

## Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the EANS

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2016 – Athens

**Those present:** Ridvan Alimehmeti (Albania), Khaled Alok (Lebanon), Vladimir Benes (Czech Republic), Ciaran Bolger (UK), Alexander Brawanski (Germany), Jannick Brennum (Denmark), Sukru Caglar (Turkey), Aleksandar Caparoski (Macedonia), Paolo Cappabianca (Italy), Hans Clusmann (Germany), Philippe Cornu (France), Alberto Delitala (Italy), Andreas Demetriades (UK), Alshail Essam (Saudi Arabia), Kristin Lilja Eyglóardóttir (Sweden), Zeev Feldman (Israel), Venko Filipce (Macedonia), Ioan Stefan Florian (Romania), Ioannis Fouyas (UK), Nicolas Foroglou (Greece), Andre Grotenhuis (Netherlands), Andreas Gruber (Austria), Danica Grujicic (Serbia), Peter Hutchinson (UK), Marianne Juhler (Denmark), Ekkehard Kasper (USA), Richard Kerr (UK), Cumhuri Kilincer (Turkey), Nikolay Konovalov (Russia), Paivi Koroknay-Pal (Finland), Mikhail Kurzhupov (Russia), Christos Kyriakides (Cyprus), Aki Laakso (Finland), Martin Ruben Laez (Spain), Jesus Lafuente (Spain), Lion Levi (Israel), Karel Maca (Czech Republic), Marek Mandera (Poland), Marin Marinov (Bulgaria), Luciano Mastronardi (Italy), Nektarios Mazarakis (UK), Mihajlo Milicevic (UK), Ararat Minasyan (Germany), Wouter Moojen (Netherlands), David Netuka (Czech Republic), Ibrahim Omerhodzic (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Varnavas Papanastassiou (Cyprus), Themistoklis Papasilekas (Greece), Wilco Peul (Netherlands), Arseniy Pichugin (Russia), Ion Poata (Romania), Andreas Raabe (Switzerland), Lukas Rasulic (Serbia), Bernardo Ratilal (Portugal), Saulius Rocka (Lithuania), Nicolas Sampron (Spain), Ali Savas (Turkey), Karl Schaller (Switzerland), David Schul (Germany), Martin Smrcka (Czech Republic), Angelica Sorteberg (Norway), Bruno Splavski (Croatia), Ulrich Sure (Germany), Nikolaos Syrmos (Greece), Enrico Tessitore (Switzerland), Magnus Tisell (Sweden), Tanju Ucar (Turkey), Peter Vajkoczy (Germany), Egils Valeinis (Latvia), Johan Van Loon (Belgium), Carlos Vara Luiz (Portugal), Nikolay Velinov (Bulgaria), Konstantinos Vlachos (Greece), Miroslav Vukic (Croatia), Petar Vulekovic (Serbia), Daniel Walsh (UK), Artur Xhumari (Albania), Igor Vasilievich Yakovenko (Russia), Ioannis Yiannakis (Cyprus)

Susie Hide (SH) and Lucinda Foster

**Apologies:** Florian Ringel and Radek Fric

Andre Grotenhuis (AG) welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for coming.

### **President's News report (AG)**

- AG thanked the local team led by Panagiotis Selviaridis for their commitment and said that he was looking forward to a great event both scientifically and socially.
- It was expected that up to 1800 participants would register for the congress. As there is now very little difference in the number of participants attending annual meetings and congresses, it has been decided to dispense with the distinction between the two; future events will be known simply as EANS2017, EANS2018 etc.
- The financial balance remains steady, with turnover having increased significantly.
- The number of individual members has increased to over 1500. This entitles the Individual Members to 40 votes in all at the AGM, so next year there will be an extra 20 individual members' delegate votes at the AGM. Similar associations have seen a fall in their membership numbers so we are pleased with the development in this area.
- A third cycle of training courses will start in May 2017. This initiative is intended to allow a higher proportion of residents throughout Europe to benefit from the courses; an additional 180 places will be available in 2017.
- There has been an increase in the number of continental associations and societies requesting that the EANS become their congress partner. The Board will continue to consider these on an individual basis.
- EANS Individual Members now benefit from registration discounts at an increasingly large number of third party events.

## **Financial Report**

The Treasurer, Jannick Brennum (JB), reiterated the fact that the overall financial position was stable, whilst turnover was growing and went through a copy of the financial report (a copy of which is attached).

## **Amendments to the constitution**

Details of the amendments had been circulated prior to the meeting. Susie Hide (SH) said that there was nothing particularly substantive about any of the changes, which primarily reflected the concern of Necmettin Pamir (board member in charge of Audit and Governance) that there should be a clear distinction between the roles of officers (President, President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer and Past President of the Board) and those of the other members of the board. Reference to affiliate societies is also now included

There were no objections to any of the amendments, which were accepted by unanimous vote.

## **Applications for membership**

An application had been received from the Oxford UK Neurological Society to be an affiliate EANS member. As there were some concerns about whether the society was a scientific association, it was agreed that Richard Kerr would look into this further and then report back, notwithstanding the fact that a copy of their constitution and list of members had already been supplied to the EANS office

## **Suspension of unpaid national societies**

The constitution allows the AGM to suspend any national society which does not pay its annual subscription for two consecutive years. Until very recently, there had been four national societies with historical debts of two years plus; however two of these have now paid up fully and the Ukrainian national society is doing all it can to fulfil their obligation.

The President of the Kosovan national society had only recently contacted SH after a long silence, to indicate that he would like to discuss this with her during the congress. He had not, however, been able to attend the AGM. After some discussion about the best way forward it was agreed that a vote would be held.

Vote – It was agreed that unless the Kosovan national society was in touch with a payment proposal during the Athens congress, it would be suspended. 3 abstentions; 2 nos; all others present agreed.

NB: The Kosovan national society subsequently paid its outstanding dues in full during the congress

## **Introduction of Paediatric Section**

The Board had recommended the establishment of a Paediatric Section subject to the ratification of the AGM. There were no objections and Prof Marianne Juhler was appointed as interim Chair pending the formal election process during EANS2017.

## **Research Developments**

Following discussions with a fund-raising consultant, the Board had agreed that a Research Foundation should be established, primarily with a view to endowing one or more twelve month research fellowships for young neurosurgeons. It was hoped that this could be launched in 2018 and AG requested delegates' proposals as to how this could be taken forward. PJAH and the office team would liaise further with the consultant to identify funding opportunities and to put an action plan in place.

## **Presentation of Bids for 2019 and election of host venue**

A copy of the bid evaluation carried out by AIM (EANS' core professional congress organiser) had been circulated before the meeting. SH said that it was difficult completely to compare like for like but confirmed that all costs were reasonable with the bid from Belgrade being significantly more cost effective.

Presentations were then given by representatives from Belgrade, Dublin and Gothenburg.

The votes were as follows:

Belgrade – 32

Dublin – 36

Gothenburg – 12

AG congratulated Dublin for being the chosen venue for the EANS2019 congress.

## **Any Other Business**

In order that the EANS' legal advisers in Belgium can register amendments to the constitution with the relevant authorities, a formal proxy is required.

The following resolution was carried unanimously:

“The general meeting hereby authorizes NV Titeca Accountancy Gent, with registered seat in Belgium, 9051 Gent, Kortrijksesteenweg 1142 and with company number(Gent section Gent) 0644.798.194 to fulfill all necessary formalities and sign all necessary documents, relating to the decisions made by the general meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2016, as mentioned in these minutes of meeting.”

**Date of next meeting:** Meeting to be held during EANS2017 in Venice in October 2017.

AG thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting at 1540.