

**Minutes from the Meeting of the Scientific Council of the
European Society of Hypertension, Milan 8th March 2015**

Present:

A. Dominiczak, President
C.Tsioufis, Secretary
M. Burnier, Treasure
A. Coca, Officer at Large
J. Redon, Immediate Past- President

ESH Council members:

E. Agabiti-Rosei
G.Grassi
M.H.Olsen
R.Cifkova
M.Azizi
M.Caulfield
D.Clement
I.Chazova

Executive officers

G.Mancia,
G. Parati,

Apologies

R.E. Schmieder, Vice -President
B. Jelakovic
P. Van den Borne

1. President's Welcome

The meeting was opened by the ESH president, Anna Dominiczak who presented apologies on behalf of: R.E. Schmieder, B. Jelakovic and P. Van den Borne

2. Minutes of Prague ESH Scientific Council Meeting, October 2014

This document written by B.Jelakovic was distributed to all council members before the meeting by C.Tsioufis and the council accepted the minutes.

3. Treasurer's Report

M.Burnier stressed out the importance of continuing the efforts for income generation and saving money for the Society and in the next council meeting on June he will present full financial report for the Society and Foundation.

4. The ESH Foundation

G.Mancia discussed future strategy for the Foundation and its financial policy.

5. Future ESH Meetings

a.) G.Mancia expressed his thanks to the members of the program committee for the great job that they have done during the morning session reviewing all the program of the upcoming 2015 ESH Meeting in Milan. He reported that the congress will be held at the same time as the EXPO meeting. As it was discussed in previous Council meeting, this plan may open a new area for bringing new sponsors from food industry (for instance microbotics) and also may increase the visibility of our society. He confirmed that the ESH Booth would have a central position with enough space for hosting the ESH National Affiliated and Associated societies as well as Excellence Centres.

G.Mancia discussed how to reduce the expenses of the meeting, because of the current financial situation. The council decided the following: a) for invited speakers: to issue prepaid tickets according to their preferred flights but without the chance to change the flights and to continue to provide free of charge accommodation for 2 nights and b) for the young investigator grants: to continue to provide hotel accommodation free of charge for 150 investigators according to the highest score of their accepted abstract The issue of abstract publication on the J Hypertension website was discussed at length. Maddalena Massaro will open the negotiations with the Publisher,

if not successful, Anna Dominiczak will intervene. This should be followed by a firm decision by the Board of Management of the Journal that the abstracts will migrate to the ESH website.

b.) M.Azizi presented activities related to the 2016 ESH Paris Meeting. A.Dominiczak commented on the need to follow the established rules in the structure of organizing committees while the ESH council board officially and traditionally participates in this.

The other ESH Meetings are still far away, but some preliminary steps were taken (G.Mancia – Milan 2017; A.Coca – Barcelona 2018; a preliminary discussion with the ISH re: Glasgow 2020 will commence in June in Milan).

6. Current status on the relationship with the ESC-Brief report from RHC-TRENDS

Anna Dominiczak reported that now the situation is improved. She reported that for the first time ESC President F.Pinto will participate in our meeting.

Costas Tsioufis reported that the RHC TRENDS 2015 meeting was successful in terms of attendance, high level of scientific program and interaction. ESH was represented there by himself and 3 more ESH council members delivered talks or chaired sessions, increasing the visibility of our Society.

7. Current status on the joint statements with other societies (CIRSE, ERA-EDTA, ESC guidelines on cardiovascular prevention)

J.Redon and A.Coca updated the ESH Council that after the initial actions between ESH and CIRSE to produce a joint position paper on renal denervation, there are no news for the last few months. The same is true for the joint position paper with ERA-EDTA on the management of hypertension in haemodialysis patients.

J.Redon reported that the process of ESC guidelines on cardiovascular prevention is at the final stage.

G.Parati reported that a position paper on high altitude and cardiovascular disease will be produced in collaboration with other related societies

8. ESH PRESIDENTIAL –VICE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS/NEW COUNCIL

MEMBERS/REPRESENTATION AS AN EX-OFFICIO MEMBER OF THE CHAIRMAN OF ESC WORKING GROUP

The President of the Society, Anna Dominiczak, led a discussion on the election of the next ESH President. She reported that after personal discussion or exchanging e-mails with all voting members, they voted in favour of Enrico Agabiti Rosei as the new ESH president. All council members expressed their support for Enrico's election and wished him a successful and productive service for the Society. The Elected new president thanked the council members and promised to work for further improving the status of the Society.

Anna Dominiczak informed the council that the process for nomination and election of 2 new candidates instead of P.Nilsson (who is already stepped down) and R.Schmieder (who will step down next June) has been completed and accordingly they will be replaced by Thomas Kahan (from Sweden) and Reinhold Kreutz (from Germany), respectively. Because of new commitments in UK M.Caulfield will also complete his work for the Council and Bryan Williams will take on this role in June 2015

G.Mancia reported that after the dissolution of the ESC WG on Hypertension and the Heart, we should no longer have the representative on the ESH council. Accordingly, a voting process would be initiated by the secretary of the society to remove this specific paragraph of the byelaws in order to be approved by the General Assembly on the ESH 2015 annual meeting.

9. Working groups - update

G. Parati informed the Council that the situation with WG is unchanged - some are very active, and the other almost without any initiative. In this setting the Council decided that the Chairmen of WG with a long period of service (ie the chairman of the ESH WG on Kidney) should be replaced and G.Parati on behalf of the council will promote the change/nomination of a new chairperson.

10. ESH Affiliation and Association Programme

E. Agabiti Rosei reported that on the future ESH Meetings the Affiliation Societies and Excellence Centres will have one, common business meeting. This should improve collaboration between different countries. E.Agabiti Rosei also reported on the ESH research project "Management of patients with high blood pressure and atrial fibrillation"

11. ESH Educational activities

Renata Cifkova reported that next Summer School will be organised in 2015 Herrnstein Castle, near Vienna, Austria (Course Director: B. Watschinger), in 2016 in Sirmione, Italy (Course Director: E. Agabiti-Rosei), in 2017 in Romania, (Course Director: M.Dorobantu) and the Council

approved the proposals that that the next Summer School will be organized in 2018 in Zurich (Course Director: M.Burnier) and in 2019 in Greece (Course Director: C.Tsioufis).

A. Dominiczak informed the council that the two ESH Educational activities (Summer School and Educational activities meeting) will continue to be organized by Renata Cifkova, who from June will act on behalf of the ESH Foundation (as she will step down from the Council). This year the ESH Educational meeting will take place just after the ESH annual meeting on 16-17th June 2015, near Brescia, Italy.

12. ESH Hypertension Specialist Programme

Costas Tsioufis on behalf of M.Azizi reported that in the new ESH web platform all previous proposals for improving the re-accreditation process will be incorporated

13. ESH Scientific letters

C.Tsioufis on behalf of P.Van de Borne reported that the 2 newsletters will be ready for delivery at the ESH June meeting: One on <<Mediterranean diet, hypertension and cardiovascular protection>> is completed while the other one on <<salt and hypertension >> is in preparation.

14. ESH Endorsements

C.Tsioufis on behalf of P.Van de Borne informed on the following endorsements:

a. International Symposium on: Management of Cardiometabolic Risk and Healthy Aging, Brescia (Italy), January 15th – 17th, 2015 , Prof. Enrico Agabiti Rosei

b. 9th International Meeting on Hypertension and Cardiovascular Risk, Portuguese Society of Hypertension, Vilamoura, Algarve, February 26th - March 1st 2015, Prof. Fernando Pinto

c. Master Class on Microcirculation, April 29-30, 2015; Sheraton Hotel, Rhodes; A. Manolis, E. Agabiti Rosei, K. Tsioufis

d. Algerian congress on Hypertension, Sheraton Hotel in Alger, Octobre 24-25, 2015. Organizer: Pr. Ahcène Chibane

e. Educational project: Experience, Barcelona. Organizer: A.Coca.

f. Book on ‘Preclinical Organ damage’, by E.Agabiti –Rosei and G.Mancia

g. Book on 'HIGHCARE PROJECTS' by G.Parati et al

h. Book on 'Early vascular aging' by P.Nilson, M.Olsen and S.Laurent

M.Burnier mentioned again the fees to ESH when the organizing committee of an educational activity applies for ESH endorsement and the council decided the amount of 5000 euros.

15. ESH web portal

Anna Dominiczak and Costas Tsioufis reported on the need to encourage Infromedica to speed up creation of the new ESH web platform. The fee is cut down for 50%, importantly without losing any relevant activities.

16. ESH APP FOR SMARTPHONES, MASTER STUDY,

G.Parati commented on a "special" ESH - APP for smartphones to better educate hypertensive patients, to stimulate their compliance with treatment and to collect data on their hypertension control in an easy and up-to-date manner. The legal issues are currently being reviewed by the lawyer. Also, the council approved his proposal for the MASTER study.

17. ESH Centres of Excellence

Costas Tsioufis on behalf of B.Jelakovic reported that there are two new applications (one from Athens by C.Grassos and the second from Frankfurt by H.Sievert) that fulfil the ESH criteria and the Council approved these applications.

18. Dates for the future ESH Scientific Council Meetings

Anna Dominiczak announced that meeting will be held at 8am on June 12, 2015 in Milan while our October meeting could be conducted via a teleconference combined with Skype (date will be determined by a doodle poll and Maddalena Massaro agreed to organise this). The March meeting will be face to face and combined with the Paris programme committee.

19. News from EU-UEMS

The EU-UEMS discussions continue as before.

20. Any other business and Closure

Anna Dominiczak reported that the ESH Council members have been invited to attend the international Med-e-Tel conference in Luxembourg. Enrico Agabiti – Rosei reported that the Book on ‘Preclinical organ damage’ will be ready for the ESH Meeting in Milan.

At the end Anna Dominiczak thanked all participants of the Council Meeting.

Costas Tsioufis

ESH Secretary