



Minutes of the General Assembly 2010

held in Dublin, at the offices of Children in Hospital Ireland

Part I: Thursday, June 17, 2010, 3 – 6 p.m. Part II: Saturday, June 19, 2010, 9 – 12 a.m.

Member associations present:

Austria: Annemarie Kocourek, Operation Eddy
Czech Republic: Jiri Kralovec, Klicek Foundation
Finland: Teija Schröder, Suomen Nobab
France: Sylvie Rosenberg, APACHE
Ireland: Mary O'Connor, Children in Hospital Ireland
Japan: Kaname Yanagisawa, NPHC
Portugal: Ana Lourenço, IAC – Sector de Humanização
Switzerland: Hanne Sieber, Child & Hospital
United Kingdom: Peg Belson, Action for Sick Children

Member associations represented:

The following associations appointed as their proxies:

Austria, KiB: Hanne Sieber
Germany, AKIK: Annemarie Kocourek
Sweden, Nobab Sweden: Teija Schröder

Individual members:

Croatia: Marija Radonic (on Saturday)
Hungary: Zsuzsanna Kovacs (on Saturday)
Netherlands: Margreet van Bergen, EACH Consultant

Membership applied:

Croatia: Ana Kordic (on Saturday), Association “Together to health” for children with chronic diseases

Guests:

Gwen Garner, Action for Sick Children Scotland
Pamela Barnes, Action for Sick Children
Marketta Kralovcova, Klicek Foundation
Claude Laurens, Apache France
Jana Bayer, Child & Hospital, Switzerland
Frances Barlowe, Hospital Play Programm Leader, Stevenson College, Edinburgh (on Saturday)
Maria Brenner, Head of Children’s Nursing at the University College Dublin

Excused:

Belgium: HU – Association HU	France: Les Blouses Roses
Iceland: Umhyggja	Italy: Assoc. Amici delle Pediatria
Netherlands: Kind en Ziekenhuis	Slovenia: Forum for Children’s Rights in Hospital
Giuliana Filippazzi, EACH Consultant	Dr. Vladimir Nemeč, Czech Republic
Maria José Planas, Spain	Nuria Serrallonga, Spain
Stella Tsitoura, Greece	

Agenda

1. Minutes of the General Assembly held in Helsinki in 2008

The Minutes were approved.

2. Report of the Co-ordinator

The written report for 2009/10 by Sylvie Rosenberg, Co-ordinator was approved.

3. Reports by EACH members

All member associations had been requested to submit before the meeting a written report on their activities since Helsinki. Mary O'Connor combined all reports delivered in time in a folder, which was distributed to all participants. The written reports will become available on the EACH Intranet after the meeting.

In addition all participants could present to the meeting verbally a key activity or plan with a limited speaking time of four minutes.

4. Financial report for 2008/9; Membership fees

The General Assembly took note of the results of the financial years 2008/09 presented by the treasurer, Hanne Sieber. For the year 2008 the surplus amounted to € 1'383.59 and for 2009 to € 798.78. As of that same date, unpaid membership fees amounted to €1'665.—.

The Committee decided to keep the members' fees unchanged for 2010 and 2011: €175 for full members, €145 for associated members.

5. EACH Website

Margreet van Bergen invites all members to make more use of the EACH Website and send to her (E-Mail: margreetvb@hotmail.com):

- Members' reports (for the Intranet)
- News from our members for the public
- Information on forthcoming international congresses and conferences of common interest
- Conference reports from own conferences or other important conferences attended by EACH members
- Articles/publications with new information related to our activities, e.g. "Children talking for themselves" by the Royal College of Paediatrics
- All available translations of the EACH Charter & Annotations
- Special information for people from Eastern European countries also on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (links)

Also members who have forgotten their password can contact Margreet.

6. Membership in Eurochild

As Euronet is no longer active, the Committee has discussed joining another Brussels based European association pursuing similar interests. The Committee decided to join Eurochild, comprised of relatively small organisations concerned for the needs and rights of children. Margreet van Bergen and/or Sylvie Rosenberg will attend the meetings of Eurochild in Brussels as delegates of EACH.

7. Election of officers

The present officers will remain in post until the next Conference. The following persons tentatively agreed to be elected as successors at the next conference and act in the meantime as trainees:

- Elisabeth Schausberger, as Treasurer
- Jiri Kralovec, as Secretary
- Camilla Nordström, as Co-ordinator.

8. New members

NPCH Japan is no longer active and will discontinue its membership in EACH after the Conference. The Committee thanks Kaname for his efforts to promote the EACH Charter in

Japan and for attending the EACH meetings. HPS Japan, an association involved in the training of Hospital Play Specialists, is interested in a membership in EACH, but did not attend the meeting and supplied the requested documents only after the meeting. The Committee can, therefore, decide on this application at the next Committee meeting only.

The Croatian Association "Together to health" for children with chronic diseases, represented by Ana Kordic, has been accepted as new associate member.

9. Future activities of EACH / Strategy

As all members still have not yet secured the universal implementation of the EACH Charter & Annotations, member organisations should concentrate on ensuring such implementation throughout all areas where sick children and young people are cared for, both in hospital and in the community. Given the different situations and very specific conditions in every European country, all EACH members have to decide on their own national agenda and action plans. Likewise, EACH members are requested to work on the Resolutions taken at the EACH Conferences.

10. Restraint / Resolution of the 10th EACH European Conference Dublin

Margreet van Bergen had suggested to work on the problem of restraint and had prepared a small Powerpoint presentation. Sylvie Rosenberg pointed out in her oral presentation the importance of this problem especially in view of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Peg Belson had sent out before the meeting a recent publication by the Royal College of Nursing "Restrictive physical intervention and therapeutic holding for children and young people".

Maria Brenner, Head of Children's Nursing at the University College Dublin, presented her research on "Restricting Children for Clinical Procedures". Her very interesting presentation is available on the EACH website.

All these inputs clearly showed that "restraint", "restriction" or "therapeutic holding" is also today a topic of high relevance.

Frances Barlow participates in this meeting specially to join the discussion on restraint from the point of view of a play specialist, and their methods used to avoid restraint.

It is decided that this Conference will pass a Resolution on "Restraint". A rough draft of the resolution text was prepared during the Assembly. It will be language edited by Peg Belson and Hanne Sieber and distributed to the members together with these Minutes.

Note: After the meeting Pamela Barnes informed us about an article published in the July issue of Paediatric Nursing "Supportive holding or restraint: terminology and practice" which points out that children's nurses should consider supportive holding and restraint as opposite ends of a continuum, but there is no policy which defines each procedure.

10. Next European Conference

Gwen Garner will clarify whether the conference could be held in Scotland. Other offers to host the conference were received from the UK and the Czech Republic.

The next meeting of the Committee will be held in Vienna on November 18/19/20, 2011.

10. Any other business

10.1 Pamela Barnes announced that Action for Sick Children will celebrate its 50th anniversary with a Golden Jubilee Lecture on April 6, 2011 at which EACH members are welcome.

10.2 The Committee and the General Assembly were very impressed by the perfect organization of the EACH meetings and the Public Conference at Dublin Castle, the good food and the good company with CHI staff, not to forget the Irish dinner accompanied by Irish music and dances at the historic Jamieson Distillery.

All members present sincerely thank Mary O'Connor and all other people who helped to make this Conference a success that will be well remembered.

For the Minutes: Hanne Sieber & Peg Belson

Attachment: Resolution of the 10th EACH Conference in Dublin