



## **Minutes of the General Meeting August 4<sup>th</sup> 2006, Maastricht, The Netherlands**

Members present: Maria Arvio (treasurer), Monica Björkman (Sweden), Jeannie Bormans (Belgium), Peter Martin (secretary), Geirmund Skeie (Norway)

### **1. Welcome and apologies for absence.**

On behalf of the president the secretary welcomed all members present. Apologies for absence were received from Mike Kerr, Marijke Meijer and Frans Scholte.

### **2. Minutes of the meeting in Lahti August 27<sup>th</sup> 2005.**

The minutes were agreed by those present but due to absence of the President, not yet signed. This will happen at the first possible opportunity.

### **3. Matters arising.**

Members present at the general meeting wish to get access to a list of all members of MAMH

### **4. Election Board Members.**

Richard Newton has to step down as a member of the board. There is actually no new candidate. We will be in search of candidates, especially from eastern European countries who stand for election at our next general meeting in 2007.

### **5. Secretary's report**

The president and the secretary have organized a round table, in co-operation with Health Sirg of IASSID, on the training of physicians in ID medicine, which took place on August 3<sup>rd</sup> 2006. Helen Beange chaired the round table and presentations (Marijke Meijer, Bob Davis and Peter Martin) on the topic introduced the subsequent discussion, which was very inspiring and fruitful. The round table came to the result that the members of the round table will make up a document, a paper, addressed to the national professional organisations of physicians and politicians in which the following points will be explained:

Why is a special training in ID medicine necessary?

What are the consequences for the individual and for the community / health care systems of a special training in ID medicine?

How and where can a special training in ID medicine be implemented in the course of medical education?

There are already many publications that speak in favor and show the evidence of ID medicine as a specialty in medicine.

Bob Davis will start to bring together the main arguments of these publications and the other members of the working group that was constituted at the round table will "update" and complement it in a circle (sending e-mails from one to the other).

Members of the working group are:

Marijke Meijer	-	The Netherlands
David O'Hara	-	United States
Peter Martin	-	Germany
Rachel Forrester-Jones	-	United Kingdom
Mark Scheepers	-	" "
Monica Björkman	-	Sweden
Bob Davis	-	Australia
Helene Ouelette-Kuntz	-	Canada
Sally-Ann Cooper	-	Schotland

The president and secretary sent a letter to the European Parliament which you can find in our latest Newsletter on the website. This letter was not answered yet and the president remained contacting the EU officials in further e-mails via the official website of the EU. We did not yet get in contact with the president of MHMR (Mental Handicap Mental Retardation) to plan concerted activities regarding communication with European politicians but still adhere to this intention.

Still we want to get in closer contact to Eastern European physicians working in the field of ID medicine.

One possibility would be to cooperate with an organisation called "mental disability advocacy center" ([www.mdac.info](http://www.mdac.info)) which is located in Budapest.

There are several loose contacts of MAMH members to physicians in Russia that should be strengthened (e.g. invite them to our meetings or institutions/clinics in Western Europe at the expense of MAMH).

## 6. Treasurer's report

Maria presented the incomes and outgoings of the past year:

### Income

Membership	€ 2941,30
Interests	€ 24,74
	<b>€ 2966,04</b>

### Expenses

Mailing costs	€ 12,00
Bank transfers & payment charges	€ 84,32
Memberships	€ 375,06
Travel costs	€ 28,80
Presents (65 GBP)	€ 95,00
	<b>€ 595,18</b>

**Net result** **€ 2370,86**

Suggestion:

Pay a part of the balance into a savings account with a higher interest rate than the current account.

## 7. New MAMH activities

Most of the "new activities" initiated after the last meeting in Lahti, in August 2005, cannot be considered finished and are also discussed in the secretary's report.

The General Meeting again agreed with the most important new activities for MAMH namely closer contact with members, regular newsletters, renewal of the website, current medical information via our website sent to all members etc. All activities have to be amplified.

**Peter Martin, Secretary**