



**MINUTES of the BOARD MEETING of
the BALKAN SOCIETY of ORL-HNS
Antalya, Turkey, 7th November 2014**

The Board Meeting of the Balkan Society of Otorhinolaryngology and Head-Neck Surgery was held between 10:30 and 12:00 on 7th of November, 2014 during the 36th Turkish National Congress of ORL-HNS in Antalya, Turkey.

Dr. Suela Sallavaci (President of the Balkan Society of ORL-HNS, Board Member of the Society, and President of the Albanian Society of ORL-HNS), Dr. Cem Uzun (General Secretary of the Balkan ORL-HNS), Dr. Vladan Knezevic (Board Member of the Society, President of the Montenegro Society of ORL-HNS, and Past President of the Balkan Society of ORL-HNS), Dr. Nikola Nikolovski (Board Member of the Society, President of the Republic of Macedonia Society of ORL-HNS), Dr. Jasminka Alagic-Smailbegovic (Board Member of the Society and the President of the Bosnia-Herzegovina Federation Society of ORL-HNS), Dr. Rumen Benchev (Board Member of the Society and the President of the Bulgarian Society of ORL-HNS), Dr. Adem Limani (Board Member of the Society and the President of the Kosovar Society of ORL-HNS), Dr. Gheorghe Muhlfay (Past President of the Society and the Board Member of the Society, Vice-President of the Romanian Society of ORL-HNS), Dr. Metin Önerci (Founder Board Member of the Balkan Society and the President of the Turkish Society of ORL-HNS), Dr. Mustafa Gerek (The president of the 37th Turkish national ORL-HNS Meeting), Dr. İbrahim Hızalan (Past President of the Balkan Society), Dr. Sertaç Yetişer (Turkey), Dr. M. Tayyar Kalcioğlu (Turkey), Dr. Jan Betka (President of the next European Congress ORL-HNS, Check Republic), Dr. Tuncay Uluğ, Dr. Medine Kara (Turkey) and colleagues from Azerbaijan and Kazakhstan attended to the meeting. According to the agenda;

1 - Welcome speeches;

- The General Secretary Dr. Uzun opened the meeting. He welcomed all participants attending to the Board Meeting and gave information about the agenda.

2 - Development of a Balkan ENT School and its schedule;

- Dr. Önerci gave the opening speech. He gave information about Balkan ENT schools. He told that the first ENT school activity will be organized between 4-7 December (Three days) in Antalya with daily 3 hours theoretical and 5 hours practical workshop such as vertigo workshop and laryngostroboscopy workshop. He said that 50 participants from Bulgaria will attend to the first school activity. He also welcomed the board members. He noted that language will be in English. He told that travel expenses could not be covered.
- Dr. Muhlfay asked how often these courses would be organized.
- Dr. Önerci answered that it has depended on the host countries and participants. “It can also be in next March or April. We will see how it goes and how it will be better.”
- Dr. Nikolovski said that it was a good idea. “We can be host these kinds of organizations. These organizations will help to improve our ENT status.”
- Dr. Önerci said that live surgery could be performed and Phoniatriy or rhinology schools could also be organized.
- Dr. Alagic-Smailbegovic talked about Turkish colleagues’ visit to Sarajevo and their lectures and said that same courses might also be organized in the future.
- Dr. Benchev talked about the problems for fresh cadaver because of law. He said it was impossible, recently.

3 - Discussion and approval of the minutes of the previous Board meeting in Montenegro;

- Discussion and approval of the minutes of the previous Board meeting organized in Montenegro was discussed and approved.

4 - Discussion and approval of the changes at the bylaws of the Society

- The changes at the bylaws of the Society was read, discussed and approved.

5 - Discussion and recommendations on the next Balkan Congress

- Dr. Sallavaci asked for everybody’s help for the next congress. She asked how to perform a more scientific and international meeting. She said that 2 full days scientific organization could be better. “Fresh cadaver is not possible for Albania”, she said, and added that they also needed courses, organizations such as ENT schools.
- Dr. Önerci answered that video sections could be added into the programs. He said “we should invite other societies such as European ENT Society, Middle Asia ENT Society, and American Academy of ORL. They must pay for their flight.” He recommended to see the published article and scientific levels of the Balkan Countries. He also recommended for young colleagues to submit their studies or thesis to the congress. “Case studies or how I do it sections may be performed. Some cadaver studies may be performed on formalin cadavers.”
- Dr. Yetiser recommended Balkan Medical Journal as a publication platform for Balkan ENT.

- Some discussions were done on online or published journals. Some board members told the importance of a published (hardcopy) journal in some Balkan Countries.
- 6 – Information about the recent meeting of UEMS-ORL (European ORL Board)
- Dr. Uzun gave information about that and recommended all Balkan countries to become an active member of the UEMS-ORL section.
- 7 - Creating a constant web page for the Balkan ORL and HNS Society.
- We thank Dr. Muhlfay that he handed over his website address (www.balkanorl.eu) and its password to the Society.
 - It was decided to improve the website with the recommendations with the board members.
 - Dr. Önerci recommended giving links to the other societies and their meetings and asking them to link Balkan ENT society and meetings in their websites.
- 8 - What kind of experience can we exchange between our hospitals and universities;
- It was said that Balkan ENT schools could be a good way for this purpose.
 - Some exchange programs could be developed according to the results of ENT Schools.
 - Dr. Önerci recommended exchange programs for 1 month for residents as an observer, 1-3 months for specialist as an observer or assistant, 1 week for Professors as lecturer for residents. He said that the host country must pay for hotel etc. but everybody must pay for their travel expenses.
 - Dr. Yetiser recommended announcing the appropriate laboratories for visiting exchange programs in the website.
 - Dr. Muhlfay recommended to use some exchange programs such as Erasmus to cover the expenses of these activities.
- 9 - How to make a well-known Balkan Society worldwide;
- Dr. Betka promised to organize 2 panels or round tables for the Balkan ENT Society during the 3rd European Congress of ORL-HNS. He said that each panel or round table will be one and a half hours. He noted to receive the topics and details before December.
 - Dr. Gerek also offered 2 or 3 panels for the Balkan Society during the 37th Turkish National ORL-HNS congress. One of them could be “How I do it” section.
 - Dr. Uzun requested both presidents to reduce participation fee for the colleagues from the Balkan countries. Dr. Önerci and Dr. Gerek accepted this request.
 - Dr. Uzun also recommended that school programs should be prepared considering the European Board Examination.
- 10 - How can we raise our society budgets;
- As it was decide before, each member society should pay 100 Euros for per year.
- 11 – Future Balkan Congresses;

- Dr. Nikolovski asked about how to decide the host country for the future congresses and added that both Republic of Macedonia and Bosnia and Herzegovina are the candidates for the next Balkan Congress after Albania.
- Dr. Uzun recommended preparation of presentations to be presented by candidate countries during next Balkan Board Meeting and then vote. This recommendation was accepted.
- Dr. Önerci added that any decision on the next organizer country should be approved during the general assembly at the following Balkan Congress.

12 – Balkan Board Member from Turkey;

- As Dr. Cem Uzun was elected as the general secretary of the Balkan Society of ORL-HNS, the Board Membership position from Turkey became empty. The Turkish ORL-HNS Society elected and proposed the Board Dr. M. Tayyar Kalcioğlu as the next Turkish Board Member for the Balkan Society of ORL-HNS. Dr. Kalcioğlu's board membership was unanimously accepted by the existing Balkan Board Members.

The Meeting adjourned with sincere and friendly atmosphere.

Dr. Cem Uzun

General Secretary, Balkan Society of ORL-HNS