



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EUROPEAN CONTINENTAL COMMITTEE (ECC)

October 3rd 2009 - Vilnius, Lithuania.

Countries attending the meeting:

→ France, Denmark, Italy, Iceland, Monaco, Lithuania, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Luxembourg.

→ Countries excused: Portugal, Switzerland, Holland

Marc Ibars from Spain participated as an observer.

A greeting from the ministry of Health is read aloud.

The vice mayor of Vilnius welcomes all the delegates as well.

Filipo shares some pieces of news with us:

Firstly, Mathias Bayili, Burkina Faso, had informed the Secretary General, that huge floods have caused 150,000 homeless people, and that the national donor association has lost most of their property in the flood.

Secondly, The pandemic flu: FIODS does not give medical advise about this kind of illnesses, as attitudes are different between doctors from country to country. But we should give our donors the right information about rules of quarantine.

Beginning of the meeting: 10h00.

1) Approval of the minutes of the meeting of the FIODS European Continental Delegation held in Malta on April 18 2009

Approved unanimously.

2) Policy of blood donation in Europe: Official document of the IFBDO.

Objective: translate this document in each language of each FIODS member to be discussed with local and European authorities.

Niels gives a list of the translations done. So far, it has been translated in Danish, Dutch, English, French, Italian, Russian and Spanish.

Translations missing: Albanese, Estonia, Greek, German, Latvian, Maltese, Portuguese, Romanian, Ukrainian, Azerbaijan, Turkish, Icelandic, Lithuanian, Polish, Feroe Islands, Belarusian, Swedish, Norwegian, Finnish.

Some representatives from Germany and Austria etc. have made reference to this document although they're not members of FIODS.

Europe has to be self sufficient in plasma products as well and each country has to make that decision (e.g. Spain, Portugal, Italy...) and fight for it **given a common action all over Europe.**

Niels: In January 2010 a meeting will take place in Dublin (Ireland) with 15 patient organisations dependant from Plasma Products. Niels Mikkelsen might come if organisations representing patients from other blood products (red cells, platelets...) are invited also.

TO DO ASAP: As soon as a new European Health Commissioner has been elected, FIODS must organize a new meeting to present itself and its projects.

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3) Collaboration between EDQM and FIODS:

EDQM = European Directory for Quality of Medicine (<http://www.edqm.eu/site/About-the-EDQM-and-its-Missions-604.html>).

We'll meet EDQM during the next Executive Council in Amsterdam in November 2009. EDQM is very interested into the FIODS's work in general.

Topics which could be in the agenda are:

- European Policy
- Creating a database on drugs related to blood donation (which one can be indicated or not for blood donation?)
- The new Guide on transfusion safety with the Council of Europe - 15th edition to be published this fall (There are 2 parts: STANDARDS = what each country should be doing and PRINCIPLES what they ought to do).
- Young Donors (EDQM is very interested to work with FIODS about the next WBDD focused on young people, involving the Council of Europe youth centres).
- Good practises and binding rules. Some of the good practises we would like to have including on the binding rules. E.g.: We want that all donation to be unpaid and voluntary. The other comment was about damages and risks about being a blood donor. The donors must know that there is a risk. Most doctors ignore about these damages - except in Denmark. Fainting IS NOT the big problem but damages to the nerve system. There must also be taken good care of the donors and there must be an insurance, if something goes wrong.

There is no agenda yet so if members want to have a topic discussed, please send it to Niels.

4) Meeting of the European Medical Councillors held in Copenhagen (June 19, 2009):

There is a link on www.fiods.org to find the minutes of this meeting: [Medical Counsellor Meeting Copenhagen 2009.pdf](#)

Filipo: The objective is to get a better common basis for working together on Blood Donation. It's very important that each doctor come and talk freely!

TO DO: update the list of addresses and names of the Medical Counsellors of each country. Please, if your Medical counsellor changes, let us know!

France: why not talking about the training of the blood bank doctors which should be equal all over Europe
→ to be discussed with EDQM because there is a large diversity on that topic so a common quality all over Europe is hard to reach.

Next Medical Counsellor Meeting: May 22nd in Athens, Greece.

5) FIODS questionnaire for blood collection management:

Since the questionnaire has been modified, each country is asked to fill it in **AGAIN!**

So far only Latvia, Lithuania and Luxembourg have answered the NEW one.

Filipo thanks the countries in advance for doing it since there is no similar document existing; thus it's a crucial tool to keep up with our objectives.

Link on www.fiods.org to the questionnaire: [Questionnaire final.pdf](#)

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About the DOMAIN project, a manual (about "how to run donor recruitment") will be published in May 2010.

6) Fund raising for the FIODS Foundation: position paper;

Filipo reminds that the Mercx foundation has given this year:

- 30,000 euro to the FIODS foundation
- 10,000 euro to the Burkina Faso Blood Donor Organisation

Niels wants to avoid getting money from companies involved in blood donation to protect the independence of FIODS. But it is OK to help from other companies - as long as they are not involved in the blood field. We should also establish a list of companies we would not like to work together with. Filippo is doing this, and will present a list to the Board of the Foundation.

The foundation needs money, so it can help co-financing projects with other countries members of FIODS.

7) Projects to be presented to the Foundation for co-financing;

It is a good idea to make a kind of general financing scheme, so we every year choose a topic, and then applicants can apply for money regarding this topic. E.g.: Training, information etc.

Niels reads a part of the statutes of the foundation aloud. The scope of the foundation is the same as the federation.

We will try to have projects talked about in all four continents during the continental meetings this winter. We need to focus on realistic projects, so we can use them for further fundraising.

3 projects are presented:

- 1 from Azerbaijan: "What does young people need to know to become regular donors and what can stop them from being regular donors?". It would be a 3-4 day-seminar for Russian speaking countries. The proposers are asked to make a more detailed budget.
- 2 from Romania (details to come).

These 3 projects are about young blood donors.

IMPORTANT:

For each projects financed by the Foundation, it will be compulsory to make a report afterwards, and we need to have copies of the evaluations afterwards, so that we can measure the success. He also underlines that the foundation only can co-finance, so the organizers must find some money themselves.

Marion says that she as IYC president is very happy that the Youth Forum has generated ideas about training in Azerbaijan. And maybe the IYC can help.

It is possible for rich countries to help co-financing projects together with the foundation.

8) European youth forum in Copenhagen 20-23 August 2009

85 young people from 23 countries!

Thanks to all of them for their very good work!

Here is a link on www.fiods.org to the report: [2010 Youth Forum Denmark OfficialReport.pdf](#)

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The main decision made is about the **World Blood Donor Day 2010** focused on Young People. We'll make human blood drops all over the world.

An important topic was "how to retain people after they turn 30?". Lots of good ideas were shared such as training. Niels proposes that we will create this 30+network. He will create this forum on Facebook to start with. This network will be open to everyone. And some of these people maybe can participate in the ISBT meeting in Berlin next year.

Jacques Pellissard asks, why there is the 30 years age limit. Niels replies that older participants tend to dominate the delegates, and some also clearly had other things on their mind when going to the forums.

→ Next Youth Forum for African participants: in Tunisia from November 12th to 15th.
Application form online on the FIODS webpage: www.fiods.org

Around half of the countries participating in the forum in Denmark were not IFBDO-members, but Niels thinks many of these countries will be members in the future.

Mikkel tells a bit about the work with club25.

9) Cooperation with the Council of Europe (Jean-Marie Durant).

Jean-Marie shares with us the topics discussed during the last meeting in June 2009.

There have been several meetings between COE and IFBDO.

We have observed that some of the NGOs were been taken as a target and he thinks that the NGOs should work in fighting violation of human rights.

Jean-Marie Durant will deliver a report to Niels about the further work with the COE.

Rights and expectations of blood donors: Niels had given a report to the ISBT Congress in Cape Town. There are a number of human rights that are applicable to blood donors.

10) Next meeting of the European Continental Delegation.

During the 2010 FIODS General Assembly in San Marino on April 18th.

11) WBDD2010

The main event will be hosted by Barcelona.

Marc Ibar gives us a presentation of the event, the logo, the banners,...

Niels asked the countries present to sponsor one young person of their country to go to Barcelona on the 14th of December for the launching of the media campaign for next 2010 WBDD.

If there is any volunteer who can help with updating the webpage, then they should say so to Niels or Mikkel Dybtved Andersen.

WBDD2011: any candidate is welcome to send its application to Niels but there is little chance of getting the WBDD to a European country in 2011.



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End of meeting: 17 h 30
Secretary: Marion Duclos