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To all ESPN members

July 2002

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

In this newsletter the ESPN Council would like to take the opportunity to inform you about the upcoming meetings in Bilbao.

The next ESPN General Assembly will be held on the 20th September 2002 in Bilbao.

Agenda for the General Assembly

- 1 Minutes arising from the GA of September 2001 in Seattle
- 2 Report of the Secretary General: (Ehrich)

Elections

We need your proposals for future congress sites (2006).

We need your proposals for future honorary members for 2003.

We need your proposals for future council members for the term 2003-2005

(replacing Constaninos Stefanidis, Alexandra Zurowska, Eric Girardin) Please send your proposals to the ESPN Secretariat (espn@mh-hannover.de) by 20 July 2002.

- 3 Training Grants: (Ehrich). In 2002 ESPN awarded four (4) training grants. For those who wish to apply for 2003 please get your application forms from the ESPN homepage. Do you agree that we should give training grants to young paediatric nephrologists who are not yet members of ESPN?
- 4 ESPN Teaching Courses: (Holmberg)
- 5 ESPN Handbook: (Cochat). The ESPN handbook will be distributed in Bilbao. For those who have not yet sent in their manuscript there may be a last chance for submission now. For further details please contact Pierre Cochat at cochat@univ-lyon1.fr
- 6 ESPN Homepage: (Smith)
- 7 European Paediatric Registry (Verrier-Jones, Van der Heijden, Hoyer)

- 8 ESPN Database and Register on Multi-Centre Trials: (Coppo)
- 9 ESPN Collaborative Studies. Please bring your information (study protocols) on national collaborative studies in paediatric nephrology with you to the General Assembly. The ESPN encourages all its members to create a forum for collaborative studies supported by the ESPN.
- 10 Membership (Ehrich) Ordinary members
- 11 Honorary membership
- 12 Financial report: (Hoyer)
- 13 Report of the Bilbao Congress 2002: (Soriano)
- 14 2003 Berlin: Joint meeting with ISN and EDTA/ERA (Querfeld) The plans for the joint meeting of ESPN, ISN and EDTA/ERA in Berlin are proceeding well. An announcement will be made at the congress. Please visit the website at [http://www. Nephrology-2003.org](http://www.Nephrology-2003.org) and mark your calendars for June 8-12, 2003.
- 15 2004 Strasburg: central European initiative (Fischbach)
- 16 Proposals for 2006 ESPN Congress
- 17 ESPN Archive: (Ehrich). Please bring photos, documents and other items on previous activities and special events to the General Assembly (or send it to the secretariat: espn@mh-hannover.de), and we will add your material to the ever-expanding ESPN Archive. More information will be given in Bilbao.
- 18 Analysis of ESPN congresses: (Ehrich)

Hoping to meeting you all at ESPN Bilbao 20-23 September 2002.

More information can be obtained from the website <http://www.espn2002.com>

Jochen Ehrich
Secretary-General

Christer Holmberg
Assistant Secretary

PS

Membership fees 2002: Please transfer the annual membership fee via Eurocard/Visa

General Communication via e-mail

Many email addresses of ESPN members were either incorrectly documented in our address list or had been changed since the address list has last been updated. Very few ESPN members who are not yet personally online have provided us with an alternative e-mail address to which they had easy access. During the next GA we will circulate our address list and ask for your amendments.

Please use the ESPN home page (<http://espn.uwcm.ac.uk>) to get more information about ESPN.

Exerps from the Constitution:

Meetings: The Society shall hold an annual scientific meeting for the presentation and discussion of papers by members and their guests at a time and place to be decided by the Council.

Honorary membership is conferred as an honour on those who have rendered exceptional service to paediatric nephrology or to the Society. Honorary members shall not be required to pay an annual subscription to the Society. Honorary members may be elected by a majority of at least two thirds of those present at the Annual General Meeting.

The Council of the Society shall consist of the Secretaries, the Treasurer, the President of the Congress, the President-elect of the next Congress and seven councillors; not more than two councillors shall live in any one country. Councillors shall be elected annually by the members to serve for a period of three years, beginning on the day subsequent to the Annual Scientific Meeting at which they were elected. For a period of three years following retirement a former councillor will not be eligible for re-election to Council. A candidate for Council may (with his written consent) be proposed in writing to the Secretary General by any three members not less than two months before the AGM. In the event of more candidates being proposed than are required, election will be by secret ballot of members of the AGM.

Voting in Council and at the AGM shall be by a simple majority of those present except when alteration of the Constitution or dissolution of the Society is concerned when a two thirds majority of those present shall be required. The President of the Congress shall have a casting vote at any meeting. The quorum for a General Meeting shall be fourteen members and the quorum for a Council Meeting shall be four members. In any year when the AGM is held outside Europe (see Appendix i) the election of the Council members, and if necessary of the Secretaries, shall be by postal ballot of all members.

Alterations to the Constitution

- a) Amendments to the Constitution must be proposed in writing to the Secretary by any five members or by the Council not less than six months before the next AGM.
- b) The Secretary shall notify all members of the proposed amendment not less than five months before the next AGM.
- c) Any member may submit written counter-proposals to the Secretary, not less than three months before the next AGM.
- d) The Secretary shall notify all members of any counter-proposal not less than one month before the next AGM.