

DM section Meeting
Athens 09/26/2017

Participants: Luc Mortelmans, Georgios Leledakis, Jason, Murphy, Pierluigi Ingrassia, Luca Ragazzoni, Massimo Zannoni, Massimo Azzaretto, Abdo Khoury, Vivien Benoit, Ritu Sarin, Mick Molloy, Christel Hendrickx

Apologies from: Erwin Dhondt, Pinchas Halpern, Francesco Della Corte, Michel De Backer, Irene Pereira

Massimo Azzaretto illustrates some aspects:

- no chairman was appointed in the previous congress in Vienna
- so the Council invited the previous chairman to the Bruxelles meeting (1st april 2017) to be able to proceed with the ordinary activities of the session
- he has worked to get the same spaces as the previous congress

He Represents that:

- a new chairman should be appointed and it should be done directly in the current meeting
- it has been advanced a request for collaboration by the Pediatrics committee for the implementation of a course in disaster medicine aimed at pediatricians
- during the pre-congressional course, a request was made by the participants of a course on Hospital Disaster Preparedness: It was then decided that at the forthcoming congress of Glasgow a course will be conducted on this subject realized by Crimedim
- asks to the members to present proposals for topics to be discussed at the next congress no later than January so that they can be competitive with the decisions of the Scientific Committee
- it would be appropriate to change the group name to the Disaster and Humanitarian committee, to be more inclusive of realities that at this time do not find a proper placement

The word was then taken by Abdo who illustrated the problems that the Society had with the change of seat, staff renewal, website revision.

Many activities have been carried out and others are planned to make the content of the website more and more accessible.

He believes that change of name is needed, but also the change of some aspects within the group to increase the visibility and importance of disaster medicine within the Society. He believes that the presence of a member of the group within the scientific committee is necessary to avoid overlapping the program as this year.

Luc Mortelmas complains of silence by the committee and requires greater dissemination of information and participation

Luca Ragazzoni illustrates some projects that were presented to the Council's attention. He represents that all world organizations (WHO, UN, EU) have become aware of the importance of disaster preparedness in order to avoid what has so far been seen in the emergencies that have occurred over the last few years: these organizations expressly call for capacity building and ask for people able to produce it.

About the Humanitarian Medic Course the EuSEM and specifically the DM Committee can move and do much in terms of growing awareness and credibility.

Abdo ask if it is possible to carry out a short course to export throughout Europe to improve knowledge and response capability in case of disaster or major accident.

Pierluigi Ingrassia e Luca Ragazzoni believe that it is possible to use an already existing format and used for medical students that, with appropriate modifications, could be offered to specialists and medical practitioners.

However, there is absolutely a need for proper preparation, clear organization and extensive information

A long discussion unfolds on name change: it is also proposed to include the term “crisis management “. We discuss the pros and cons of the various solutions. at the end of the discussion, it seems more appropriate to include the only term “humanitarian”.

it was also proposed to have different working groups on specific topics; the same thing was proposed by e-mail from Erwin Dhondt that proposed the creation of military medicine subcommittee.

As for the appointment of the new chairman, the only proposal put forward by the members of the meeting is that of Luca Ragazzoni; who advances the only request not to be left alone to handle the whole session but to have an active collaboration of the whole group.

Massimo Azzaretto asserts that as a previous chair will help Luca in all the acts he deems necessary.

Luc Mortelmans expressly requests that the new chair should not be appointed here and that it would be more appropriate to make an online request for more candidates and then vote.

It will work in this sense by giving assert that in the absence of further candidatures Luca Ragazzoni will be appointed as a new chairman.