

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Scientific Council of the  
European Society of Hypertension, Paris 27th February, 2016**

**Present:**

E. Agabiti-Rosei, President  
M. Azizi, Vice President  
C. Tsioufis, Secretary  
M. Burnier, Treasurer  
B. Jelakovic, Officer at Large  
A. Dominiczak, Immediate Past- President

**ESH Council members:**

P. van de Borne  
T. Kahan  
R. Kreutz  
B. Williams  
G. Grassi  
I. Chazova

**Executive officers**

G. Mancia  
D. Clement  
A. Coca

**Apologies**

G. Parati

**1. President's Welcome**

The meeting was opened by the ESH president E. Agabiti-Rosei, who conveyed the apologies of G. Parati.

**2. Minutes of Munich Scientific Council Meeting, October 19, 2015**

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**

M. Burnier presented to the ESH Council the financial results of the ESH as per 31.12.2015. According to the financial data for that period, the total assets of the ESH amount to 1.484.659.16 CHF (decreased compared to 2014). The total income of ESH is 1.601.905.51 CHF while the total expenditure reached 1.722.007.16 CHF. The net assets at the beginning of the period were 1.581.324.11 CHF and at the end of the period 1.461.222.46 CHF. M. Burnier proposed that minimum profit of 150.000 euros is needed in order ESH to be financially stable.

**4. ESH Foundation**

M. Burnier presented the financial data for the ESH Foundation as per 31.12.2015. The total assets have increased in 2015, reaching 577.164.35, compared to 2014. The total income of FESH is at 254.206.15 CHF and the total expenditures reach 105.307.18 CHF. The council members decided to pay the participation fee to the ISH. Moreover the council discussed

about possible ways to increase ESH/FESH income and possible negotiations with the Journal of Hypertension in order to change the status of posting abstracts online. Finally, in order to avoid the payment of VAT, the council decided that the sponsorships should be paid directly to the FESH, instead of the ESH.

## **5. Future ESH Meetings**

### **a) 2016 ESH Meeting, Paris**

Maddalena Massaro from Aim Group presented a brief review of the ESH annual meeting that will be held in Paris, on June 10-13 as well as the 12 mini symposia by different pharmaceutical companies that will take place during the meeting. She also presented the financial data for the 2016 ESH meeting in comparison to the 2015 ESH meeting and since the budget is currently showing a negative balance the council discussed about possible ways to reduce expenses, such as: EBAC credits will not be requested and therefore not provided to delegates; transportation tickets will be no longer provided. For the rest of expense, M. Massaro will try to save money as much as possible. Apart from reductions on the expenses, M. Massaro underlined the need to increase also incomes, not only to secure a positive balance of the meeting but also to strengthen the reputation of the Society and the congress itself and encourage Sponsors to support the meeting in the future editions.

All possible efforts are therefore requested to all Council Members to get additional sponsorships and delegates

### **b) 2017 ESH Meeting, Milan**

The council decided that 2017 ESH meeting will be held again in Milan.

### **c) 2018 ESH Meeting, Barcelona**

The council decided that 2018 ESH meeting will be held in Barcelona.

### **d) 2019 ESH Meeting, Milan**

The council will decide whether the 2018 ESH meeting will be held in Rome.

### **e) 2020 ESH/ISH Meeting, Glasgow**

A. Dominiczak suggested the ESH/ISH meeting to be held earlier than usual, in late May 2016, in order not to coincide with the European football championship.

## **6. ESH Educational Activities**

### **a) Current Status On The Relationship With ESC (Joint Sessions, Document With EACVI - ESC)**

E. Agabiti-Rosei informed the council that the joint ESH/EACVI/ESC position paper entitled "Noninvasive cardiovascular imaging for evaluating subclinical organ damage in hypertensive patients: evidences, limitations and perspectives" has been completed and it is ready for submission. The council discussed about the topics and the speakers during the ESH-ESC joint sessions in Paris and Rome.

### **b) Circe (Joint Statement Circe-ESH on RDN)**

C. Tsioufis informed the council that the statement is in the process of the final editing in order to be submitted for publication in the official journals of the 2 societies.

### **c) Anticoagulation Education Task Force**

C. Tsioufis mentioned that the White Paper that was compiled on October was sent to all task force members for review. He mentioned the request from the Anticoagulation Task Force regarding the use of the ESH logo in the body of the text and he informed the council that the target is the publication of the text in “Thrombosis and Haemostasis” peer reviewed journal.

**d) Endorsement By ESH : ESC Guidelines For CV Disease Prevention In Clinical Practice**

E. Agabiti-Rosei and J. Rendon informed the council that the ESH has approved the final version of the 2016 guidelines. They mentioned that ESC has proposed EHJ publisher, Oxford University Press (OUP). After the final edit and approval for publication the ESC publisher will send them to the joint societies' journals for publication. Publication can be simultaneously or separately if the ESH wishes so. J. Rendon reported that the guidelines will be presented during the EuroPrevent Congress, in Istanbul, on May 5-7, 2016 and that they should be discussed during the ESH meeting in Paris.

**e) ESH Documents/Statements Reappraisal of Guidelines**

G. Mancia supported that the ESH should proceed with the reappraisal of the guidelines, particularly after the SPRINT trial. The council proposed possible topics that can be discussed. G. Mancia will collect and summarize these topics that will be sent to the ESH council members in order the procedure begins.

**f) Educational Projects with Hypertension Society of India, UACME, CHL**

C. Tsioufis referred to his discussion with the representative of the UACME (Universal Academy of Continued Medical Education) concerning a possible collaboration for joint educational programs for doctors in India (workshop on Measurement of CAP & its Clinical Implication in India and other important issues on hypertension).

He also talked about collaboration between Centrix healthcare company and ESH, for joint programs on HTN in Europe and India and informed the council that Centrix CEO has asked the ESH membership to be offered to the visiting delegates at discount rates.

E. Agabiti-Rosei mentioned that the discussions concerning the collaboration between the Chinese Hypertension League are progressing. He proposed some actions that can be taken including joint sessions and statements, summer school, ESH guidelines and documents introduction in China etc.

**g) Master Courses**

E. Agabiti-Rosei presented the master courses for 2016-2017:

1. ESH Practical Intensive Course on Hypertension and CV risk (Gedeon Richter)-May 20-21, St Petersburg
2. ESH Educational Master Course (Menarini), Sept 30-Oct 1, Marrakech
3. ESH Educational Master Course (Menarini) Oct 14-15, Cairo
4. Master Course on Hypertension and diabetes fields (SERVIER) Oct 2016, Gulf counties
5. Master Course on Hypertension and diabetes fields (SERVIER) March 2017, Gulf counties
6. Master Course “Caucasian Project” (Servier), Caucasian Countries

**h) Omron Academy Project**

A. Dominiczak and C. Tsioufis informed the council about the Omron Academy Project. After a long discussion, the scientific council decided the following:

1. Where there are no differences of opinion between the BSH and the ESH (majority of slides) – two logos could be used
2. The minority of slides regarding guidelines cannot be agreed and it is contradictory to put both positions on the same slide. In these few cases the ESH wishes to use only its position and logo.
3. The council agreed that the slides should be made in a more professional way and that the final version should be approved before distribution.

**i) Contract with Springer Verlag**

E. Agabiti-Rosei and G. Mancia informed the council that the contract with Springer Verlag is progressing. The volumes presented for 2016 are the following:

1. Disorders of Blood Pressure Regulation (Volume editors: A.E. Berbari, G. Mancia)
2. Hypertension and the Brain (Volume editors: A. Coca and ESH WG)
3. Interventional therapies for essential and secondary hypertension (Volume editors: C. Tsioufis, R. Schmieder and G. Mancia)

**j) Summer School in Sirmione**

E. Agabiti-Rosei presented to the ESH council the financial data of the Summer School programme in Sirmione, Italy that will be held on September 3-9, 2016.

**k) Summer School in Latin America and Africa**

A. Coca informed the council members that the preparations for the ESH summer school in Latin America and Africa have been completed. Concerning the Summer School in Africa, E. Agabiti-Rosei suggested that the ESH pays a fee for 2 speakers, one of whom is A. Coca and the second will be soon decided.

## **7. Research Projects**

**a) APPLICATION TO EU PROJECTS**

J. Rendon presented the COST project, the longest-running European programme that supports trans-national cooperation among researchers, engineers and scholars across Europe.

**b) ATRIAL FIBRILLATION PROJECT**

E. Agabiti-Rosei presented a table with the countries participating in the project. Belgium, Denmark, Estonia, France, Great Britain, Serbia, Ukraine, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Germany, Bulgaria, Armenia, Bahrain, Croatia, Slovenia, Slovakia, China and Lebanon have given a positive answer. Greece, Italy, Poland, Spain, Lithuania and Romania are still in a preliminary level and Switzerland, Sweden and Ireland have expressed their interest in participating.

**c) URIC ACID AND CV RISK PROJECT**

Surveys concerning the uric acid will be included in 2016 meeting in Barcelona.

**d) BP CONTROLS IN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES**

The council members discussed whether the ESH excellence centers could run this project.

**e) ARTEMIS/ESH App**

E. Agabiti-Rosei and C. Tsioufis, on behalf of G. Parati, presented some projects and activities that have been developed based on the ESH App. G. Parati proposed a workshop during the ESH annual meeting showing the results of APP use.

**f) BIOMED ALLIANCE (BRIEF REPORT)**

D. Clement presented a brief report about the BIOMED Alliance. The council also thanked D. Clement for the representation of ESH in various activities, such as the World Diabetes Day.

**8. Nomination for New Council Members**

E. Agabiti-Rosei and C. Tsioufis informed the council concerning the nomination of two new council members: Emma Lourbe from Spain and Murielle Bochud, from Switzerland have been proposed and will be elected during the general assembly meeting in Paris. Concerning the election of the new representative of the presidents of the ESH national affiliated societies, C. Tsioufis proposed that a letter should be sent to all candidates (presidents of the ESH national affiliated societies that are not represented in the ESH scientific council) and that those interested should reply until April 20, 2016. The council decided the election to be held electronically in order the result to be announced in Paris meeting.

**9. ESH Web Portal**

C. Tsioufis mentioned that the list with the annual meetings of the ESH national societies for 2016 is posted on the ESH website and that the ESH Fellowship Programme has been removed from the ESH website after a request of A. Dominiczak.

He also presented the statistics of the ESC website for 2015- 2016 provided by Infomedica. According to the statistics, in 2015 the number of visitors and page views was increased during June and July. In 2016, the number of visitors and page views was increased in January and slightly decreased in February.

E. Agabiti-Rosei referred to possible ways for the amelioration of the ESH website. The council decided that every two months, one council member will prepare a newsletter that will be sent to the ESH community. C. Tsioufis will undertake this task for March-April.

**10. Working Groups-Brief Update**

E. Agabiti-Rosei and C. Tsioufis briefly presented the ESH Working Groups on behalf of G. Parati.

**11. ESH Affiliation and Association Programme**

E. Agabiti-Rosei informed the council that the ESH Affiliation and Association Programme is progressing successfully.

**12. European Hypertension Specialist Programme**

M. Azizi informed the council that the European Hypertension Specialist Programme is progressing successfully.

**13. ESH Scientific Newsletters**

P. Van de Borne presented the following newsletters:

1. "Update on Treatment of Hypertension in Patients with COPD," by Csaba Farsang, Krzysztof Narkiewicz and colleagues,
2. "Update on Treatment of High Blood Pressure in the Elderly", by Sverre Kjeldsen and colleagues
3. "Hypertension and Ischemic stroke" by Dagmara Hering and colleagues on behalf of the WG on HT and Brain.

#### **14. ESH Endorsements**

P. Van de Borne informed the council on the endorsement of the following meetings for 2015-2016:

1. 2<sup>nd</sup> Gulf Hypertension Conference, on Jan. 27-28, 2016, in Dubai
2. Cardiology-Innovations Toward the future, on March 26-27 2015, in Bangkok Thailand.
3. Diastole Diseased DD-2016, on March 3-5, 2016, in Pisa, Italy
4. ESH Practical Intensive Course on Hypertension and Cardiovascular Risk, on October 30-31, 2015 in Almaty, Kazakhstan

#### **15. ESH Centers of Excellence**

B. Jelakovic presented a brief report on the ESH excellence centers programme. He presented that the following 13 new excellence centers have completed the application form and comply with the ESH criteria:

1. Centro per la diagnosi e cura dell'Ipertensione Arteriosa IRCCS AOU San Martino (Italy)
2. Hypertension Unit, Department of Internal Medicine, University Hospital of Heraklion (Greece)
3. Cardiology Dpt. of Heraklion University Hospital (Greece)
4. Hypertension Clinic, Nephrology Department, Reina Sofia University Hospital (Spain)
5. University Hospital "St. Anna" Sofia (Bulgaria)
6. Dobney Hypertension Centre (Australia)
7. Hypertension Center, University Hospital Bern (Switzerland)
8. Hypertension Unit-Hospital del Mar (Spain)
9. Centro Ipertensione Arteriosa - Ospedale di Assisi (Italy)
10. Ambulatorio Ipertensione, Ospedale Niguarda, Dip De Gasperis e Università di Milano Bicocca (Italy)
11. Medicina Generale Indirizzata alla Malattia Ipertensiva, AOUI Verona (Italy)
12. Hypertension Center, Terni University Hospital (Italy)
13. Centar za Hipertenziju (Bosnia & Herzegovina).

The following centers have not yet completed the application form:

1. Hypertension Unit-Ziv Medical Center (Israel)
2. Centre d'hypertension artérielle (France).

B. Jelakovic also presented the excellence centers reaccredited in 2016.

**16. Dates and Venues for the Future ESH Scientific Council Meeting**

The council decided the next ESH council meeting to be held in Paris, on Friday, June 10, 2016 while the date for the October council meeting will be soon decided.

**17. Any other Business and Closure**

E. Agabiti-Rosei thanked all the ESH scientific council members who participated in the meeting.