

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Scientific Council of the
European Society of Hypertension, Milan 12th June 2015**

Present:

A. Dominiczak, President
C. Tsioufis, Secretary
M. Burnier, Treasurer
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
B. Jelakovic
P. Van den Borne
D. Clement
I. Chazova
T. Kahan
B. Williams
R. Kreutz

Executive officers

G. Mancia
G. Parati

Apologies

R.E. Schmieder, Vice -President
M. Caulfield

1. President's Welcome

The meeting was opened by the ESH president, Anna Dominiczak who conveyed the apologies of: R.E. Schmieder and M. Caulfield

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

This document was distributed to all council members before the meeting, by the ESH Secretary C.Tsioufis and the council unanimously accepted the minutes.

3. Treasurer's Report

The treasurer, M.Burnier presented the 2014 financial results of the ESH and of the Foundation of ESH. The results showing a decrease in both the income and expenditure were discussed and accepted by the Council. The members are informed that these figures are being audited.

The members of the council accept that an amount of 200,000 CHF be transferred from the ESH account to the Foundation.”

4. The ESH Foundation

G. Mancia discussed the future strategy for the Foundation and its financial policy. J. Redon proposed that a possible solution could be applied to a special group responsible for organizing activities for the Foundation that would be paid according to the results.

5. Future ESH Meetings

a.) G. Mancia and M. Massaro presented an overview of the upcoming ESH Meeting until 12th June 2015: 3404 registrations, 69% participants from Europe, 1827 total abstracts received, 2 satellite and 11 mini-satellite symposia, 3 educational sessions and 3 how to sessions, funded by unrestricted educational grant.

G. Mancia and A. Dominiczak discussed about the issue of the new EBAC rules. Accordingly, "normal" sessions running in parallel with sponsored sessions will not be awarded CME points. The EBAC Advisory and Reviewing Committees have decided that satellites running in parallel with the scientific programme will render those parts of the scientific programme non-accreditable which run in parallel to the satellites.

That means that there are two possibilities; either to completely change the form of the programme

of the future ESH meetings or to accept limited number of credits. Additionally, according to the EBAC rules the final program should be completed at least 90 days before the dates of the meeting. The council discussed about the potential solutions: ESH to provide its own credits, or to apply outside ESC for credits. M. Massaro informed the council that last year 500 participants applied for their certification

G.Mancia and other Council members discussed on how to increase the income and reduce the expenses of the meeting, because of the current financial situation. A new contract with ISH for the next joint meetings seems to be necessary.

b.) M. Azizi presented activities related to the 2016 ESH Paris Meeting.

The future ESH Meetings are still far away, but some preliminary steps were taken (G.Mancia – Milan 2017; A. Coca – Barcelona 2018; etc.).

6. Current status on the relationship with the ESC-

Anna Dominiczak reported that she made efforts to develop a friendly relationship and that now the situation is improved. In that framework, for the first time, the ESC President F. Pinto will participate in our meeting as co chairman and speaker in the ESH/ESC joint session as well as in the ESC London meeting. B. Williams confirmed that there is a better atmosphere between the two societies and that there are more opportunities for a better collaboration.

7. a) Welcome for new Council members and thank you to Council members who completed their term in office

The President of the Society, Anna Dominiczak, warmly thanked the past president, Prof. J. Redon, the vice-president, Prof R. Schmieder, and the council members Professors M. Olsen, R. Cifkova and M. Caufield who stepped down, for their valuable, successful and productive service to the Society. During the ESH General Assembly, they will be awarded a diploma. Anna Dominiczak informed the council that in order to bridge the gap between the new and the old ESH council members, according to the previous process of nomination, 3 new members will be included in the Council and the other positions will be filled in the next year. Accordingly, she welcomed Thomas Kahan (from Sweden), Reinhold Kreutz (from Germany) and Bryan Williams (from the UK) whose nominations would be confirmed at the ESH General Assembly.

b) New ESH Office Bearers

The newly elected ESH president, Enrico Agabiti Rosei thanked again the Council members and promised to work in order to further improve the status of the Society. He proposed the following structure of the ESH Council for the 2015-2017 period.

ESH COUNCIL 2015 – 2017

E. Agabiti-Rosei (Italy)

President

M. Azizi (France)

Vice-President

ESH Hypertension Specialist Programme

K. Tsioufis (Greece)

Secretary

M. Burnier (Switzerland)

Treasurer

B. Jelakovic (Croatia)

Officer-at-large

ESH Excellence Centers Programme

A.F. Dominiczak (U.K.)

Immediate Past President

MEMBERS

P. Van de Borne (Belgium)

T. Kahan (Sweden)

R. Kreutz (Germany)

B. Williams (U.K.)

G. Grassi (Italy)

Ex-officio ISH representative

I. Chazova (Russia)

Ex-officio representative of the Presidents of

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

G. Mancia (Italy)

Chair, ESH Educational Committee,

ESH Foundation

G. Parati (Italy)

Coordinator Working Group Activities

D. Clement (Belgium)

ESH Representative for contacts with the EU

Officers

A. Coca

ESH Latin American Affiliation Programme

ESH Affiliated Societies

All council members unanimously accepted this proposal.

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

A. Dominiczak proposed to contact Prof. Moss from the CIRSE since, after the initial actions between ESH and CIRSE to produce a joint position paper on renal denervation, there are no news in 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. Mancia discussed the possibility of the reappraisal of ESH guidelines and called the members to propose topics for that. Interesting ideas for position papers were proposed (the issue of adherence, the implementation of guidelines etc.) but more discussion will take place during the educational meeting on next week.

9. Working groups – update/replacement of chairmen

G. Parati informed the Council that the situation with WG is unchanged - some are very active, and others take almost no initiatives. In this setting, he informed the Council that the Chairman of the ESH WG on Kidney will be replaced according to the rules of the nomination/election of a new chairperson.

10. ESH Affiliation and Association Programme

E. Agabiti Rosei reported that during the ESH Meetings with the presidents of National Affiliated Societies, the improvement of collaboration between different countries would be discussed. E. Agabiti Rosei also briefly referred to 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) with 55 participants from 31 countries.

In 2016 the Summer School will be organised in Sirmione, Italy (Course Director: E. Agabiti-Rosei), in 2017 in Romania, (Course Director: M.Dorobantu) in 2018 in Zurich (Course Director: M.Burnier) and in 2019 in Greece (Course Director: C.Tsioufis). It was proposed that a report from the summer school would be published in the Journal of Hypertension. More issues will be discussed during the ESH Educational meeting on 16-17th June 2015, near Brescia, Italy.

12. ESH Hypertension Specialist Programme

M. Azizi reported that now in the new ESH web platform the reaccreditation process has been improved.

13. Omron academy for ESH endorsement. ESH APP

G. Parati referred to the advantages of the ESH APP for Smartphones, EUROHYPERTENSION: Know and Control your Blood Pressure. The purpose of this app is 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.

14. Commission on hypertension for Lancet

There was a general support for this new initiative with some comments/concerns regarding the process.

15. ESH Scientific Letters

P. Van de Borne reported that 1 newsletter, “Mediterranean diet, hypertension and cardiovascular protection” is ready for delivery at the ESH June meeting. Concerning the newsletter entitled “Salt and hypertension” it would be better to change its title into “Controversies in the relationship between hypertension and salt” in order for a representative of the society to present a different opinion on that crucial issue.

16. ESH Endorsements

P. Van de Borne informed on the endorsement of the 4th international conference on Prehypertension, Hypertension and Cardiometabolic syndrome, 3-6 March 2016, Venice.

A discussion was once more held, concerning the need for paying 2000 euro as fees to ESH when the organizing committee of an educational activity applies for ESH endorsement. C. Tsioufis reported that the 2nd pre ESH meeting satellite symposium (Athens 27-28 March 2015) was well attended (more than 320 participants), while 7 ESH council members were participated. Similarly,

B. Jelacovic reported that his own pre-ESH satellite symposium (Zagreb, 9th June, 2015) was very successful in terms of attendance and scientific level.

17. ESH web portal

R. Lynch on behalf of Infomedica presented very briefly the newly released web platform and A. Dominiczak thanked her for the great job. Costas Tsioufis presented the new ESH members: 104 new ESH members from 45 countries worldwide: **87** from 34 European countries and **17** from 11 non-European countries.

18. ESH Centres of Excellence

B. Jelacovic referred to the 10th anniversary of the ESH Excellence Centers programme that accounts 171 centres in total. There are 3 recently approved Excellence Centres

- 1) Hypertension Clinic KAT General Hospital, Athens
- 2) Centro Studi Ipertensione e Malattie Vascolari, Istituto Clinico
Universitario, Verano Brianza
- 3) Cardiovascular Centre, Frankfurt

19. Dates of the future ESH Scientific Council Meetings

Anna Dominiczak announced that the meeting of October 19, 2015 will be held in Zurich and the March meeting will be combined with the Paris programme committee.

20. Any other business and Closure

Anna Dominiczak thanked all participants of the Council Meeting.

Costas Tsioufis
ESH Secretary