHERLANDS**

The newly elected Coalition Government plans to reduce Health Service Costs in dentistry during 1995. Other than "essential" treatment, such as for cleft palate patients, it proposes to exclude all orthodontics from the Insurance Schemes. Patients will have to pay privately or buy their own insurance. Nonetheless fee cuts of 7% are expected. The Government regulates private fees by maintaining them at the same level as the public health service.

## **IRELAND**

The Orthodontic Society of Ireland formally applied to the Dental Council for the establishment of a Specialists' Register.

Eligible patients may obtain free orthodontic treatment from the regional Health Boards. Fee paying patients attend private practitioners. As eligible patients are numerous, long waiting lists have developed. To ease the congestion, the Eastern Health Board has asked private specialists to treat 500 of the most urgent and difficult cases for an overall fee of £1,000.

## **BRITAIN**

A written submission from Dr Bailey reports:

1. The newly formed British Orthodontic Society embraces all existing orthodontic factions - Specialist Practitioners, salaried Hospital Consultants and Community Orthodontists, University Academics, and General Practitioners who undertake some orthodontic treatment.
2. No progress on the Specialists' Register, though an investigation into specialisation within the E.U. is being carried out by the Chief Dental Officers. This may lead to something.

## **FRANCE**

A grant-in-aid system that allows orthodontists to charge their own fees has operated in France since 1984. The system works well, but there are fears that the new Government may seek changes.

## **2. WORLD FEDERATION OF ORTHODONTICS (WFO)**

The Fourth International Orthodontic Congress will be held in San Francisco in May 1995 under the sponsorship of the American Association of Orthodontists.

It is anticipated that, during this congress, the bylaws of the world Federation of Orthodontics will be confirmed. The first official meeting of the WFO is scheduled for May 2000, after which further meetings will occur every five years in conjunction with the International Orthodontic Congress.

On behalf of EFOSA, Dr. N. Flood wrote to Dr William DeKock, c/o A.A.O., wishing the project every success. Referring to the bylaws, it was pointed out that while the WFO wished to confine Fellowship in the Federation to qualified orthodontists, there seemed to be a loophole that would allow all member of national associations to be eligible. Accordingly EFOSA suggested a minor addition to article 4.1.1. : "Fellowship in the Federation shall be open to any specialist orthodontist with a recognised postgraduate qualification who is already a full member of a national or regional association or society of Orthodontists affiliated with the WFO."

In a gracious reply, Dr DeKock said that in their view the term "orthodontist" by definition means "a specialist who has recognised postgraduate training." He pledged, however, that the ideas of EFOSA would receive thoughtful consideration by the executive Committee. He was aware that some associations included generalists who practised some orthodontics.

### **3. EURO-QUAL PROGRAMME**

The Euro-Qual Programme is a concerted action by nine orthodontists attached to eight European universities. Their aim is to develop and establish a "European Orthodontic Quality Assurance System," that will improve effectiveness and efficiency in orthodontic care throughout Europe" (East and West).

Much preparatory work has been done under the headings of Education, Clinical Standards, Personal Evaluation, Customer Satisfaction, Equipment and Materials. Their proposals are to be presented at the consensus Meeting in Amsterdam next March.

This ambitious programme has a visionary concept that commands respect. Its scope is so wide that one can foresee many difficulties to surmount. There are also fears in some quarters that their best efforts may be subverted by Governments anxious to establish more controls in their efforts to restrict payments to the profession.

It was agreed by Council that all eight EFOSA delegates should attend if possible, the initial Consensus Meeting in Amsterdam.

### **4. EFOSA DIRECTORY**

The EFOSA directory is to be published during 1995. Each country is requested to submit its entry list by next January.

#### **5. CHANGE of EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

Professor Ch. Bolender (France) is to retire from the presidency, and is to be replaced by Dr N. Flood (Ireland). Dr. R. J. Bijlstra (Netherlands) takes over as Secretary. Council has approved Dr. Bijlstra's request for the assistance of a part-time secretary.

#### **6. TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Treasurer, Dr. W. Schmiedel reported a surplus of 17,070 DM.

#### **7. 1995 MEETING**

The next EFOSA meeting is to take place in Dublin in early October.

## **Minutes of the 23. annual general meeting of the European Federation of Orthodontic Specialists Association**

10 Richview Office Park, Clonskeagh, Dublin 14, on Saturday 7th October 1995.

Dr. Flood (Ireland) presided. Other delegates present were Drs. Ch. Bolender (France), W. Schmiedel (Germany), A. Ferrini (Italy), R. Bijlstra (the Netherlands). Also in attendance were Drs. Kettler (Britain), Picchioni (Italy), Faure (France) and Murray (Ireland).

Apologies for absence were received from the delegate Dr. R. Moerens-Duque (Belgium) and Drs Weiland (Austria) and Kurol (Sweden) who were invited at the meeting. Not present was Dr. Markostamos (Greece).

Dr. Bolender emphasized the importance of keeping in touch or getting in touch with representatives of Spain, Portugal and Luxembourg.

### **1. REPORTS FROM MEMBER DELEGATES**

#### **GERMANY**

Dr. Schmiedel reported that 5-6% of the orthodontists had to close their office due to economic reasons.

Too many postgraduate students are now in training. There are plans to reduce the number of postgraduate students. There will be a new health law in 1996 and the expectations are that this law will cause a further 10-15% reduction of the fees.

The treatment of patients over 18 years is now excluded from national health services. Since 1988 the fees for treatment of private patients are frozen. The incomes of orthodontists are on the scale of specialists incomes one of the lowest.

There are plans to change the fee-system to a system with a flat fee for every orthodontic treatment, irrespective of the severity of the malocclusion and the appliances used. It is not sure if these plans will be executed.

#### **ITALY**

There was a written report from Italy, which was read by Dr. Picchioni and is added to this minutes. Dr. Bolender asked if it should be possible to produce some figures of the numbers of students and graduates of the Medical School and the School of Odontology, who will be working or are working as a dentist. He also asked which kind of education the postgraduate students in orthodontics have had (Medical School or School of Odontology). Dr. Picchioni promised to provide the information.

At some universities it is still possible to start a postgraduate orthodontic training coming from a Medical School, without having had any training in dentistry. The expectations are that this will not be possible any longer in the future.

It is still possible to practice more than one specialty.

The Medical Association impedes rapid changes in the complex situation of the different possibilities of education.

In the future the Odontologists will outnumber the medical doctors with a dental degree, but at this moment it is still the other way around.

Dr. Bolender advises Italy to find out how these things are organized in Spain and Portugal.

## **FRANCE**

Dr. Bolender reports that there have not been major changes during the past year. At this moment the reimbursement given to patients by the private insurance companies, treated by specialists, is much higher than to patients treated by general practitioners. More and more G.P/s are practising now orthodontics and they formed an organization who is fighting against this private insurance scheme. The contract that the specialists have with the private insurance companies can be cancelled by the Government. The fear exists that the new Minister of Health will reorganize the complete Health System. The Government is now investigating if the "Syndicat" will be a representative organization. It is very important that this will happen. In that case the Government has to consult the "Syndicat" for all matters concerning the specialty.

On the question of Dr. Bijlstra about the training possibilities for foreigners in France and the kind of recognition that can be obtained, Dr. Bolender gave an explanation. To be recognized as a specialist the normal training must be followed concluded by a final examination in Paris leading to a "Diplome National d'Orthodontic" This training and the right to do the national examination is open to all dentists from E.C.C. countries. The "Diplome Universitaire d'Orthodontic" does not lead to recognition in any of the E.C.C. countries. At this moment these university diplomas are only provided by three universities.

## **THE NETHERLANDS**

Dr. Bijlstra reported that there were important changes in Holland. From January 1st 1995 a great part of the dentistry was taken out the national health insurance scheme, in which  $\pm$  65% of the population is insured.

This part consists of the general dentistry for adults and orthodontics for all ages except the orthodontics for cleft palate patients and similar cases.

The insurance companies, providing the national health insurance for the majority of the population now offer re-insurance possibilities for dentistry and orthodontics.

As the companies are autonomous nowadays their conditions differ greatly. In some areas of our country a dramatic fall of the intake of new patients can be noticed. It is too early to be sure if this is a temporary or a permanent trend.

Overall there is still a shortage of orthodontists. The dental school in Groningen reopened recently providing an undergraduate training program. Within the coming years there will not be an orthodontic department that can organize a postgraduate orthodontic training. So there are still only two postgraduate training centres (Nijmegen and Amsterdam) Some questions about the insurance system were brought forward and some discussion about the Dutch situation followed

## **IRELAND**

Dr. Flood mentioned two problems in his country. The first was the problem of a colleague who was trained in the U.S.A. in pedodontics and later took a two year course in orthodontics also in the U.S.A.. He now has a dual specialist office in pedodontics and orthodontics. He applied for the full membership of the Orthodontic Society of Ireland. The application was rejected.

Dr. Bolender brought forward that we in Europe have to be very careful in recognizing orthodontic training programs in the U.S.A.

The attempts to establish a specialist register in Ireland have been unsuccessful until now. Dr. Bolender points to the problem that the Irish and British orthodontists have no rights to be registered in the other E.C.C. countries because there is no specialist register in Ireland and Britain.

The second problem in Ireland is the fact that the percentage of patients, treated by qualified orthodontists is dropping. This is due to the dismissal of parttime specialist from the Dental Health Service. The number of patients, treated by general dentists under the supervision of a consultant is increasing. This is not a favourable situation. Dr Flood asked if an EFOSA statement on this subject might be appropriate but no decision was made for making such a statement.

## **BRITAIN**

Dr. Kettler explained the situation in Britain after the foundation of the British Orthodontic Society. There were five national Orthodontic Societies, which are unified now in the B.O.S.

He gave a survey of the organization within the B.O.S. and furthermore of the treatment possibilities for orthodontic patients and the demands for specialist training. There is a realistic hope that a specialist register will be established in 1997. (Dr. Kettler was so kind to send a written report to the Secretary after the meeting, which will be sent together with the minutes).

After his report there was a vivid discussion about the membership of Britain in the EFOSA.

Since there is a group of general practitioners member of the B.O.S., this Society cannot be seen as a specialist's Association and membership of the EFOSA should be in defiance of the constitution.

The opinion of the meeting was that it is important for the EFOSA as well as for the British orthodontists that Britain stays represented in the EFOSA. After ample discussion the following solution was proposed.

1. The B.O.S. will be represented by a delegate, who must be a specialist.
2. The delegate will only represent the specialist groups within the B.O.S.
3. Only specialists will be mentioned in the EFOSA directory.

Dr. Kettler will bring this proposal to the council of the B.O.S.

All delegates are requested to present this proposal to the council of the Society they represent, in order to be able to make a decision on the British membership of EFOSA at the next annual meeting.

## **2. EURO-QUAL**

In March 1995 there was a consensus meeting in Noordwijkerhout in the Netherlands. The president explained which statements were made there, but it is not yet known which statements are adopted by the different countries.

## **3. EUROPEAN BOARD OF ORTHODONTICS**

At the E.O.S.-meeting in Bergen there is not made a definite decision to establish a E.B.O. The final decision is postponed to the 1996 E.O.S.-meeting in Brighton.

Dr. Schmiedel (Germany) explains that the B.D.K. is not in favour of a E.B.O. but that he is pretty sure that it will come. In Germany there are plans to establish a National Board.

In France there also will be a National Board, only accepting specialists, which can deliver a certificate of excellence. It is not sure if the European Board will be open to non-specialists.

#### **4. DIRECTORY**

The new EFOSA directory will be ready in a month. On the question of Dr. Kettler about EFOSA's finances, the president and treasurer explain that the income comes from the member associations, depending on the number of members they have. The payments are made when a new directory is published. The expenses apart from the directory are very low. The expenses of the delegates, visiting the annual EFOSA-meeting are paid by the national Societies.

#### **5. OTHER BUSSINESS**

The treasurer Dr. Schmiedel reported a surplus of DM. 16.366.51 The next annual meeting will be hold in Paris on Saturday 5th or 12th October 1996. Decided was that all delegates will present a written report about the situation in their country. They can send it in advance to the secretary or bring it with enough copies to the meeting (like Italy in 1995).

## **Minutes of the 24. extra EFOSA General Assembly Meeting**

May 25th, 1996, Paris, France

An extra meeting of the European Federation of Orthodontic Specialists Associations was held at 8 Avenue Simon Bolivar, Paris on Saturday the 25th of May 1996. Dr. Flood (Ireland) presided. Other delegates present were Dr. Bolender (France), Dr. Schmiedel (Germany) and Dr. Bijlstra (the Netherlands).

Also in attendance were Dr. Faure (France), Dr. Jongsma (the Netherlands) and Dr. Karvelas (Greece).

Invited guest was Prof. van der Linden (the Netherlands). Apologies for absence were received from Dr. Moerens-Duque (Belgium), Dr. Ferrini (Italy) and Dr. Markostamos (Greece).

The main topic on this extra meeting to be discussed was " the Future of the Orthodontic Specialty in Europe".

At 9.25 a.m. Dr. Flood opened the meeting and called upon Dr. van der Linden to give further comments on the memorandum that he had sent around. The memorandum was called: Remarks and suggestions regarding the organization of specialists in Orthodontics in Europe. He explained that he had been asked by several colleagues from different European countries to give his opinion on this matter and to organize a meeting where this topic could be discussed by the several parties involved.

Dr. van der Linden emphasized the fact that he had no personal interest what-so-ever and that he will step back as soon as things are organized.

He told that he had heard signals that the E.O.S. intended to change its Constitution and that a reorganization committee had been installed. One of the items this committee should investigate was the possibility to expand the activities of the E.O.S. by establishing a professional branch.

Dr. van der Linden considered this highly undesirable for the following reasons:

1. Only about 25 % of all European orthodontists are members of the E. O. S.
2. The E.O.S. is not a specialists organization but has many general practitioners as a member.
3. The E.O.S. has members from all European Countries and not only from E.U.-countries.

Dr. Bolender told that according to this information the council of the E.O.S. had decided that the E.O.S. should stay a pure scientific organization. Dr. van der Linden was not so sure about that.

He underlined the importance of a strong body consisting of representatives of the national specialists organizations in those E.U.-countries, where things were well structured. That means that:

1. the specialty must be recognized.
2. that there must be a specialist register and
3. there must consist a national association of only specialists, which is representative for the specialists in that country.

In his memorandum he proposed to establish a new federation of orthodontic specialists organizations called "EFASO". National associations of countries who fulfill the above mentioned criteria can become members, while associations of non E.U.-countries with comparable standards can become affiliate members. He had the following reasons for this proposal:

1. He had the feeling that the image of EFOSA was not too good. Many colleagues from all over Europe that he had spoken, had never heard of EFOSA or were not familiar with the activities of EFOSA.
2. In the construction of the supranational body as he proposed it, some of the present members of EFOSA should not fulfill the requirements for membership. This means that when EFOSA should remain existing and was changing its Constitution some of the existing members have to be excluded. Establishing a new body would be a more elegant solution.
3. A strong representative body is needed in the future for communication with the E.U. authorities in Brussels. He expected that in the near future more and more will be dictated by Brussels in the field of dentistry and its specialties.

Members of the Advisory Committee will be invited to take part in the discussions about all these matters.

As was to be expected a vivid discussion followed after this explanation.

Dr. Schmiedel disagreed with Dr. van der Linden about the image of EFOSA. He stated that EFOSA had been very active, was very well known in Germany and had an excellent Constitution.

Dr. Bolender also found that EFOSA had been of great help to some countries especially in the past and that EFOSA could very well continue after necessary alterations of its

Constitution. He thought that for a good communication with Brussels it was better to have an organization that existed already when the first directives of the E.C.C. were published.

Dr. Flood was also in favor of keeping EFOSA existing.

Dr. Bijlstra supported the ideas of Dr. van der Linden and saw advantages in transforming EFOSA into EFASO.

During the discussion it became clear that all agreed that something had to be done. Dr. van der Linden explained that the meeting, that he will organize in Brighton a brainstorming meeting and that only representatives of E.U. countries, who can fulfill the above mentioned criteria, will be invited to form a working committee. It was emphasized by Dr. van der Linden and Dr. Bijlstra that only the councils of the national associations can take important decisions.

At the E.O.S.-meeting in 1997 in Valencia decisions should be taken.

During the discussion the situation in Denmark, the U.K., Belgium, Italy, Spain, Portugal and Austria was reviewed.

It became clear that probably only the following countries might fulfill the requirements: Sweden, Denmark, the Netherlands, Germany, Ireland, France and Greece. The next item in the discussion was about who will be invited at the meeting in Brighton. Dr. van der Linden proposes to invite two delegates from each E.U. country, where at least a more or less representative body exists, to whom an invitation can be sent. Furthermore two delegates from the E.O.S., the EFOSA and the Advisory Committee will be invited as well as one representative of Switzerland and Norway, being non E.U. countries with comparable standards.

Dr. van der Linden read the text that he prepared for the invitation. Dr. Flood proposed to change the passage - the EFOSA is willing to cooperate - into the EFOSA will be pleased to cooperate. Dr. van der Linden gratefully accepted this proposal.

Our French hosts organized a very good lunch in the meeting room, after which Dr. van der Linden and Dr. Jongsma left the meeting.

The remaining EFOSA delegates discussed the outcome of the morning session. Dr. Bijlstra asked if the October meeting must take place or that we will wait and see what will happen in Brighton.

Decided was that the October meeting will take place on October 12th in Paris. Dr. Flood will send a copy of the Constitution to all delegates and Dr. Bolender points to the necessity of purifying our Constitution so that we also can present a Constitution at the meeting in Valencia.

Decided was that Dr. Schmiedel and Dr. Bijlstra will represent the EFOSA in Brighton and that Dr. Flood and Dr. Bolender will be present as representatives of their country.

Dr. Schmiedel presented a current state of accounts and explained that the cost of the directory was doubled, compared with the last but one.

He had to lend private money to the EFOSA to be able to pay for the directories. He therefore asked the delegates to take care of immediate payment after he has sent the bills.

At 03.00 p.m. the President closed this very interesting meeting.

## **Minutes of the 25. EFOSA General Assembly Meeting**

October 12th, 1996, Paris, France

The annual general meeting of the European Federation of Orthodontic Specialists Associations was held at 8 Avenue Simon Bolivar, Paris on Saturday the 12th of October 1996.

Dr. Flood (Ireland) presided. Other delegates present were Dr. Bolender (France), Dr. Schmiedel (Germany), Dr. Ferrini (Italy), Dr. Moerens-Duque (Belgium), Dr. Karvelas (Greece) and Dr. Bijlstra (the Netherlands). Also in attendance were Dr. Faure (France) and Dr. Picchioni (Italy). Invited were Dr. Kettler (U.K.), Dr. Medin (Sweden) and Dr. Gonzalez-Giralda (Spain). There were no apologies for absence.

At. 9.20 Dr. Flood opened the meeting.

### **1. Minutes of the 1995 annual meeting**

The minutes were read by Dr. Bijlstra. After the change of - parttime consultants - into - parttime specialists - in the report of Ireland, the minutes were adopted.

### **2. Minutes of the extra meeting in May 1996.**

The minutes of this meeting were read by Dr. Bijlstra and were adopted.

### **3. Correspondence**

The secretary. Dr. Bijlstra, said that he had sent around the most relevant correspondence together with the agenda. An extensive report from Greece came in, about the situation with the different orthodontic societies in Greece. Decided was that Dr. Karvelas should provide further information about this matter later on during the meeting. A statement about points 4 and 5 of the agenda from the council of the Dutch Specialist Association was handed out before the meeting.

### **4. Discussion of the Brighton meeting**

Dr. Flood explained the backgrounds that led to the organization of this meeting. The E.O.S. proposed to create a new professional political branch. The EFOSA as a federation of orthodontic specialist associations of member countries of the European Union, is existing already for many years. The Swedish Association of orthodontics asked

Prof. v.d. Linden to help to create a new umbrella organization (E.F.A.S.O.). Conditions for regular membership should be:

1. The specialty of orthodontics is recognized
2. There is a specialist register
3. The association represents specialists only
4. The association represents the vast majority of the specialists. At this moment there are 3 groups of countries:
  - Those who fulfil all these conditions.
  - Those who do not yet meet all the requirements, but are striving to do so.
  - Those who do not agree with these criteria.

Dr. Flood asked what to do with this confusing situation. Of course we can do nothing and let there be three different groups. He thinks that this is an undesirable development. He suggested that EFOSA should provide an updated constitution which goes into the direction of the Swedish/Dutch proposal. This should mean that all regular members of EFOSA should meet the above mentioned four criteria. Those who do not fulfil all those criteria, but are striving to do so could become provisional member, with the right to attend all meetings, but without the right to vote. This should mean that some of the present members of EFOSA should get the status of provisional member.

He asked those present for comment on this proposal. Dr. Bijlstra asked Dr. Medin if it is true that the Swedish orthodontists think that all orthodontic treatments should be provided by specialists. Dr. Medin explained that this is not the case, but that they think that the decision-making on educational, professional and political level must be in the hands of specialists. Dr. Medin thought that the introduction of Dr. Flood fitted well in the agenda of the Brighthelm working group.

Dr. Gonzalez explained the policy of the E.O.S.. The E.O.S. appointed a reorganization committee. One of the aims of this committee is to explore the possibilities to create an assembly of national orthodontic societies and to establish a professional-political branch within the E.O.S.

Dr. Gonzales told that the reorganization committee will examine the possibilities of cooperation with EFOSA

This might lead to a decision that there is no need for the E.O.S. to establish an assembly of national societies. The president of EFOSA will be invited to the next meeting of the E.O.S. reorganization committee on November 30th in London.

Dr. Bijlstra's comment is, that it is confusing that the E.O.S. speaks about an assembly of national orthodontic societies, while EFOSA is a federation of national specialists associations, which is an essential difference.

Dr. Schmiedel asked Dr. Karvelas which Greek society must be considered to be the proper one to represent the Greek orthodontists in E.F.A.S.O.. During the Brighton-meeting a very confusing situation arose about this matter. Dr. Karvelas explained the history of the existing orthodontic societies. There are: 1. The Greek orthodontic association, 2. The association for orthodontic and maxillofacial study and research 3. The professional Union of orthodontists. The first two are scientific societies open for orthodontists and general practitioners. The third one is a professional organization, exclusively for orthodontists.

Dr. Karvelas states that this Union meets all the requirements for membership of EFOSA. About 60% of the orthodontists are members of this Union. On a question of Dr. Bijlstra why not 95% of the orthodontists are members. Dr. Karvelas answers that the Union only exists since 1992 and that the membership is rapidly growing. Dr. Schmiedel says that he wants to go to the Amsterdam working group meeting only when there is a draft for a new constitution of EFOSA.

Dr. Bolender asks who is organizing the working committee. Is it necessary to hold the Amsterdam meeting when the EFOSA decides to change its constitution? Dr. Medin finds that the ideas of those organizing the Amsterdam meeting run parallel to the ideas ventilated here.

Dr. Schmiedel: We have to purify our constitution and ask the E.O.S. for cooperation. Germany and France already decided that the name of EFOSA shall not be changed, so: why shall we go to Amsterdam.

Dr. Bijlstra disagrees with Dr. Schmiedel because of some items on the Brighton working committee's agenda, to which the EFOSA has never paid attention. He thinks that EFOSA does not deserve belief when they think that they can look after their own interest.

Dr. Schmiedel then admits that it might be better to go to Amsterdam. Dr. Bolender thinks that items such as the European Board and the European examination are controversial and not the most important.

Dr. Flood asks for reactions on the proposal to change the constitution in a way that the status of some of the present members will change into a provisional membership. He states that Ireland, which is one of these countries, has no objections. Dr. Picchioni says that in Italy there is a recognized specialty. There is a 3 year specialist training open for graduates from medical school and school of odontology. Dr. Bolender says that in Italy it is possible to practice more than one specialty which is in defiance of the E.U. directives.

According to Dr. Flood the Italian Government has never recognized the specialty. Dr. Bolender says that it is important that there will be a clear definition in the constitution of

"specialist in orthodontics". He also points to the necessity to act conform the E.U. directives.

Dr. Medin asks what is the connection between EFOSA and the E.U. Dr. Bolender explains that in the advisory committee of the E.U. no specialists are represented. It is therefore important that EFOSA/s constitution is in accordance with the directives of Brussels.

Dr. Moerens-Duque is wondering how the EFOSA can help the Belgians. Dr. Flood replies that EFOSA can help by exerting an influence on the specialty of Orthodontics. It is necessary that in such cases EFOSA must be able to speak with a strong voice, adhering to their own principles. The countries of course have to try to put their affairs in order. In Belgium there are four orthodontic societies: two national, one French and one Flemish speaking.

Dr Schmiedel asked which society will be representative for Belgium in the future. According to Dr. Moerens it will be the S.O.B.O.R, which is the oldest society and which is representing Belgium at this moment in the EFOSA. She does not understand why Prof. Dermaut was invited for the Brighthon meeting. She did not receive an answer on a letter to Prof. v.d. Linden about this subject. Dr. Bolender explained that the EFOSA certainly can put pressure on the Belgium authorities, but only when the constitution will be changed in a way that the regular members meet the directives of the E.U. In the directives there are articles about the requirements for education but also that a specialist has to work exclusively in that specialty and also that there must be a register of recognized specialists. On a question if the members of the S.O.B.O.R. are working exclusively in orthodontics, Dr. Moerens answers that this is the case for the regular members. General practitioners can become adherent members without the right to vote. 75% of all orthodontists are member of the S.O.B.O.R.

Dr. Gonzalez says that the directives of Brussels are the law. University professors can never decide who are specialists. The competent authorities have to do so. In Spain the orthodontic specialty does not yet officially exist. There is not yet a recognition and there is no register. One is working on it now. As example Dr. Gonzalez tells that dentistry as a separate profession was introduced in Spain in 1986 due the directives of Brussels. He expects that the same will happen with the specialty of orthodontics. He pleads for support from other countries to be able to fulfil the requirements of the directives.

Dr. Bolender explained how the specialty was recognized in France. Dr. Picchioni explained that the S.U.S.O. is a professional organization of orthodontists, while the S.I.D.O. is a scientific society where also G.P.'s can become a member. Dr. Kettler explained the situation in the U.K. and the structure of the B.O.S.

Dr. Schmiedel asked him why the British colleagues cannot establish an association of only specialists as soon as there will be a register in the U.K.

Dr. Kettler replied that it took five years to unite all orthodontic societies and to set up the B.O.S. and that they certainly will not change this structure. Dr. Kettler said that the generalists will have no influence when the B.O.S. should join the EFOSA. Dr. Kettler is not afraid that the generalists will ever get the majority in the B.O.S. He is not in favour of making the proposed changes in the constitution of EFOSA. There are 2 G.P.'s in the council of the B.O.S. and the G.P.'s have the right to vote. Dr. Gonzalez said that the G.P.'s in the Spanish Society of Orthodontics (S.E.D.O.) had no right to vote.

Dr. Flood suggested that the E.O.S. will make a draft of a new constitution in a way that this problem can be solved and that the B.O.S. will make a draft for a solution. Dr. Bijlstra suggests to put in the constitution that membership will be open for associations or groups of specialists as is laid down already in the present constitution of EFOSA. It becomes clear that the original French version of the EFOSA constitution does not exactly correspond with the English translations. Dr. Bolender suggests to make a new constitution in English and to translate this in French.

## **5. Revision of EFOSA's constitution**

Dr. Flood reads some articles from the present constitution and some discussion follows. Dr. Flood proposes not to mention the names of the member societies in the constitution but to add them in a special register. The decision was made to form a working group to update the present constitution in a way as discussed.

Dr. Bijlstra asked if this had to be done together with the working group of the Brighthelm meeting. Dr. Bolender said that we ourselves have to change our constitution and that we have nothing to do with the Brighthelm working group.

Dr. Schmiedel: we have to do it before the Amsterdam meeting, we must have our own constitution when we go to Amsterdam. Decided is that a working party consisting of Dr. Bolender, Dr. Schmiedel, Dr. Bijlstra and Dr. Flood will try to make a draft for a new constitution during the same afternoon and forward it to Dr. Medin, who will send it around with the agenda for the Amsterdam meeting.

## **6. Acceptance of the B.O.S. as a member of EFOSA**

Dr. Bijlstra explained that the decision was made in the annual general meeting in Dublin that there should be made a decision about the acceptance of the B.O.S. in this meeting. In Dublin was proposed that the U.K. possibly could be accepted when

1. the B.O.S. will be represented by a delegate, who must be a specialist.

2. The delegate will only represent the specialists groups within the B.O.S.
3. Only specialists will be mentioned in the EFOSA directory.

Dr. Kettler discussed these requirements in the Council of the B.O.S. and they agreed with it. The secretary of EFOSA asked the delegates to discuss this within their respective councils.

The Dutch society had some objections and so did the German society. Dr. Bijlstra said that since Dublin the overall situation in and around EFOSA changed essentially. He wondered if it would be advisable to accept Britain now and maybe had to change its membership status next year.

Dr. Kettler again explained the structure within the B.O.S. He said that the B.O.S. wanted to be involved in all political discussions in Europe and that a relative small amount of G.P.'s being a member of EFOSA may not be a hindrance. It was agreed last year that there should be made a decision about the acceptance of the B.O.S. this year and Dr. Kettler asked for this decision to be made. Dr. Schmiedel proposed to postpone the decision until there is a register in the U.K. Dr. Bijlstra said that the B.O.S. as a society cannot be accepted but only the specialist groups within the B.O.S.

Dr. Schmiedel asked Dr. Kettler if he could guarantee that the G.P.'s in the B.O.S. will have absolutely no influence in the decisions that will be made in the EFOSA Dr. Kettler says that there are two G.P.'s in the council of the B.O.S. and that the council makes the decisions.

Dr. Flood says that it will probably be easier to admit Britain when there is a new constitution. If there will be a vote now, this must be unanimous. Dr. Schmiedel says that if there will be a vote he has to vote against admission. A discussion follows if the U.K. can be admitted as a group under the present constitution.

Dr. Bijlstra thinks that it is more elegant when Dr. Kettler withdraws the application to avoid a voting at this moment. There follows a discussion if the English word "group" means the same as the French word "groupement" in the original French constitution. The policy of EFOSA was to attract more members, but the situation changed drastically and it seems the best to make no decision on the membership of the B.O.S. at this moment.

Dr. Kettler is not happy with the course of things but says that he has no choice and withdraws the application.

## **7. Election of Executive Officers**

Dr. Flood decides to discuss this item of the agenda before point 6. He announces that he will retire, because he is ending his active professional career and that he will leave

Ireland. He proposes Dr. Schmiedel to be the new president. Dr. Schmiedel accepts and is chosen.

Dr. Bijlstra is asked to stay on as secretary. He agrees to do so but that he may withdraw when all new structures are settled. Dr. Bolender is chosen as vice president and Dr. Karvelas as treasurer (with the account staying in Germany).

## **8. Any other business**

Dr. Schmiedel gives an oversight of the financial position of EFOSA There is a surplus of DM 17.458,59 at 12-10-1996. He says we have to think about the finances in the future and that the incomes must not be totally dependent on the directory. Decided was that the next annual general meeting will be held in Valencia, preceding the E.O.S.-meeting. Dr. Gonzalez offered to assist in organizing this meeting. Dr. Medin and Dr. Gonzales thanked the EFOSA for the invitation to be present at this meeting. The outgoing president was thanked by Dr. Schmiedel for the work he had done for the EFOSA during many years. The president thanked our French hosts for their hospitality and the lunch they offered.

The president closed the meeting.

## **Minutes of the 26. extra General Assembly Meeting**

January 11, 1997, Amsterdam, Netherlands

An extra general meeting was held at the Hotel Holiday Inn, de Boelelaan 2, Amsterdam. The meeting was preceding the hearing of the working committee.

Dr. Schmiedel presided. Also in attendance were: Dr. Bolender (France), Dr. Picchioni (Italy), Dr. Flood (Ireland), Dr. Karvelas (Greece) and Dr. Bijlstra (the Netherlands). An apology for absence was received from Dr. Moerens-Duque (Belgium)

### **1. Opening**

At 8.15 Dr. Schmiedel opened the meeting.

### **2. Oral report about the proceedings in the working committee**

The president explained the reasons that had led to the installation of the working committee (see minutes of the EFOSA-meeting of October 12th 1996) The committee consisted of Dr. Buch (Denmark), Dr. Bolender (France), Dr. Schmiedel (Germany), Dr. Kurol (Sweden), Dr. Roald (Norway) and Dr. Bijlstra (the Netherlands).

Dr. v.d. Linden (the Netherlands) acted as independent chairman and Dr. Medin (Sweden) as independent secretary.

So three delegates of the EFOSA were representing their society in the working committee.

Dr. Schmiedel explained that the committee had worked very hard in November in Amsterdam and in December in Copenhagen.

In an atmosphere that became very constructive during these meetings there was an extensive discussion about the aims of the society, the relation of the EFOSA with the EOS, the future activities of the EFOSA, the name EFOSA and especially about the changes that had to be made in the Constitution and the Bylaws of the EFOSA.

Dr. Schmiedel explained that a new constitution was necessary to make the EFOSA credible even when this should mean that some of the present members would loose their membership or should become a provisional member.

### **3. Voting on the new constitution of the EFOSA**

The draft for the new constitution, prepared by the working committee, was discussed article by article and only very minor changes were suggested. The voting was unanimous in favour of the draft as it was presented and the new constitution was adopted.

#### **4. Closure**

The president thanked all delegates present for their understanding and cooperation and closed the meeting at 9.45.

## **Minutes of the 27. EFOSA General Assembly Meeting**

June 10th 1997, Valencia, Spain

To this meeting representatives from members and perspective members were invited as well as the representative of the E.O.S. The attendance list is annex to this minutes.

### **1. Opening**

Schmiedel opened the meeting at 12.30 and welcomed the delegates and the invited colleagues.

### **2. Additions to and changes in the agenda**

v.d. Linden proposed to put point 9 of the agenda as last point before closing. The president changed the agenda in this way.

### **3. Apologies for absence**

The apologies for absence were read by the secretary.

### **4. Minutes of the EFOSA meeting on October 12th 1996**

The minutes were adopted without changes.

### **5. Minutes of the EFOSA meeting on January 11th 1997**

The minutes of this meeting were adopted.

### **6. Correspondence**

The secretary gave an oversight of the many letters he received and the letters that went out.

### **7. Report of the secretary**

The secretary's report 1996-1997 was read. Added was that the nomination committee has to be installed at a general assembly meeting in March 1998.

The names of the second delegates to the general assembly were added. They are: Fellner (Germany), Faure (France), Markostamos (Greece) and v.d. Linden (the Netherlands).

## **8. Report of the treasurer**

The financial statement of accounts up to June 10th 1997 was presented and approved. The annual dues will be: 500 DM + 2 DM per member for active members with more than 100 members 2 DM per member for active members with less than 100 members. Provisional and affiliate members are due half of these fees. The costs for the council meeting will be covered by EFOSA. The expenses for the delegates at the general assembly meetings will be covered by the national societies.

## **9. Future activities**

The relationship with the E.O.S. is discussed. Linder Aronson has made an oversight of the tasks and responsibilities of EFOSA and E.O.S.

EFOSA should deal with:

1. All policy statements on political issues.
2. Questions of economics, fee's, grants etc.
3. Orthodontic healthcare organization.
4. Conditions and administration of orthodontic practice.
5. The use of and delegation to auxiliary personnel.
6. Contact and discussion with the E.U.
7. Representation of orthodontists on E.U. committees.
8. Formation of an official orthodontist's register.

E.O.S. tasks:

1. Publication of the European Journal
2. Scientific matters, Research.
3. The European Board of orthodontists.

Joint Interests:

1. Accreditation
2. Quality insurance
3. Specialists examinations
4. Recognition of the Specialty.

v.d. Linden does not fully agree with this division. He is asked by the president to put his ideas on paper.

A meeting of the coordinating committee, consisting of three members of EFOSA and three members of the E.O.S., is scheduled for February 1998. The president will contact the advisory committee about their latest report on the competencies for orthodontists.

The relation with EuroQual is discussed. Bolender is sceptic. He says that the representative of France is a general practitioner.

Schmiedel says that he wants to stay in contact with EuroQual. Athanasiou suggests to let Brussels know that EFOSA exists and try to find out who is paying the grants given to EuroQual.

Schmiedel prefers direct contact with EuroQual. Athanasiou has some more suggestions:

1. The sending of reports by the secretary to whom it may concern
2. To organize a symposium about professional affairs
3. To have a page on Internet
4. To become member (as a society) from the FDI and WFO. The president promises to take these suggestions into consideration.

## **10. Any other matters**

The date for the next general meeting is set on Saturday, March 21st 1998 in Paris. There are questions about the directory. The general idea is to go to internet in the future. Gonzalez makes clear that SEDO only will withdraw its application for membership in favor of A.E.S.O.R., when the membership of SEDO approves and that the application of SEDO will stand for the time being.

## **11. Applications for membership**

The council proposes to the assembly to accept the specialist groups of the B.O.S. as a provisional member. This proposal is unanimously adopted. The president congratulates the representative of the B.O.S., Kettler and expresses his wish that B.O.S. will be able to apply for active membership soon.

## **12. Closing**

At 13.55 the president closes the meeting after having thanked the E.O.S. and the Spanish colleagues for their help in organizing this meeting.

## **Minutes of the 29. General Assembly Meeting**

June 2, 1998, Mainz, Germany

The General Assembly meeting was held in the Hilton Hotel in Mainz and was attended by 19 delegates of active and provisional members, one applicant for affiliate membership and a representative of the E.O.S. The attendance list is added. The president Dr. Wolfgang Schmiedel conducted the meeting.

### **1. Opening**

Dr. Schmiedel opened the meeting at 12:10 hours and welcomed all who were present.

### **2. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Faure (France), Ferrini (Italy), Markostamos (Greece), Medin (Sweden), van der Linden (Netherlands) and Llamas (Spain). Denmark was not represented.

### **3. Changes in and amendments to the agenda**

No changes or amendments were proposed.

### **4. Minutes of the 27. General Assembly Meeting on March 21, 1997 in Paris**

The president discussed the minutes point by point. The word "Cypriot" was changed to Cyprus. Roald stated that Iceland will apply for membership in the fall and Karvelas said that Cyprus will apply in the near future. Flood told that since the meeting in Paris, nothing has changed in Ireland. Schmiedel asked if EFOSA could be of any help.

It was decided that the Irish colleagues should make a draft for a letter from EFOSA to their minister of health. Lawton explained that on July 1, 1998, a specialist register will be established in Britain. The B.O.S. will then apply for active membership. The delegates were pleased with this development.

Canut explained again the situation in Spain. He pointed again on the necessity of a definition of a "specialist in orthodontics". Kurol said that there is a document of the E.U. in which this is described. The president promised to put this on the agenda for the next meeting.

Picchioni and Maino will try to find a solution for the problems in Italy. The president of EFOSA is willing to act as an arbitrator.

Bolender gave a report of the meeting of EFOSA, EOS and FEO which was held the evening before this meeting. Athanasiou said that FEO would like to participate in the Forum for national societies.

The president stated that EFOSA, EOS and FEO should work together and not against each other.

Kurol expected that in the future Euro-Qual reports might be a task for EFOSA.

Karvelas will write a letter to the national associations and ask them what they think is essential to have a home page on the web. The directory can be put on a diskette; some discussion followed. The majority was in favour of setting up a web-site. The decision was to continue with the preparation.

## **5. Correspondence**

The most relevant outgoing correspondence was: The letter of the nomination committee, the agenda of this meeting and the minutes of the previous one. The most important incoming correspondence consisted of apologies for absence, an accreditation report of the B.O.S., a letter from the Hellenic Professional Union of Orthodontics about the nomination of councillors, letters of acceptance of the nomination from Kurol, Medin, Schmiedel, Bijlstra, Faure and Fellner, and a combined letter from the EOS and EFOSA to the E.U. authorities which was read by the president.

## **6. Application for affiliate membership of the Swiss Orthodontic Society**

The secretary declared that he had received all documents from the specialist group of the Swiss Orthodontic Society and found them in good order.

The assembly voted unanimously in favour of acceptance of the specialist group of the S.O.S. as affiliate member of EFOSA. Dr. Madone was congratulated by the president

## **7. The annual report of the secretary**

The secretary read the report and it was accepted without alterations.

## **8. The annual report of the treasures**

The treasurer reported that the expenses exceeded the revenues, due to increased activities of EFOSA.

## **9. Perspective members**

The EFOSA now consists of 7 active members (Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden), 3 provisional members (Ireland, Spain, United Kingdom) and 1 affiliate member (Switzerland).

Iceland, Finland, Belgium, Austria, Italy, Luxembourg and Portugal are still missing. Iceland will probably apply in the fall.

## **10. Accreditation of orthodontic postgraduate training**

Only the B.O.S. has sent an accreditation report.

The president explained that there is some uncertainty about the exact meaning of the word "accreditation". The president proposed that all members will forward a written report about the situation in their country. Kurol proposed that the council should make a questionnaire and send this around (it should include with questions about the legal aspects of the use of auxiliary personnel). The president remembers that Euro-Qual had a questionnaire about auxiliary personnel. The new council have to take care of these matters.

## **11. Election of council members**

The president read the letter from van der Linden, chairman of the nomination committee. The proposal was not received favourably in all countries and caused some problems.

The main problem was the proposal of two colleagues from one country. The president proposed to discuss the problems open and frankly. He gave the word to Dr. Kettler who explained the working and the task of the nomination committee.

After a break Athanasiou proposed: President: J. Kurol, Vice-president: R.J. Bijlstra, secretary: W. Schmiedel and a delegate from Denmark, Norway, Greece or France for treasurer. The president proposed Karvelas as treasurer which was seconded by Bolender. The following council was chosen:

1. President: Juri Kurol (Sweden)
2. Vice-president: Ronald Bijlstra (The Netherlands)
3. Secretary: Wolfgang Schmiedel (Germany)
4. Treasurer: Paul Karvelas (Greece)

## **12. Election of auditors**

The proposed auditors, Boris Faure (France) and Ulrich Fellner (Germany) were chosen.

### **13. Any other matters**

Juri Kurol thanked Charles Bolender who left the council. Bolender can be regarded as the founder of EFOSA and has put a lot of energy in EFOSA for many, many years. He received a warm applause.

Some discussion followed about the proposed roster for election of new council members. The nomination committee proposed to elect the president for 4 years, the vice president for 1 year, the secretary for 2 years and the treasurer for 3 years in order to keep some continuity in the council. It was decided that the council will work out a solution that is in accordance with the constitution.

### **14. Closing**

The president closed the meeting at about 15.00 hours.

## **Minutes of the 30. EFOSA General Assembly Meeting**

June 22, 1999, Strasbourg, France.

The 23rd EFOSA General Assembly Meeting was held on June 22, 1999 in Strasbourg. 22 countries with a total of 46 people participated, 21 of whom were delegates and 25 of whom were guests. An list of those present is enclosed with these minutes.

### **1. Opening**

EFOSA President, Jüri Kurol, opened the meeting at 11:15 AM. He warmly greeted all those present. The President then handed over to the secretary, Wolfgang Schmiedel, who read out the names of all members and asked them to stand up and introduce themselves. After reading out the attendance list, it transpired that additional guests from Germany, Turkey and Slovenia were present. Their presence at this normally closed meeting was deeply welcomed.

### **2. Apologies for absence**

Kurol informed the General Assembly that Frans van der Linden, a member of the "Nomination Committee" had sent an apology for absence.

### **3. Changes in and amendmends to the agenda**

Kurol informed the General Assembly that items 8 and 9 on the agenda would be heard in reverse order. Cyprus should be added to item 10, England, Finland, Italy and Cyprus to item 11 and the re-election of the "Nomination Committee" to item 18. Objections were not raised and so the new order of agenda was approved.

### **4. Minutes of the 22. General Assembly Meeting of June 2, 1999, Mainz (Germany)**

The minutes of the previous General Assembly Meeting, which were sent with the invitation to Strasbourg, were approved unanimously as they stood.

### **5. Correspondence**

Schmiedel reported in detail on the most important correspondence of the previous year. He especially underlined the correspondence with the Irish and Austrian Ministries for Health, reported about his letter to Roberto Martina in Italy and the letter from the EFOSA President to the European Commission, which had not as yet been answered. Schmiedel closed his report by stating that he had sent the most important correspondence with the invitation to all members. There were no questions.

### **6. Information from the Council**

Kurol reported that in future, it might be necessary for the Council to make urgent decisions without asking the General Assembly for prior permission. He asked the General Assembly for their permission in those cases. The active EFOSA members eligible to vote approved unanimously to allow the Council to do this in the future.

The Vice-President of EFOSA, Ronald Bijlstra, reported on an EFOSA questionnaire which was currently being drawn up to find out the number of inhabitants of a country, the number of practising orthodontists, and the members of national professional associations. Bijlstra hoped to have the questionnaire available for the next Council Meeting in Autumn 1999 in order to have it approved.

## **7. Report of the Secretary**

Due to the large number present, Schmiedel gave an overview of EFOSA projects and activities of the previous 23 years. He also read a written report which will be attached to the minutes.

## **8. Report of the Treasurer: Status of account / Recources / Proposal for new annual contributions**

EFOSA Treasurer Paul Karvelas reported on the income and the expenses of EFOSA from the beginning of 1998 until June 10, 1999. The statement of account had been sent to every member enclosed with the invitation. Karvelas proposed setting up a budget for the next financial year which he would estimate at 22,000 DEM. He told the General Assembly that the Council had made the following proposals due to an increased number of future EFOSA activities:

1. The currency of the account should be immediately converted to EURO.
2. The basic contribution for active members should be converted from 500 DEM to 250 EURO so that it remains the same.
3. The former membership fee of 2.00 DEM for every individual member of the national associations should be raised to 2.00 EURO.

The 23rd General Assembly approved these proposals unanimously.

## **9. Report of the auditors**

The elected EFOSA Auditor Ulrich Fellner (Germany) gave a statement on behalf of Bauris Faure (France) as well, about the true and correct accountancy of the Treasurer. The statement has been enclosed with the minutes.

## **10. Situation of the orthodontic Specialty and the national Orthodontic Associations**

Reports from: Austria, Belgium, Finland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Portugal, Spain, United Kingdom.

Kurol informed the General Assembly that EFOSA had received applications from the following countries: Finland, Italy, England and Cyprus. The listed countries would report under item 11.

The following countries reported on the status of orthodontics in their countries:

Austria, Belgium, Ireland, Luxembourg, Portugal, Spain and Turkey. Two delegates from different national associations spoke for Belgium. They could not reach an agreement about which association would represent their country in EFOSA in the future. It was decided that all speakers should send a short written report about the status of orthodontics in their own countries to the EFOSA Secretary, who would then enclose it with the minutes.

### **11. Application for membership: Iceland, England, Finland, Italy, Cyprus**

EFOSA President reported upon the application by Iceland for an active membership in EFOSA. He told the General Assembly that the documents were in order. In the absence of the Icelandic delegates and upon proposal by the Council, Iceland was elected unanimously as the 8th active member of EFOSA.

Kettler reported that England had introduced a state orthodontic register, called the "specialist list" on July 1, 1998, with the result that England had set up the conditions for an active membership. In the absence of the English delegates and upon proposal by the Council, England's provisional membership was converted into an active membership and England was elected unanimously as the 9th active member of EFOSA.

Kurol reported upon the recent application by Finland for an active membership in EFOSA. He told the General Assembly that the documents were in order. In the absence of the Finnish delegates and upon proposal by the Council, Finland was elected unanimously as the 10th active member of EFOSA.

Karvelas reported upon the recent application by Cyprus for an affiliated membership in EFOSA. He told the General Assembly that the documents were in order. In the absence of the Cypriot delegates and upon proposal by the Council, Cyprus was elected unanimously as the 2nd affiliated member of EFOSA.

Schmiedel reported that it had fortunately been possible to reach a last minute agreement between the two Italian associations SUSO and ASIO, which had both applied for membership of EFOSA. The presidents of the two associations compromised to form a new association uniting the two existing ones. The name of the new association is FISO. The president of the former ASIO became the new president and the president of the

former SUSO became the new secretary-general. The Council and the attending Delegates expressed their pleasure at this solution. On behalf of Italy, FISO applied for an active membership in EFOSA. In the absence of the Italian delegates and upon proposal by the Council, Italy was elected unanimously as the 11th active member of EFOSA.

Schmiedel was pleased to inform the General Assembly that as of now Austria, Belgium, Luxembourg and Portugal were the only four West-European countries who were not members of EFOSA. He hoped that these countries would be members of EFOSA by the end of the year 2000, after solving their internal problems with the help of EFOSA.

## **12. Definition of the term "Specialist in Orthodontics"**

In accordance with EFOSA Bylaws, paragraph 6, and upon proposal by the Council, the General Assembly agreed to form a committee which will work on a clear general definition of the term "specialist in orthodontics". Committee Members will be Keaton (Ireland), Kettler (England), van der Linden (Holland) and Canut (Spain). In their work the Committee are to consider the suggestions and contributions of the General Assembly on this subject.

## **13. Relations with the EOS**

Schmiedel reported on the co-operation with the EOS. He gave a brief historical overview and stated the responsibilities of both organisations. The following areas are of mutual interest to EFOSA and the EOS:

1. Accreditation
2. Quality Assurance
3. Education of Specialists
4. Specialist Examinations for Europe
5. Recognition of the Specialty

Kurol and Schmiedel reported about misunderstandings concerning the co-operation and the question about the responsibilities of the two organisations, which had recently occurred. They warmly greeted the EOS delegate Hans Serogl, who has the status of a co-opted member in EFOSA. All those present expressed their wish to continue the co-operation between EFOSA and EOS without any restrictions and expressed their hope that misunderstandings would be avoided in the future through even closer personal contacts.

Schmiedel reported that the next Co-operation Committee Meeting is scheduled to be held in autumn of this year. One of the items on the agenda will be the passing of a common letter to the Advisory Committee in Brussels.

#### **14. Relations with the FEO**

Schmiedel reported about the FEO. He informed the General Assembly that EFOSA did not consider this European association an opponent to the academic national associations but that the two associations should support and complement one another in their work. He thanked Athanasiou also on behalf of Bijlstra for inviting them to the Annual Meeting of the FEO.

#### **15. Relations with the EU authorities**

Kurol reported on the aims and composition of the Advisory Committee. All letters that were sent to this Committee either personally by him, by EFOSA or by the EOS and EFOSA together had as yet not been answered. Intensive discussions developed amongst those present on the General Assembly Meeting to find out the best way to influence this Committee. All delegates thought it would be best in the future to use personal contacts with the members of the Advisory Committee in the respective countries to bring up requests.

#### **16. Relations with the EURO-QUAL**

Kurol and Schmiedel reported on the EURO-QUAL project which had been temporarily completed. Within the scope of the EURO-QUAL Final Congress in March 1999, Schmiedel had been able to present the work of EFOSA. EFOSA will use the good scientific results of the EURO-QUAL for their future projects.

Kurol informed the General Assembly that all documents such as overhead transparencies and floppy disks with Power-Point presentations could be requested from the EFOSA Council.

#### **17. Internet web-site / EFOSA Newsletter**

Karvelas informed the General Assembly that the preparations for an EFOSA Internet web-site had almost been completed. EFOSA was hoping to be able to distribute all important information to the members via this medium from Autumn 1999. Schmiedel was of the opinion that EFOSA had given too little information to their members in the past. They should think about editing their own Newsletter which would then permanently inform the members about the activities of EFOSA and the Council. If it was, however, possible to set up an EFOSA Internet web-site on time, this idea should be abandoned. The 23rd General Assembly expressed their gratitude to Karvelas for his work on the web-site project.

#### **18. Nomination Committee / EFOSA-Bylaws (Roster): Election of one Councillor**

Kurol reported that the term of office of the Nomination Committee would normally end in June 2000. Bijlstra proposed extending the time in office until the next General Assembly Meeting in June 2000 and to confirm the members (Kettler, van der Linden, Faure) in their offices. The delegates passed this proposal unanimously.

The Vice-President of EFOSA's term of office ended at the 23rd General Assembly Meeting. A re-election was possible and Bijlstra was prepared to declare himself as a candidate once more. As both the Nomination Committee and the Dutch National Professional Association, the DMO, supported his re-election, Kurol proposed that he be re-elected for the post of Vice-President for a further four years. The delegates passed this resolution unanimously. Ronald Bijlstra was affirmed in his office.

### **19. Any other business**

At Bijlstra's suggestion, Schmiedel asked the members if in future the General Assembly Meeting should be held independently from the Congress of the EOS. They could begin the meeting in the morning and continue in the afternoon after lunch together. This would have the advantage of allowing more time, and in the future, being able to have more intensive and detailed discussions.

As opinion over this was divided, the Council will work on further ideas over future meetings.

### **20. Date of next meeting**

Kurol announced that the next General Assembly Meeting of EFOSA would take place at the beginning of June 2000 in Crete along with the EOS Congress. EFOSA members will be informed of the exact date and venue in due course.

### **21. Date of next meeting**

The President of EFOSA, Jüri Kurol, thanked all the members for their interesting contributions to the discussions, wished them all a safe journey home and ended the 23rd General Assembly Meeting at 1:55 PM.

## **Minutes of the 31. EFOSA General Assembly Meeting**

June 2, 2000, Hersonissos, Crete, Greece

The 24th EFOSA Annual General Assembly Meeting was held on 2nd June 2000 in the Congress Center of the Creta Maris Hotel in Hersonissos, Crete, Greece. 19 countries took part in this meeting with a total of 34 people, of which 24 were delegates and 10 were guests.

### **1. Opening**

The EFOSA President, Jüri Kurol, opened the meeting at 11.15 am. He warmly welcomed all those present. The President then handed over to the Secretary, Wolfgang Schmiedel, and he in turn asked all those present to stand and introduce themselves. After reading the list it was noted that additional guests were present from Belgium, Greece, Italy and the Netherlands. All the delegates consented to the guests staying at the meeting, which is not normally an open one. Schmiedel reported that according to the council resolution, only members were to be invited to this year's meeting and so therefore Belgium, Portugal and Luxembourg had not officially been invited.

### **2. Apologies for absence**

Schmiedel reported that Boris Faure and Charles Bolender from France were unfortunately unable to attend the meeting. Faure was regrettably sick and Bolender was not able to arrive in time due to a cancelled flight. The Auditor, Ulrich Fellner from Germany, also had to decline for personal reasons. Iceland was not able to send a representative this year due to technical reasons but has definitely promised to attend next year. Consequently France and Iceland did not actively take part in the 2000 Annual General Meeting.

### **3. Changes in and amendments to the agenda**

Kurol and Schmiedel notified the meeting that the Irish delegates had handed over papers prior to the meeting to confirm that the specialised area of orthodontics in Ireland is now recognised by the state. Therefore Ireland wanted to propose a motion under Item 10 of today's agenda to convert their provisional membership to an active one. Those present held no objections.

### **4. Minutes of the 23. General Assembly Meeting of June 22, 1999, Strasbourg, France**

The minutes of the previous General Assembly Meeting, which were sent out with the invitation to Crete, were unanimously agreed without any changes being made.

## **5. Correspondence**

Schmiedel reported again in detail on the most important correspondence from the previous year. He mentioned correspondence from Spain, Austria, Luxembourg, Belgium, Turkey, Ireland, Italy and Bulgaria. He drew special attention to correspondence from the former EFOSA President, Norman Flood. Schmiedel ended his report by advising that the most important correspondence had been sent out to all members along with the invitation. Questions were therefore not taken.

## **6. Informations from the Council: Change of the Constitution, Article 5.3**

Kurol informed the meeting that a change in the EFOSA constitution at Item 5, Paragraph 3 was required for reasons of clarity and accuracy. The word "and" is to be changed to "or". Norman Flood had already pointed out in his previously mentioned correspondence, that the present wording at this item of the constitution did not make sense and could lead to a misunderstanding. Karvelas again explained that the change in the constitution was especially needed to make "affiliated membership" possible.

After a short discussion the members concluded that a change in the constitution at Item 5, Paragraph 3 was necessary and agreed unanimously to this. Item 5, Paragraph 3 of the EFOSA constitution now reads as follows after the change:

Affiliated membership is confined to professional orthodontic associations or groups from European countries that fulfil the requirements of article 5 paragraph 1 or 2, but of countries that do not belong to the European Union or do not have an arrangement of free movement and the right of free establishment within the European Union countries on the basis of mutual specialty recognition.

## **7. Report of the secretary**

As in the past, Schmiedel gave an overview of the work and activities undertaken by EFOSA in the previous year. He also read a written report which is attached to the minutes of this meeting. Towards the end of his report he paid tribute to the former Vice-President, Ronald Bijlstra, who had stood down due to private reasons. He thanked him both personally and on behalf of the committee for his 21 years of exemplary work with EFOSA.

## **8. Report of the auditors**

Unfortunately, because both of the elected auditors could not be at the meeting in person, Schmiedel read a written statement which had been sent to him on 1st June 2000 by Boris Faure, one of the auditors. The statement quotes:

"The presentation of the financial report is perfectly done and approved by both of the auditors of the EFOSA."

The members noted this and approved.

## **9. Report of the treasurer: Status of account / Resources**

The EFOSA Treasurer, Paul Karvelas, reported on EFOSA credits and debits during the period June 1999 to 31st March 2000. As decided last year in Strasbourg, the currency for the account has changed to Euros (€). The balance on 31st March 2000 stood at 3,474.30 Euros (€). There are no further credits at present and so long-term we must consider a possible increase in the annual contributions. Questions on the financial development of EFOSA and the increase of annual contributions were answered in detail by Karvelas.

## **10. Application for membership: Austria, Poland**

Kurol informed the meeting that applications within the time limit had been made by Austria and Poland for acceptance into EFOSA. The attached papers for these applications have been examined by the EFOSA Council and show that the necessary requirements for acceptance into EFOSA have been met. These are for Austria as a provisional member and Poland as an affiliated member.

Silvia Silli from Austria answered questions from the meeting and gave a short report on the situation in her country. Subsequently, in the absence of the Austrian representative, Austria was unanimously accepted as the 3rd provisional member of EFOSA.

Anna Komorowska from Poland gave a short report on the situation in her country. Subsequently, in the absence of its representative, Poland was unanimously elected as the 3rd affiliated member of EFOSA. The members warmly welcomed both new members with a round of applause.

The Irish delegates had brought papers prior to the meeting, which confirmed that the specialised area of orthodontics was now recognised by the state. The Irish representatives, McSherry and Keating, confirmed this welcome fact which happened with the support of EFOSA. There is now no obstacle to prevent Ireland from converting from a provisional membership to an active one. The meeting decided unanimously to accept this proposal. Ireland will become the 12th active member of EFOSA.

As of 2nd June 2000 EFOSA has 12 active, 2 provisional and 3 affiliated members. Belgium, Luxembourg and Portugal are now the only 3 countries in Western Europe not to be represented. The meeting hopes that these countries will be represented by the end of 2001 when they have solved their internal problems with the support of EFOSA.

## **11. Definition of the term „Specialist in Orthodontics“**

Kurol and Schmiedel thanked the members of the working group on behalf of all those present. This group consisted of van der Linden (Netherlands), Canut (Spain), Keating (Ireland) and Kettler (U.K) and had been asked by EFOSA to work on a definition for the term "Specialist in Orthodontics", under the leadership of van der Linden. This definition had become necessary in order to provide a clear and universally accepted term in Europe which stated what was meant by "Specialist in Orthodontics" and which fulfilled all these requirements.

In addition to this the working group submitted a proposal which would be sent out with the papers for the invitation to the 24th Annual General Assembly Meeting.

After detailed discussions by the members the following binding definition was finally decided upon for all countries and occupational associations:

„An Orthodontist (Specialist in Orthodontics) is a registered dentist who limits his or her practice of dentistry to orthodontics and:

either

is entered in the register or list of specialist orthodontists held by the competent authority in a country within the European Union, or a country that has an arrangement of free movement and the right of free establishment within the European Union countries on the basis of mutual specialty recognition, in compliance with the EC Dental Directives 78/686/EEC and 78/687/EEC.

or

holds a recognised postgraduate university degree or certificate taken after completing a three year fulltime university training programme in orthodontics which complies with the recommendations of the "Erasmus Programme (1992)" and the European Orthodontic Society (1996).

or

holds a recognised postgraduate university degree or certificate in orthodontics, after completing a university training programme in orthodontics of less than three years which complies with the requirements which were current at the time it was undertaken.

## **12. Relations with the EOS: Letter to the European Union**

Schmiedel reported in detail on the co-operation with the EOS. Here he particularly gave details of the 4th EOS/EFOSA Co-operation Committee Meeting, which took place in London on 30th October 1999. Particular emphasis was placed by both sides on the joint

wording of a new letter to the representatives in Brussels, which examined the content of education and further education in the specialised field of orthodontics. Kurol and Schmiedel reported from the "Forum", the information meeting of the national occupational associations, which was jointly organised by the EOS and EFOSA. This meeting took place prior to the 24th EFOSA Annual General Meeting on the morning of 2nd June. The most important item on its agenda was the report on the letter to the Advisory Committee.

### **13. Relations with the FEO**

Schmiedel reported on the good co-operation with the FEO. He warmly welcomed their President, Athanasios Athanasiou (Greece) and their Vice-President, Thierry de Coster (Belgium) as observers at the EFOSA Annual General Meeting.

It has become a good tradition that both organisations invite each other to their respective meetings. The EFOSA Treasurer, Paul Karvelas attended the FEO meeting on 19th February 2000 in Athens, Greece.

### **14. The ECSQDM**

Schmiedel reported on several pieces of correspondence from the ECSQDM, a group which concerns itself with the introduction of a new specialist title. Since no representative from this group accepted the invitation and the majority of the delegates present were of the opinion that they did not have to work together with this group, this item on the agenda was closed after a short discussion.

### **15. EFOSA Web-site**

Karvelas reported in detail on the situation regarding preparations for EFOSA setting up its own Web-Site on the Internet. It was agreed by all those present that this medium will be invaluable in the future for faster and better exchange of information. Karvelas' idea to develop and create a Web-Site was welcomed by all. It was decided that the present secretary of EFOSA, whoever this may be, will take responsibility for the contents and creation of the Internet site. Paul Karvelas and Emile Janssen (Netherlands) will work alongside the Secretary. These 3 should jointly see that the EFOSA Web-Site is established if possible by the end of 2000 and can be accessed on the Internet.

### **16. EFOSA Questionnaire**

As we were informed at the last Annual General Meeting in 1999, the Vice-President of EFOSA, Ronald Bijlstra, together with Schmiedel, drafted a questionnaire. This questionnaire should help to complete the EFOSA documents. In addition it should answer questions in our specialised field in the individual European countries. Schmiedel

distributed the questionnaire to all those present with a request for them to be completed and returned by the end of 2000. When this questionnaire has been evaluated the answers and evaluation can then be accessed via the Internet on the EFOSA Web-Site.

#### **17. Elections: Vice-President / Secretary / Auditors / Nomination Committee**

Ronald Bijlstra cited personal reasons for his early resignation. He stressed that this decision was of a purely private nature and mainly had to do with the fact that he was shortly to give up his practice. The meeting thanked Ronald Bijlstra with continuous applause for all he had achieved for EFOSA in his 21 years. At the proposal of the Nomination Committee Boris Faure (France) was unanimously elected as Vice-President of EFOSA in his absence. His term of office will be for 3 years.

Also at the proposal of the Nomination Committee, Wolfgang Schmiedel (Germany) was unanimously confirmed in his office as the EFOSA Secretary for a further 4 years. After his election Frans van der Linden warmly thanked him both personally and on behalf of those present for his great dedication to EFOSA.

The meeting then re-elected the previous Auditor, Uli Fellner (Germany) and newly elected Paolo Picchioni (Italy) as a successor to Boris Faure. Both offices as auditors run for 2 years.

The Nomination Committee was re-elected for a further 2 years in office. Van der Linden (Netherlands) and Kettler (U.K) were confirmed on this committee. The delegate Francesco Miotti (Italy) was elected in place of the new Vice-President of EFOSA, Boris Faure as the 3rd member of this committee.

#### **18. Any other business ( e.g. venue and time of future meetings ...)**

Schmiedel once again expressed his displeasure at the form of the Annual General Meeting. They are in his view too impersonal and there is too much pressure of time. He suggested the following possibilities for discussion:

Separating from the Annual EOS Congress, another start time, other days than the Tuesday before the EOS Congress, combining the EFOSA Annual General Meeting with a lunch or dinner.

The meeting had controversial and emotional discussions over the different alternatives for future meetings. Finally the following decision was reached with a large majority:

Keeping the EFOSA Annual General Meeting with the Annual EOS Congress. Bringing forward the EFOSA Annual General Meeting to the Monday before the EOS Congress starts. Keeping the start time at 11.00 am with the length of the meeting to be as long as

required. Finally Schmiedel will try to organise a dinner or get together party on the evening of the meeting.

### **19. Date of next meeting**

In agreement with the resolution under Item 18 of the agenda the date of the next Annual General Meeting will be Monday 18th June 2001. The conference will take place within the EOS Congress in Ghent, Belgium. The exact meeting place will be announced in due course.

### **20. Closing**

The President of EFOSA, Jüri Kuroi, thanked Schmiedel for the excellent organisation of this meeting. He warmly thanked all the members for their interesting contributions the discussion and wished them all a safe journey home. He closed the 24th Annual General Meeting at 2.00 pm.

## **Minutes of the 32. EFOSA General Assembly Meeting**

June 18, 2001, in the Congress Center, Ghent, Belgium

The 25th EFOSA Annual General Assembly Meeting was held on 18 June 2001 in the Congress Center in Ghent, Belgium. 22 countries took part in this meeting with a total of 37 people, of which 25 were delegates and 12 were guests. The list of those present at this meeting is attached with these minutes.

### **1. Opening**

The EFOSA President, Professor Jüri Kurol, warmly welcomed all those colleagues present to the Annual General Meeting. He opened the meeting at 3.15 p.m. and then handed over to the EFOSA Secretary, Dr. Wolfgang Schmiedel to introduce those present.

Schmiedel reported that this year representatives from Belgium, Israel, Luxembourg, Portugal and Turkey had been invited as guests, in addition to the EFOSA delegates. He warmly welcomed Professor Hans Sergl from Mainz, Germany, who was participating as per agreement, at the Annual General Meeting as the EOS representative. He also welcomed the FEO representatives, who traditionally take part as observers at the Annual EFOSA meeting. In this connection he welcomed Professor Athanasios Athanasiou from Athens, Greece, the present FEO President as well as Thierry de Coster from Belgium, the FEO Vice-President.

In addition he informed that Paul Karvelas from Athens, the present EFOSA Treasurer, had been elected in April 2001 as President of the HPUO (Hellenic Professional Union of Orthodontists) and gave his congratulations on behalf of all those present. He also reported that Dr. Preben Dømgard had been elected as President of the FSO (Danish Society of Orthodontic Specialists) at the beginning of the year and congratulated him on his election. Those present applauded the delegates on their elections.

Schmiedel reported that he had obtained name badges for all those present and asked that everyone wear them clearly on view so that we could become better acquainted and know whom we were addressing. Then he called out all the delegates in alphabetical order to welcome them personally and hand out the name badges.

Finally Schmiedel reported that the Belgian colleagues had invited all the delegates to a "get-together" with dinner in the evening following the EFOSA Annual General Meeting. He thanked them on behalf of the Council and all those present, which was followed by loud applause. He expressed his hope that this social gathering would further strengthen the personal relationships between the delegates.

## **2. Apologies for absence**

Schmiedel reported that he had unfortunately received an apology for absence from Iceland at the last minute. The Icelandic colleagues would not be present due to unforeseen circumstances at this year's Annual General Meeting of EFOSA. He reported that Iceland regretted this very much and that the President of the IOS (Icelandic Orthodontic Society), Arni Thordason, had confirmed he would be present at the coming Annual General Meeting in Italy.

## **3. Changes in and amendments to the agenda**

Kurol reported on correspondence from the European Commission, which had been sent to him with a request for a reply. He suggested discussing this under Item 11 of the Agenda. The title of this working paper reads "The Future Regime for Professional Recognition". Schmiedel reported on correspondence from the BOS (British Orthodontic Society) in which they expressed a desire to discuss ethical problems. It was decided to discuss this under Item 18 of the Agenda.

## **4. Minutes of the 24th General Assembly Meeting of June 2, 2000, Crete, Greece**

The minutes of the previous General Assembly Meeting, which were sent out with the invitation to Ghent, were unanimously agreed without any changes being made. Professor Frans van der Linden from Holland thanked Schmiedel for preparing such exceptionally detailed minutes and for his excellent preparation for the Annual General Meeting. Those present applauded loudly.

## **5. Correspondence**

Schmiedel reported again in detail on the most important correspondence from the previous year. He especially reported on the numerous written exchanges with the different Belgian orthodontic unions to try and solve the problems existing in that country. He again mentioned that all four Belgian unions had been invited to today's meeting as guests and that they would be given every opportunity under Item 10 of the Agenda to comment on the situation in Belgium in detail.

Schmiedel ended his report by advising that the most important correspondence had been sent out to all members along with the invitation. Questions were therefore not taken.

## **6. Informations from the Council**

Kurol and Schmiedel reported that Professor Hans Sergl, who had participated for many years as a co-opted member of the EOS at the Council Meetings and the EFOSA Annual

General Meetings, would be retiring from his office as Head of the Orthodontic Department at Mainz university, Germany at the end of this year. For this reason he would probably only participate at this meeting as the official EOS representative. It has not yet been decided who his replacement will be, possibly Professor Rainer Reginalds Miethke from the Humboldt university in Berlin. Kurol and Schmiedel heartily thanked Hans Sergl for his years of support for EFOSA's work and for the extremely good co-operation between EFOSA and the EOS. The assembly greatly applauded this.

## **7. Report of the Secretary**

As in the past, Schmiedel gave an overview of the work and activities undertaken by EFOSA in the previous year. He also read a written report which is attached to the minutes of this meeting.

## **8. Report of the Auditors**

Dr. Ulrich Fellner, Germany gave a report on the Annual Audit. He explained that along with the second auditor, Dr. Paolo Picchioni, Italy, he had meticulously examined the EFOSA accounts, bank receipts and all the credits and debits made between June 2000 and May 2001. He reported that everything was in good order and recommended to the assembly that they accept the audit. The members noted this and approved.

## **9. Report of the Treasurer: Status of account / Resources**

The EFOSA Treasurer, Paul Karvelas, reported on EFOSA credits and debits during the period June 2000 to March 2001. He reported that the statement of account on May 25th 2001 stood at 11.559,99 Euro. Questions on the financial development of EFOSA were answered in detail by Karvelas.

## **10. Application for membership: Belgium, Israel, Luxembourg, Portugal, Turkey**

Belgium Kurol once again gave all the representatives of the four Belgian orthodontic unions the opportunity to discuss in detail the problems of the official state recognition of the specialised area of orthodontics in Belgium as well as the problems of the different unions. After sometimes-controversial discussions, mainly between Thierry de Coster and Bart Vande Vannet, the Belgian representatives informed us that the state recognition of professional orthodontics would probably occur in June 2001. Those present expressed their hope that after the state recognition one joint union can be created from the four existing unions.

They can then be the sole representatives from Belgium to come to EFOSA as members. Schmiedel offered to help solve the existing problems in Belgium if this was required.

Israel The Israeli representative, Dr. Naphtali Brezniak from Tel Aviv, proposed Israel's acceptance into EFOSA. Although Israel had fulfilled all the requirements set down in the EFOSA constitution for active membership, the assembly came to the conclusion that Israel could regrettably not be accepted as a member of EFOSA, as Israel is not a European country. As its name and constitution suggests, EFOSA represents only countries in Europe. Schmiedel confirmed that a representative from Israel will be invited in the coming years as a guest at the Annual General Meeting of EFOSA in order to receive the information given out there. No-one present objected to this proposal.

Luxembourg The representative of the Luxembourg orthodontists, Dr. Odile Steil-Hutereau, gave once more the reasons why the specialised area of orthodontics in Luxembourg is not yet state recognised. The main reason is resistance from the general dentists. She asked for further support from the 15 colleagues in her country. She was also invited to be a guest of EFOSA at the Annual General Meeting in the coming year.

Portugal The Portuguese representative, Jorge Dias Lopes, clarified the situation with regard to orthodontics in his country. He reported that the state recognition of the specialised area of orthodontics in Portugal could possibly be expected in the foreseeable future and confirmed that in this case Portugal would want to become a member of EFOSA.

Turkey The Turkish representative, Dr. Hakan Iscan, reported on the situation with regard to orthodontics in Turkey. As Turkey has obviously fulfilled all the requirements set down in the EFOSA constitution for provisional membership, the hope was expressed that the TOS (Turkish Orthodontic Society) would soon apply for acceptance for membership into EFOSA.

Finally Kurol reported that he had given a lecture in the Czech Republic and had sent greetings from EFOSA. In this connection Schmiedel pointed out that one of the most important tasks facing EFOSA in the coming years would be the support and preparation for entry into EFOSA of many orthodontic unions in Eastern Europe.

## **11. Relations with the EOS: Letter to the European Union**

Schmiedel reported in detail on the co-operation with the EOS. He particularly mentioned the letter jointly prepared by EFOSA and the EOS to the Advisory Committee on the Training of Dental Practitioners in Brussels. He reported that this letter was sent on September 14th 2000 and it was confirmed with great pleasure that for the first time in the history of EFOSA a reply had followed. In this reply the Secretary of the Committee confirmed that the letter from EFOSA and the EOS had been noted for information. Schmiedel confirmed that the correspondence would be published on the EFOSA Web-site as soon as possible.

Kuroł and Schmiedel finally made it known that the following day, Tuesday June 19th 2001, the joint information meeting of the EOS and EFOSA, known as the Forum, would take place.

## **12. Relations with the FEO**

Schmiedel reported on the good co-operation with the FEO. He warmly welcomed their President, Athanasios Athanasiou (Greece) and their Vice-President, Thierry de Coster (Belgium) as observers at the EFOSA Annual General Meeting. It has become a good tradition that both organisations invite each other to their respective meetings. Athanasiou thanked them for the invitation and confirmed the invitation for one or two representatives of EFOSA to the coming Annual General Meeting in autumn 2001 in Harrogate, England.

## **13. Relations with the EURO-QUAL**

The Vice-president of EFOSA, Dr. Boris Faure, gave a report on the latest situation at Euro-Qual and its planned activities. In addition he read out a detailed report to the delegates. The assembly agreed that the relationship with Euro-Qual should be strengthened and in future EFOSA should be involved in discussions over questions about the quality of our professional standing. The assembly applauded Faure for his presentation.

## **14. WFO: 6th International Orthodontic Convention 2005, Paris**

Kuroł and Schmiedel reported on the situation regarding preparations for the World Congress of Orthodontists to be held in 2005, organised by the World Federation of Orthodontists (WFO). Schmiedel made it known that EFOSA would be actively supporting this congress and that he himself, as a member of the committee "Educational and Professional Legal Environment" together with Professor Charles Bolender, would actively be taking part in the preparations.

## **15. EFOSA-Questionnaire: Results**

Schmiedel reported on the results of the evaluation of the questionnaires, which were developed by EFOSA and handed out at the last Annual General Meeting in Crete. He regretted that, in spite of his request for the questionnaires to be sent back by September 2000, some of them only arrived a few weeks ago after several reminders and this made the evaluation and presentation somewhat difficult. He then projected the answers from all those participating countries on the wall and gave clarification to individual answers to the 44 questions.

Schmiedel told the assembly that on basis of the evaluation of the returned Italian questionnaire unfortunately the conclusion was reached that the active membership

status had to be altered in a provisional membership. The reason was that the answers implied the lack of state recognition and the lack of an official register. Further examination will be taken of the procedure and should the occasion arise a new decision will be given at the coming Annual General Meeting. Meanwhile after detailed discussions Italy had to step down from an active membership to a provisional one.

In conclusion Schmiedel handed out to all those present a diskette with the results of the questionnaire and explained that these findings would be published soon in the "European Journal of Orthodontics" (EJO). Furthermore all the results would shortly be available to each member on the EFOSA Web-site on the Internet.

The assembly recognised the great input by Schmiedel in developing and evaluating the questionnaire. He was loudly applauded.

## **16. EFOSA-Website: Presentation / Discussion**

Schmiedel thanked Paul Karvelas for his initiative and preparation in setting up EFOSA's own Web-site. He emphasised once again the importance of this medium for the future representation of EFOSA and the co-operation of individual members.

Finally he gave a presentation of the further developed EFOSA Web-site: [www.efosa.org](http://www.efosa.org). He explained in detail the formation and functions and then asked the members to freely discuss the appearance and contents of the new Web-site. The assembly expressed their approval and pleasure over the Web-site and thanked Schmiedel for this outstanding work. He in turn thanked Emile Jannsen from the Netherlands for his assistance with the work.

## **17. Elections: Treasurer / Nomination Committee / Terms of Office**

The period in office of the Treasurer, Paul Karvelas, came to an end in Ghent. Because of his election as President of the Greek Orthodontists Karvelas does not wish to stand for a further term in office. The assembly thanked him with applause for the work he had achieved over the previous years. Because of the situation at Item 15 the original nomination from the Nomination Committee for a successor for Karvelas could not be accepted. Dr. Francesca Miotti of Italy could not be elected as the EFOSA constitution only allows active members to be elected by the Council. The Chairman of the Nomination Committee, Frans van der Linden, therefore suggested Dr. Christopher Kettler from England as Treasurer. There also came from the assembly an unexpected counter proposal. Kari-Line Roald from Norway proposed the President of the Norwegian Orthodontists, Annlaug Stensland, as Treasurer. Since further proposals were not made, according to the constitution, there had to be a secret ballot. The result of the secret ballot was 5:5 votes, so that according to the EFOSA constitution, Article 11, the President has

the casting vote. Kurol decided to favour Annlaug Stensland, who is now the new Treasurer of EFOSA.

The Nomination Committee (Frans van der Linden (Chairman), Francesca Miotti and Chris Kettler) remains unchanged for a further year until the next Annual General Meeting in Italy.

### **18. Any other business**

Frans van der Linden returned to the discussions under Item 13 on the agenda. He stressed the importance of EFOSA strengthening questions of quality safety, quality control and quality management. After detailed discussions it was decided, upon the request of Frans van der Linden to create an EFOSA working group, which would be concerned with this topic in close co-operation with Euro-Qual. After detailed discussions about the size and composition of the working group, Boris Faure, Annlaug Stensland and Ulrich Fellner were proposed and elected.

### **19. Date of next meeting**

Schmiedel was pleased with the timing of the EFOSA Annual General Meeting, which is held the day before the EOS Congress. Those present agreed as this allowed more time for detailed discussion than in previous years. It was decided to keep the same arrangement for the coming year.

Monday June 3rd 2002 was confirmed as the date for the next Annual General Meeting. The venue will be Sorrento, Italy. The meeting will begin at 3.00 p.m. and end at approximately 6.00 p.m.

### **20. Closing**

The President of EFOSA, Jüri Kurol warmly thanked all the members for their interesting contributions in the discussions and wished them all a safe journey home. He closed the 25th Annual General Meeting at 6.30 pm.

## **Minutes of the 33. EFOSA General Assembly Meeting**

Monday, 3 June 2002, 03.00 p.m. – 07.30 p.m. "Hilton Sorrento Palace Hotel" Sorrento, Italy

On June 3rd, 2002 the 26th EFOSA General Assembly Meeting was held in Sorrento, Italy. It was attended by 36 participants, including 27 members from 16 countries and 9 guests from 7 countries. The attendance list is enclosed as part of these minutes.

### **1. Opening**

The office-holding EFOSA President, Professor Jüri Kurol, warmly welcomed the delegates and guests of the 26th EFOSA General Assembly Meeting and opened it at 03.00 p.m. In order to introduce the delegates to each other, EFOSA Secretary Wolfgang Schmiedel called up each delegate individually, in the sequence of the member countries, and handed them their badges.

### **Apologies for absence**

Schmiedel reported that the following persons had sent their apologies:

- The founder of the EFOSA, Professor Charles Bolender, France.
- The office-holding Vice President of the EFOSA, Boris Faure, France.

Schmiedel read out a letter from Faure in which he stated that he could not attend due to ill-health and, for the same reason, was not available for future assignments of the EFOSA Council.

Lars Medin from Sweden, who was proposed by the EFOSA Nomination Committee as future Secretary of the EFOSA, also sent his apologies.

Jose Llamas from Spain conveyed the apologies of the SEDO President Juan Canut, who regretted being unable to attend for private reasons.

### **02. Changes in and amendments to the agenda**

With good reason and with reference to the EFOSA Council Meeting that had taken place that morning, a change of the EFOSA bylaws was proposed. This discussion was then relegated to item 20 on the agenda.

### **03. Minutes of the 25th General Assembly Meeting of June 18, 2001, Ghent, Belgium**

The minutes of the 25th EFOSA General Assembly Meeting were approved unanimously by those delegates entitled to vote.

#### **04. Correspondence**

To begin with, Schmiedel pointed out that the entire correspondence of the past year had been sent to all delegates together with the invitation to the General Assembly Meeting. He reiterated his apologies to Chris Kettler, England, whose letter on ethical questions, which should have been dealt with the year before, was only discussed that day. Kettler again expounded in detail both the content of his letter and the intentions bound up with it. In the ensuing discussion, which was in parts controversial, Giuliano Maino, Italy expressed his agreement with the letter. Bart van de Vannet, Belgium, suggested to get legal advice before the proposals contained in the letter were put into practice, as they would widen the EFOSA's area of responsibility to include the monitoring of ethical matters. Frans van der Linden, Holland, pointed to the great responsibility shouldered by the Council Members. In this connection, Hans Sergl, the EOS representative, reported a change in the EOS constitution. Patrick Keating, Ireland, and Wolfgang Schmiedel supported the proposal of the BOS, as introduced by Kettler, to charge the EFOSA with this new task, which basically entailed the establishment of a European data-bank containing the names of colleagues who had committed criminal offences or who had been noted for dubious work practices.

A decision was taken to charge a committee with the elaboration and realization of this new task. As members of this committee, the delegates elected Chris Kettler, Ulrich Fellner, Germany, and Michael Kalavritinos, Greece.

Schmiedel reported about a lecture on the situation of orthodontics in Europe that he had held in Madrid in March 2002, following an invitation by the Spanish Association of Orthodontists (AESOR). He also reported about the problems of the Spanish orthodontists in obtaining official recognition as Orthodontic specialists.

He further reported the Cyprus Orthodontic Society's request that the EFOSA support its struggle for official recognition of orthodontic specialists, in particular in relation to general dentists. He referred the delegates to his reply, which was published on the EFOSA website.

#### **05. Withdrawal of the decision reached in last year's GAM (change of Italy's status of membership)**

The reasons for the withdrawal of last year's decision by the 25th General Assembly Meeting to divest Italy of its active membership had been thoroughly expounded in several letters and made known to all delegates prior to the Meeting. Therefore, no vote was required to establish that the previous decision was retracted by the EFOSA Council

and that Italy retained its status of active membership. Van der Linden pointed out that Italy, according to this procedure, had never actually lost its active membership status. Giuliano Maino thanked the Council and the delegates for this decision. Prior to this decision, the EFOSA Council had been given an updated register of the Italian orthodontists (ALBO).

## **06. Information from the Council**

Referring to the issues discussed under the previous item on the agenda, Schmiedel explained once again that due to the circumstances which led to the divestiture of Italy's active membership status, the members of the Council felt obliged to resign in order to pave the way for the re-election of the entire Council as scheduled under item 11 on the agenda.

Kurol proposed that in the future the member countries should, as in the past, send a report to the EFOSA setting forth specific problems within their states. These reports should consist of no more than one page in DIN-A4 format and be presented two months prior to the General Assembly Meeting at the latest. The reports of the individual countries would be published on the EFOSA website and thus be made available to all members.

## **07. Report of the Secretary**

As in every year, Schmiedel read out a written report on the activities of the EFOSA during the past legislative period. Within the framework of this report, he honoured the outgoing representative of the EOS, Hans Sergl, for his long years of rewarding collaboration with the EFOSA, as well as Charles Bolender for his far-sighted decision to found the EFOSA in 1976, and Frans van der Linden for his untiring support for the work of the EFOSA. To the applause of the Meeting, all those honoured received a present from the EFOSA.

The Secretary's written report forms part of these minutes and is attached to them at the end.

## **08. Report of the Auditors**

In the name of the Auditors – Paolo Picchioni, Italy, and Ulrich Fellner, Germany – Fellner delivered a report on the cash audit which was carried out on the basis of the original documents. He proposed that the EFOSA's funds be invested with a profit in the future. In closing his report, he confirmed that the books had been kept in good order and recommended that the delegates discharge the Council and the Treasurer, Annlaug Stensland.

The "EFOSA Financial Report 2002" forms part of these minutes and is attached to them at the end.

## **09. Report of the Treasurer: Status of account / Resources**

The Treasurer, Annlaug Stensland, reported on the financial situation of the EFOSA. A written report on income and expenditure had been sent to all delegates together with the invitation to the General Assembly Meeting. She reported that, regrettably, not all members had yet paid their annual subscription for the current year. She further reported that the EFOSA Council had decided on its meeting that morning to keep the account of the EFOSA in the country of the office-holding Treasurer. Referring to the remarks by Ulrich Fellner, she informed the delegates that the Council had also decided to invest the funds of the EFOSA with a profit.

The Meeting thanked Annlaug Stensland and discharged her unanimously.

## **11. Elections - a) Council, b) Nomination Committee**

Kurol first explained the election procedure, referring in particular to the terms of office of the Council members, and stated that office-holders could be re-elected for a second term once. Giuliano Maino, Italy, proposed to limit the Council member's terms of office to three instead of four years. After some discussion, which was in parts controversial, the majority of the delegates favoured a four-year term.

The Council was charged with establishing a roster for the different election periods of the individual Council members. Paul Karvelas, Greece, proposed to keep the previous roster.

The office-holding chairman of the EFOSA Nomination Committee, Frans van der Linden, proposed the following candidates for the new EFOSA Council:

- President: Wolfgang Schmiedel, Germany
- Vice-President: Francesca Miotti, Italy
- Secretary: Lars Medin, Sweden
- Treasurer: Claude Bourdillat

Candidates Claude Bourdillat and Francesca Miotti introduced themselves to the delegates. Schmiedel described Lars Medin who had sent his apologies for private reasons.

All candidates were then elected unanimously by the Meeting.

The previous office-holding members of the EFOSA Nomination Committee, Frans van der Linden, Holland, and Chris Kettler, England, whose term extends until 2003, remain in office until the next General Assembly Meeting. The founder of the EFOSA, Charles Bolender, was proposed by van der Linden as the third member to replace Boris Faure. Annlaug Stensland proposed Jüri Kurol, so that a runoff had to be held. In a secret ballot

by the 12 delegates entitled to vote Jüri Kurol was elected with 7 to 5 votes to become the third member of the Nomination Committee.

After the election a controversial discussion flared up on when the new president actually assumes office. Schmiedel and others were of the opinion that the new president takes up his official duties immediately after a valid election. Kurol and others were of the opinion that the new president takes up his official duties, including the chair of the meeting, only after the work on the current agenda had been completed. As no agreement was reached, a secret ballot ensued. It was decided with a 7 to 5 majority that the outgoing president would continue his official duties and chair the current Meeting.

## **12. Applications for membership: Belgium, Luxembourg, Portugal, Turkey.**

Bart van de Vannet, Belgium, announced that Belgium had finally gained official recognition of the speciality of orthodontics. An application by the Belgian professional association BBUSO, represented by van de Vannet, had been with the EFOSA for a long time. It was decided not to grant the application pending the creation of an official register of orthodontists for the whole of Belgium. The Meeting expressed its hope that Belgium would fulfil all requirements for admission into the EFOSA by the year 2003.

Schmiedel explained that in its application for membership, Luxembourg had fulfilled all the necessary requirements to be admitted as a new provisional member into the EFOSA that day and, on behalf of the Council, proposed that Luxembourg be accepted by a vote.

In the presence of the representatives of Luxembourg, Luxembourg was admitted by the delegates' vote as a third provisional member of the EFOSA, and the duration of its provisional membership status was limited to three years for the time being.

The representative of Portugal, Afonso Ferreira, described the situation of the orthodontists in his country. The Portuguese professional association of orthodontists had not yet handed in an application for membership. Again, the Meeting expressed the hope that Portugal would join the EFOSA in the coming year.

The representative of Turkey, Nejat Erverdi, presented an application for membership by the Turkish professional association of orthodontists, TOS. A number of delegates were of the opinion that these documents should have been presented earlier for evaluation by the Council. However, since neither the constitution nor the bylaws of the EFOSA clearly define the proper procedure, it was decided to interrupt the Meeting in order to give the Council the opportunity to assess the documents that were handed in.

The Council established that the documents gave no cause for complaint; all the compulsory requirements for admission into the EFOSA had been fulfilled. After the Meeting had reassembled, and in the absence of the Turkish representative, the Turkish

Orthodontic Society was unanimously accepted as a member of the EFOSA. As Turkey was not a member of the European Union, she received the status of a fourth "affiliate member" of the EFOSA.

The fact that the Turkish application for membership had been handed in at a very late point in time caused some discussion, and the delegates unanimously decided to revise the EFOSA bylaws to provide precise definitions of the proper time limits.

### **13. Relations with the EOS**

Annlaug Stensland reported about the EOS Meeting in London on February 9th, 2002, which she had attended as the EFOSA representative. Schmiedel reported about the FORUM Meeting scheduled for the following day, which had been called by the EFOSA and the EOS as a joint event. Nearly all delegates felt that this meeting made no sense, since 90 percent of those attending participated in the General Assembly Meeting, too, and the items on the agenda were of little interest.

Schmiedel announced that, given the good bilateral relations between the EFOSA and the EOS, the minutes of the FORUM Meeting would be published on the EFOSA website.

In conclusion, Schmiedel reported on the joint reply of the EFOSA and the EOS to the EU discussion document entitled "The future regime for professional recognition". This letter had been sent off in due course and was published on the EFOSA website.

### **14. Relations with the FEO**

Schmiedel complained about certain formulations in the FEO minutes, concerning in particular the reports on the EFOSA General Assembly Meetings. Athanasios Athanasiou, the FEO President, proceeded to comment in detail on these remarks and indicated the FEO's continued interest in close and good relations with the EFOSA. It was decided to intensify relations between the two associations, which cover different areas of responsibility, in order to prevent the emergence of misunderstandings at an early stage.

### **15. Report of the "EFOSA Quality Working Group"**

Ulrich Fellner read out a written report on the activities and findings of the Working Group, analysing the strengths and weaknesses of the EFOSA. He stressed the importance of supporting the work of the EURO-QUAL. If at all possible, he said, the EFOSA should provide financial support for this project.

Jüri Kurol and Paul Karvelas, Greece, stressed the importance of collaboration with the Advisory Committee of the EU, even though it was unable to function at the moment due to financial restrictions.

The entire report of the Quality Working Group forms part of these minutes and is attached to them at the end.

#### **16. New activities based on the EFOSA Constitution article 4g and 4h regarding the quality of education and the standardisation of European orthodontic examinations.**

Frans van der Linden expounded the tasks and aims to which the EFOSA should devote particular attention in the future. He pointed to the constantly growing number of delegates and proposed to make more use of working groups in order to lighten the Council's workload.

He said that the aims defined by the EFOSA constitution – concerning the establishment of quality standards for the education for orthodontic specialists and the standardization of European examinations at the end of specialist training programs in orthodontics – were far from having been realized. On the contrary, in countries such as Germany there were attempts to undermine, if not cancel altogether, academic training programs for orthodontic specialists. Van der Linden's remarks were met with complete agreement by all those present. Frans van der Linden said he was prepared to collaborate closely with the Council on these issues and to hand in proposals for practical measures.

#### **17. WFO: 6th International Orthodontic Convention 2005, Paris**

Claude Bourdillat, Francesca Miotti and Schmiedel reported about the preparations for this world congress of orthodontists scheduled for the year 2005. The EFOSA will be represented in all the essential committees by the three delegates named above and by Charles Bolender. It is thus in a position to exert an influence on the organization of the Convention. Schmiedel and Bolender are both members of the committee charged with a report on the current situation of orthodontic specialists in European politics.

#### **18. EFOSA-Questionnaire 2000: final report**

The analysis of the EFOSA questionnaire that was handed out in 2002 has been completed. All members of the EFOSA have sent in their replies, including the new members accepted that day, Luxembourg and Turkey, as well as Israel. The results give a very accurate picture of the situation of orthodontics in Europe and have been published on the EFOSA website. However, pending publication in the "European Journal of Orthodontics", they may only be used internally. Van der Linden and Schmiedel will submit a paper with the results to the "EJO" before the end of the year.

## **19. EFOSA Website: Presentation / Discussion**

Schmiedel reported on the work on the EFOSA website. He demonstrated some changes that had been made. He quoted figures showing a continuous rise in the number of visitors to the website, which had approached 30.000. He proceeded to demonstrate in detail the "EFOSA Directory" which had been completed. This directory provides access to the data of all orthodontic specialists in the member states of the EFOSA and replaces the old directory, which had been published as a book for the last time in 1997. The delegates acknowledged Schmiedel's work with prolonged applause.

## **20. Any other business**

The Meeting decided to thoroughly revise the EFOSA Constitution as well as the Bylaws in order to adapt them to new requirements. Frans van der Linden agreed to provide significant assistance to this work.

It was announced that in the future the EFOSA Council would present to the delegates an interim report on its activities every six months.

In a personal statement, the outgoing President Jüri Kurol took his leave of the Meeting. In the name of the delegates, he warmly thanked the Italian hosts, represented by Giuliano Maino, for their invitation to the "Get together" that evening.

## **21. Date of next meeting**

Schmiedel announced that the next EFOSA Assembly Meeting in 2003 would take place in Prague, where the EOS Congress would assemble as well. The precise time and place would be announced in good time on the EFOSA website.

## **22. Closing**

Kurol thanked all delegates for their contributions and closed the Meeting at 7.30 p.m.

## **Minutes of the 34th EFOSA General Assembly Meeting**

Monday, June 9th, 2003, 15.15 – 19.15 hours "Hotel Holiday Inn Prague, Congress Centre" Prague, Czech Republic

### **Attendance**

The meeting was attended by 31 member participants from 19 countries and 8 guests/observers. The attendance list is enclosed as part of these minutes.

### **01. Opening**

The office-holding EFOSA President, Wolfgang Schmiedel warmly welcomed the delegates and guests of the 27th EFOSA General Assembly Meeting and opened it at 15.15. In order to introduce the delegates the EFOSA Secretary Lars Medin, by tradition, called upon each delegate and handed them their badges.

### **02. Apologies for absence**

The President reported that Ireland had sent apologies for absence due to lack of information in connection with change of people in the Irish board.

### **03. Changes in and amendments to the agenda**

The agenda was approved without changes with the addition of:

Point 23. Any other business: "The future expansion of the EFOSA"

### **04. Minutes of the 26th General Assembly Meeting of June 3rd, 2002, Sorrento, Italy**

The minutes of the 26th EFOSA General Assembly Meeting were approved unanimously.

### **05. Correspondence**

The President reported from correspondence with Austria where Orthodontics not yet is officially recognized as a specialty. A new Minister of Health will be approached very soon reported Silvia Silli from Austria.

Switzerland has reacted upon a manuscript to an article of "European Orthodontic Specialists in 2002" that will be published in the European Journal of Orthodontics in a near future. In "Table 2, Average fee fixed appliances (€)" the Swiss want the authors to leave out that information concerning Switzerland.

The President reported from Germany where the fees for fixed appliances have been reduced with about 50 %.

## **06. Information from the Council**

The President reported that he has given an interview about EFOSA in the July issue of the Portuguese Journal of Orthodontics and also given a speech with information about EFOSA at a professional Conference in Athens, Greece.

## **07. Report of the Secretary**

Dear colleagues, dear representatives from the EFOSA member organizations.

First I want to thank you for electing me last year in Sorrento as Secretary of EFOSA. My earlier experience of EFOSA comes from the Working Committee with the EFOSA Constitution and Bylaws in 1997 where I was the Secretary. I am also the present Secretary of the Swedish Association of Orthodontists and the Angle Society of Europe.

You will be disappointed when you compare my report with the former reports you have received from my predecessor Wolfgang Schmiedel. I am not involved in the management of the organization to the extent that Wolfgang was as Secretary and particularly now is as President. That means that my report is thinner and will be included in the minutes of this meeting.

My first task as Secretary was to represent EFOSA as observer at the FEO General Assembly meeting in Sofia, Bulgaria September 29th 2002 which I reported at the EFOSA Council Meeting November 17th 2002.

I have assisted the President in preparing the agendas for the meetings and discussed with him the content in the semi-annual report. I have also written the report from the November Council Meeting last year.

I have had very few contacts with the member organizations so far. The roster and the web-site is taken care of by our President Wolfgang and I appreciate that very much.

In preparing this meeting I have been involved a lot with the practical arrangements and it is my hope that everything will work smooth without problems for you.

In the future I hope that all parts of the organization even the subcommittees will report continuously to the Council about their activities to keep "the EFOSA" well informed. I am quite optimistic that this will succeed. The web-site will be of great importance to reach this goal.

It was suggested by Adrian Becker, Israel that the EFOSA web-site address, [www.efosa.org](http://www.efosa.org) , should be included in the EFOSA letterhead logo.

## **08. Report of the Treasurer: Status of Account / Resources**

Dear colleagues, dear delegates,

Thank you for having electing me as EFOSA's Treasurer last year in Sorrento.

This is the first time I am a treasurer, so will you please forgive me if I am not very effective this year , I am learning this new job !

This is the annual report about the EFOSA finances.

As decided during our last General Assembly Meeting in Sorrento, the EFOSA account has been transferred from Germany to France, the seat of the treasurer. The bank account in Germany was closed on December 2003, and the new bank Account in France was opened in January 2003.

Consequently I have opened a new bank account in the French "Caisse d'Epargne", which is a National Bank that saves money and is accustomed with Associations.

The amount of money transferred from Germany to France was 27.409,79 Euros.

I was decided by the delegates of last years General Assembly to put a part of this amount in a special bank account, in order to save as much money as possible.

So I left 5.147,99 Euros on a regular bank account, and I opened a saving account of 22.261,18 Euros.

This special account gave a result of 140,00 Euros since January 2003, that is 3% a year.

This is not that much, but we can have the money at our disposal any time when we need it.

Until the end of April 10 countries have paid the annual fees = 8.149 Euros

There were 74,20 Euros of bank fees to transfer money

And there were 506,25 euros expenses

So at the end of April the federation owns: 35.071,54 Euros.

We could save even more money in placing the money for a longer period of time:

If we place for 1 year, we can save 5,65 % a year (interest guaranty),

I propose to place the 10 000 Euros for one year, 5,00 % interest (that means that the money is locked for one year), except if the Assembly decides that we should need the money earlier.

At this time I propose that the 2004 Annual Fees remain the same

#### STATUS OF PAYMENTS:

Since I wrote this report, the all countries have paid their annual Fees

Thank you very much for your attention! Should you have any questions, please feel free to ask me!

The Status of Account is enclosed as part of this report

The Treasurer commented that there are difficulties to check the membership fee for the different countries as one part of the fee (250 €/country + 2 €/member when more than 100) is depending on the number of members. The President recommended to use the EFOSA roster on the web-site and commented that it is important that the roster is updated by member organizations.

At present EFOSA gets 3 % interest rate on its bank savings.

Stephen Richmond asked about the total sum of assets of more than 37.000 Euros when the expenditure per year is significantly less. Frans van der Linden pointed out that the subcommittees will cost money in the future. It is also important that EFOSA can have more than one Council Meeting a year.

### **09. Report of the Auditors / Resolution**

The Financial Auditors, Uli Fellner, Germany and Paolo Picchioni, Italy reported that their report has been delayed due to change of Treasurer and country (from Germany to France). Some documents are still missing.

Paul Karvelas, Greece recommended to hire a specialist to keep the books.

Frans van den Linden suggested that the postponed report from the Financial Auditors can be approved when all relevant documents are available before September 1st, 2003.

The report of the Financial Auditors is enclosed as a part of this report.

### **10. Changes in EFOSA Constitution and Bylaws / Resolution**

The proposed changes were explained by Frans van der Linden and were attached as a supplement to the agenda.

Article 19: It was decided to change the financial year to "The financial year runs from April 1st - March 31st each year".

Article 22: Jüri Kurol suggested that "The Council or a single Active Member can make proposals for amendments in the Constitution etc" instead of "The Council and at least three Active Members etc". Jüri was supported by Stefan Affolter, Switzerland. The proposal was turned down with a 4 to 7 vote.

After this discussion the proposed changes was decided by the General Assembly.

Frans van der Linden suggested that it should be checked that the member countries fulfill the requirements for their member status (Specialty officially recognized, register of specialists and the association gather 70% or more of the registered specialists) every three years starting 2004. Every country shall also send a report of not more than one A4 page before November 1st, every year.

Stefan Affolter claimed that Switzerland has a similar agreement with EU like Norway and Iceland which should make Switzerland an Active Member.

## **11. Duration of provisional membership (see EFOSA Constitution: Article 5.2)**

### **Discussion / Resolution**

Spain has been Provisional Member since 1998 which means 5 years until now. Frans van der Linden reported from contacts with the Spanish colleagues and the problems in Spain to get Orthodontics as a recognized specialty. The Council suggests that Spain gets 2 more years as Provisional Member and should apply for Active Membership before November 1st, 2006.

Paul Karvelas, Greece advised the GA to have strict rules concerning Provisional Members especially as EU is enlarging with 10 new countries.

Jüri Kurol pointed out that it is important with a deadline for the Provisional Membership.

The General Assembly decided to approve the proposal of the Council and sent Spain and Luxembourg a letter which relates to the previous decisions.

## **12. Elections: Auditors / Nomination Committee**

Financial Auditors: According to the Constitution 2 people will be elected for two years.

The Nomination Committee proposed Michael Kalavritinos, Greece and Frank de Winter, The Netherlands. No more proposals.

It was unanimously decided to elect Michael Kalavritinos and Frank de Winter as Financial Auditors until the GA-meeting in 2005.

Nomination Committee: According to the Bylaws the Nomination Committee consist of three people for a term of two years of whom one will act as chairman appointed by the GA. Jüri Kurol was elected 2002.

Charles Bolender, France was proposed by Paul Karvelas and Frans van der Linden, The Netherlands was proposed by Uli Fellner. It was unanimously decided to elect Charles Bolender and Frans van der Linden to the Nomination Committee until the GA-meeting in 2005.

### **13. Applications for membership: Czech Republic, Belgium (?), Portugal (?)**

The Czech Republic has applied for Affiliated Membership. The application fulfils the requirements of the EFOSA Constitution. The Czech Republic is together with Norway the only country in Europe where Orthodontics only can be practised by orthodontist and refunded by the authorities. The Czech Republic was unanimously voted Affiliated Member of EFOSA.

Belgium will probably apply 2004 as Active Member. A new common organization called "Belgium Union of Registered Orthodontics (BURO) will be established.

Portugal will form "A group of orthodontic specialists" inside their organization and accordingly qualify for Active Membership, maybe next year, 2004. There is a need for a change in the Constitution and Bylaws of the Portuguese Dental Association.

### **14. Relations with the EOS**

The President reported that the relations with EOS are extremely good. EOS is co-opted member of EFOSA and vice versa.

The "Forum Meeting" is arranged every year and scheduled for tomorrow June 10th, 2003 at 09.00 hours. The meeting is a joint event the EOS and the EFOSA. This year the meeting will be chaired by EOS President, Milan Kaminek and EFOSA Secretary, Lars Medin.

### **15. Relations with the FEO**

The President reported that the relations with FEO are very good. From 2004 the "Forum Meeting" will be arranged by all three organisations, EOS, EFOSA and FEO.

Jüri Kurol commented that the EOS – EFOSA relationship was established with a written statement regulating the responsibilities and duties of the two organizations. A similar document is necessary and important for the EFOSA – FEO relationship. The president answered that briefly the role of FEO can be explained as the organization responsible

for information to the scientific associations and EFOSA as the organization responsible for the information to the political specialists associations.

The EFOSA decided with a 6 – 0 vote that a document regulating the EFOSA – FEO relationship should be written down jointly by both organizations.

## **16. EFOSA Semi-annual report**

The presidents semi-annual report has been sent to the member organizations as decided. Also Israel as observer wanted a report.

Only five member organizations (Denmark, England, Finland, Germany and Norway) have delivered the decided report of activities in their country of maximum one A4 page.

The President urged the member associations to send the report as soon as possible to the President or the Secretary. The reports will then be published on the EFOSA website.

## **17. Report of the EFOSA "Ethics Committee" (Kettler) / Discussion / Resolution**

The subcommittee consisting of Chris Kettler, Michael Kalavritinos and Uli Fellner gave their report last year and urged the member countries to adopt "the Code of Ethical Behavior".

The Council recommended the national societies to discuss the report and report back to the EFOSA Council of improvements and comments. This should be done before November 1st, 2003 to be discussed at the EFOSA Council Meeting in November.

Stefan Affholter reported that Switzerland has the national rules to follow. It is impossible to act against anybody before somebody has done something wrong (We don't trust rumours)

Paul Karvelas reminded of superstate rules to follow inside the EU.

Charles Bolender commented that too many young dentists practise Orthodontics exclusively without enough profound training.

Michael Kalavritinos believed that in the future the "Internet" will have common "Ethical rules" available.

Jüri Kurol commented that in most European countries every dentist has the right to do orthodontics treatments.

Frans van der Linden suggested the member associations to go through the report once again and send their comments to the Council.

This issue will also be on the agenda 2004 in Aarhus, Denmark.

### **18. Report of the EFOSA Committee "Orthodontic Training Programs and Examinations" (Miotti)**

By proposal of the Council the subcommittee will consist of Francesca Miotti, Italy (chairman), Frans van der Linden, The Netherlands and Krister Bjerklin, Sweden. The subcommittee has so far not had any meeting.

The subcommittee was formally installed by the General Assembly.

Paolo Picchioni, Italy asked for EFOSA help to maintain the specialist training as a three year fulltime program. Some Italian universities have suggested a fourth year. Roberto Martina commented that he was not going to agree. The president promised that the FISO will have a letter on this topic from EFOSA.

### **19. Report of the EFOSA "Quality Working Group" (Bourdillat-Mikol)**

By proposal of the Council the subcommittee will consist of Claude Bourdillat-Mikol, France (chairman), Stephen Richmond, England and Frank de Winter, The Netherlands.

The subcommittee was formally installed by the General Assembly.

### **20. Foundation of the EFOSA Committee "European Health Insurances" (Giuliano Maino)**

By proposal of the Council the subcommittee will consist of Giuliano Maino, Italy (chairman), Charles Bolender, France and Jan Ödegaard, Norway.

The subcommittee was formally installed by the General Assembly.

### **21. WFO: 6th International Orthodontic Convention 2005, Paris**

EFOSA is close related with the preparations of the world congress in Paris in September 2005. The EFOSA Council members Wolfgang Schmiedel, Francesca Miotti and Claude Bourdillat-Mikol are all represented in important COSIO committees.

### **22. EFOSA – Web-site: Presentation / Discussion**

The President Wolfgang Schmiedel made an excellent presentation of the EFOSA web-site. During the year the web-site has undergone a facelift and been supplemented by the missing reports from earlier General Assembly Meetings. In working with this Schmiedel has discovered that in stead of having the 27th meeting this year it should have been the 34th.

The web-site will also be the place where all official correspondence is available.

The President urged the member associations to update their rosters regularly in order to have the directory in order. The recommended format is MS Exel.

The Treasurer Claude Bourdillat-Mikol wanted to know the number of members in each association to be able to charge the membership fee.

### **23. Any other business**

The future expansion of the EFOSA

Next year there will be ten new members in EU. There will be a big challenge for the future of EFOSA to incorporate those countries. An additional subcommittee of 2-3 people will most likely be installed to handle this concern.

Frans van der Linden proposed that the Council approaches the countries accordingly

Uli Fellner commented that Francesca Miotti knows a lot of Othodontics in the countries in Eastern Europe.

Frans van der Linden expressed many thanks from the EFOSA to Chris Kettler for his work in the Nomination Committee.

### **24. Date and venue of next meeting**

The next General Assembly meeting will be held in Aarhus, Denmark, June 4th or 5th, 2004 where the 2004 EOS Congress will be held. The precise date and time will be announced in appropriate time and will also be available on the EFOSA web-site as soon as the program in detail has been known.

### **25. Closing**

The President Wolfgang Schmiedel thanked all delegates, guests and observers for their contributions and closed the Meeting at 19.15 hours.

Lars Medin

## **Minutes of the 35th EFOSA General Assembly Meeting**

Sunday, June 6th, 2004, 15.15 – 19.00 hours Auditoriehuset, University of Aarhus, Aarhus, Denmark

### **Attendance**

The meeting was attended by 32 member participants from 19 countries including EOS and 11 guests/observers from 8 countries including FEO and one observer from the Greek Association for Orthodontic Study and Research (GAOSR). The attendance list is enclosed as part of these minutes.

Before the opening of the meeting Birte Melsen, President of the European Orthodontic Society (EOS), welcomed the delegates and wished EFOSA General Assembly Meeting for constructive discussions and wise decisions. She also explained the huge painting in the stair hall made to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the University of Aarhus.

### **01. Opening**

The office-holding EFOSA President, Wolfgang Schmiedel warmly welcomed the delegates and guests of the 35th EFOSA General Assembly Meeting and opened it at 15.15. In order to introduce the delegates the EFOSA Secretary Lars Medin, by tradition, called upon each delegate.

The President expressed many thanks to the Danish Society of Orthodontic Specialists (FSO) President Preben Dömgaard and Secretary Kirsten Holm for hosting the Get Together Party after the Meeting.

### **02. Apologies for absence**

The President reported that Iceland had sent apologies for absence. Ireland and Lithuania have not answered the invitation to attend the GA meeting. Slovakia had posted two representatives who didn't attend.

### **03. Changes in and amendments to the agenda**

The agenda was approved without changes with the addition of Cyprus and Slovakia on Point 13. Applications for membership: Belgium, Czech Republic, Estonia, Lithuania, Poland, Portugal and Serbia-Montenegro.

### **04. Minutes of the 28th General Assembly Meeting of June 9th, 2003, Prague, Czech Republic**

The minutes of the 28th EFOSA General Assembly Meeting were approved unanimously without changes.

## **05. Correspondence**

The President reported from correspondence with Austria, Luxembourg and Spain where Orthodontics not yet is officially recognized as a specialty. The common problem is the General Practitioners in the countries respectively who are against.

## **06. EFOSA Semi-annual report**

The purpose of the Semi-annual report from the Council is to give the Member Organizations continuous information about the activities of EFOSA. Unfortunately Francesca Miottis name is forgotten on page 3, paragraph 5 in the report from 2004. Francesca is Program Chairman for the WFO Congress in Paris 2005.

Next Semi-annual report will appear in the beginning of 2005.

## **07. Country reports**

The president informed the Assembly that each member organization has the obligation to deliver a country report. The Council has decided that this should be done before November 1st each year.

To make it easier for the member associations and also get appropriate information the report will have a special structure in the future with headlines and information about the number of approved specialists in each country.

Every four years the EFOSA Questionnaire will be updated and included in the Country report.

## **08. Report of the Secretary**

Dear representatives of the EFOSA member organizations, dear guests, dear colleagues.

This has been my second year as EFOSA Secretary. I am also the President of the Swedish Association of Orthodontists and the Angle Society of Europe since January this year.

Our President Wolfgang Schmiedel has done a lot of work also this year that should be done by the Secretary like taking care of the website, the roster and sending out the material to this meeting. Thank you very much Wolfgang.

I was responsible for taking the minutes at the meeting of "The Forum of National Orthodontic Societies" last year on June 10th in Prague. The minutes have been available

on the EFOSA web site as well as the EOS web site since the end of last summer. The "Forum Meeting" is a common meeting of the organizations EFOSA, EOS and now also FEO for mutual information and will take place again this year, tomorrow at 10.00 in Auditorium 3.

As Secretary of the EFOSA I have been in contact with the member organizations concerning the "Country reports" and comments to the "Code of Ethical Practice and Professional Conduct". I have also contributed to the discussion inside the Council with the FDI and EU policy statements on Ethics.

I have assisted the President in preparing the agendas for the Council and General Assembly Meetings and also discussed with him the semi-annual report. 5 out of the ten new EU countries have answered a questionnaire on the situation of the profession in their countries respectively. I have also written the report from the November Council Meeting last year.

In the future I hope that all parts of the organization even the subcommittees will report continuously to the Council about their activities to keep "the EFOSA" well informed. This information as well as a draft of the minutes from the last General Assembly meeting should also be available at the web site, maybe covered by a password, at the earliest convenience. The EFOSA web site will be of great importance to reach this goal.

Lars Medin

## **09. Information from the Council**

The EFOSA President Wolfgang Schmiedel has been interviewed in the Portuguese and Spanish Journals of Orthodontics and also participated in the first Serbia-Montenegro International Orthodontic Meeting.

Wolfgang Schmiedel and Frans van der Linden will lecture at the 3rd International Orthodontic Symposium in Prague, Czech Republic later this year.

The 2002 report on "Orthodontics in Europe" will not be published in the European Journal of Orthodontics (EJO). The article is available through Frans van der Linden or Wolfgang Schmiedel for publishing in the different national Journals in Europe. It has already been published in the Netherlands, Spain and Israel. Later when a majority of the member countries have published the article it will be available on the web site.

## **10. Report of the Treasurer: Status of Account / Resources**

Dear colleagues, dear delegates,

This is the annual report about the 2003 EFOSA finances.

The Financial report you received was until the end of December, due to my professional Accounted Supervisor According to our new financial statement, the Annual Financial report has to go until the end of March. So I made an addendum and sent the pieces needed to the auditors on time before this general Assembly. I brought with me the new Annual report, and you can have it at this desk.

Since the last meeting in Prague, the 2002 Annual report was approved by Ulrich Fellner and Paolo Pichioni. The auditors for 2003 were Frank de Winter and Michail Kalavritinos

## BANK ACCOUNTS

Since 2002, the EFOSA's found were sited in a French Bank called:" Caisse d'Epargne" As decided during the Council Meeting, some arrangements were made, in order to get more interests:

- 1. An average bank account to pay the current expenses (Council, Reports, Questionnaire Account Supervisor, etc...).

I can pay by check or by wire the expenses At the end of March, 2004, this account was 2598,65 Euros

- 2. A saving account called " Livret A", the money is available at any time, and the interests are 2,25%. If I need more money than the average account I can transfer the funds from this "Livret A" to the bank account without any charge.

At the end of March 2004, the amount on this account was: 22 771,96 Euros (with the interest)

- 3. A saving account with better interests: called" Parts Sociales from the Caisse d'Epargne.

This money has 5,20% interests, but the money is stopped for one year, the birthday is March (we have to tell the bank if the funds still keep on for one more year)

If, for some reason, we need the money meanwhile, then we lose the interest for the whole year.

At the end of March 2004, the amount on this account is 10 340,72 Euros (with the interests)

So at the end of March 2004 the federation owns: 35 711,32 Euros.

## EXPENSES

The reimbursements were mainly for the council's meetings: 1573,4 Euros We also had some expense for the reports, questionnaires, committees: 8634,89 Euros

Prior to the General Assembly, there is a Council Meeting to prepare this Assembly.

Until last year, the Council's expenses were paid by the Councils members Countries.

The expenses for the Council meeting in Paris (which is the official meeting of the year) were paid by EFOSA.

During the last Council meeting in Paris, it was decided that those two meetings will be paid in future by EFOSA. A compensation of expenses of 80 Euros per day for the Council was decided for extra- expenses, such as breakfast, etc .

It was also decided to send a questionnaire to the EFOSA's members about Orthodontic.

So next year the expense will increase.

## PAYMENTS

For 2003, all the countries have paid their annual fees, thank you for that. For 2004, at that time, some Countries have not paid their annual fees on time: may I ask them to pay quickly.

The annual fees for 2003 gave to EFOSA: 16 978.70 Euros We had profit on sale of security: 299.36 Euros

The 2004 annual fees were sent be mail to the Countries at the early days of January. A reminder was sent on March. I asked the affiliate and active members to pay before May 2004, in order to have all the payments before our General Assembly.

In order to minimise the bank fees, the countries were kindly asked better to pay by transferring the funds from bank to bank:

IBAN : FR76 1786 5006 0008 2752 9320 148 Swift code( BIC) : CEPAFRPP786 Name: EFOSA (Mrs Bourdillat Mikol Claude)

However, it is still possible to pay by bank check, but it cost more bank fees.

At that time, it is not possible to pay by Internet.

## ANNUAL FEES PROPOSAL

Since two years the fees remind the same. As exposed yet, we have to know that the expenses will increase.

The council decided not to raise the fees. It was also decided that the 10 new EU Members from Eastern Europe will pay 50% of the fees during the first four years.

Thank you very much for your attention! Should you have any questions, please feel free to ask me!

Claude Bourdillat-Mikol

## **11. Report of the Auditors / Resolution**

The Financial Auditors, Michail Kalavritinos, Greece and Frank de Winter, The Netherlands reported that they had done a throughout examination of all financial transactions from April 1, 2003 through March 31, 2004 and found all documents complete, well kept and in proper order. Therefore they recommended the General Assembly to approve the financial report from the Treasurer.

The General Assembly decided to approve the EFOSA Financial Report of the Treasurer during the period April 1st, 2003 to March 31st, 2004.

The report of the Financial Auditors is enclosed as a part of this report.

The financial statements of the accounts in detail were included in the material sent to the delegates before the meeting.

## **12. New European Union Countries / EFOSA Questionnaire sent to New EU Countries**

The Secretary reported that Cyprus, Hungary and Latvia had not answered the Questionnaire. Malta has not so far due to lack of contact person and address got the Questionnaire.

Allen Thom, President of the FEO reported that he had an address to get in contact with the three orthodontists in Malta.

## **13. Applications for membership: Belgium, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Lithuania, Poland, Portugal, Serbia-Montenegro and Slovakia.**

**Belgium:** Belgium may apply next year for Active Membership with the new organization, Belgium Union of Orthodontic Societies, BUOS. Bart Vande Vannet, Belgium explained the situation and asked for a letter to enhance the process.

**Cyprus:** Cyprus must update the Questionnaire before applying.

**Czech Republic:** Czech Republic has applied for Active Membership this year. The documents have been checked by the Council and found in order. According to the Constitution and the Bylaws Czech Republic was unanimously elected as Active Member of EFOSA. The President Wolfgang Schmiedel congratulated Milan Kaminek, President of the Czech Orthodontic Society.

**Estonia:** Estonia can apply for Active Membership next year.

**Lithuania:** Lithuania can apply for Active Membership next year.

**Poland:** About 250 of the 450 registered orthodontists in Poland belong to the Polish Association. According to the Bylaws 70 % of the orthodontists in the country should belong to the organization to be a member of the EFOSA.

Frans van der Linden commented that EFOSA should stimulate the member organizations to attract members. Alex Kokkas, Greece asked, "What does EFOSA do for the member organizations?" Work outside instead of inside calculating the number of members in the different organizations. Giuliano Maino, Italy wants EFOSA to do something for the members that they can touch. Frank de Winter, The Netherlands commented that according to the Constitution and Bylaws a change of the "70%" needs a 2/3 majority vote.

EFOSA General Assembly decided to leave the problem with Poland until next year with a 12-0 vote, 1 abstention.

**Portugal:** Portugal has applied for Active Membership this year. The documents have been checked by the Council and found in order. According to the Constitution and the Bylaws Portugal was unanimously elected as Active Member of EFOSA. The President Wolfgang Schmiedel congratulated Afonso Pinhao Ferreira, President of the Portuguese Orthodontic Society.

**Serbia-Montenegro:** Serbia-Montenegro has applied for affiliated membership this year. The documents have been checked by the Council and found in order. According to the Constitution and the Bylaws Serbia-Montenegro was unanimously elected as Affiliated Member of EFOSA. The President Wolfgang Schmiedel congratulated Mirjana Sasic, President of the Serbia-Montenegro Orthodontic Society.

**Slovakia:** Slovakia can apply for Active Membership next year.

Odile Hutereau, Luxembourg and Hans-Peter Bantleon, Austria pointed out that a letter from EFOSA would help in changing the opinion of not accepting Orthodontics as a recognized specialty and also in accepting the "Grand Father Clause" in the two countries respectively.

#### **14. Relations with the EOS**

The President reported that the relations with EOS are extremely good. EOS is co-opted member of EFOSA and vice versa. Roberto Martina, EOS appreciated Wolfgang Schmiedel for his hard work on creating good relations.

The "Forum Meeting", a joint information meeting for the orthodontic societies between EFOSA, EOS and FEO will be held June 7th, 2004 at 10.00 hours, chaired by the FEO and the EOS will take the minutes. The President read the Agenda for the meeting.

### **15. Relations with the FEO**

A document concerning "Tasks and responsibilities", similar to the document between EFOSA and EOS, has been worked out and agreed upon between EFOSA, EOS and FEO Presidents in February this year. This document is included in the material sent out before this meeting.

The President reported that the EFOSA Council has approved not all parts of the agreement. EFOSA wants to continue the discussions, especially concerning accreditation of training programs and recognition of the specialty.

EFOSA will look upon the document as a draft and ask for a new meeting with the two other organizations to revise the document.

### **16. Report of the EFOSA "Ethics Committee" (Chris Kittler) / Discussion / Resolution**

The President reported that five countries have given comments on the document "The Code of Ethical Behaviour" and proposed, due to lack of time that the discussion should be postponed until next year 2005 in Amsterdam. He also invited the countries that so far not have given their comments to do so before the end of October 2004.

Bart Vande Vannet, Belgium advised EFOSA to stick to the already existing ethical codes.

It was decided that the Committee should consider comments and remarks from the member organizations and present a revised version of the document next year.

The Committee consist of Chris Kettler, chairman, Uli Fellner and Michail Kalavritinos.

### **17. Report of the EFOSA Committee "Orthodontic Training Programs and Examinations" (Francesca Miotti)**

Francesca Miotti reported about the 20 pages Questionnaire that had been put together and sent to about 200 institutions for postgraduate training last week. The answering time is rather short but she hopes that some results can be presented at the Council Meeting in the middle of November 2004. A statistician will take care of the material together with the members of the Committee.

The Committee consists of Francesca Miotti, chairman, Frans van der Linden and Krister Bjerklin.

## **18. EFOSA Questionnaire sent to all Orthodontic Training Centers in the EU Countries**

240 Questionnaires have been sent out to all Training Centres in the EU Countries. Uli Fellner asked about Private Training Centers and Francesca answered that she welcomed information about existing centers with addresses.

## **19. Report of the EFOSA "Quality Working Group" (Claude Bourdillat-Mikol)**

Claude Bourdillat-Mikol referred to the written document "A review of quality initiatives: A way forward" included in the documents sent out to the delegates before the meeting.

The role of EFOSA can be summarized in the following 10 points:

- - To continue reinforcing a minimum academic graduate specialist training program according to the Erasmus programme
- - To support a code of practice
- - To propagate the implementation of a self assessment quality system
- - To develop and maintain a database for self assessment by using quality indicators
- - Highlight the importance of quality issues, and demonstrate the differences in provision between orthodontists within and between countries
- - To endorse current and develop new orthodontic guidelines/managed clinical care pathways
- - To develop strong communication pathways between all stakeholders
- - To support a programme of evaluation to sustain improvement of orthodontic care
- - To support existing agencies to develop EFOSA's own agenda to improve quality initiatives
- - Develop a "Bulletin" or "Newsletter" to promote quality initiatives across Europe

Alex Kokkas, Greece asked: Is promotion of our profession a role of EFOSA

The Committee consist of Claude Bourdillat-Mikol, chairman, Stephen Richmond, and Frank de Winter.

## **20. Foundation of the EFOSA Committee "European Health Insurances" (Giuliano Maino)**

Giuliano Maino presented the document "The organization of orthodontic health care in Europe" included in the material sent out before the meeting. He focused on one of the objectives for the Committee "Which kind of organization will be the best for a certain

situation". For the next 10 years point 5 in the document "Future perspectives" will be of most importance.

The Committee has delivered a description of the project. Some of the questions put forward in the document can be answered by other EFOSA Questionnaires.

The Committee consist of Giuliano Maino, chairman, Jan Ödegaard and Charles Bolender.

## **21. WFO: 6th International Orthodontic Convention 2005, Paris**

The EFOSA Council members Wolfgang Schmiedel, Francesca Miotti and Claude Bourdillat-Mikol are all represented in important COCIO committees. Also Charles Bolender has an important role in organizing the meeting held September 10th-14th, 2005.

There will be three parallel programs running. A staff program will be available for all days of the Convention. There are still 10-minute slots available for presentations. Abstracts will be presented on the web site.

EFOSA is offered a special exhibition where every country can expose.

## **22. EFOSA Web site**

The web site has a new look since last year. The Secretary will in the future be responsible for the web site. Some parts will be protected by a password and only available for members and another part will be kept for the Council.

## **23. Statement of the President**

Dear delegates, dear colleagues, dear friends,

In accordance with our Constitution I am leaving the EFOSA Council today after having been eight years in it.

Due to this reason permit me to say a few words and to make some personnel remarks. Let me begin with a brief survey about the history of the Efosa:

Once again I would like to thank Charles Bolender for his far sighting idea and his tremendous work in founding the EFOSA in 1977. At this time only Belgium, Denmark, Germany, England, France, The Netherlands, Ireland and Italy were members of the EFOSA.

On the initiative of Frans van der Linden and Sweden we began to create a new constitution in 1996. At the very beginning I was not in favor of reinventing the wheel

again, particularly when it came to change the name EFOSA into EFASO. I will never forget this meeting in Birmingham. However, the so called "Constitution Working Group" worked harmoniously together during its meetings in Amsterdam and Copenhagen. Finally we got a new Constitution in 1997. Following our new and strict regulations we unfortunately had to expel some of our old founding members, which was hard to understand for them.

However, since our new Constitution became valid the Efosa started to grow and to flourish. Looking back in this regard I would like to thank you once again, Frans.

Today all western European countries and some new European countries are members of our organization. By the way, I do not very much like the difference between West and East, old and new Europe, and I sincerely hope and believe, that in a few years we will talk about one Europe only.

Talking about the 10 new European countries, which joined us in May of this year, I am of the opinion, that concerning our profession the EFOSA will surely play an important role in this process of harmonization and will be faced with most challenging tasks in the next future.

Dear delegates, dear Council members,

During my work in serving the EFOSA I did not always succeed, sometimes I failed. As you may probably know, it was one of my goals to see all western European countries as active members of the EFOSA before handing over my duties. Unfortunately as of today we are still waiting for the official recognition of our specialty in Austria, Luxembourg and Spain. Nevertheless, the reports given this afternoon and the latest developments make me a little optimistic.

Anyhow, I am very proud to be one of those people who have served for the EFOSA in the previous years. The ones who know me a little better will surely confirm that I did it with passion and with my heart.

I often called the EFOSA "My Baby", however it was given birth by Charles Bolender. I later took over his duties and was happy to learn that our baby has grown up now and is going to be stronger and stronger every year!

This work for the EFOSA has positively influenced my whole life in many respects. For instance, I had the chance to meet and make new friends in almost all parts of Europe. All of you should know that I am mostly grateful for that.

My thanks today go to all people, with whom I was pleased to work together, particularly to the members of the EFOSA Council and members of our various working groups. I always had an excellent cooperation with all of them.

My special thanks go to Frans van der Linden, whose personnel support was very helpful for me in the previous years. By the way, Frans, most of the time I followed your advices, sometimes I did not. Today I can tell you very frankly, that there were moments when I regretted very much not having followed your advices.

Dear friends, I will not leave the EFOSA at all, but I will continue my work as a normal delegate representing Germany in the future.

We will now have to elect a new President in a couple of minutes following this statement of the old President. Let me tell you all that I assure the new President my support wherever and whenever it may be needed and I will always back him in his work for the EFOSA.

I would like to thank you all for your contributions, for your praise and for your criticism. May the EFOSA further grow, may we succeed in reaching our goals as they are described in our Constitution.

May our common work be successful for the benefit of our profession, the benefit of our patients and all our colleagues in Europe!

Thank you all very much for your attention!

## **24. Elections: New President**

The Nomination Committee has proposed Frans van der Linden as President for the next four years. No other proposal was present.

Frans van der Linden was unanimously elected as new President for EFOSA.

Frans van der Linden thanked the member organizations for electing him and promised to do his best for the EFOSA. He also thanked Wolfgang Schmiedel for his hard work for the organization during his eight years in the EFOSA Council as President, Secretary and Treasurer.

## **25. Elections: Nomination Committee**

It was proposed that Wolfgang Schmiedel should replace Frans van der Linden in the nomination Committee. No other proposal was present.

It was decided unanimously to elect Wolfgang Schmiedel for two years as a member of the EFOSA Nomination Committee.

The Committee consists of Charles Bolender, chairman, Jüri Kurol and Wolfgang Schmiedel.

## **26. Any other business**

The President reported that the Council will propose a reduction of 50 % of the membership fees for the new EU countries which formally belonged to Eastern Europe during the first four years.

It was decided with a 9-0 vote and 1 abstention to approve the proposal of the Council.

## **27. Date and venue of the next meeting**

The next General Assembly meeting will be held in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, and preliminary June 2nd, 2005 where the 2005 EOS Congress will be held. The precise date and time will be announced in appropriate time and will also be available on the EFOSA web site as soon as the program for the EOS Congress in detail has been known.

## **25. Closing**

The President Wolfgang Schmiedel thanked all delegates, guests and observers for their contributions and closed the Meeting at 19.00 hours. On behalf of the Danish colleagues he invited all delegates to the Get Together Party at Restaurant "See food".

Lars Medin

The Council members of the EFOSA (European Federation of Orthodontic Specialists Association) hereby confirm according to point 24, that Frans van der Linden, the Netherlands, was elected President of the organization EFOSA.

### **President**

- Frans van der Linden
- Pauluslaan 15
- NL-6564 AP H. Landstichting
- The Netherlands

### **Vice President**

- Francesca Miotti
- Via Jabelli 16
- I-35121 Padova
- Italy

### **Secretary**

- Lars Medin
- Karlbergsv 16

- SE-791 36 Falun
- Sweden

**Treasurer**

- Claude Bourdillat-Mikol
- 10 Ave. Auguste Renoir
- F-78160 Marly Le Roi
- France

## **Minutes of the 36th EFOSA General Assembly Meeting.**

Thursday June 2nd, 2005, 15.00 – 19.00 hours RAI-Congress Centre, room A, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

### **Attendance**

The meeting was attended by 26 member participants from 17 countries. 3 guests/observers from 3 countries, one observer from the FEO and the EOS, the same person also EOS co-opted member of the EFOSA Council. The attendance list is enclosed as part of these minutes.

### **01. Opening**

The office-holding EFOSA President, Frans van der Linden, the Netherlands warmly welcomed the delegates and guests of the 36th EFOSA General Assembly Meeting and opened it at 15.30. In order to introduce the delegates the EFOSA Secretary Lars Medin, by tradition, called upon each delegate.

The President expressed many thanks to the Dutch Association of Orthodontists (DMO), for hosting the Get Together Party after the Meeting.

### **02. Apologies for absence**

The Secretary reported that Denmark Serbia-Montenegro, Slovakia and Slovenia had sent apologies for absence. Ireland, Hungary, Latvia and Malta have not answered the invitation to attend the GA meeting. Austria, Iceland and Estonia had posted representatives who didn't attend.

### **03. Changes in and amendments to the agenda**

The agenda was approved with the addition of Point 11 A: Election of two financial auditors for two years. It was also decided to discuss points 19, 22 and 23 after point 10.

It was evident that Portugal didn't received the sent out material to the meeting. This year everything had been delivered as attachments via e-mail.

### **04. Minutes of the 35th General Assembly Meeting of June 6th, 2004, Aarhus, Denmark**

The minutes of the 35th EFOSA General Assembly Meeting were approved unanimously without changes.

## **05. Correspondence**

The Secretary and the President reported from correspondence with Austria, Luxembourg and Spain. Since last year Orthodontics has become an officially recognized specialty in Luxembourg who now can apply for active membership. Austria has reported a move in recognition. There is Dental Chambers underway. Spain reports no move at all. The problem is that the General Practitioners are against.

## **06. EFOSA Semi-annual report**

The purpose of the Semi-annual report from the Council is to give the Member Organizations continuous information about the activities of EFOSA.

The President asked for comments and changes in order to make the report better.

Next Semi-annual report will appear in the beginning of 2006.

## **07. Country reports**

The president informed the Assembly that each member organization has the obligation to deliver a country report. The Council has decided that this should be done before November 1st each year. 20 out of 22 countries has delivered Country Reports 2004.

To make it easier for the member associations and also get appropriate information the report has a special structure which will be further improved this year.

Every four years the EFOSA Questionnaire will be updated and included in the Country report.

## **08. Report of the Secretary**

Dear representatives of the EFOSA member organizations, dear guests, dear observers, dear colleagues.

This has been my third year as EFOSA Secretary. I also serve as President of the Swedish Association of Orthodontists and the Angle Society of Europe.

EFOSA former President Wolfgang Schmiedel has since last year taken care of the website and the roster. Both are excellent and very useful. Material on the web like minutes from meetings, agendas and reports will in the future be hidden to public by a password. For the member organizations this password will be "Europe". Some of our members have problems with telephone numbers and e-mail addresses in the roster which is public at the moment. The Secretary will in the future be responsible for the web-site and get it updated frequently.

As Secretary of the EFOSA I have been in contact with the member organizations concerning the “Country reports”, “Semi-annual report”, “Questionnaires” and “Requirements for orthodontic specialists. I have also together with Frans written letters to authorities in Austria and Luxembourg concerning the accreditation of Orthodontics as a dental specialty in these countries respectively.

I have assisted the President in preparing the agendas for the Council and General Assembly Meetings and also discussed with him and the other Council Members the Semi-annual report. 4 out of the ten new EU countries have not answered the invitation to participate as Guest/Observer in this meeting. 20 out of 22 countries have sent in a country report which is available on the web. 12 out of 22 countries have replied to questions concerning Requirements to become a specialist in orthodontics and requirements to become a postgraduate training centre in Orthodontics.

In the future I hope that all parts of the organization even the subcommittees will report continuously to the Council about their activities and that the Council can report to you accordingly in order to keep “the EFOSA” a well informed organization.

The EFOSA web-site will be the main instrument to reach this goal.

Lars Medin

## **09. Information from the Council**

There is no more information from the Council than sent out before the meeting.

## **10. Election of Website master / Assistant to the Secretary**

It was decided on the proposal of the Council to elect Frank de Winter, the Netherlands as EFOSA Website master/Assistant to the Secretary.

## **19. Report of the EFOSA “Ethics Committee” (Chris Kettler) / Discussion / Resolution**

Chris Kettler made an introduction to the sent out written report from the Committee. He focused especially on the need for “Whistle blowers”.

Bart Vande Vannet, Belgium, Tor Torbjørnsen, Norway and Petros Kokkinos, Cyprus commented.

After changes in points 6 and 9 the General Assembly voted for the report. (10 votes for the report and 1 abstention)

The Subcommittee consisting of Chris Kettler, chairman, Michael Kalavritinos, and Uli Fellner was dissolved. The President expressed many thanks to the to the

subcommittee for their dedicated work with the report “Code of Ethical Practice and Professional Conduct”

## **22. Nomination of Frank de Winter as chairman of the “Quality Working Group”**

Frank de Winter was unanimously elected chairman of the “Quality Working Group”. The President expressed many thanks to the former chairman Claude Bourdillat-Mikol who still is a member of the subcommittee.

## **23. Report of the EFOSA “Quality Working Group” (Frank de Winter)**

Frank de Winter presented the sent out report of the “Quality Working Group” and proposed to the EFOSA General Assembly to set up an Internet-based system for self assessment (SAS). Chris Kettler, Tor Torjörnsen and Claude Bourdillat-Mikol commented. One of the most important tasks of the EFOSA is to improve quality.

The General Assembly decided to start a Self Assessment System (11 votes for and no votes against)

The Committee also proposed a web site Newsletter. Wolfgang Schmiedel commented upon the costs.

The General Assembly decided to have a Newsletter. (10 votes for and 1 abstention)

The costs for the proposed activities are calculated to € 22.000 the first year (2005) and € 7.500 year two (2006).

There is also a possibility to have a fee when using the systems. Chris Kettler wanted to have this as a free service to all members in the EFOSA countries.

## **11. Report of the Treasurer. Status of Account / Resources**

Dear colleagues, dear delegates,

I have been the EFOSA treasurer for the third year.

I am part of the Quality Committee of EFOSA.

I am the General Secretary of the French Syndicat of Specialists in Orthodontia,

And also I am the Chairwoman of the Nurses Program during the next Word Congress ( 6è IOC) that will take place next September in PARIS, I hope all of you will come and assist to this exceptional event!

According to our new financial statement, the Annual Financial report have to go until the end of March, so this report is ended in 2005, 31 March.

I sent all the pieces needed to the auditors on time before this general Assembly: Frank de WINTER and Michaelis KALAVRITINOS

I bought with me the new Annual report, and you can consult it at this desk.

## BANK ACCOUNTS

Since 2003, the EFOSA's found were sited in a French Bank called: "Caisse d'Epargne"

We have three bank account:

An average bank account to pay the current expenses (Council, Reports, Questionnaire Account Supervisor, etc...).

I can pay by check or by wire the expenses:

The expenses ( internet site, AG expenses, secretary, council expenses, questionnaire, etc; were: 20 022, 33 €

Meanwhile, the entries ( countries fees) were: 24 893,33 €

So we saved this year: 4870, 62 €

At the end of MARCH, 2005, the current bank account was: 6959,77 €

A saving account called " Livret A", the money is available at any time, the interests are 2,25%. If some more money is needed, it is easy to transfer the funds from this "Livret A" to the bank account without any charge.

*At the end of March 2005, the amount on this account was: 25 154, 77 €*

A saving account with better interests: called" Parts Sociales from the Caisse d'Epargne.

This saving account serves more % interests.( about 3,5%)

The money is stopped for one year, the birthday each year is March.

For the moment we do not need this amount, so it is left for one more year .

We could have the possibility to save more money ( About 5,5%) BUT the money have to be stopped for 3 to 4 years.

At the end of March 2004, the amount on this account is 10100 €

The profit on sale of security of dividends was: 716, 58 €, wired to the bank account

So at the end of March 2004 EFOSA owns: 42 213,85
---

#### EXPENSES ( you can see the expenses in the schedule)

*The cost for the internet site was : 3779 , 82 €*

*The bank fees ( costs for bank transfert ) was: 252,15 €*

*The administrative costs were: 681, 45 €*

*The expenses for General Assembly in Denmark were: 1458,95 €*

*The fees for questionnaire ( elaboration and software) were: 4211,85 €*

*The expenses for the Council Meetings:*

- *meeting in Aarhus, preparing the AG*
- *the traditional meeting in Paris in November took place in the SSFODF office, so it was free.*
- *the council had another meeting in London in February: 461,16 €*

*The council expenses were: 6832, 23 € (we had three meeting, Aarhus, Paris, London, so three travels per person)*

#### PAYMENTS

For 2004, at that time, a few countries have not paid their annual fees on time: may I ask them to pay quickly.

*I sent a reminder to these countries and ask them to check.*

The annual fees for 2004/ 2005 gave to EFOSA: 24 893,33 € (last year 16 978,70 euro's, because some countries paid their fees after the last AG )

In order to minimise the bank fees, the countries were kindly asked better to pay by transferring the funds from bank to bank:

*IBAN : FR76 1786 5006 0008 2752 9320 148*

*Swift code (BIC): CEPAFRPP786*

*Name: EFOSA (Mrs. BOURDILLAT MIKOL Claude)*

I have to say that it is very difficult to know which country have paid by wire if this information is NOT indicated clearly, written in the wire , I insist to ask you this effort, in order to minimise the time I spend searching the paying country!

However, it is still possible to pay by bank check, but it cost more bank fees.

At that time, it is not possible to pay by internet.

#### ANNUAL FEES PROPOSAL

*I propose that the annual fees remind the same; except if we need more money for the committees.*

*It was decided that the East countries will pay 50% of the fees of the moment.*

Thank you very much for your attention!

Should you have any questions, please feel free to ask me!

Dr Claude BOURDILLAT-MIKOL

Treasurer

#### **11 A. Election of two financial auditors for two years**

Chris Kettler, UK and Alexandros Kokkas, Greece were elected financial auditors for two years, 2005-06 and 2006-07.

#### **12. Report of the Auditors / Resolution**

The Financial Auditors, Michael Kalavritinos, Greece and Frank de Winter, The Netherlands reported that they had done a throughout examination of all financial transactions from April 1, 2004 trough March 31, 2005 and found all documents complete, well kept and in proper order. Therefore they recommended the General Assembly to approve the financial report from the Treasurer.

The General Assembly decided to approve the EFOSA Financial Report of the Treasurer during the period April 1st, 2004 to March 31st, 2005.

The report of the Financial Auditors is enclosed as a part of this report. The financial statements of the accounts in detail were included in the material sent to the delegates before the meeting.

#### **13. Special temporary conditions for new European Union Countries**

In the General Assembly of June 2004 was decided that new members from Eastern European Countries, which entered the EU in 2004, have to pay only 50 % of the standard fee during the first four years

It has been brought to the attention of the Council that the Orthodontic Specialists Associations in these countries do not contain 70 % of those specialists who are registered as such. (See art 1.1 of the Bylaws)

To facilitate the procedure to become a member of EFOSA the Council proposes to accept that in the year 2005 40 %, 2006 50 %, 2007 60 % and in 2008 the officially required 70 % of registered specialists are incorporated in the National Association. The Secretary reported that Cyprus, Hungary and Latvia had not answered the Questionnaire. Malta has not so far due to lack of contact person and address got the Questionnaire. The General Assembly voted in favour of the proposal of the Council (10 votes for and 1 abstention)

#### **14. Applications for membership: Belgium, Cyprus, Estonia, Lithuania, Luxembourg and Poland.**

The Council proposes that Spain will get observer status as the time limit has run out for Provisional Membership. Orthodontics is not a recognized specialty in Spain. Juan Carlos Palma, Spain commented that the general practitioners in Spain are against.

The General Assembly decided to transfer Spain to Observer (9 votes for and 1 against, 1 abstention)

The Council has decided to propose to the GAM to make Belgium, Cyprus and Poland active members of EFOSA.

The General Assembly decided unanimously to make Belgium, Cyprus and Poland Active Members of the EFOSA.

Estonia, Lithuania and Luxembourg have not yet provided applications.

Austria is still working on an official recognition of the specialty.

#### **15. Relations with the EOS**

The President reported that the relations with EOS are good. EOS has a co-opted member (Roberto Martina) of the EFOSA Council and vice versa.

The "Forum Meeting", a joint information meeting for the orthodontic societies between EFOSA, EOS and FEO will be held June 3rd, 2005 at 09.00 hours.

#### **16. Relations with the FEO**

The President reported that the relations with the FEO are good. At present Roberto Martina serve as FEO President. A document concerning "Tasks and responsibilities of

EFOSA, EOS and FEO” has been worked out and agreed upon by the Presidents respectively.

### **17. New draft of “Tasks and Responsibilities of EFOSA / EOS / FEO”**

The presidents of the three organizations have agreed upon a new draft of “Tasks and responsibilities of EFOSA/EOS/FEO”. The Councils respectively should now approve the new draft. The EFOSA Council has decided to approve the new draft, which was handed out at the beginning of the meeting, and proposes to the General Assembly to decide about it.

The General Assembly decided unanimously to accept the new draft of “Tasks and responsibilities of EFOSA/EOS/FEO”

### **18. Role and status of “Forum Meeting”**

Minutes of the 2004 Forum Meeting are available on the EOS web site and have been copied and sent out to the EFOSA members by the Secretary. It has earlier been decided that the three organizations EFOSA, EOS and FEO will host the Forum Meeting. 2003 was EFOSA, 2004 FEO, which means that this year will EOS host the meeting.

The Council has also discussed the future existence of the “Forum Meeting” as the same information and almost the same people attend the EFOSA General Assembly Meeting and the Forum Meeting and will propose to the other two organizations to discontinue.

Wolfgang Schmiedel, Stefan Affholter and Milan Kaminek commented upon the need for the “Forum Meeting” as an informal source of information. Maybe it could be possible to have an unlimited number of observers at the EFOSA General Assembly Meetings.

The General Assembly decided to accept the proposal of the Council to discontinue the Forum Meeting.

### **20. Report of the EFOSA Committee “Orthodontic Training Programs and Examinations” (Francesca Miotti)**

Francesca Miotti reported that 12 countries out of 22 possible had answered the request concerning requirements to be a specialist and requirements to be accredited to run a postgraduate program in the different EU countries.

### **21. EFOSA Questionnaire sent to all Orthodontic Training Centers in the EU Countries**

Francesca Miotti reported on the low answering rate on the Questionnaire sent to all training institutions. About 40 answers out of 240 possible.

It has been decided to send out a reduced Questionnaire with about 10-20 questions to answer.

#### **24. Report of the EFOSA Committee “European Health Insurances” (Giuliano Maino)**

The Committee has been asked to collect information about the different systems of “Health Insurances” in the member countries.

#### **25. WFO: 6th International Orthodontic Convention 2005, Paris. Poster presentation**

Frans van der Linden had looked at the different possibilities to present the “Orthodontic facts” about the EFOSA member countries. The posters will be topic oriented instead of country oriented.

There is a need for about 6 posters with updated information. The members were asked to deliver updated information to Frans van der Linden before the end of June.

#### **26. EFOSA Web site**

The web site has been handled by Wolfgang Schmiedel during the last year. Frank de Winter will in the future be responsible for the web site and get information about the activities inside the Federation from the Secretary.

Some parts of the web site will be protected by a password (EUROPE) only available for members and another part will be kept for the Council.

#### **27. Changes in the Constitution and Bylaws regarding “Voting Procedures”**

Frans van der Linden explained the options in the sent out document concerning “Voting procedures”, modified to the procedures in the EU and also commented upon the need for changes in the Constitution and the Bylaws. The number of votes can be reliant on the population, the number of specialists or the number of members paid for.

Today, each active member has one vote independent of the size of the country and the number of specialist.

Stefan Affholter, Uli Fellner, Carlos Silva and Milan Kaminek commented on the proposals and pointed out that the Federation should try to come to decisions which can

be accepted by all member. So far there has been no problem with the existing voting system.

There was also a proposal from the Council to take out French as an official language in the Constitution. The General Assembly decided (12 votes for, 1 against and 1 abstention) to decide upon a change in the Constitution and Bylaws along the lines proposed by the Council.

## **28. Any other business**

There were no any other business to deal with

## **29. Date and venue of the next meeting**

The next General Assembly Meeting will be held in Vienna, Austria on Tuesday, July 4th, 2006. (The day before the EOS Congress).

The Secretary proposes that the meeting starts at 09.00 and includes coffee breaks and a common lunch for the delegates. The meeting will end during the afternoon. In the evening there will be the traditional "Get together party"

## **25. Closing**

The President Frans van der Linden thanked all delegates for their contributions and closed the Meeting at 18.45 hours. On behalf of the Dutch colleagues he invited all delegates to the Get Together Party at Restaurant "de Halvemaan"

Lars Medin

## **Minutes of the 37th EFOSA General Assembly Meeting**

Tuesday, July 4th, 2006, 09.00 – 15.30 hours (including lunch at the Demel)

Gartensaal in the Hofburg

Vienna, Austria

### **Attendance**

30 member participants attended the meeting from 22 countries. 6 guests/observers from 6 countries and one observer from each the FEO and the EOS were present. The attendance list is enclosed as part of these minutes.

### **01. Opening**

The office-holding EFOSA President, Frans van der Linden, the Netherlands warmly welcomed the delegates and guests of the 37th EFOSA General Assembly Meeting and opened it at 09.15. The delegates and guests/observers introduced themselves.

The President expressed many thanks to the Association of Austrian Orthodontists (VÖK), for hosting the successful “Get Together Party” at the Mumok Lounge in the Museum of Modern Art last night.

### **02. Apologies for absence**

The Secretary reported that Lithuania had sent apologies for absence but was still represented. Hungary, Latvia and Malta have not answered the invitation to attend the GA meeting.

### **03. Changes in and amendments to the agenda**

The agenda was approved.

It was decided to move point 10 to come after point 13 and to move point 20 to come after point 22.

### **04. Minutes of the 36th General Assembly Meeting of June 2nd, 2005, Amsterdam, the Netherlands**

The minutes of the 36th EFOSA General Assembly Meeting were approved unanimously without changes.

### **05. Correspondence**

Cyprus, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg have reported about the election of a new board.

Switzerland has reported of a new treaty with the EU that qualifies to become active member of the EFOSA

## **06. EFOSA Semi-annual report**

The purpose of the Semi-annual report from the Council is to give the Member Organizations continuous information about the activities of EFOSA.

The President asked for comments and changes in order to make the report better.

Alexandros Kokkas, Greece and Wolfgang Schmiedel, Germany was in favour of a "Newsletter" to regularly report on the activities of the Federation sent to the members. Frank De Winter commented that this Newsletter can be incorporated in the web-site as well as sent as pdf-files.

Next Semi-annual report will appear in the beginning of 2007.

## **07. Country reports**

The president informed the Assembly that each member organization has the obligation to deliver a country report. All members except three have sent their 2005 reports.

To make it easier for the member associations and also get appropriate information the report has a special structure that will be further improved. The idea is to put the reports on the web site and make it possible for all interested to get information about a particular country.

Frank De Winter has a proposal to have a permanent and a flexible part, which gradually will give more information.

Together with the Country report the members have to send an Excel-file including all members at the time for the report. This information will serve as the basis for calculating the number of orthodontists to be paid membership fee for by the different countries.

## **08. Information from the EU-office**

Frans van der Linden reported from a telephone call in the end of May with Mrs Costacurta in Brussels (Responsible for Pharmacy, Dentistry and Medicine inside the EU) that at a forthcoming meeting (not scheduled yet) the recognition of the specialty of Orthodontics in the Czech Republic and Portugal (Applications in order) will be approved. Until June 26th no decision on a meeting date has been made "but I am sure

that it will be done before the end of the year” she said. Luxembourg has not yet sent in their application.

Carlos Silva, Portugal confirmed that all paperwork was in order concerning Portugal.

Gabriele Floria, Italy referred to a legal office that helped Italy.

## **09. Report of the Secretary**

Dear delegates of the EFOSA member organizations, dear guests, dear observers, dear colleagues,

This has been my forth and last year as EFOSA Secretary. At the same time I have been serving as the President of the Swedish Association of Orthodontists and President of the Angle Society of Europe.

During the year Frank De Winter has taken care of the EFOSA web-site and roster. In the future the web-site will develop to the main source of information inside our Federation and I strongly advise you to visit the web-site regularly. There is an excellent directory on the web, which will be updated at least once a year when you send us the Country report. Observe that we every year has a need for a complete roster in MS Excel format to keep the EFOSA directory fully updated. The hidden information on the web has the password “Europe”.

It is still difficult to get the country reports. During the two last years we have tried a format, which should make it easier for the members. (To answer questions about the situation in each country)

During the year I have been seeking contacts with the 10 new member countries of the EU. Unfortunately I have no regular contacts with Hungary and Malta. Three of the new countries have not responded to the invitation to visit this General Assembly Meeting.

To finish I sincerely want to thank everybody who has helped me to fulfil the responsible task to tie everything together and inform all parts of the organization.

Thank you and I wish EFOSA and its member organizations a happy and successful future.

Lars Medin

## **10. Information from the Council**

There is no more information from the Council than sent out before the meeting.

## **11. Election of new Council members (Proposal from the Nomination Committee)**

The candidates for various offices were requested to leave the room. Besides the proposal of the Nomination Committee, there were no other candidates. On basis of the proposal of the Nomination Committee it was unanimously decided to elect:

Lars Medin as President

Alexandros Kokkas as Vice-President

Frank de Winter as Secretary and

Claude Bourdillat-Mikol as Treasurer.

The President thanked the Nomination Committee and congratulated the newly elected council members after they returned to the meeting room and wished them a most productive and gratifying period of office.

## **12. Report of the Treasurer. Status of Account / Resources (Enclosed)**

Dear colleagues, dear delegates,

According to our new financial statement, the Annual Financial report have to go until the end of March, so this report is ended in 2006, March, 31.

I sent the documents needed to the auditors on time before this general Assembly:  
Chris KETTLER and Alexandros KOKKAS.

### **BANK ACCOUNTS**

Since 2003, the EFOSA's found were sited in a French Bank called: "Caisse d'Epargne"

We have three bank accounts:

1. A bank account to pay the current expenses (Council, Reports, Questionnaire Account Supervisor, etc...).

The payments are done by check or by wire.

The expenses (internet site, AG expenses, secretary, council expenses, etc) were:

15 589 € (Fifteen thousands five hundred eighty nine euros)

Meanwhile, the entries (countries fees + interest) were: 20 496,57 €

(Twenty thousands four hundred ninety six euros and fifty seven cents)

**So we saved this year: 4907,57 € (four thousands ninety seven hundred euros and fifty seven cents)**

At the end of MARCH, 2006, the current bank account was: 12700.31 €

(Twelve thousands, seven hundred euros and thirty one cents)

## **2. A saving account called “ Livret A”,**

The money is available at any time, the interests are 2,30 %

If some more money is needed, it is easy to transfer the money from this “Livret A” to the bank account without any charge.

The profit on sale of security of dividends was: 353,50€ (Three hundred fifty three euros and fifty cents) wired to the bank account

At the end of March 2005, the amount on this account was: 25 -688, 21€

(Twenty five six hundred eighty eight euros and twenty one cent)

**3. A saving account with better interests: called” Parts Sociales** from the Caisse d'Epargne.

This saving account serves more % interests. (About 3,5%)

The money is deposited each time, for one year, with re-entering date March 1st.

For the moment we do not need this amount, so it is left for one more year.

We could have the possibility to save more money (About 5,5%) BUT the money has to be deposited for 3 to 4 years.

**At the end of March 2005, the amount on this account is still: 10 100€**

**(Ten thousands one hundred €)**

The profit on sale of security of dividends was: 534,13€ (Five hundred thirty four euros and thirteen cents) wired to the bank account

So at the end of March 2004 EFOSA owns: 47 121, 42 €

(Forty seven thousands one hundreds twenty one euros and forty two cents)

**EXPENSES ( you can see the expenses in the files)**

· The cost for internet site was: 1710,30 €

- The administrative costs were: 1087,76 €
- The expenses for the Council Meetings were: 1622,13€
- The traditional meeting in Paris in November didn't occur this year because some members of the council were involved in the 6th IOC and were very busy.
- The council expenses were: 10 311,85 € (we had more council meeting this year)
- The Quality committee met twice in Amsterdam, so we had to pay for two members who travelled especially for this meeting (the other members had a council meeting and had no refund, except the extra fees refund: 80 € / day)

We had NO expenses for last General Assembly because it was in The Netherlands, and I didn't receive any bill, EOS I presume hosted us **We have to keep in mind that next year we will have to pay more money for the SAS ( quality program)**

#### PAYMENTS

For 2005, a few countries have not paid their annual fees on time: may I ask them to pay quickly.

I sent a reminder to these countries and ask them to check.

The annual fees for 2005/ 2006 gave to EFOSA: 19 623,89€

(Nineteen thousands six hundreds twenty three euros and eighty nine cents)

(Last year 23 831,65 € because some countries paid their fees after the last AG 2004)

In order to minimise the bank fees, the countries were kindly asked better to pay by transferring the funds from bank to bank.

It is still possible to pay by bank check, but it cost more bank fees.

At that time, it is still not possible to pay by Internet.

I would like to thank the countries who indicated clearly in their wire the name of the country, saving a lot of time for me to search what country have paid and which not.

#### **NEW ANNUAL FEES PROPOSAL**

At this time the annual fees are:

- 250 Euros + 2 Euros per member for active members organisations with more than 100 members

- 250 Euros for active members organisations with less than 100 members
- Provisional and affiliate member organisations will pay half of the above-mentioned fees.
- New Eastern Countries that entered the EU in 2004 will pay half of the above-mentioned fees for the first 4 years (i.e. 2008)

Annual fee must be calculated by each organisation according to the actual number of orthodontists in their association.

I will make a proposal for next annual fees, in order to make the fees more gradual and adapted to the increase of members.

The council agrees this proposition but the AG has to vote this amendment.

Thank you very much for your attention!

Should you have any questions, please feel free to ask me!

Dr Claude BOURDILLAT-MIKOL

Treasurer

The Council proposed to the General Assembly to make a change in the fee system and charge € 250 for members with 100 orthodontists or less. Members with more than 100 orthodontists have to pay € 250 + € 2,25 for each orthodontist above 100.

The General Assembly decided according to the proposal of the Council.

### **13. Report of the Auditors / Resolution**

The Financial Auditors, Chris Kettler, UK and Alexandros Kokkas, Greece reported that they had done a throughout examination of all financial transactions from April 1, 2005 through March 31, 2006 and found all documents complete, well kept and in proper order. Therefore they recommended the General Assembly to approve the financial report of the Treasurer.

The General Assembly decided to approve the EFOSA Financial Report of the Treasurer during the period April 1st, 2005 to March 31st, 2006.

The report of the Financial Auditors is enclosed as a part of this report.

The financial statements of the accounts in detail were included in the material sent to the delegates before the meeting.

### **14. Special temporary conditions for new European Union countries**

In the General Assembly of June 2005 it was decided that the new members from Eastern European Countries, which entered the EU in May 2004, have to pay only 50 % of the standard fee during the first four years

It has been brought to the attention of the Council that the Orthodontic Specialists Associations in these countries do not contain 70 % of those specialists who are registered as such. (See art 1.1 of the Bylaws)

To facilitate the procedure to become a member of EFOSA the General Assembly decided to accept that in the year 2005 40 %, 2006 50 %, 2007 60 % and in 2008 the officially required 70 % of registered specialists are incorporated in the National Association.

The Council will propose a change in the decision to the following: To facilitate the procedure to become a member of EFOSA the General Assembly decided to accept that in the first year such a country becomes a member of EFOSA 40 %, the second year 50 %, the third year 60 % and in forth year the officially required 70 % of registered specialists are incorporated in the National Association.

The General Assembly decided according to the proposal of the Council.

## **15. Relations with and “Tasks and Responsibilities of EFOSA / EOS / FEO”**

Milan Kaminek reported that next year 2007 would be the 100 anniversary of the EOS. Berlin will be the site for the meeting and because of the celebration the program will be extended with 20 invited lecturers and also reflect what Orthodontics has accomplished the last 100 years. Portugal, Lisbon will host the meeting 2008, Finland 2009 and Slovenia 2010. The teachers and a student’s forum will be continued.

Olivier Mauchamp new President of the FEO and successor to Roberto Martina reported that the document “Tasks and Responsibilities of EFOSA / EOS / FEO” has not yet been approved by the FEO.

Francesca Miotti, Vice-President of the EFOSA left the meeting to attend the EOS Council Meeting. She has been in office during four years and among other things been in charge of the Orthodontic Training programs and Examinations Committee. The President, Frans van der Linden expressed thanks from all member organisations and the Council members, wished good luck with future activities and handed over a gift.

## **16. Report of the EFOSA Committee “Orthodontic Training Programs and Examinations”**

In the absence of Francesca Miotti the President reported that no more replies to the reduced Questionnaire have been sent in. Together with the Original Questionnaires there are forty-five answers available on Excel files. Maybe FEO and EPSOS can support with updated addresses to the different training institutions in Europe.

It has earlier been reported that eleven out of seventeen Active Members replied, one out of two Provisional Members and one Guest had delivered an answer to the "Requirements for specialists training". Frans van der Linden has by telephone approached the countries that had not replied without results.

It was mentioned that in Holland every five years a special governmental committee inspects the training institutions concerning requirements for examination of "Specialists in Orthodontics".

The statistician contacted by Francesca Miotti has looked at the material and had concluded that the material is not homogenous enough to be worked with.

**It has been decided in the Council that Francesca will present a written report about the work and result of the Committee (Francesca Miotti, Frans van der Linden and Krister Bjerklin) and make the material available to the Council.**

## **17. Report of the EFOSA "Quality Working Group"**

Frank De Winter reported from the proceedings in the Committee (Claude Bourdillat-Mikol, Tor Torbjörnsson, Stephen Richmond and Frank de Winter). The first number of the Quality Newsletter was handed out to the Council members. The timetable and budget are on schedule.

### **17:1 PowerPoint presentation on procedures considered**

Tor Torbjörnsson and Stephen Richmond presented a PowerPoint presentation on the "Self Assessment System".

The President thanked the Committee for excellent work and congratulated to the good results so far.

## **18. Report of the EFOSA Committee "European Health Insurances"**

At present the Committee consists of Giuliano Maino, Italy (Chairman), Jan Ödegaard, Norway and Charles Bolender, France.

A good start of the work in the Committee would be to collect information of the existing insurance systems and systems to refund treatment costs in the different member

countries followed by a proposal to harmonize them and then bring the proposal to Bruxelles.

Due to the heavy workload on Giuliano Maino the Council proposes Allan Tom, UK to take over as Chairman of the Committee and Wolfgang Schmiedel to replace Charles Bolender who has retired. Both have accepted the nomination.

The General Assembly decided according to the proposal of the Council.

## **19. EFOSA – Web-site**

Frank De Winter pointed out that there is a need for special demands for delivering information to the web-site. He asked for Excel files containing all members of the different members associations.

A “billboard” at the web-site could be an idea to give continuously updated information to the members.

Some parts of the web-site will be protected by a password (europe) only available for members and another part will be kept for the Council.

## **20. Changes in the Constitution (Proposal from the Council)**

Frans van der Linden presented the proposed changes of the Constitution. There was a discussion on voting procedures. Abraham Kyriakides, Cyprus, Carlos Silva, Portugal, Gabriele Floria, Italy, Chris Kettler, UK, Odile Hutereau, Luxembourg and Seamus Keating, Ireland all found the old system well working and that the proposed change discriminating the small countries. Wolfgang Schmiedel, Germany found the old system OK.

### **20:1 Voting procedures**

The Council had sent out a formal proposal. The proposal was withdrawn by the Council.

### **20:2 Provisional Membership**

Article 5.3: It was decided to delete the last sentence: “The duration of the provisional membership is for a limited period of time that will be decided by the Assembly of the Federation depending on the conditions of the country involved”. This change makes it possible for Spain to be restored as Provisional Member of EFOSA.

### **20:3 Increasing the number of EFOSA Council members**

It was decided to enlarge the Council from four to five members because of the increase of EU-members with 10 new countries (from 15 to 25) during 2004. The present Council members have little knowledge about the new EU nations.

#### **20:4 Article 15. The way to send information regarding the General Assembly Meeting**

Third section. Second sentence. It was decided to delete the first part "It should be sent by letter to the members" and replace with "It should be made known to the members".

All three proposals (20:2, 20:3, 20:4) were unanimously approved by the General Assembly

#### **21. Applications for membership: Switzerland (Active), Spain (Provisional)**

Because of a new agreement with the EU Switzerland fulfil the requirements to become an active member of EFOSA. Based on sent in application material the Council proposed to the GAM to make Switzerland Active Member of EFOSA.

The General Assembly decided unanimously to make Switzerland Active Member of the EFOSA.

Because of the change in the Constitution point 20:2 concerning Article 5.3 Spain can be restored as Provisional Member.

The General Assembly decided to reinstate Spain as Provisional Member of EFOSA

The Spanish representative, Juan Font, Mallorca reported that the issue of dental specialities in Spain has been discussed during the last months. It is good hope that "Orthodontics" can be a recognized specialty in Spain very soon.

Estonia, Lithuania and Luxembourg have not yet provided applications.

Austria is still working on an official recognition of the specialty.

#### **European Orthodontic Graduate Students Organization (EPSOS)**

The Council of EPSOS composed by President Cesare Luzi, Vice-President Guillaume Guilbert, Treasurer Robbert Leenen and Secretary Marieke Bakker visited the last EFOSA Council Meeting yesterday.

A draft to the EPSOS Constitution (distributed to the EFOSA Council some weeks ago) had been approved the day before. Web site: [www.epsos.net](http://www.epsos.net)

EPSOS has the ambition to attract members from about 220 training institutions in Europe. There is no membership fee. EPSOS has at the moment 70 registered members. About 120 – 150 graduate students have participated in the EPSOS activities during the last three EOS Meetings.

EPSOS has presented a budget of about € 3.500 to get their organization started including the construction of a web-site. EPSOS is supported by the EOS (Free conference and lecture rooms and lecturers).

The EPSOS Council has asked the EFOSA for a financial contribution to cover their initial costs.

The EFOSA Council has decided to structure the contact with the EPSOS Council and invite them for an exchange of views for about 30 minutes at the EFOSA Council Meeting preceding the General Assembly. In addition mutual exchange of agendas and minutes from meetings could be a good start.

The EFOSA Council proposed to the EFOSA General Assembly to support the EPSOS with € 1.000 to assist in the costs of starting up EPSOS. The proposal was unanimously accepted by the General Assembly and expressed a good luck for the future to the EPSOS.

### **23. Any other business**

There was no any other business to deal with. Frans van der Linden who earlier has decided to step down after two years of a four-year term informed the audience about his ambition with his engagement in EFOSA. During his time in EFOSA a new constitution which allows only specialists in orthodontics to become members has been delivered, in many countries new organisations with only specialists have started, the Erasmus training program has been fully accepted as an objective, the specialty has been approved in a handful countries and now the organisation is working on Quality control as have been showed today. He expressed his thanks to all member organisations for their support and earlier and present Council members for good cooperation.

He also informed the General Assembly that he had been asked to hold the Sheldon Friel Memorial lecture next year at the 100-year anniversary and the title of his lecture will be "Myths and legends in Orthodontics".

Lars Medin, the new President, thanked Frans van der Linden for all his work and engagement with the EFOSA during a ten-year period. He handed over a gift and wished Frans good luck in the future.

Wolfgang Schmiedel expressed his thanks for a long period of good cooperation and friendship to the benefit of EFOSA.

#### **24. Date and venue of the next meeting**

The next General Assembly Meeting will be held in Berlin, June 20th, 2007. (The day before the EOS Congress).

The Secretary proposes that the meeting will be organized in the same way as this year including coffee breaks and a common lunch for the delegates. The "Get together party" the day before the GAM, was very successful this year and is worthwhile to be tried again.

#### **25. Closing**

The President Frans van der Linden thanked all delegates for their contributions and closed the Meeting at 15.00 hours.

Lars Medin

## **Minutes of the 38th EFOSA General Assembly Meeting**

Wednesday, June 20th, 2007, Hotel Maritim Berlin, Berlin, Germany

Attendance:

30 delegates of member societies/associations from 20 countries, 6 guests from 6 (non-member) countries, 5 extra guests of 5 member countries and one observer from each the EOS and the FEO were present

01. Opening:

The president Lars Medin, Sweden, welcomed all delegates and guests to the 38th EFOSA General Assembly Meeting, and opened the meeting at 9.20 hours.

The president expressed his thanks for the very nice 'Get together Party' which was hosted by the German Orthodontic Society BDK at the charming and interesting site Hörsaalruine of the Charité university.

02. Apologies for absence:

Apologies for absence have been received from Luxembourg; Serbia had not replied to the invitation

03. Introduction of delegates:

All delegates gave a brief introduction of who they are, where they come from and what is up in orthodontics in their country at this moment.

04. Changes in and amendments to the agenda:

The president proposed to have point 16 after 09 because the president of the committee Alexandros kokkas, Greece, in the afternoon will represent EFOSA as its vice-president in the EOS Council.

05. Minutes of the 37th General Assembly Meeting of July 4th, 2006, Vienna, Austria:

The minutes of the 37th EFOSA GAM were approved unanimously without changes.

#### 06. Correspondence:

The secretary informed the Assembly that some discussion with Italian and Greek orthodontic societies about who should be EFOSA member and about the right of being present at the GAM. The council considered these questions being a national 'problem' which is not up to EFOSA for being solved

The Council had received all information which is required for applying for membership from Estonia and Slovenia, and close to all requirements from Croatia.

#### 07. EFOSA Semi-annual report:

The President asked for comments to the Semi-annual report sent out already in March. There were no comments or proposals from the delegates.

#### 08. Report of the Secretary:

(abstract) This was my first year as your secretary, and this is my first chance to thank you for your trust given to me when I was elected last year. In fulfilling my task I had a lot of help from my colleagues council members that make a good team. You all could make my task a little easier however by providing us with e-mail addresses of your national societies and informing us about changes in your e-mail address or change of delegate for your country as soon as possible. It has shown to take a lot of time to sometimes finally contact the right person. We would also appreciate your prompt answer when asked for and when possible. Holding track of things on their way takes a lot of time. With your help we may make EFOSA function even better, although I think today's program will show that there is a lot of progress thanks to an enormous output of our committees and several individuals.

#### 09. Information from the Council:

The President informed about contacts with the Council of European Dentists (CED). The Council of CED consists of 8 members, the President is from Portugal, Orlando Monteiro da Silva and two Council members are orthodontists, the Swedish and the Finnish representative. Next year in Lisbon two representatives, the President and the Swedish Council members will attend the EFOSA GAM and let us know about CED. The CED has a website [www.eudental.eu](http://www.eudental.eu) where you can read about its key objectives to promote high standards of oral health and represent the dental profession inside EU. You can also read about the CED policy and take part of CED information in a Newsletter regularly distributed.

The President announced that the EFOSA's Headlines, first issue, already distributed as PDF-files, different formats (A4 and A3) also has been available in print. The Headlines were appreciated very much and it was considered an important contribution for communication. It was suggested to have the Headlines and the Quality Newsletter more look the same showing EFOSA identity/house style, and to in these publications list the members of EFOSA so that readers realize.

The Council has decided to ask the different member organizations to deliver The EFOFA Headlines, the Quality Newsletter, Tasks and responsibilities EFOSA/EOS/FEO and the Semi-annual report to their members on request of the EFOSA Council. It is up to the member organization to choose format. Information in the National Journal, enclosures, other type of printed material or as attachments to e-mails to the individual members.

The President informed about a mistake last year not to elect a new Nomination Committee (NC). The latest NC was elected three years ago in Aarhus for a period of two years. He apologized for the mistake. This year the Council has proposed a candidate for a new Council member (point 11) and also urged the members to propose alternatives.

There should also have been a complementary election of a second financial auditor as Alexandros Kokkas was elected Vice president and cannot at the same time hold a position as financial auditor. This year the other financial auditor alone, Chris Kettler has done the job.

#### 10a Report of the Treasurer: Status of Account / Resources:

The report, which had been sent out to the delegates with the agenda, was introduced by the treasurer: Claude Bourdillat-Mikol, France. It was commented that finally all countries had paid there dues, although quite a few did do so late, except for Serbia that had not responded at all.

#### b Report of the Auditors:

The report was read by the auditor Chris Kettler, and it was recommended to the GAM to accept and adopt the accounts

The General Assembly unanimously accepted.

#### c Budget 2007-2008:

The treasurer introduced this first time ever budget based on estimates. The Council had discussed the budget, approved it and is now proposing the GAM to accept it. The treasurer reminded the General Assembly that the budget for the ESAS (which was accepted in Amsterdam) is a one-off.

The GAM unanimously accepted the budget.

#### 11. Election of a new Council member:

Milan Kaminek was the only candidate and was unanimously elected as the new council member.

#### 12. Election of Nomination Committee members:

The president asked the GAM to come up with candidates for these posts. It was decided to postpone these elections until after lunch.

#### 13. Election of Auditors:

The president asked the GAM to come up with candidates for these posts. It was decided to postpone these elections until after lunch.

#### 14. Report of the EFOSA Committee "Orthodontic Training Programs and Examinations":

The president informed the Assembly that in spite of reminders there is no report of the past activities of this committee from the former chairman of the committee Francesca Miotti, Italy. The newly installed committee which exists of Krister Bjerklin, Sweden (chairman), and Luc Dermaut, Belgium, will work together with EOS's Teachers Forum and EPSOS to get the information needed. They had a meeting last evening where it was decided to refrain from questionnaires. EOS Teachers Forum is working with a group of 5 people who will make phone calls to all chairs of orthodontic departments, and so try finding answers to about 10 questions.

#### 12. Election of Nomination Committee members:

From the delegates it was suggested to become members:

Jonathan Sandler, UK

Bart Vande Vannet, Belgium

Wolfgang Schmiedel, Germany.

These candidates were elected unanimously and it was decided that the committee itself will elect a chairman. The NC was elected for a period of two years.

### 13. Election of Auditors:

From the delegates it was suggested to become auditors:

Julian O'Neill, UK

Abraham Kyriakides, Cyprus.

These candidates were elected unanimously. The financial auditors were elected for a period of two years.

### 15. Report of the EFOSA "*Quality Working Group*": introduction to EFOSA's Self Assessment System:

As an introduction to the subject Frank de Winter reported being happy and proud that the Self Assessment System according to plan is on line now, which is according to schedule and within the budget, thanks to a lot of work by all members of the committee. The framework is set now, but data are needed. Therefore all delegates are urgently requested to find (at least) one study club in their country that is willing to co-operate with the project by entering data of treated patients as well as from now on prospective data. Tor Torbjørnsen showed by power point presentation all ins and outs of the ESAS, and finally it was demonstrated that the ESAS indeed is on line, although the direct link from the EFOSA website still has to be made. All participants of this GAM will be informed by e-mail when this is done. The General Assembly welcomed the ESAS with applause. It was decided that the ESAS should be available to members of EFOSA's member societies/associations.

### 16. Report of the EFOSA Committee "*European Health Insurances*" :

The chairman of the committee, Alexandros Kokkas, appointed by the Council, reported that a first inquiry has lead to information that has to be re-edited making comparison possible. A second member of the committee, Christian Scherer, Germany has also been appointed by the Council to replace Wolfgang Schmiedel who due to a heavy workload had to resign. The third member of the committee Jan Ødegaard, Norway has retired and will at the moment not be replaced.

As soon as the material received is sorted out it will be presented on the web-site.

#### 17. EFOSA – Website:

The secretary informed the General Assembly that the website will be updated every quarter of a year (deadlines: March 31st, June 30th, September 30th and December 31st). In between only very urgent matters will be eligible for direct updating. Members are asked to send in information for updates as soon as possible, also changes of board/council, and please try to send in country reports when asked for. The delegates were also asked to please check the website on errors and mistakes and inform the secretary when found.

#### 18. Changes in the Bylaws (Proposal from the Council): 3.3.2: Representation in the Council:

The proposed change in the Bylaws 3.3.2: 'The Nomination Committee shall strive for representation in the Council from different parts of the European Union', was accepted unanimously.

#### 19. Applications for membership:

The president announced that Estonia and Slovenia have applied for membership and that they have fulfilled all requirements. The Assembly elected Estonia and Slovenia unanimously as new active members of EFOSA.

#### 20. Membership status of the different European countries:

The president gave an overview about the present situation, Austria, Luxembourg and Spain are provisional members. For Luxembourg this may change soon into active membership, in Austria however there seems to be no change. Spain continues to be a provisional member, although last year it looked like upcoming recognition of the orthodontic specialist nothing has happened. EFOSA is striving for full participation of all European countries. Next year, 2008 in Lisbon, the Council expects countries like Slovakia, Lithuania and Latvia to apply for active membership. Hungary, Malta, Bulgaria and Romania will be contacted. Croatia will for sure apply for affiliated membership.

#### 21. European Postgraduate Students Orthodontic Society (EPSOS):

The president informed the Assembly about the contact with EPSOS yesterday and the conclusion that this group of students seems to be very ambitious and probably co-operation could be useful. It is planned to keep in contact. The Council of the EPSOS

will be asked to give a short presentation of their organization next year. The website address is [www.epsos.net](http://www.epsos.net)

## 22. Presentations of PR initiatives: towards a European orthodontic PR program?:

Abraham Kyriakides gave a power point presentation of initiatives in Cyprus which after a great success in the first year that they were implemented will be continued as an annual orthodontic week with as central theme an art competition. Claude Bourdillat-Mikol informed the Assembly of a one day per year free phone facility in France, where orthodontists answer questions. Michiel Bierman told about initiatives in the Netherlands where a closer contact with the public is tried to being established by a new name of the association of orthodontists, a new house style and a new website.

After some discussion it was concluded that promoting orthodontics is different from promoting orthodontic care by specialists! And that is what should be done. For the time being PR is considered a national initiative and not an EFOSA task. It could be very helpful however to in the country report have a section for PR activities recently done and planned for the near future.

## 23. Any other business:

Michiel Bierman pointed out the new situation in the Netherlands where the fee for orthodontic treatment by government stepwise will be decreased until 2009 by a total of 29% as compared to the fees of 2001. The fee for orthodontic care by general practitioners is about 30% higher than the fee for orthodontists. About 40% of orthodontic care in the Netherlands is provided by general practitioners. It is feared that over 50% of the orthodontists may step down from being registered as a specialist and become general practitioners as a consequence of these government measures. There was a lot of unbelief in the Assembly about this sort of governing, but there was not offered a solution for this problem.

The Greek Association for Orthodontic Study and Research, being present as a guest of Cyprus, brought up the question that since the Forum doesn't exist anymore, they feel information being withhold from them when not automatically and always welcome in the EFOSA GAM. The president explained that since all members of EFOSA represent at least 70% of the orthodontists in their country the information of what takes place in the EFOSA GAM can be supposed to be known to the member countries, besides every member may bring one guest. Moreover the Forum was an EOS initiative therefore this complaint should be brought up in the EOS business meeting.

24. Date and venue of next meeting:

Monday June 9, 2008, Lisbon, Portugal.

25. Closing:

The president specially thanked Chris Kettler for his many excellent contributions to the EFOSA in the long period he has represented the UK, which ends today. Among all the EFOSA "Code of Ethical Practice and Professional Conduct" was mentioned. The meeting was closed at 15.45 hours.

**President:** Lars Medin, Manhemsv 28, SE-791 36 Falun, SE-791 36 Falun, Sweden, lars.medin@falun.mail.telia.com

**Vice President:** Alexandros Kokkas, 95-97 Mavromichalis Street, GR-11472 Athens, Greece, akokkas2000@yahoo.gr

**Secretary:** Frank de Winter, Zwarteweg 15, 2111AJ Aerdenhout, The Netherlands, winternet@wxs.nl

**Treasurer:** Claude Bourdillat-Mikol, 10 Ave. Auguste Renoir, F-78160 Marly Le Roi, France, claudette.bourdillat@online.fr

**Member:** Milan Kaminek, Palckého 12, 77200 Olomouc, Czech Republic, milan.kaminek@quick.cz

## **Minutes of the 39th EFOSA General Assembly Meeting Tuesday, June 10th, 2008** **Lisbon, Portugal**

Attendance: 36 delegates of member societies/associations from 23 countries, 4 guests from 4 (non-member) countries, 2 extra guests of 2 member countries, 2 guests from the CED (Council of European Dentists), one observer from each the EOS and the FEO were present, and 1 secretary non-delegate.

- 01. Opening:** The president Lars Medin, Sweden, welcomed all delegates and guests to the 39<sup>th</sup> EFOSA General Assembly, and opened the meeting at 09.05 hours.
- 02. Apologies for absence:** Apologies for Absence had been received from active member Poland, guest Lithuania, observer Albania. Observer Serbia had not replied to the invitation; Provisional member Spain had planned on being present, but was not.
- 03. Introduction of delegates:** All delegates gave a brief introduction of who they are and where they come from.
- 04. Changes in and amendments to the agenda:** The president announced that the second point 08 on the agenda should be 09, and proposed to have first 06 and then 05 so that 05 would be a latest update, and to have first 08 and then 07; it also was announced that 17 would be taken before lunch because the committee's chair Alexandros Kokkas had to leave representing EFOSA in the EOS Council meeting; finally it was announced that 19 would be handled when the EPSOS board comes in.
- 06. Applications for membership:** The president announced that Slovakia had applied for active membership, and that Croatia had applied for affiliated membership. The General Assembly elected both countries respectively as active and affiliate member of EFOSA.

- 05. Membership status of the different European countries:** EFOSA now has 21 active members, 3 provisional members and 3 affiliated members. The president mentioned that a letter had been received from Luxembourg pointing out that the specialty of orthodontics still isn't recognized in the country. The same holds true for Austria and Spain. In these countries there are objections against recognition from government and/or dental association.

It was suggested by the Assembly to despite earlier efforts of support, again send out letters explaining the sort of isolated position of these countries in Europe to their dental associations and/or governments pleading for recognition of the orthodontic specialty.

**08. Council of European Dentists (CED). Presentation**

After a special word of welcome from the president Lars Medin to Orlando Monteiro da Silva, CED President and dentist from Portugal, and to Roland Svensson, Council Member of CED and orthodontist from Sweden, they presented to the General Assembly about the Council of European Dentists. The former Liaison Committee is now CED, financed by the dental associations, and is representing about 300.000 dentists in Europe. The activities concentrate on lobby in Brussels for realizing the key objectives of CED being promoting of high standards of oral health, dentistry and dental care in Europe, and representing the interests of the dental profession in the EU. Also the patient security issue has high priority. For this purpose CED has also a staff in Brussels. CED has a website ([www.eudental.org](http://www.eudental.org)) on which it publishes a newsletter ± 5/yr. In CED it is the feeling that problems basically are the same in all countries: it is about numbers and quantity, and nobody talks about quality. The CED president suggested that on orthodontic matters a cooperation with EFOSA would be possible and that maybe EFOSA once should present in CED as CED have done now in EFOSA.

- 17. Report of the EFOSA Committee “European Health Insurances” :** The report had been distributed in the Assembly and was introduced by Alexandros Kokkas, chair of the committee. This report should be a basis for future detailed comparison. Insurance systems in this report show a wide variety from no insurance at all to complicated systems. Because of these very different systems comparison is not easy and will be the task for next year.

This report will be on the EFOSA website and will also be sent out in digital format to the delegates.

**07. Minutes of the 38<sup>th</sup> General Assembly Meeting of June 20<sup>th</sup>, Berlin, Germany:** they were approved without any comment.

**09. Correspondence:**

- Greece: The president explained that the Greek Association for Orthodontic Study and Research GAOSR had sent a letter asking for (also) representing Greece in EFOSA, while the other Greek societies (the Greek Orthodontic Society, and the Hellenic Professional Union of Orthodontists) want the HPUO to continue representing Greece. The Council had looked into the details, regrets that this national issue is brought up in EFOSA and announced that in their opinion the Greece representation should stay as it has been. There was no opposition or comments to this standpoint in the GAM.
- The Netherlands: a letter from the Dutch Association of Orthodontists explained the situation in the Netherlands where many orthodontists have withdrawn from the specialists register, but they still can be a member of the association. The Council suggested that since all these members once had been registered as a specialist after they had fulfilled all requirements for becoming a specialist by all means of EFOSA, although this Dutch situation is unfavorable, the Netherlands should remain member of EFOSA under the condition that the situation should be evaluated in the General Assembly meeting of next year.
- The secretary: The EFOSA secretary Frank de Winter had sent a letter in which he questioned whether the Netherlands could stay as a member of EFOSA, but even if they could he would not be a delegate anymore because he had resigned from his membership of the Dutch Association of Orthodontists (because he didn't agree with the way they handled the situation in the Netherlands), and therefore concluded that he couldn't be a secretary anymore according to the EFOSA Constitution. The Council advised the General Assembly to consider that the secretary was elected for a 4 year period, and that at that time he had fulfilled all requirements, so that in their opinion he therefore should continue as a secretary. The General Assembly supported this Council's view, and the secretary accepted.

- 10. EFOSA Semi-annual report:** The president reminded that the semi-annual report had been published on the website in February like in other years. He mentioned that this kind of information was perfectly suited for being forwarded to the officers of the EFOSA member societies/associations informing them about EFOSA. He also urged the delegates to please forward the new issue of the EFOSA Headlines to the individual members of the member societies, and especially the section 'Tasks and Responsibilities' in these Headlines (also available on the website) should be passed on to be known.

It was reminded from the Assembly that already last year it was asked to have the EFOSA logo on the Headlines.

- 11. Report of the Secretary:** there wasn't much different to report from last year, so the secretary suggested because of reasons of time to read the report of the secretary in last year's minutes and just change 'first year' in 'second year'.

12.30-14.30 lunch with all present at the GAM

- 12. Information from the Council:** The president informed the GAM that EFOSA has applied and been approved for an affiliate membership of the WFO; that EFOSA is planning an update of the so-called 'Paris posters' for the WFO meeting in Sydney 2010; and maybe the ESAS could be presented some way in Sydney too, although it became clear that in Sydney there won't be a European Village as there was in Paris. British Orthodontic Society delegate Julian O'Neill, also the FEO Secretary, informed the GAM that the FEO has decided to arrange a similar set up as in Paris.

- 13a Report of the Treasurer: Status of Account / Resources:** The treasurer Claude Bourdillat reminded that all material had been sent out to the delegates, she read the financial report, which on request could be shown by power point as well.

- b Report of the Auditors:** Julien O'Neill, UK, reported on behalf of the auditors, he and Abraham Kyriakides, Cyprus, that they had found the papers to be complete, well kept and in proper order, and suggested to the General Assembly to accept and adopt these accounts.
- c Discharge of the Council regarding the responsibilities concerning the accounts of the past financial year (2007-2008):** The General Assembly discharged the Council.
- d Budget 2008-2009:** The treasurer explained the EFOSA budget 2008-2009, which was then accepted by the General Assembly.
- e Membership dues 2008-2009:** The treasurer explained the need for a raise in membership dues and proposed these dues to become € 300 per country (before €250) plus € 2,80 per member (before € 2,50). This was unanimously accepted by the General Assembly.

**19. European Postgraduate Students Orthodontic Society (EPSOS).**

**Presentation:** The president welcomed 4 members of the board of EPSOS and then the president of EPSOS, Morten Godtfredsen, informed the General Assembly about EPSOS by a power point presentation. Key points of interest of EPSOS: finding out about specialists training programs, promoting standardization of requirements of postgraduate programs, and promoting high level of training, coincide with those of the EFOSA Committee "Orthodontic Training Programs and Examinations". This Committee, EOS' Teachers Forum and EPSOS try working together on these subjects.

EPSOS explained that to stay independent of dental industry they are seeking for financial support also from EFOSA.

- 14. Changes in the Bylaws (Proposal from the Council): 3.1 Attendance of the Assembly:** The proposal of the Council was accepted unanimously to change the bylaws: 3. Assembly, 3.1 Attendance, 3.1.1 The attendance of the Assembly is restricted to the delegates and the invited guests, 3.1.2 Each member can invite 1 guest from its own country, 3.1.3 The Council can invite guests.

**15. Report of the EFOSA Committee “Orthodontic Training Programs and Examinations”** : The president reminded that the Committee has not taken new initiatives but is trying in cooperation with EOS’ Teachers Forum and EPSOS getting insight in the diverse European specialist training situation. The committee is chaired by Krister Bjerklin, Sweden, and Luc Dermaut, Belgium, is a member of the committee

**16. Report of the EFOSA “Quality Working Group”:** introduction to EFOSA’s Self Assessment System: Frank de Winter, chair of the committee, apologized for the delay the committee had with finishing up the ESAS program. Tor Torbjørnsen, who helped a lot in the beginning, had left the committee since he and the majority of the committee had different ideas about the flexibility of the ESAS for future development. It then showed that part of the ESAS program had to be rewritten. Unfortunately the wireless internet connection could not be established in the meeting room; therefore the demonstration that the online version of the ESAS indeed is available could not be given. Frank de Winter, explained the principles of the ESAS and invited all present in the General Assembly to just try the ESAS until September 1, 2008. Per that date ESAS then will be officially on line available to all members of the EFOSA member societies/associations, and all data from the period before will be deleted. So until than fictitious patient data could be used when trying getting familiar with the ESAS. From September 1, one can register as an ESAS user only if ESAS recognizes the Email address of the applicant. Therefore all countries were urged to send in updates of the Excel file of Email addresses of their members to the EFOSA secretary. Those who have (legal) problems publishing these addresses could just add that the addresses are not meant for the EFOSA website, but for internal ESAS use only. Since the questionnaires about Patient Satisfaction of course must be in the patient’s native language, the delegates were asked to inform Frank de Winter whether they or somebody else in their countries could make a translation: instructions how this translation could be implemented then would be forwarded.

**18. EFOSA – Website:** The maintenance and update of the EFOSA website so far had been done by help of a student. The EFOSA website is hosted by a different company than the ESAS site is. It is considered by the Council whether maybe having 1 hosting company for both websites and professional maintenance/updating wouldn’t be more efficient and effective.

**20. Any other business:**

- Christian Scherer, Germany, warned that since the EU Bologna program (Bachelor-Master) some universities have come up with a Msc. in orthodontics which may give the impression of a specialist which it is not! One 'so called' university: the Donau University in Krems, Austria, is very active in supplying this Msc. for a lot of money and little training. People should be warned for this type of programs, and certainly try to prevent competent authorities getting the impression that this might be sort of equivalent to an orthodontic specialist.
- Martin Brock, Austria, invited all to come to the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Austrian Orthodontic Society (December 5-6, 2008)
- Christian Scherer informed that in some countries there is a discussion, initiated by governments and insurers, whether there actually are evidence based benefits of orthodontic care to oral health.

**21. Date and venue of next meeting:** Wednesday June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009 in Helsinki, Finland

**22. Closing:** The president thanked all for their presence and participation. The meeting was closed at 15.50 hours.

---

**President:** Lars Medin, Manhemsv 28, SE-791 36 Falun, SE-791 36 Falun, Sweden, lars.medin@falun.mail.telia.com

**Vice President:** Alexandros Kokkas, 95-97 Mavromichalis Street, GR-11472 Athens, Greece, akokkas2000@yahoo.gr

**Secretary:** Frank de Winter, Zwarteweg 15, 2111AJ Aerdenhout, The Netherlands, winternet@wxs.nl

**Treasurer:** Claude Bourdillat-Mikol, 10 Ave. Auguste Renoir, F-78160 Marly Le Roi, France, claud.bourdillat@online.fr

**Member:** Milan Kaminek, Palckého 12, 77200 Olomouc, Czech Republic, milan.kaminek@quick.cz

**EOS co-opted Member:** Reggie Miethke, Flanaganstrasse 20B, D-14195 Berlin, Germany, [rainer-r.miethke@charite.de](mailto:rainer-r.miethke@charite.de)

**Minutes of the 40th EFOSA General Assembly Meeting Wednesday June 10th, 2009 Helsinki, Finland**

**Attendance:**

35 delegates of member societies/associations from 24 countries, 6 guests from non-member countries, 1 extra guest of 1 member country, 2 guests/observers from FEO, 1 special guest from AJO&DO, and 1 secretary non-delegate. In total 46 participants from 29 countries.

**Distribution of printed information to the delegates.**

The EFOSA Headlines issue No 5, The Quality News(letter) issue No 3, and the updated guide of the European Orthodontic Health Insurances were handed out.

**01. Opening.**

The president Lars Medin (Sweden) welcomed all delegates and guests to the 40<sup>th</sup> EFOSA General Assembly, he thanked the Finnish Orthodontic Society for a wonderful Get together party last night, and opened the meeting at 9.15 hours.

**02. Apologies for absence.**

Apologies for absence had been received from Switzerland and Latvia; Italy had planned on being present, but was not; Serbia had not replied to the invitation.

**03. Introduction of delegates.**

All delegates gave a brief introduction of who they are and where they come from.

**04. Changes and amendments to the agenda.**

The president announced that point 17 of the agenda would be moved up to the morning session because vice-president Alexandros Kokkas (Greece) will be representing EFOSA in the EOS Council meeting in the afternoon.

Martina Drevensek (Slovenia) asked to move up point 21 also because she too has to be in another meeting.

#### **05. Address by AJO&DO editor in chief David Turpin.**

After a very interesting lecture on the change of printed orthodontic journalism towards internet publication, a lively discussion took place on getting orthodontists involved in the scientific and social developments of orthodontics. The president thanked David Turpin for his contribution to this GAM and presented to him a gift from EFOSA. A warm applause showed the appreciation of the delegates for this lecture.

#### **06. Membership status of the different European countries.**

The president expressed his wish that all European countries participate in EFOSA and become active member as soon as possible. He then brought up the problem of Serbia not coming to the meetings, not replying emails, and not paying its dues. The suggestion of the Council to expel Serbia was discussed. It was mentioned that Serbia has a lot of internal problems, and that in first instance EFOSA probably should offer helping Serbia solve these; if then Serbia still continues the same relationship to EFOSA expelling Serbia should be on the agenda on the next EFOSA GAM. This proposal then was accepted unanimously.

The president asked the delegate from the Netherlands to inform the GAM on the situation there now. Gery Mazeland (the Netherlands) described the difficulties the Dutch orthodontists are facing. The government had set higher fees for general practitioners practicing orthodontics than for the specialists. She said that the Dutch Orthodontic Society has now only 100 members since the certified orthodontists, and especially those being new in the profession, do not register as specialists anymore. On December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008 the Orthodontic Society won a trial against the State on the intention for an even further decrease of the fees of specialists orthodontists. At this moment what will happen next is quite unclear. The General Assembly asked the Council to be in close contact with the Dutch Orthodontic Society and take action if it is asked for. There will be a report of the situation next year.

#### **17. EFOSA Committee 'European Health Insurances'.**

The chairman of the committee, Alexandros Kokkas presented the updated guide of the European Orthodontic Health Insurances for the year. He said that all country

members had received their previous year's report so that revisions could be made. The new information was added to the guide. This year a comparison was added. It was prepared by Kristin Heimisdottir (Iceland) and member of the Committee. Kristin Heimisdottir explained how she made the chart and asked the delegates to let her know if any modifications are needed. Alexandros Kokkas also presented the new EFOSA Headlines issue No 5.

## **21. Date and venue of next meeting.**

Martina Drevensek suggested to next year (2010) have the GAM one day earlier before the EOS congress. Pros and cons were discussed in the light of the long traveling time necessary from the airport to the meeting place and the extra day this would cost delegates planning to also attend the EOS congress. In the GAM there was not a majority in favor of this proposal. The Council will in a later stage decide.

## **07. Applications for membership.**

No new applications have been received since last GAM. Hungary announced that it will apply for membership before the next GAM (2010); Luxembourg announced that is probably will be possible to do so too.

## **08. Minutes of the 39<sup>th</sup> General assembly Meeting of June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008, Lisbon, Portugal.**

The minutes were approved without any comment. In addition to the minutes the president informed the meeting that probably next year EFOSA will present in CED.

## **09. EFOSA Semi-annual report.**

The president pointed out that this report has been published on the website and was sent to the members by email. He asked the delegates to please inform the Council if they would prefer additional information in this (next) report.

## **10. Report of the secretary.**

As your secretary I have assisted the President in preparing agendas for the Council and the General assembly meetings and also discussed with him and the other Council members the Semi-annual Reports that have been published on the website this last year. I have been in contact with the member countries for updates of country reports, Excel files and lately also of the so called 'Paris posters'. I have tried to make country report update simple by offering each country an individualized report asking for specific changes/updates only. Despite this assistance still many countries have not replied even after several reminders, and the same goes for the Excel files. From this experience I have not sent out reminders for the 'Paris posters', and so far we have only received five. It was thought that internet would make things simple and quick, but so far no good.

An important role of EFOSA is being informed and sharing this information with the members. For this purpose we depend on your cooperation, and I would like to use this opportunity to ask for this cooperation once more. Like in previous years all information concerning this General Assembly Meeting was sent out by email to the delegates, and has been available on the website. A draft of the minutes of the last meeting in Lisbon, Portugal, has been on the web shortly after that meeting. It is my intention to have a draft of the minutes of this meeting in the next update of the EFOSA website which is due by the end of August.

I thank you for your trust in my work for you.

Upon the request of Jonathan Sandler (UK) which countries had sent in an update of the 'Paris posters' the GAM was informed that these were: Denmark, France, Poland, Slovakia and Sweden.

## **11. Information from the Council.**

The president reminded the delegates about the investments done in ESAS and that ESAS now is the spearhead in EFOSA's quality policy. The president informed the GAM about the question that was raised in the Council about Orthodontic Therapists in the UK, and asked Jonathan Sandler to please inform the GAM: orthodontic therapist demands a 12 months training of which 1 month at a university. The task then originally allowed to do placement, replacement and removing of appliances, supervised by orthodontists. In the meantime anybody with a dental qualification can however employ an orthodontic therapist (therapists doing orthodontics in a general practice...). The last development is even that dental practices may be run by a therapist employing a dentist. The BOS (British Orthodontic Society) has tried in vain to make a ruling that these therapists can be employed by orthodontists only.

#### **12a. Report of the Treasurer: status of Account/Resources.**

The treasurer Claude Bourdillat-Mikol (France) reminded that all material has been published on the website, she read the financial report, which on request could be shown by power point as well.

#### **12b. Report of the Auditors.**

Julien O'Neill (UK) reported on behalf of the auditors, that he and Abraham Kyriakides (Cyprus) had found the papers to be complete, well kept and in proper order, and suggested to the General Assembly to accept and adopt these accounts.

#### **12c. Discharge of the Council regarding the responsibilities concerning the accounts of the past financial year (2008-2009).**

The General Assembly discharged the Council.

#### **12d. Budget 2009-2010.**

The treasurer explained the EFOSA budget 2009-2010 which was then accepted by the General Assembly.

#### **12e. Membership dues 2009-2010.**

The treasurer explained that there is no need for a change in membership dues. This also was unanimously accepted by the General assembly.

#### **13. Election of auditors (2009-2011).**

There were no other candidates than had been proposed by the Nomination Committee with the agenda. Lutgart de Ridder (Belgium) and Abraham Kyriakides were elected by acclamation.

#### **14. Election of Nomination Committee (2009-2011).**

From the delegates Eva Czochrowska (Poland) was nominated as a third candidate. Jonathan Sandler, Bart Vande Vannet (Belgium) and Eva Czochrowska were elected by acclamation.

The president specially thanked Wolfgang Schmiedel (Germany) who had stepped down from his last official task (NC member) in EFOSA after having served EFOSA on many levels for many years.

**15. EFOSA Committee ‘Orthodontic Training Programs and Examinations’.** The president explained that at this moment there are no initiatives from this committee. We wait for information from and cooperation with the Teacher’s Forum and EPSOS.

**16. EFOSA Committee ‘Quality Working Group’.**

The chairman of the committee, Frank de Winter (Netherlands) informed the General Assembly that as an addition to ESAS a postgraduate students version (i.e. separate database) is available now. A preview of the 5-minutes ESAS promotion for the EOS congress was shown. Julian O’Neil then gave a very nice and informative presentation of ESAS from a user’s perspective.

The delegates were once again asked to help find at least 1 study club in their country willing to start using ESAS and thus helping build up a useful database; and also bring forward someone who will take care of translating the Patient Satisfaction questionnaire into the appropriate language.

**18. EFOSA website.**

The webmaster Frank de Winter pointed out the problem of deleting the old website .org which unfortunately is still un the web, but shows obsolete information. Suggestions were done how to force stopping the old website, and eventually if everything fails, mirror .eu in .org .

The webmaster reminded the delegates that updates will take place only 4x/year, and to please send in all information in exact the required format to make updating go smooth, quick AND cheap.

**19. European Postgraduate Students Orthodontic Society (EPSOS).**

Their president Olga Annussaki (Greece) gave a power point presentation on EPSOS, what it stands for, what was the Helsinki program, and about the initiative through questionnaires getting postgraduate curriculum details from all European postgraduate

training institutions. So far this was a good start from a limited number of schools. The General assembly offered help to EPSOS in making contact for them with postgraduate training institutions in the countries of the delegates. For this purpose EPSOS would make the questionnaires available as jpg by the end of the Summer so that they then could be sent out to the delegates.

## **20. Any other business.**

The president asked Christian Scherer (Germany) what has happened since last year when he explained about the MSc in orthodontics by the Krems university (Austria). Christian Scherer explained that now German universities start offering the same. Government wants to save money and dentists seem to be willing to have costs down for orthodontics. The only success seems to be slowing things down. It shows that orthodontics is under a lot of (financial) pressure in many countries and this certainly is something to be discussed in CED.

Exceptions are the countries where orthodontics is provided by orthodontists only: Croatia, Czech Republic, Lithuania, Slovakia, Norway.

Gabriela Cuckova-Curcieva (F.Y.R. of Macedonia) announced that they will apply for membership of EFOSA.

## **22. Closing.**

Wolfgang Schmiedel thanked on behalf of the delegates Lars Medin for a nice meeting and for his presidency. The president thanked all for their presence and their participation. The meeting was closed at 16.30 hours.

# Minutes of the 41st EFOSA General Assembly Meeting Tuesday June 15th, 2010 Portorož, Slovenia draft

## **Attendance:**

35 delegates of member societies/associations from 23 countries, 3 guests from non-member countries, 1 extra guest of 1 member country, 1 guest/observer from FEO, and 1 secretary non-delegate. In total 41 participants from 26 countries.

## **Distribution of printed information to the delegates.**

The EFOSA Headlines issue No 7, The Quality News(letter) issue No 4 were handed out.

## **01. Opening.**

The president Lars Medin (Sweden) welcomed all delegates and guests to the 41<sup>st</sup> EFOSA General Assembly, he thanked Martina Drevensek, president of the Slovenian Orthodontic Society for a wonderful Get together party last night, and opened the meeting at 08.45 hours.

## **02. Apologies for absence.**

Apologies for absence had been received from Denmark, Estonia, Italy and Lithuania.

## **03. Introduction of delegates.**

All delegates gave a brief introduction of who they are and where they come from. Problems that used to be mentioned here, and that seemed to exist in many countries, were postponed to a later stage in the agenda.

**04. Changes and amendments to the agenda.** The president Lars Medin announced that point 15 of the agenda would be moved up to after point 08 because vice-president Alexandros Kokkas (Greece) will be representing EFOSA in the EOS Council meeting in the afternoon.

## **05. Address by professor Anne Marie Kuijpers-Jagtman.**

The Teacher's Forum was installed in 2006 in Vienna as an open forum for all universities. The main purpose was: teachers to meet, exchanging information on teaching issues and research. It was an effort improving quality in a bottom up procedure instead of guidelines.

A new step forward in quality was the development of NEBEOP: Network of Erasmus Based European Orthodontic Programs. The training program of members of NEBEOP must fulfill minimum requirements on clinical activity, theoretical activity and research activity. Program directors can apply for provisional membership, then after 2 years they can apply for full membership, which involves external assessment plus site visit. In 2010 there are 68 provisional members. In 2011 external assessment plus site visits will be started. For full membership these will be repeated every 7 years.

The Erasmus program was developed in 1992 and still is a good base, although it needs some updating and measurement of quality. The new WFO guidelines for training programs seem to be very much based on the Erasmus program but there are some important differences like: 24 months of training instead of 36, 30 patients instead of 50, qualified staff instead of university linked, very detailed description on labs etc. instead of a general description.

A warm applause showed the appreciation of the delegates for this lecture.

It was discussed that it is the responsibility of the delegates to inform their society to strive for the training programs in their country cooperating in the Teacher's Forum and NEBEOP. It was asked whether this lecture could be available on the EFOSA website, which was permitted.

#### **06. Membership status of the different European countries.**

The president Lars Medin announced that Hungary, Latvia and Lithuania are on their way in and have promised to apply next year in Istanbul.

He then brought up the problem of Serbia not coming to the meetings, not replying emails, and not paying its dues; a registered mail was received by the Serbian society but remained unanswered as well. Mladen Slaj (Croatia), informed the GAM that there is another Serbian orthodontic society and that he could arrange contact between that society and EFOSA. The suggestion of the Council to expel Serbia was discussed. It was suggested to expel Serbia now so that in future maybe another Serbian society might become EFOSA member. This proposal was accepted by vote: Serbia is no longer member of EFOSA. The deficit still due was canceled.

#### **07. Applications for membership.**

The applications for active membership of Malta and Bulgaria have been accepted by acclamation.

#### **08. Minutes of the 40<sup>th</sup> General assembly Meeting of June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009, Lisbon, Portugal.**

Referring to the minutes 20, it is mentioned that also in the countries Iceland and Slovenia, and Poland up until the age of 12 years, orthodontic care is delivered by orthodontists only.

The minutes were approved without any comment.

#### **15. EFOSA Committee 'European Health Insurances'.**

The chairman of the committee, Alexandros Kokkas announced that an update of the report from last year will be available on the website. Only minor changes have taken place.

#### **09. EFOSA Semi-annual report.**

The president pointed out that this report has been published on the website and was sent to the members by email. He asked the delegates to please inform the Council if they would prefer additional information in this (next) report. Bart Vande Vannet (Belgium) asked whether the report could be published earlier to enhance discussion in the national meetings. The president explained that the report is only prepared after the Council meeting in November, and always was intended to present information sort of halfway to the next GAM.

#### **Headlines.**

The vice-president, Alexandros Kokkas, editor of the Headlines reminded the GAM that the purpose of the Headlines is to be passed on to the members of the member societies of EFOSA.

#### **10. Information from the Council.**

The EFOSA Posters had been updated for the WFO meeting in Sydney. The council suggested that the content of the EFOSA Posters should be published in the national journals; for this purpose the Council should prepare an article including the posters to be offered to the member countries for being translated + being published.

The president had commented in Sydney that EFOSA is not happy with the new WFO guidelines for specialist training programs, especially that the minimum could be 2 years. Contact will be established with the chair of the WFO Training Committee, and an effort will be done coming up with a new and precise description.

The president informed the GAM that Reggie Miethke will step down as EOS co-opted member in the EFOSA Council, a new co-opted member will be elected in the EOS Council meeting.

The president mentioned that EFOSA as a routine has been inviting FEO in the General Assembly meetings already many years, but unfortunately this has not been mutually yet.

The Netherlands were invited to present a progress report on what is going on. Melissa Disse explained that the Dutch Orthodontic Association now has 214 members (orthodontists + former orthodontists i.e. orthodontists that have resigned from the specialists registration). The number of orthodontists that are still registered is 150, and not all of those are member of the association. There was hope for some change for the better for orthodontics and orthodontists in the past year, but the recent news from some days ago that the government intends a 34% cut of the fees for orthodontics made things worse than ever.

It was discussed that in many countries orthodontics is under a lot of pressure, and Jonathan Sandler (UK) explained again (=last year) the development of orthodontic therapists in the UK.

#### **11. Report of the secretary.**

The tradition of a report of the secretary to me is a nice opportunity to address this meeting. This has been my 4<sup>th</sup> year as your secretary which made the job more of a routine. Unfortunately much time is spend on reminding delegates, which fortunately finally often works. It never was my intention to only serve 1 term, but as discussed in the past I felt a need to resign as a member of the Dutch Orthodontic Association since this in my opinion was not a specialists society anymore. This meant that I could not be a delegate anymore, so eventual re-election became impossible and therefore you will be choosing a new secretary also. Please help making his job a bit easier by reading and answering your email. I am sure he will appreciate.

It was my pleasure serving you as a secretary and I want to use this opportunity to express my thanks to my fellow council members for the joy of working in a good team.

There isn't much to report about other than you have seen from me in written form already. I thank you all for your confidence and trust and wish all of EFOSA and the new Council all the best.

**12a. Report of the Treasurer: status of Account/Resources.** The treasurer Claude Bourdillat-Mikol (France) reminded that all material had been published on the website already; she explained the numbers by power point and made clear that EFOSA's financial position is healthy.

**12b. Report of the Auditors.** Julien O'Neill (UK) reported on behalf of the auditors, that he and Abraham Kyriakides (Cyprus) had found the papers to be complete, well kept and in proper order, and suggested to the General Assembly to accept and adopt these accounts.

**12c. Discharge of the Council regarding the responsibilities concerning the accounts of the past financial year (2009-2010).** The General Assembly discharged the Council.

**12d. Budget 2010-2011.** The treasurer presented the Council proposal for the EFOSA budget 2010-2011 which was then accepted by the General Assembly.

**12e. Membership dues 2010-2011.** The treasurer explained that there is no need for a change in membership dues, which is also the proposal from the Council. This also was unanimously accepted by the General Assembly.

The treasurer, who had served EFOSA for eight years with pleasure, thanked the delegates for their trust during this period.

### **13. EFOSA Committee “Orthodontic Training Programs and Examinations”.**

The committee is supporting the Teacher's Forum and NEBEOP.

Christian Scherer (Germany) presented a progress report on the Masters in Orthodontics, which is not only offered any longer by the University of Krems but also by several German universities. Silvia Silli (Austria) informed the assembly that the Master's program of Krems seems to offer some good theoretical courses, but no clinical training. It was discussed that also in other countries e.g. UK Masters are available.

Concerning the WFO guidelines, the Council suggested to prepare a document that EFOSA on behalf of all member countries expresses the wish to WFO that in the guideline a 3-years Erasmus based program should be a minimum request. This proposal was accepted.

### **14. EFOSA Committee ‘Quality Working Group’.**

The chairman of the committee, Frank de Winter (Netherlands) claimed that ESAS has a lot of potential, but he reminded the General Assembly that ESAS simply does need users! From the very beginning this committee had asked the delegates for help having per country at least 1 study club using ESAS for helping building up the data base + getting ESAS known by the public/orthodontists. As can be learned from the Quality News, issue 4, this unfortunately has not worked, and the delegates were urged again to help finding that study club since we, committee and EFOSA, do believe in ESAS.

The GAM was informed that some minor improvements have been made in the ESAS program for orthodontists, but for the post-grads a totally new version will be available in September offering comparison of 1 post-grad with the total data base of post-grads, 1 post-grad with the other post-grads in the same orthodontic department, and all post-grads of 1 orthodontic department with the total data base of post-grads.

### **16. Get together party.**

The president Lars Medin announced that the Council suggests that an invitation for a get together party should be from the hosting country, but that if a small country has problems doing so, EFOSA will be glad to financially support. The GAM approved this suggestion.

### **17. Radiation guidelines for EU countries and rules for radiation protection.**

Bart Vande Vannet introduced this point of the agenda after his experience having had a site visit on technical aspects of the X-ray appliance *and* procedures. His question to the delegates was: what is the regulation of radiograph systems control in the different countries. It was discussed that most countries have a control of technical aspects only. It was decided that the delegates would check in their country and report to EFOSA.

**21. European Postgraduate Students Orthodontic Society (EPSOS).** Their president Olga Annussaki (Greece) gave a power point presentation on EPSOS, what it stands for, what was the Portorož program, and presented a progress report on the questionnaires for getting postgraduate curriculum details from all European postgraduate training institutions.

It was mentioned that the EPSOS Newsletter could be forwarded to all postgraduate students in the EFOSA member countries through the delegates.

**18. EFOSA website.** The webmaster Frank de Winter informed the meeting that there is no plan for any major changes in the website design. It is functioning well with the every 3-4 month update.

## **19. Changes in the Bylaws.**

It was discussed that the contradiction between Constitution and Bylaws should be solved. In this respect a change in the Bylaws 2.5 was foreseen, but seemed not to be able to correctly solve the problem. It was therefore decided to instead of changing the content of Bylaws 2.5 remove this article from the Bylaws.

The proposal for a change in the Bylaws 3.4.2 that 'Member' should be added as a fifth Council member, was accepted.

## **20. Elections.**

### **Council members**

There was no request for a ballot vote for the election of the Council members, and the candidates as suggested by the Nomination Committee were elected by acclamation:

President:       Alexandros Kokkas, Greece

Vice-President: Bart Vande Vannet, Belgium

Secretary:       Julian O'Neill, UK

Treasurer:       Christian Scherer, Germany

(the term of Council Member Milan Kaminek, Czech Republic, has not yet ended)

### **Nomination Committee**

Since Bart Vande Vannet was elected as Vice-president he could not remain a member of the Nomination Committee, from the floor it was suggested to elect Melissa Disse (the Netherlands) as a new member of the Nomination Committee which was accepted by acclamation

### **Auditors**

The term of the auditors was ended and new auditors had to be elected, which accidentally had been done already last year but had not been implemented. As candidates the Nomination Committee suggested Lutgart de Ridder (Belgium) and Owen Crotty (Ireland), which was accepted by acclamation.

## **22. Any other business**

There wasn't anything.

## **23. Date and venue of next meeting.**

The next meeting will be in Istanbul, Turkey, Sunday June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011

## **24. Closing.**

The president Lars Medin, after having served EFOSA for 10 years, thanked all Council members for a fantastic job done and the delegates for their support, and the vice-president/president-elect Alexandros Kokkas thanked Lars Medin and all other Council members for all the good work done for EFOSA.

The meeting was closed at 17.00 hours.

## **Minutes of the 42<sup>nd</sup> EFOSA General Assembly Meeting**

### **Present:**

Alexandros Kokkos - AK	President	Greece
Bart Vande Venet - BVV	Vice-Chairman	Belgium
Julian O'Neill – JO	Secretary	UK
Milan Kaminek – MK	Council Member	Czech Rep.
Silvia Silli		Austria
Laura Andreeva		Bulgaria
Mladen Slaj		Croatia
Yiannos Hadjiprokopis		Cyprus
Ivo Marek		Czech Republic
Eva Sramkova		Czech Republic
Janne Gronhoj		Denmark
Eva Karlstedt		Finland
Alain Vigié du Cayla		France
Claude Boudillat-Mikol		France

Sascha Milkereit	Germany
Periklis Panos	Greece
Vegh Andras	Hungary
Rado Stefania	Hungary
Kirstin Heimisdottir	Iceland
Stefan Pallson	Iceland
Luca Lombardo	Italy
Vincenzo D'Anto	Italy
Odile Hutereau	Luxembourg
Geri Mazeland	Netherlands
Melissa Disse	Netherlands
Tone Klepsland	Norway
Ewa Czochrowska	Poland
Gabriela Alexandrovà	Slovakia
Jana Gasparova	Slovakia
Sanja Zupancic	Slovenia

Jasmina Primozic	Slovenia
Martina Drevensec	Slovenia
Lars Medin	Sweden
Barbara Jaeger	Switzerland
Serdar Usumez	Turkey
Ilhan Ramoglu	Turkey
Jonathan Sandler	United Kingdom

## 01. Opening and welcome:

AK opened the meeting at 09.30hrs and thanked our Turkish hosts for their efficient organisation of our meetings, and also particularly for the excellent get together party which we all enjoyed the previous evening. Serdar Usumez responded on behalf of the Turkish society, and warmly welcomed the EFOSA delegates to Istanbul.



## 02. Apologies for absence:

JO reported that apologies have been received from the FYR Macedonia, Israel, Portugal and the Ukraine.

### **03. Introduction of delegates:**

The delegates introduced themselves, in turn, to the Assembly.

### **04. Minutes of the 41<sup>st</sup> EFOSA GAM:**

These were accepted - approved by Jonathan Sandler and seconded by Lars Medin.

### **05. Report from the Council:**

**President's report:** AK outlined the business that had taken place during the year and in particular the Council meetings, which had occurred in Brussels in November 2010 and Spa in February 2011.

**Secretary's report:** JO said that it had been a busy year for the council. There were two major issues, namely the future of ESAS and the revamping of our website, being led by BVV. This would be demonstrated later, but JO outlined important potential changes in the website, which should provide significantly improved communications within the society.

**Treasurer's report:** CS reported on the changeover from our previous treasurer, Claude Bourdillat. CB had forecast for 2010/11 that proved to be accurate. Income for the year was €22,430 and expenditure was €24,300. CS believes our finances to be in good order and presently sees no need to raise membership fees. EFOSA's total assets March 31, 2011 were € 42105.

### **06. Auditor's report:**

Owen Crotty and Lutgard de Ridder had examined the books. LdeR had made some small remarks and both auditors were happy to sign off the accounts for the year 2010/11. At this point item 17 was discussed in order to allow different delegates to attend meetings in the afternoon:

### **17. Elections**

One council member, MK, is stepping down. Jonathan Sandler and the Nominations Committee have suggested Ewa Czochrowska to join the Council. AK asked for other candidates for this position. None were forthcoming. Ewa Czochrowska was voted unanimously as the Council member.

### **07. ESAS:**

Frank de Winter gave a presentation on ESAS. He stated that very little activity had taken place. He personally feels sad and somewhat frustrated. FdeW reminded delegates that entering data only takes between two and eight minutes per patient, and therefore this would only require commitment of two to three hours per year. He reported that the University of Amsterdam postgraduates are using ESAS. FdeW stated that modules can be used separately and he encouraged delegates to give ESAS a further chance. FdeW also pointed out that governments across the EU might start imposing quality systems that may not be as simple to use as ESAS. He suggested that if we demonstrated that we were already using a quality system, government regulation may not be required if ESAS is already doing the job.

AK opened the topic for discussion.

Serdar Usumez feels very enthusiastic about ESAS and felt we should keep on trying to use the system.

Owen Crotty suggested marketing the system to colleagues and perhaps a demonstration at a national meeting would help.

Jonathan Sandler felt the onus was on us as delegates. It was agreed that an ESAS stand at various conferences might be helpful to promote the project. A further suggestion was publication of a paper arguing for ESAS. FdeW was asked whether he might be willing to produce such a paper.

Lars Medin agreed that delegates from EFOSA have a responsibility to introduce the system in their own countries. FdeW has been to Sweden and gave a presentation there. Lars reminded delegates that introducing ESAS to postgrads would encourage them to get involved at the start of their specialisation.

Claude Bourdillat reminded delegates that we have spent €40,000 on the programme. She felt strongly that in France a translation was required and that French orthodontists would be much more likely to use it if this was the case. AK asked delegates was important to them. Five delegates responded that they would like a translation. BVV told the assembly that there were no figures for the previous year related to ESAS usage. CS suggested that we might delegate the use of ESAS to individual societies. Lars Medin asked if delegating responsibility for the programme to individual countries would mean that each country would end up paying separately. A discussion regarding the ongoing costs for ESAS ensued. Jonathan Sandler questioned what the maintenance fee was for, and FdeW explained. AK suggested sending an email to all delegates reminding them about ESAS and the action that individual delegates should take in their countries to promote ESAS. He suggested sending this in September. Claude Bourdillat suggested sending an official letter to each President regarding ESAS.

**ACTION: AK**

Jonathan Sandler asked whether it would be practical to delegate ESAS to each individual country and for them to pay for it locally. CS said that this should not be a problem as each individual country could use a local platform. Translations have already been carried out in

some countries. AK stated that we were all agreed that we would redouble our efforts to promote ESAS for a further year, and then review the situation. FdeW reminded delegates that he was standing down as Chairman of the Quality Committee. Barbara Jaeger and Alain du Cayla asked whether they might consider taking over as Chairman of this committee. AK said that he would talk further with Barbara and Alain and inform delegates following the discussion.

**ACTION: AK**

#### **08. New EFOSA projects:**

- **European Orthodontic Guide:** AK gave a PowerPoint presentation on the future of the European Orthodontic Guide. Geri Mazeland from the Netherlands raised concerns about possible misuse. She is concerned that journalists may use the data to the detriment of orthodontic specialists. AK assured the delegates that no financial or patient number data would be included in the proposed project. AK asked for any objections to the project proceeding. There were none apart from GMs concern, which was noted by AK. The guide will be developed over the next year and be introduced to the General Assembly in 2012.

**ACTION: AK**

- **EFOSA Website:** BVV introduced the new, updated website design, which he has been developing with Ton de Laat. In this BVV demonstrated the new ESAS link and also clearly showed the use of Google translate built into the programme to allow the website to be translated instantly into any language of choice. The new design and in particular the translation feature were well received by delegates. The concept of country representatives updating their individual country information was also introduced and accepted by delegates. One individual in each country would be given the password, providing administrator rights to that country's area. It was stressed that, if that person resigned their position, they would be responsible for passing the information on to the next named and designated representative.
- **Radiation Guidelines:** BVV asked for reports from different countries regarding guidelines, especially or particularly with respect to the use of cone beam CT in individual practices. It was suggested that we should produce a questionnaire to be circulated to all delegates. Jonathan Sandler suggested focusing this by asking six specific questions to be answered.

**ACTION: BVV**

#### **EPSOS presentation**

Vincenzo D'anto, President of EPSOS, gave an illuminating presentation about EPSOS. There have been some changes in the Council structure. EPSOS now has "ambassadors" in many countries. The aims of EPSOS were discussed. The results of questionnaire by EPSOS on quality and training were also presented. BVV agreed that he would check the link to EPSOS on the EFOSA website.

**ACTION: BVV**

Following the presentation AK thanks Vincenzo D'anto for talking to us.

**Guest Presentation**  
**Prof. Athanasios E Athanasiou**

Prof. Athanasiou gave his presentation:

*"Evidence – based perspectives for a quality oriented practice of orthodontics"*

This was warmly received by the delegates.

AK thanked Prof Athanasiou for kindly giving up his time to talk to EFOSA, and for providing us with his valuable insight.

**09. EFOSA Committee "Orthodontic Training Programmes and Examinations":**

The current members of this committee are Krister Bjerklin, Luc Dermaut and Milan Kaminek. It was noted that Milan wished to remain on the committee.

**10. Membership status and fees:**

Odile Hutereau reported that from Luxembourg there was little change. Luxembourg does not run its own orthodontic programme and therefore those wishing to train go to different countries for their specialist training. This results in different titles. There is no specialist list in Luxembourg and very few specialists. Silvia Silli stated that the situation in Austria is, if anything, worsening. The Masters Programme at Krems is not helping this and the government are not supporting specialists. Silvia is feeling less optimistic regarding Austria moving in a positive direction.

It was suggested that guests attending EFOSA for the first time would not be charged and this was agreed. It was suggested by the Council that, following this, guests would be charged €150 for each subsequent visit unless they applied for membership of the society. This was agreed by the General Assembly.

**11. Applications for membership:**

JO reported that there had been no new applications for membership and indeed no affiliate or provisional members have applied for full membership.

**12. Masters in Orthodontics Programmes – EFOSA position:**

The General Assembly unanimously agreed with the Council position that "A Master's degree in Orthodontics should only exist as part of an official three year Erasmus Orthodontic Specialty Programme".

There is concern within EFOSA regarding Masters in Orthodontics programmes that are not part of an Erasmus minimum three-year training programme. Silvia Silli reported that in Austria, where there is an active MSc programme, the universities do not support specialty organisation. The Austrian authority is therefore pushing forward with Board Examinations. It is suggested

that all specialist orthodontists will sit the Board exam and that will act as the standard for the specialty. Jonathan Sandler reported about the MSc in Orthodontics programme at Warwick University in the UK. There is a perception amongst delegates that patients do not understand the difference between orthodontists holding full speciality qualifications as opposed to an MSc only. .

### **13. EFOSA / CED relations:**

BVV reported on his attendance at a CED meeting in Vienna. At this meeting he was confronted by the President and the Council. BVV raised EFOSA concerns that Austria and Spain had no specialist lists. BVV felt that the responses were unhelpful, to say the least. Following this meeting AK wrote to the President of CED asking if EFOSA could attend future CED meetings as observers. CED refused this proposal. Lars Medin commented that he had discussed EFOSA matters with a previous CED Board in Lisbon. He noted that the previous president was Portuguese and was more helpful. It is possible that, under the present President, promoting a better relationship will be difficult and we may need to wait for a change of personnel before pursuing this again.

### **14/15. EPSOS and the Bolender Award:**

JO introduced the idea of a research award in conjunction with EPSOS. It has been suggested that any such award might carry the name of Charles Bolender. Lars Medin felt that providing a research award was not a primary aim of EFOSA. Geri Mazeland echoed this, and suggested perhaps renaming this as a bursary, which could be given to a particular EPSOS student. Postgraduate students could apply for this bursary. Claude Bourdillat supported the proposal of GM and it was decided that this item needs further discussion, which would take place at the next Council meeting.

**ACTION: Council**

### **16. European Health Insurances:**

AK suggested that with the updating of our website the European health insurances document would be re-launched on the new website.

**ACTION: AK**

### **17. Elections (continued):**

Following Ewa Czochrowska's nomination to the Board, Claude Bourdillat suggested that in future the GAM may consider asking a previous president to join the board, and this would be discussed.

**ACTION: Council**

Owen Crotty was suggested as a member of the nomination committee joining Jonathan Sandler, who wishes to remain on the committee, and Melissa Disse, who has one further year to serve.

Owen's nomination was ratified by the GAM.

#### **18. Date and Venue of the next meeting:**

The next meeting will take place in Santiago de Compostela in conjunction with the 2012 EOS meeting.

The Council meeting and get together party will take place on Monday 18 June 2012, The 43rd General Assembly Meeting will take place at 09.00hrs the following morning, Tuesday 19 June. These dates are already in the EOS programme for 2102.

#### **20. Closure of meeting:**

The meeting was concluded with the presentation of the WFO 8th IOC taking place in London 2015, presented by Jonathan Sandler.

## **Minutes of the 43<sup>rd</sup> EFOSA General Assembly Meeting**

### **Present:**

Alexandros Kokkas	Greece
Bart Vande Vannet	Belgium
Christian Scherer	Germany
Ewa Czochrowska	Poland
Julian O'Neill	UK
Mihovil Strujic	Croatia
Mladen Slaj	Croatia
Iva Sramkova	Czech Republic
Ivo Marek	Czech Republic
Yiannos Hadjiprokopis	Cyprus
Janne Gronhoj	Denmark
Marja Pertiomaki	Finland
Jarkko Vuoriluototo	Finland
Alain Vigie du Cayla	France
Claude Bourdillat	France
Sascha Milkereit	Germany

Konstantinos Paradissis	Greece
Kristin Heimisdottir	Iceland
Owen Crotty	Ireland
Tamar Finkelstein	Israel
Yocheved Ben-Basset	Israel
Odile Hutereau	Luxembourg
Melisse Disse	Netherlands
Idsar Vekseth	Norway
Americo Ferraz	Portugal
Francisco Fvale	Portugal
Jana Gasparova	Slovakia
Gabriela Alexandrova	Slovakia
Tanja Lah	Slovenia
Jose Gandia	Spain
Heidrun Kjellberg	Sweden
Birgitta Obrant	Sweden
Serdar Usumez	Turkey

Ilhan Ramoglu

Turkey

Jonathan Sandler

UK

### **01. Opening and welcome:**

1. AK opened the meeting at 09.00hrs and thanked the Spanish organising committee of the EOS for their generosity in arranging our meetings, and also for providing the Get-together party which had been much enjoyed on the previous evening.

### **02. Apologies:**

JO reported that these had been received from Silvia Silli, Laura Andreeva, Geri Mazeland and Barbara Jaeger. AK reminded our colleagues of the death of Juri Kurol and asked the delegates to stand for a minute's silence. .

### **03. Changes to the agenda:**

It was agreed to bring forward point 12 – the application by Luxembourg for full membership as Odile Hutereau needed to leave early. AK asked for any objections to Luxembourg being accepted as a full member, and there were none. AK then welcomed Luxembourg as a full member to EOS.

### **04. Minutes of the 42<sup>nd</sup> GAM Istanbul, Turkey:**

These were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

### **05. Correspondence:**

- Although AK had supported Italy's bid for the 2020 9th IOC meeting, Jonathan Sandler reported that this had recently been awarded to Japan.
- JO reported on the letter received from Alan Thom and AK explained the background regarding EFOSA support for a three-year full time programme.

### **06. Reports from the Council:**

- **Report from the President:**  
AK discussed the council meetings which had been held in the UK and the previous day. He also reported that he had represented EFOSA at the FEO General Assembly in Dresden, and in Santiago. AK had also presented to the EOS Council in London, February 2012. Finally, AK said he was unable to attend the AAO meeting in Hawaii.
- **Report from the Secretary:**  
JO stated that it had been a busy year. He stressed that it was important to maintain

accurate and up to date information from the individual countries and to this end would be discussing how this could be improved under item 9 later in the meeting.

- **Report from the Treasurer:**

CS reported on EFOSA assets. In the year 2011-12 money on account was left untouched and so in view of this CS recommended that membership fees should stay the same. Owen Crotty reported that he and Lutgard De Ridder as auditors had examined the accounts and were happy to accept these. AK stated that all delegates had received the accounts from CS and asked for comments. There were none. AK recommended adoption of the financial report, and this was accepted.

## **08. ESAS:**

BVV reported on progress with ESAS. A number of people had contacted JO in particular over the last year. These were mainly Dutch orthodontists and it would appear that a limited number in the Netherlands have reactivated ESAS for themselves. Three others had contacted JO from other countries, for example Chile. BVV stated that we have asked Sunsoft, who wrote the programme, to keep ESAS going. He reiterated that if individual members required access they should send an email address to JO, who would activate the account for them. BVV also reported that no statistics were available for ESAS this year but perhaps these would be available in 2013.

Claude Bourdillat (CB) told delegates that there was a new law in France regarding continuous professional development for GPs and orthodontists. This would require practitioners to carry out self-assessment. CB believes that ESAS could be used for this purpose but would need to be translated into French. AK asked whether this was mandatory and that we would like to discuss this further, but we would need to know the costs involved in translation and any amendments required to the programme. JO discussed the difficulty of extracting personal data from the programme, such as PAR scores, but BVV felt that this would be possible by adaptation of the software. AK reminded delegates of an article in the Angle Orthodontist showing that specialist orthodontists produce better results than general dental practitioners. AK feels that this could be used in those countries where there is a problem with general dental practitioners and specialists. There followed a discussion between AK and Kristin Heimisdottir that, ideally, all countries should allow only specialists to carry out orthodontics, as happens in Iceland, and it was agreed that this occurs in very few countries. Jonathan Sandler stated that the British Orthodontic Society includes general dental practitioners who carry out orthodontics. In the UK it is believed that this is a good arrangement as the government negotiates with the whole professional society regarding all orthodontic matters, rather than with separate groups. AK reminded delegates that the EFOSA goal is that all orthodontics should be provided by specialists only. AK then took a straw poll of those countries present in which orthodontics is provided only by specialists, and there were five – Norway, Denmark, Czech Republic, Slovakia and Slovenia. In Greece patients tend only to attend specialists but general dental practitioners can carry out orthodontics if they want. In Croatia, insurance companies pay only specialists; however, any dentist can do orthodontics by law. In the Czech Republic, one must be licensed after a three-year specialist training, whether treatment is provided privately or by state funding. BVV asked whether in any country the government contracts with selected providers only.

Jonathan Sandler stated that in the UK the government pays only selected providers by specific contracts, but that these did not need to be orthodontists.

AK asked Eva Sramkova to present the Czech system to the General Assembly next year as an example.

**ACTION: AK/ES**

## **09. EPSOS:**

Vincenzo d'Anto (Vd'A) reported on the EPSOS meeting which had taken place in Santiago. At this different postgraduate programmes had been discussed and a survey was being carried out. Vd'A expressed a wish for EPSOS to work more closely with EFOSA. He reported that the Teachers' Forum had asked EPSOS for their opinion on training programmes and it was agreed that this was a step in the right direction.

## **10. EFOSA projects:**

- **European Orthodontic Guide:**

AK provided a powerpoint presentation on the European Orthodontic Guide. In this he described its history where Franz van der Linden, Luc Dermaut and Wolfgang Schmiedel had initially collected the data. This had been first produced as a poster in Paris in 2005 and then in Sydney in 2010. The current plan is to enrich and update this dataset. We already have the European Insurance Guide and individual country reports. AK reminded delegates that it is in our constitution under Article 4 that we carry this out. AK asked for data from 28 countries and to date 23 had responded. AK hopes to have this report completed for next year and that member countries will be able to access this on the website. AK also hopes to produce this in hard copy.

- **EFOSA Website:**

JO described the concept of updating the website to provide administrator rights to individual country members. BVV supported the plan, and reminded delegates that we discussed this last year. This would make individual country members responsible for updating their own information, and the cost would be around 1,500 euros. Jonathan Sandler suggested that the update is date stamped and also has the name of the person performing the update. Kristin Heimisdottir stated that we may need a password reminder system as we have for ESAS, and BVV said this could be done. There were no objections to this and so it was agreed to proceed with the system.

**ACTION: JO**

- **Radiation Guidelines:** BVV gave a powerpoint presentation on the production of radiation guidelines by EFOSA. Jonathan Sandler suggested that the articles be placed on the website under a new section called "resource".

**ACTION: BVV**

Following the lunch break Professor Stavros Kiliaridis (SK) provided a stimulating presentation on postgraduate education in Europe and NEBEOP. In this he asked what is NEBEOP trying to achieve, and provided an update on activities. SK stressed the key points of NEBEOP -“bottom-up”, together and active. SK stated that we need to move ahead with NEBEOP and that more countries will need to have their programmes signed up if this is to be a success.

#### **11. Membership status of different European countries:**

JO reported that there had been no change in the membership of EFOSA, apart from the inclusion of Luxembourg as an active member.

#### **12. Application for membership - Luxembourg:**

This had been dealt with earlier under item 2.

#### **11. Applications for membership:**

JO reported that there had been no new applications for membership and indeed no affiliate or provisional members have applied for full membership.

#### **13. Masters in Orthodontics:**

BVV reminded the delegates that EFOSA does not accept a Masters programme alone as a mark of specialist training. JO reminded delegates that we had suggested a patients' section on the website which would allow patients to access information about specialist qualifications in their own countries. He had requested data regarding specialist qualifications in individual countries from EFOSA members and so far had received this from six countries only.

#### **14. EPSOS:**

This had been discussed when Vd'A gave his presentation.

#### **15. Bolender Award:**

It was announced that Charles Bolender had agreed to allow his name to be appended to this award. JO suggested the concept that this award should be provided to a postgraduate in orthodontics who would carry out a project related to EFOSA's activities. This could, for example, take the form of a survey of postgraduate training throughout Europe. The award would have competitive entry and the winner would carry out his research and then present this at a future EFOSA meeting. It had been agreed that an award of 1,000 euros and up to 500 euros for expenses would be made available. AK invited suggestions for topics from the membership and asked them to send these to JO.

**ACTION: Council**

#### **16. Elections:**

**Nominations committee:**

Martina Drevensik had been proposed. There were no objections.

**Auditors:**

Alain Vigie du Cayla and Kristin Heimisdottir had been proposed. There were no objections.

**Council:**

Eva Sramkova had been proposed. There were no objections.

The above members were congratulated on their new roles.

**17. Any Other Business:**

Claude Bourdillat discussed the problem of recycling brackets. She told the delegates that there would be an EU directive in 2015 regarding this issue. BVV discussed the evidence base for the use of recycled brackets.

**18. Date and venue of next meeting:**

The next General Assembly meeting will take place at 09.00hrs on 26 June 2013 in Reykjavik, Iceland. The Icelandic society have suggested that the get together party should take place at the Blue Lagoon and that some cost for individual members would be involved. This was accepted. Kristin Heimisdottir gave a presentation on the EOS Congress in Iceland.

The EFOSA council meeting will take place on 25 June 2013.

**19.**

Jonathan Sandler provided a presentation on the 8th IOC meeting in London on September 2015 and reminded delegates to sign up early in order to enjoy a reduced registration fee and VIP events.

## **Minutes of the 44<sup>th</sup> EFOSA General Assembly Meeting**

**09.00 hrs June 26 2013. Harpa Conference Centre, Reykjavik, Iceland**

### **Attendees:**

Alexandros Kokkas	President		AK
Bart Vande Vannet	Vice-President		BVV
Christian Scherer	Treasurer		CS
Julian O'Neill	Secretary		JO
Maja Ovsenik	EOS co-opted member		MO
Eva Sramkova	Council member		ES
Silvia Silli	Austria	Martin Brock	Austria
Karlien Degeyter	Belgium	Mladen Slaj	Croatia
Mihovil Strujic	Croatia	Yiannos Hadjiprokapis	Cyprus
Ivo Marek	Czech Republic	Elizabeth Borchorst	Denmark
Marja Perkiomaki	Finland	Riaja Kiuru-Skytta	Finland
Claude Bourdillat Mikol	France	Alain Vigie du Cayla	France
Sascha Milkerheit	Germany	Anastasios Zafeiriadis	Greece
KristinHeimisdottir	Iceland		
Owen Crotty	Ireland	Alessandro Greco	Italy
Odile Hutereau	Luxembourg	Melissa Disse	Netherlands
Geri Mazeland	Netherlands	Kari Line Roald	Norway

Hege Alst	Norway	Ewa Czychowska	Poland
Beata Walawska	Poland	Branislav Vidovic	Serbia
Gabriela Alexandrova	Slovakia	Anders Sjogren	Sweden
Jose Gandia	Spain	Barbara Jaeger	Switzerland
Ilhan Ramoglu	Turkey	Serdar Usumez	Turkey
Jonathan Sandler	UK		

## **01.**

AK opened the meeting at 9.15am and welcomed our delegates to Iceland.

## **02. Apologies:**

Apologies have been received from Estonia, Israel, Portugal and Latvia. Following this the delegates introduced themselves. AK then asked Ewa Czychowska to present a short DVD about the EOS meeting in Warsaw in 2014.

## **03. Changes to the agenda:**

there were none

## **04. Reports from the Council:**

- AK gave a presentation on the role of EFOSA and discussed its future direction. The proposed meeting, later that afternoon, between the EFOSA Council and NEBEOP was also mentioned. AK outlined a number of the threats facing the specialty throughout Europe. Firstly, the term “Masters in Orthodontics” is being used widely and the Council believe that we should not use this term. AK is also worried that orthodontic companies are marketing directly to general practitioners and perhaps are not showing enough respect for the specialty of orthodontics. There is evidence of increasing numbers of general dental practitioners undertaking orthodontics and in addition an increase in the number of people undertaking orthodontic training, particularly in Spain and Italy. This may result in a reduction of income for specialist orthodontists in many countries. AK cited the difficulties facing UK orthodontists who are unable to attract NHS contracts. In addition, Jonathan Sandler stated that in the UK an increasingly large number of therapists are being used at the same time as a significant number of senior orthodontists will be retiring. This may lead to problems. AK asked how could EFOSA

help? He cited one example where a letter was provided to the Swiss society about the specialism which was forwarded to their government. AK stated that the EFOSA Council was considering producing a document which would outline the problems in different countries. A discussion ensued. Barbara Jaeger stated that Swiss universities will have a 4-year training programme which is longer than the current one in that country. In addition, dentists and orthodontists are coming from many other countries. Swiss orthodontists are concerned that young specialists in that country will lose out. Claude Bourdillat stated that there is a private orthodontic course being run in Portugal and that course organisers are now hoping to run a similar course in southern France. This is concerning to French orthodontists. Mladen Slaj stated that in the USA the American Dental Association had a group (COAD) which provides recognition for different university degrees. CS stated that in Germany there was a culture of “welcome” to foreign dentists and that those wishing to work needed only to be able to speak German satisfactorily.

#### **Report from the Secretary**

JO stated that the main issue facing the Secretary was communication with the member delegates and society officers. He encouraged delegates to log on to the member sites and keep their details updated as the society officers change. It had been suggested by BVV that we would provide a laptop at the GAM in 2014 to allow instant updating.

#### **ACTION: JO**

JO also reported on the increased activity with the ESAS and this would be covered under item 6.

#### **Report from the Treasurer**

CS reported that EFOSA's accounts were in good shape. He reiterated that there had been a number of difficulties contacting individuals in the different countries and again requested that delegates updated their website or asked their society officers to do so. CS reported that EFOSA assets were 37,770 Euros and that our expenditure to date this year was 16,900 Euros. We had therefore have come in under the budget and showed a small surplus. CS said that next year this surplus would be reduced due to the expenditure in Reykjavik.

### **05. Auditors' Report:**

The auditors are Alain Vigie du Cayla and Kristin Heimisdottir. Alain provided the auditors' report and stated that he was happy with the accounts. KH agreed fully. AK asked the GAM delegates if the accounts could be accepted and this was agreed. Melissa Disse asked a question posed by the Dutch Orthodontic Society treasurer requesting a reduction in the membership fees. CS felt that this would not be possible as there was no buffer, particularly with the expenditure for 2013.

### **06. ESAS:**

JO reported that there had been significant increased use of ESAS by specialist practitioners in the Netherlands. Apparently the VVO is using ESAS as a tool for revalidation in the Netherlands as part of practice assessment carried out by orthodontists. In addition, there has been some activity in the Orthodontic Department at the University of Jonkoping in Sweden, where a number of postgraduates have been requesting access over the last few months. JO explained to the General Assembly the function of ESAS and how to access it. Claude Bourdillat provided further history and BVV demonstrated the website in real time.

## **07.**

- **European Orthodontic Guide**

AK circulated copies of the guide which he has produced, asked the delegates to read it and make comments. AK has also edited the original submitted country reports. AK will produce an online version of the orthodontic guide as a pdf. Owen Crotty asked what would be done with the document once completed. AK stated that the document had already been requested by Martina Drevensik to assist them in their country where changes are planned. Claude Bourdillat suggested that the guide could be made into a poster for London 2015, as previous guides had been used in Sydney and Paris.

**ACTION: AK**

- **European Radiation Guidelines**

BVV distributed copies of the EFOSA radiation guidelines which he has produced. He asked delegates to take these back to the societies for comments. This document will be enlarged and BVV wishes that this will occupy a significant part of the agenda in 2014.

**ACTION: BVV**

## **Lunch**

### **Orthodontics in the Czech Republic**

#### **Eva Sramkova**

ES gave an excellent Powerpoint presentation on orthodontics in the Czech Republic. This stimulated an animated discussion and was of particular interest as problems facing Czech Republic orthodontists are perhaps not as severe as in other parts of Europe. AK thanked ES for her presentation and the work involved in putting the paper together.

## **08. EFOSA/AAO Joint Meeting:**

AK reported on his meeting in Philadelphia with the AAO. CS provided details. He stated that we have common problems in both the EU and the USA. The AAO has a significant amount of money which is used in part to run a continuous advertising programme in the USA. The main focus of this campaign is educating the public about the specialty. This was followed by some discussion and one comment was that perhaps specialist provision of orthodontics would become a niche market.

## **09. Membership status:**

- It was noted that Croatia would join the EU in five days' time. Mladen Slaj was congratulated and told that they would continue to pay a restricted membership fee for a further three years.
- Spain – The assembly was told that in Valencia there are now three private universities and one public, all producing dentists. This, along with other problems, is producing unemployment in dentistry. It was stated that specialism is becoming big business for universities in Spain and currently around 200 orthodontists are being produced yearly, with some universities training 20 specialist per year.
- Serbia – It was agreed that Serbia would pursue active membership of EFOSA for their new society. The Serbian representatives were asked to check the bye-laws and constitution and in due course to forward the relevant paperwork to allow this to be considered.

#### **10. Membership:**

Austria – Martin Brock reported that in Vienna the postgraduates now receive a three-year full-time training. This is a positive move and MB asked members of the Assembly did any countries undergo interim regulations prior to full specialisation recognition? MB also requested evidence from the literature which showed differences between treatment carried out by specialists and that carried out by general dental practitioners. BVV showed a short video clip of a Canadian news programme which illustrated one patient who had undergone orthodontic treatment by her general dental practitioner and had ended up worse than when she started.

#### **11. Charles Bolender Award:**

It was suggested that the Charles Bolender Award could be related to issues of quality. JO suggested that perhaps there was a way of supporting NEBEOP, an organisation which pursues many of the same aims as EFOSA. It was suggested that NEBEOP perhaps would benefit from some financial support from EFOSA and perhaps the Charles Bolender Award could be used to reward some work carried out in pursuit of some NEBEOP's aims. AK told the Assembly that the Council would be meeting NEBEOP representatives, Stavros Kiliarides, Anna-Marie Kuipjers-Jagtmann and Pertti Pirttiniemi. It was hoped that this meeting would allow these ideas to be explored and the Council would report back to the 2014 General Assembly on progress.

#### **12. Elections – Nomination Committee:**

AK suggested that Jonathan Sandler and Owen Crotty should stay on for a further term of office on the Nomination Committee. This was unanimously accepted. AK suggested Claude Bourdillat would join the Nomination Committee to replace Martina Drevensik, and this was agreed. Claude Bourdillat therefore becomes a member of the Nomination Committee.

#### **13. Any Other Business:**

There was no other business.

**14. Date and Venue of next meeting:**

The 2014 General Assembly Meeting of EFOSA will take place in Warsaw, Poland, at the EOS Congress. The GAM will take place on 18 June 2014 with the get-together party and council meeting the previous day, 17 June.

**18. Closure of Meeting:**

The meeting was closed at 15.30 hrs by AK.

## **Minutes of the 45<sup>th</sup> EFOSA General Assembly Meeting**

**09.00 hrs June 18 2014. Palace of Culture and Science - Warsaw, Poland**

### **Attendees:**

	Alexandros Kokkas	President	AK
	Bart Vande Vannet	Vice-President	BVV
	Christian Scherer	Treasurer	CS
	Julian O'Neill	Secretary	JO
	Maja Ovsenik	EOS co-opted member	MO
	Eva Sramkova	Council member	ES
Silvia Silli	Austria	Andrej Pavlic	Croatia
Stjepan Spalj	Croatia	Giorgia Sofroniou	Cyprus
Ivo Marek	Czech Republic	Janne Gronhoj	Denmark
Katri Herman	Estonia	Marja Perkiomaki	Finland
Raija Kiuru-Skytta	Finland	Alain Vigie du Cayla	France
Yves Trin	France	Sascha Milkerheit	Germany
Anna Anagnostou	Greece	Kristin Heimisdottir	Iceland
Owen Crotty	Ireland	Alessandro Greco	Italy
Melissa Disse	Netherlands	Geir Kristiansen	Norway
Ewa Czochrowska	Poland	Beata Walawska	Poland
Branislav Vidovic	Serbia	Gabriela Alexandrova	Slovakia
Jana Gasparova	Slovakia	Jasmina Primožic	Slovenia
Adriana Toro Mattozzi	Spain	Luis Carlos Ojeda	Spain

Barbara Jaeger	Switzerland	Otmar Kronenbourg	Switzerland
Serdar Usumez	Turkey	Ilhan Ramoglu	Turkey
Jonathan Sandler	UK	Arni Thordarson	Iceland

## **01. Opening of meeting:**

Alexandros Kokkas (AK) opened the meeting at 09.10. The EOS President, Ewa Czochorowska (EC) kindly welcomed the delegates and council to the EOS Congress in Warsaw

## **02. Introduction of guests:**

All delegates and guest introduced themselves. Luis Carlos Ojeda (LCO) requested that, in view of the problems in Spain, that the EFOSA council would write to the relevant department in the Spanish Government to support recognition of the Speciality of Orthodontics.

**ACTION: JO**

Silvia Silli (SS) briefly mentioned the continuing problem in Austria with lack of recognition for the specialty and also stated that the Government ideally wants patients to have treatment for free.

Janne Gronhoj ( JG) from Denmark stated that the main problem in Denmark was unemployment amongst Dentists and Orthodontists and that there were a diminishing number of postgraduates being trained. Melissa Disse ( MD) reported that in Holland the Government were changing article 13 of their constitution and this may have an effect on insurance companies and their payments.

**Apologies** were received from Luxembourg, Malta, Sweden and Portugal. Latvia was not represented.

## **04. Changes to the agenda:**

Some changes would be deemed necessary later in the day due to speakers' commitments.

## **05. Reports from the Council:**

- **Report from the President**

AK stated that this would be his last general assembly meeting as President and provided a very comprehensive Powerpoint presentation entitled EFOSA Past, Present and Future. AK also reported on his successful meeting at the AAO in New Orleans with representatives from that organisation.

-

### **Report from the Secretary**

JO reported that there had been significant increase in ESAS traffic and that this was due to Orthodontists in the Netherlands using ESAS as a revalidation tool. JO also encouraged all delegates to update their contact details to ensure that EFOSA had the right email addresses. Laptops would be available at the break in order that delegates could check and if necessary amend their entries.

- 

### **Report from the Treasurer**

CS reported that EFOSA holds approximately €57,000. This had been a successful year financially as income was around €31,000, and expenditure had been held at €17,500. No change in the membership fee would therefore be required.

## **06. Auditors' report and discharge of the council:**

Alain Vigie Du Cayla (AvdC) and Kristin Heimisdottir reported that they had examined the accounts and were satisfied with these. They asked that the GAM would accept the Auditors report and accounts. This was accepted by the delegates.

## **07. ESAS:**

JO reminded delegates about the fact that ESAS is available to them. Regarding the increased use of ESAS by Orthodontists in the Netherlands MD explained how ESAS is used as part of the revalidation system. Ten patients per year need to be added to the system. Each Orthodontist must carry out a minimum of 16 hours clinical work a week. This provoked a lively discussion. JO asked whether it was worth having the Netherlands system on the EFOSA website and MD agreed that this would be possible when this is complete.

**ACTION: JO**

## **08. EFOSA projects:**

- **European Orthodontic Guide**

AK has sent this out and suggested that it is updated every two years. AK asked the delegates whether they felt that this should be open access or password protected. It was generally agreed that it should be protected.

**ACTION: JO**

- **Challenges document and article for EJO**

AK reported that he had produced the Challenges Document and felt that in due course that this should be published in the EJO. He hoped that this could be carried out in the future.

**ACTION: JO**

- **Webmaster**

The council has proposed the creation of a webmaster who would sit on the council, but as a non- voting member. AK asked for discussion regarding this, but there were no comments and no dissent. It was therefore, agreed that this position should be created.

- **Radiation guidelines**

BVV provided a Powerpoint presentation including significant new material on the subject of European radiographic guidelines. A discussion ensued about the development of this project and it was suggested that this could be placed on the website. However, this would require creation of a new drop down window and this would inevitably involve some cost.

**ACTION: AcdC**

The GAM was then joined by Dr. Robert Varner, President of the American Association of Orthodontists and also the President Elect of the AAO Dr. Morris Poole. Our guests were welcomed by AK who reminded the GAM that he had first met Drs. Varner and Poole in Philadelphia in 2012 and had enjoyed an excellent working relationship with them since. Drs. Varner and Poole kindly gave a short presentation on problems facing the specialty of Orthodontics in the United States which was followed by a lively question and answer session. It appeared that many of the problems facing Orthodontists in Europe are very similar to those in the United States of America. However, it was noted that the USA is fortunate in having a single organisation to represent Orthodontists and this allowed resources to be used as effectively as possible mainly to educate patients about the difference between specialist trained Orthodontists and Dentists.

**Lunch**

**14. Presentation:**

AvdC provided the GAM with an excellent presentation on problems facing orthodontics in France. He also introduced the concept of ISO 9001 process in French orthodontic practices. This process has been driven by a steering committee within the SSFODF. This system also involves patient responses in the quality process. Alain was warmly thanked for his excellent presentation.

**15. Membership status:**

Croatia has now become a full member of EFOSA since the country joined the EU on 1st July 2013. Serbia was proposed as an affiliate member of EFOSA, having satisfied criteria for membership. This was endorsed by the GAM. Branislav Vidovic was warmly welcomed as the representative of EFOSA's newest affiliate member.

**10. Membership:**

Austria – Martin Brock reported that in Vienna the postgraduates now receive a three-year full-time training. This is a positive move and MB asked members of the Assembly did any countries undergo interim regulations prior to full specialisation recognition? MB also requested evidence from the literature which showed differences between treatment carried out by specialists and that carried out by general dental practitioners. BVV showed a short video clip of a Canadian

news programme which illustrated one patient who had undergone orthodontic treatment by her general dental practitioner and had ended up worse than when she started.

#### **11. NEBEOP:**

Stavros Kiliarides provided the GAM with a presentation and update on progress within NEBEOP. SK told delegates that NEBEOP continues to grow. Vienna has recently become a full member. The universities of Hanover, Ljubljana, Barcelona and Thessaloniki are now applying to join the process.

#### **16. Bolender award:**

It was agreed that we wanted to move ahead with this award and there was a discussion as to whether this could be in the form of an award or indeed a teaching grant. It was suggested that the award could be administered by the teachers' forum at the EOS as they would be best placed to judge the winner.

**ACTION: JO**

#### **12. NEBEOP/EFOSA joint working:**

Delegates were told of the joint meeting between NEBEOP representatives and the EFOSA council in Geneva in November 2013. There was significant progress made at this meeting and a deeper understanding of how perhaps the two organisations could work together. The agreement that we have made to develop a website for NEBEOP and fund this was discussed and BVV demonstrated the initial draft of the NEBEOP website. The delegates had no objections to the Council's initiatives.

#### **17. Election of new council members**

AK had indicated that he is stepping down as President, and also MO as EOS co-opted member. Jonathan Sandler presented the suggestions of the nomination committee. These are: JO to replace AK as President. BVV to remain for a further term as Vice President. CS to remain for a further term as treasurer. Kristin Heimisdottir (KH) to become secretary. Alain Vigie du Cayla to become webmaster. It was noted ES had a further two years to run as committee member. It was suggested that Beata Walawska and Ivo Marek should take over as auditors for two years. AK was suggested to replace Claude Bourdillat on the nomination committee. These suggestions were accepted by the delegates. AK was congratulated for his excellent period as President of EFOSA.

#### **18. 8<sup>th</sup> IOC London 2015**

Jonathan Sandler gave a beautiful presentation, in the form of a film, about the forthcoming WFO congress which will take place in London in September 2015.

#### **19. Any other business**

There was none.

**20. Date and Venue of next meeting:**

Next year's GAM will take place on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2015 at the Venice Lido in Italy. It will be preceded by the 'get together' party on evening of 13<sup>th</sup> June.

**21. Closure of Meeting:**

The meeting was closed at 16.00 hours.

## **Minutes of the 46<sup>th</sup> EFOSA General Assembly Meeting**

**09.00 June 14<sup>th</sup> 2015 Welles room, Palazzo del Casino, Lido di Venezia**

*Attendance Limited to National Delegates and Invited Guests*

### **Attendees:**

<b>Attendees:</b>	Julian O'Neill	President	JO
	Bart Vande Vannet	Vice-President	BVV
	Kristin Heimisdottir	Secretary	KH
	Arni Thordarson	EOS co-opted member	AT
	Alain Vigie du Cayla	Council member	AVdC
Silvia Silli	Austria	Herbert Gusenleiter	Austria
Andrej Pavlic	Croatia	Stjepan Spalj	Croatia
Stathis Efstathiou	Cyprus	Janne Grönhøj	Denmark
Reet Karelson	Estonia	Raija Kiuru-Skyttä	Finland
Raija Kiuru-Skyttä	Finland	Jarkko Vuoriluoto	Finland
Yves Trin	France	Sascha Milkerheit	Germany
Alexandros Kokkas	Greece	Konstantinos Paradissis	Greece
Owen Crotty	Ireland	Matteo Spigaroli	Italy
Carmine Chiusolo	Italy	Pasquale D'Amico	Italy
Odile Hutereau	Luxembourg	Geri Mazeland	Netherlands
Melissa Disse	Netherlands	Ewa Czychowska	Poland
Beata Walawska	Poland	Américo Ferraz	Portugal

Branislav Vidovic	Serbia	Gabriela Alexandrova	Slovakia
Irena Klímová	Slovakia	Luis Carlos Ojeda	Spain
Heidrun Kjellberg	Sweden	Barbara Jaeger	Switzerland
Otmar Kronenberg	Switzerland	Serdar Usumez	Turkey
Ilhan Ramoglu	Turkey	Alison Murray	UK
Jonathan Sandler	UK		

### **01. Opening and welcome from our host:**

The meeting opened at 9:10. A one minute silence was held in honour of the memory of Prof. Francesca Miotti.

### **02. Apologies for absence and introduction of delegates and guests:**

All delegates and guests introduced themselves. Owen Crotty from Ireland is concerned because of over-board contracts for health service. If there is a waiting list in their home country, a patient has the right to pursue treatment in another EU-country. This is well-known in the Netherlands, where patients are often treated in Belgium. It is also known, that German insurance companies are paying considerable amounts for health service treatment in Greece and Denmark. This might get complicated, if a public insured patient in one country receives treatment, performed in the private sector. Which fees should be paid for the treatment? Attached is a memo for further information.

Apologies were received from Malta, Latvia and Norway, Bulgaria was not represented.

### **03. Changes and amendments to the Agenda:**

Some changes would be deemed necessary later in the day due to speakers' commitments.

### **04. Reports from the Council:**

- **Report from the President**

The president has written letters of support for Spain and Austria, the only provisional members in EFOSA. Both countries are pursuing recognition of the specialty and have asked for support from EFOSA.

The meeting of the Platform for Oral Health last February concentrated on inequalities in dental care in different countries. They have produced a report of 36 pages, in which orthodontics is not mentioned at all. This is probably not relevant for us, but JO will follow up this work.

Future cooperation with EFP (European Federation of Periodontology) is being pursued. JO and KH met the outgoing President, Phoebus Madianos at the EuroPerio meeting beginning of June in London. A new president, Dr. Sören Jepsen, has recently been elected, and JO will contact him.

At the AAO meeting in San Francisco, JO BVV and CS had a meeting with Chris Vranas, Morris Poole and DeWayne McCamish (incoming president). This was an important meeting, giving a deeper understanding of how EFOSA is similar to AAO.

BVV commented that it might be possible for EFOSA to derive some funding from the European Union. BVV will check that, and JO will take care of communication, should there be any possibilities for funding of that kind.

Meeting with NEBEOP: Anne Marie Kuijpers-Jagtman (AMKJ), Stavros Kiliaridis (SK) and Pertti Pertimieni (PP) had a meeting with JO at the EOS-council meeting in London (Feb 2015). The Charles Bolender Award is aimed at supporting the NEBEOP project, i.e. by funding a lecturer for the Teachers' forum meeting at the EOS Congress. Some discussion about standardized examinations for the specialty in Europe was discussed and all agreed that movement in that direction would be good. The first steps would be a survey on national board examinations in Europe.

- 

#### **Report from the Secretary**

It has been difficult to find all the email addresses. However, with some effort, all members have been reached. Apologies for the GAM have been received from Norway, Malta and Latvia and there was no response from Bulgaria.

- 

#### **Report from the Treasurer**

The report was presented by JO in the absence of Christian Scherer: EFOSA holds approximately € 63.000.- As income and expenditures show a comfortable surplus, and continue to be balanced in the treasurer's forecast for 2015 – 2016, no changes in membership fees are necessary at this time.

### **05. Auditors' report and discharge of the Council regarding the responsibilities concerning the accounts of the past financial year (2014-2015):**

The auditors did not confirm this report, since Ivo Marek was unexpectedly absent and Beata Walawska did not receive the documents from the treasurer. The auditors will give their written statement to the council, as soon as they have received the files. If the auditors accept the accounting, the report and the accounts are considered accepted by the delegates.

### **06. Presentation on EOS meeting 2016, Stockholm:**

Professor Jan Huggare gave a presentation on next year's EOS-Congress, which will take place in Stockholm June 11-16<sup>th</sup> 2016.

#### **07. ESAS and potential developments:**

The programme is mostly used by orthodontists in the Netherlands. It is also used by post-graduate students at Jonkoping University in Sweden. There has been a request from Holland to make ESAS more user-friendly, but this will cost additional money. Since other countries are not using this, it is probably appropriate that the Netherlands will bear some of that cost. The representatives from Holland (GM and MD) agree on that. EFOSA will check on the problems that need to be solved and costs involved.

JO

#### **08. EFOSA projects:**

- **Radiation Guidelines**

There is an increasing use of CBCT, which is positive because of potentially lower radiation using restricted fields in contemporary machines. An update this autumn is expected and BVV will keep track and inform us.

**BVV**

- **EFOSA / AAO join working**

Welcome and Introduction of Drs Morris Poole, DeWayne McCamish and Chris Vranas, AAO representatives.

Dr. Poole addressed the problem in the USA of investors, hiring young orthodontists to work in their companies. Young orthodontists hesitate to establish their own business, partly because of high education fees and resulting debts; and partly because of more individuals working part-time. The trend is that female orthodontists work for corporate organizations and males establish their own business.

Dr. McCamish informed the meeting that 29% of AAO income pays for educating the public and developing consumer awareness programs. All members of AAO can use all material and logo provided.

**JO**

#### **09. Website:**

The development and possible upgrade cost estimate is 10.000 Euros. Since the EFOSA website is not a competitive website, it will probably only be needed to "freshen up" the existing site. A new logo would be positive to produce a more user-friendly environment.

#### **10. Private orthodontic courses in the EU:**

Private orthodontic courses are available i.e. at London BBP, Newcastle and Warwick as well in Spain and other European countries. These are not recognized for specialist training. However,

a lot of dentists are attending these courses and they represent themselves as certified specialists. It is important for all EFOSA members to be aware of the difference between these courses and an Erasmus Based orthodontic program. There seems to be a problem that the dental associations i.e. in Turkey and Austria support these courses.

#### **11. Charles Bolender EFOSA Award**

The Charles Bolender Award is aimed at supporting the NEBEOP project, i.e. by funding a lecturer for the Teachers' forum meeting at the EOS Congress. This will be funded by EFOSA.

#### **12. EFOSA and NEBEOP:**

Anne Marie Kuijpers-Jagtman, Stavros Kiliaridis and Pertti Pertimieni visited the GAM and SK presented progress with NEBEOP. 15 university programmes have already been fully accredited with 6 more to be accepted very soon and 56 Universities are participating in the programme, either as full members or provisional members. It is important to encourage all universities with orthodontic specialty programmes, which could fulfill the requirements, to apply. Some discussion about standardized examinations for the specialty in Europe took place and all agreed that movement in that direction would be good. The first steps would be a survey on national board examinations in Europe. Attached is the presentation from Prof. Kiliaridis.

#### **13. Presentation - 8<sup>th</sup> IOC London 2015**

**Jonathan Sandler**

#### **14. Any other Business:**

##### **Nomination committee:**

Ewa Czochrowska and Melisse Disse were proposed and Alexandros Kokkas continues as chairman for the Nomination committee for a further year. The meeting approved wholeheartedly.

##### **Get-together party and costs:**

It has been difficult to work with the PCO in Venice. Only very late, it was announced that SIDO would not sponsor the get-together party. SIDO, which is not a member of EFOSA, did offer to host the get-together guests within another dinner party, but this offer was made only a few days before the meeting. It was decided to keep to the original plan and that EFOSA would pay for the get-together this time. The budget was reduced as much as possible by CS.

#### **20. Date and Venue of Next Meeting:**

The EOS congress is 11-16<sup>th</sup> of June in Stockholm, Sweden. The get-together will be held on Saturday the 11<sup>th</sup> of June and GAM on Sunday the 12<sup>th</sup> of June.

#### **21. Closure of Meeting.**

