



**General Assembly
of the
Confederation of European
Otorhinolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery**

Date: Monday, October 31, 2022, 13:00 – 15:00.
Location: room Blue 1, MiCo, Milan

MINUTES

1. President's Welcome

On behalf of the entire Presidential Council and himself, Cem Mecco welcomes all those present to the General Assembly of the Confederation of European ORL-HNS and opens the meeting using the newly inaugurated Confederation Hammer.

2. Affirmation of Eligible Voters and Quorum

Cem Mecco announces that the quorum is achieved with 40 Eligible Voters present from a total of 66. (See Annex 1_General Assembly_Participants in separate attachment).

3. Vote on opening General Assembly to guests

With a total quorum of the present Eligible Voters, it is voted to open the General Assembly to guests.

4. Approval of the minutes of the July 1, 2019 Confederation General Assembly in Brussels

With a total quorum of the present Eligible Voters, the minutes are accepted.

5. Report of the President

Cem Mecco reports about the activities of the Confederation since the 2019 congress in Brussels.

The Presidential Council has:

- Defined steps towards a better collaboration with member societies
- Collected proposals for future congress venues.
- Built proposals for future PC council officers.
- Discussed future roles for the Confederation.
- Run the daily business of the Confederation.

He also mentioned that the recent Core PC have identified following areas to be improved and worked on these with all PC in a team effort to enhance them, thus

- Raised awareness of the Confederation.
- Expanded and differentiate the activities.

- Created an educational platform.
- Placed the Confederation as a global leader and stakeholder in ENT by improving international relationships.
- Worked for a better cooperation and integration with the Confederation partners, UEMS-ORL and EBEORL-HNS, as well as other European institutions.

To **raise the awareness of the Confederation**, the Presidential Council in this term has:

- Participated at Subspecialty and National Congresses with having in some of them Confederation booths
- Tried to create Confederation presence on member societies webpages with a link to the Confederation webpage.
- Promoted collaboration and interaction with Subspecialty Societies.
- Endorsed Confederation Sessions or Joint Meetings at other international, national and related specialty meetings:
 - Joint Meetings with German ORL-HNS Society, Balkan ORL-HNS Society.
 - Presence at South Korean Meetings in 2019, 2020 and 2021.
 - Presence at AAOHNS meetings, Boston 2020, LA 2021, Philadelphia 2022 with Confederation labelled sessions (Panels, Courses) and having a Confederation booth at OTOEXPO.
 - Presence at Pan-American Meeting, Orlando 2022 with Panel, Booth and Prize drawings.
- Developed a completely new website which is our face to the external world, prepared and run by Prof. Jan Plzák and Mrs Gloria Casanova, where member societies can upload the information and links of their events that they organize. Cem Mecco encourage the societies to submit their activities and news to have all the information of the activities in Europe in one single site. This would not only bring a wider visibility to all events but also probably prohibit schedule collisions:
 - The Confederation website gives links to all our Subspecialty, National, Affiliated and Co-opted Members, providing a larger network and ease of global access. Cem Mecco encourages them to reciprocally upload the logo of the Confederation on their webpages with a link to Confederation website.
 - News Section, that the member societies can actively use.
 - Social Media Presence: Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram.

“**Become a Faculty**” program have been introduced to create a pool of volunteer speakers for the Confederation activities, in which the presenters should provide required documents on their capacity and merits to present on the proposed topics, as well as that they know that they should be carrying on the financial burdens to be a speaker.

- Application through Webpage.
- There are 115 applications from Europe but also whole world including USA, Mexico, Brazil, etc. and ~60% have been used in program development in Milano 2022.

The Confederation inaugurated the **Young Confederation** and want to replace European Junior Doctors (EJD) with this new organization. EJD was a member of the Confederation since its foundation, yet as there are no engaged ORL-HNS colleagues within that organization EJD did not want to be a part of the Confederation anymore, EJD as a member subspecialty society had two votes at the General Assembly. The Young Confederation has been formed with the initiative of the PC and has officially applied to become a member of the Confederation to replace EJD :

- The Constitution should be adapted to include the Young Confederation as a member society under the umbrella of the Confederation.
- The Society is created in a simple way, formed by a group of young people with 2 votes at the General Assembly (replacing EJD) after ratification in Milano 2022.
- The society will have their own by-laws, they have their own board and there is no treasurer

- The website is under Confederation website

Cem Mecco requests the member societies to promote the Young Confederation and encourage the young members to become members of the Confederation, it is a free membership.

Regarding **educational activities**, Cem Mecco stresses that the biggest educational event organized by the Confederation is the biannual congress with a fantastic basic track for young colleagues. Additionally, the Confederation was used to give fellowships, due the situation with COVID it was stopped but this will continue in the future. Cem Mecco informs that nearby these activities the PC decided to develop an educational platform with below listed four distinct activities that would serve different targets. As already discussed at the ABM yesterday, these activities have been planned during the last three years, but due to the Covid pandemic among them only the Confederation webinars could be inaugurated by the PC but starting from 2023 the rest will be gradually kicking off like the first Confederation Academy event within the next months.

- It has been developed a “Current Practice in ENT” Seminars Program which is branded under the name of “Confederation Academy” to outreach all practicing ENT colleagues, especially at areas with restrained resources in Europe. The first seminar will take place in March 2023 in Zagreb, organized by Prof. Tomislav Baudoin.
- Furthermore, the Confederation wants to create a European Training Program for our young generations, principally aiming residents starting from their 3rd year of residency. The program will cover all areas of ORL-HNS in a three-year curriculum that will be registered for three consecutive years and the graduates will need to take the EBEORL-HNS exam to exit the training program which will at the end help harmonize knowledge base around Europe.
 - The Three-year curriculum is planned to focus on below listed three areas each year, which will take place in Autumn, Winter and Spring cycles for 4-5 days and around 300 participants each. The groups in each cycle will go through one of the following three sections each year and will exit the program with the EBEORL exam.
 - Rhino: Allergy, Rhinology, Anterior Skull Base, Pediatric ORL and Facial Plastics
 - Oto: Audiology, Otology, Neurotology, Lateral Skull Base, Pediatric ORL and Facial Plastics
 - H & N: Head and Neck, Laryngology, Phoniatics, Pediatric ORL and Facial Plastics
 - The physical meeting locations of this program will be travelling around Europe and by bringing together our young colleagues for three consecutive years, the biggest win will be the creation of a young European ENT identity and friendship from the bottom which will at the end create a “European ENT Culture”. The recently inaugurated Young Confederation is planned to be the backbone of this program.
- Thirdly, an observership program of 2 to 4 weeks short term visitations to leading centers, focused on postgraduate specialists to be exposed to also clinical skills and surgical procedures.
- As the fourth pillar, web-based solutions on the Confederation educational platform providing and giving access to the recorded lectures from the European Congresses and webinars, aiming for a broader European and Global reach.

Among these four distinct activities, due to Covid pandemic up to now only the Confederation Webinars in the format of board case discussions have been inaugurated. The well-attended first webinar on “Multidisciplinary discussions on malignant sinonasal tumors” was opened by Cem Mecco and moderated by Piero Nicolai last September. The Confederation Webinars are planned to be continued.

The first event of the Confederation Academy will be organized by Tomislav Baudoin and will take place in March 2023 in Zagreb with a prevision of 100 delegates

The Confederation has also planned to kick-off with the three-year curriculum cycles of the European Training Program as soon as possible as this is an open area. Other societies in Europe like neurosurgery has been doing this kind of training for their residents since over 5 decades with a mandatory board exam at the end. More importantly the PC believes that bringing the young colleagues together to start creating a "European ENT Culture" from the bottom will be the biggest benefit of this educational activity.

The Young Confederation will be involved in all of these new educational activities.

Global postponement of General Assembly and Congress 2021 due to Covid-19: In 2020, all subspecialty societies postponed one year their congresses, then there was the necessity to postpone the Confederation congress one year and move it from odd to even years to avoid clashing with congresses of subspecialty members.

According to the Austrian laws and the advice of the lawyer, the Confederation took the decision to move the congress and the General Assembly and to register the extended mandate to the competent authority in Austria accordingly. These decisions and legal steps have been communicated to all our member societies.

Cem Mecco requests the member societies to organize their main congresses in odd years to continue with the best possible harmony of big events. The ones that could not move their congresses from even to odd years or organize congresses every year, he kindly asks them to set up the dates far away from the Confederation congresses and thanks EAONO for moving the congress some days further.

Unfortunately, we had the grave situation of the **Ukrainian war**, and the Confederation prepared the statement condemning the aggression which can be reached through our website and offered a 50% discount on registration fees for Ukrainian colleagues in Milano 2022. Cem Mecco thanks all participants from Ukraine attending the congress.

Report from **Advisory Board Meeting 30/09/2022**:

Cem Mecco thanks all participants attending the AB meeting where it was discussed the problem with UEMS Central in detail:

- The UEMS approved a document on European Training Requirements (ETR) of OMFS that includes almost all ORL HNS curriculum even though we have tried to stop it diplomatically but couldn't succeed due to actions against natural justice by the UEMS Central. This new fact, which cannot be accepted by ORL-HNS community, created a conflict that first do not reflect the reality of practice throughout Europe and furthermore would risk public health as this overambitious training requirements cannot be accomplished by OMFS adequately as many areas claimed are already under the ORL-HNS competency since the beginning of our specialty.
- Another issue is our objection to the new created Multidisciplinary Joint Committee (MJC) on Head and Neck Surgery due to ambiguities in the delegation of representatives and in the content itself. In addition, the name Head and Neck Oncology was originally planned and makes sense in real life clinical applications.
- Cem Mecco stresses that the Confederation and its national societies need to defend the specialty as it is their responsibility, by reaching out to the National Medical Association (NMA) Delegates who have the voting power at the UEMS Central.
- Has been discussed how to proceed together with our UEMS ORL section who are the representatives of our specialty at the UEMS level.
- Up to now none of the many letters that the Confederation and our member societies have written multiple times to the UEMS Central asking for answers on all these problematic issues have not been replied. As there were no options left except the lawsuit, as a last resort to defend ORL-HNS standpoint this way was utilized through the UEMSORL section and funded by the Confederation..

- According to the legal consultancy, the Confederation is right and have a strong legal case, and it has been decided to continue with the legal procedure, but further on be open to diplomacy and interaction with UEMS Central.
- The Confederation requests the national societies to inform their delegates of UEMS Central about the situation to have the information from both sides and, would like to cooperate very closely with the national societies to put pressure on the UEMS Central.
- The Confederation will provide two documents on the European Archives of ORL: one informing about the current situation and the second one why our specialty should have the head and neck surgery attached to the name of specialty, this document will help to officially request in your countries to have these name attached.
- Recently, the elections of UEMS ORL Section in Copenhagen tried to be prohibited by the UEMS Central; where the national societies as usual have sent delegates there and the lawyer informed that according to the procedure of UEMS and the Belgian law the election should be done, otherwise the mandate would be lost. Accordingly, the new board was elected in Copenhagen, but is not recognized by UEMS Central, creating another legal dispute. UEMS Central have claimed that they took over the governance of ORL Section and blocked the bank accounts. This action cannot be accepted by the Confederation, as the new board was democratically elected by the representatives of our national member societies to govern and protect our rights at UEMS level.
- Nevertheless, due to the fact that previous talks and communications with UEMS central were done through the UEMSORL officers, in order to refresh relationship with the Central and open a new communication channel to know each other as well as showing a friendly gesture, even though our previous letters were not replied, The Confederation invited the UEMS Executive to Milano, ready to cover all expenses just to meet personally for informal talks and have a lunch without any binding obligation to both sides, **but they rejected**, giving us conditions that cannot be accomplished before negotiating and reaching a consensus on both sides .
- Under these circumstances, unanimously the PC decided to peruse diplomatic ways in the form of unconditional negotiations, but also following on the lawsuit which is our only stronghold to reach a deal and for that to keep pressure on Central which we want to inform all representatives here.

Cem Mecco informs about **new applications of memberships**:

- Armenia as National Society Member: The Presidential Council voted and accepted; it has to be ratified by the General Assembly.
- The Nordic ORL-HNS Association as Affiliated Member: according to the Constitution the voting of the Presidential Council is enough.
- AAO-HNS Foundation and Canada applied as Co-opted Member: according to the by-laws the Presidential Council voted and accepted but has to be ratified by the General Assembly.

Cem Mecco informs that:

The Confederation proposes an **individual membership** for:

- European ENT: Practicing or retired ENT that are members of a subspecialty and/or national member societies (European countries including Israel acknowledged by the United Nations) will full access to all Confederation benefits.
- International Members: Full member of a non-European ENT society.
- Other Professionals: All other ENT-related professionals as audiologists, speech therapists
- Membership fees of 50€ annually.
- Benefits:
 - Access to our multimedia learning portal.
 - Regular information by email about ORL-HNS news and events via our Confederation newsletters.

- Opportunity to apply for Confederation grants, awards, fellowships and observerships under their specific rules and procedures.
- Discounts on standard registration fees to Confederation congresses and educational events.
- Inclusion in the Confederation community- easily connect with your peers, ask advice, publicize your own events, receive support and friendship.

Cem Mecco further on informs that the Confederation has been appointed as **International Corresponding Society of the American Academy of ORL-HNS Foundation** and from now on will be represented at their international Advisory Board meetings.

Regarding the **Congress development**, Cem Mecco thanks the Secretary General, Jan Plzák, for organizing the bidding. He informs that it has been received only one application from the Swedish Society for Gothenburg in 2026. He informs that the agreement with the PCO, Mondial, that was finished in 2019 was elongated until Dublin 2024. The Presidential Council wants to open a transparent bidding process for the next terms.

The Presidential Council has some proposals to **update the Constitution**, Cem Mecco reminds that the main work was done in the past term by Prof. Hans E. Eckel. The new changes are only to facilitate and ease the daily work, to inaugurate the individual memberships and the Young Confederation and better integrate the EBEORL which was founded the same year as the Confederation thus not well incorporated to the constitution. There are proposed some changes also on Honorary and Co-opted membership harmonization with Affiliated membership rules.

The Presidential Council has been working on the Congress programme development for 2022

- Scientific Program Building enhancements
- Improvements to rules for registrations:
 - Registration fee for faculties:
 - Early special until July 7: 600€
 - Early fee until September 30: 715€
 - Late/on site fee from October 1: 925€
 - Non-ENT:
 - Complimentary day badge
 - Attendance the full congress: special fee of 330€
- Continuation of Society Village and Presentations.
- New sections like Meet the Mentor.
- The Presidential Council approved that the congress fees will be waived for 2024 Congress for the Scientific Core Committee and the 2 key members per topic nominated by the subspecialty society to help construct the scientific program and do correspondence.

Cem Mecco indicates that this is a team effort, that the Presidential Council tried to do its best and thanks first to his General Secretary Jan Plzak and Treasurer Miro Tedla as Core PC members and then all Presidential Council members for the work done.

As per the question of one of the participants, Cem Mecco clarifies that the name of Academy does not refer to the name of the former subspecialty society group organisation name of European Academy, but it is a new concept to express and brand the "Current Concepts in ENT" seminars and problem based case discussions that is planned to be a part of the educational platform for younger colleagues. Jan Plzák additionally informs that for the first edition it is planned to have 100 participants and it is the name of the educational activity.

With a total quorum of the present Eligible Voters, the Report of the President is accepted.

6. Report of the Treasurer

Miroslav Tedla informs that at the General Assembly of 2019, he received the key from the predecessor Treasurer, Pietro Palma, and now he gives the key symbolically to the next Treasurer, Tomislav Baudoin.

He reports that the Confederation has the finances in one account, in Bank of Austria, and is in the process to open two new bank accounts to divide the assets.

Miroslav Tedla presents the balance for 2019, 2020 and 2021:

Account overview 2019		
Balance December 31, 2018		212.097,97 €
Expenses:		58.423,68 €
Education:	Fellowships & Travel Grants	0,00 €
Administrative Costs:	Society Secretariat and Third Party Costs	44.141,51 €
	Reimbursement travel expenses Board	14.079,36 €
	Bank fees	202,81 €
Incomes:	Congress (Brussels 2019)	198.500,00 €
Balance December 31, 2019		140.076,32 €

Account overview 2020		
Balance December 31, 2019		352.173,29 €
Expenses:		24.304,84 €
Education:	Fellowships & Travel Grants	0,00 €
Marketing & Promotion:	New webpage and newsletters	5.988,60 €
Administrative Costs:	Society Secretariat and Third Party Costs	17.881,97 €
	Reimbursement travel expenses Board	285,00 €
	Bank fees	149,27 €
Incomes:	Congress (remaining Brussels 2019)	9.569,40 €
Balance December 31, 2020		- 14.735,44 €

Account overview 2021		
Balance December 31, 2020		341.319,15 €
Expenses:		19.588,24 €
Education:	Fellowships & Travel Grants	0,00 €
Marketing & Promotion:	New webpage and newsletters	1.279,77 €
Administrative Costs:	Society Secretariat and Third Party Costs	13.825,97 €
	Reimbursement travel expenses Board	3.843,39 €
	Bank fees	639,11 €
Incomes:	Congress	0,00 €
Balance December 31, 2021		- 19.588,24 €

And the budget for 2022:

Budget 2022		
Balance December 31, 2021		317.364,88 €
Expenses:		110.336,00 €
Education:	Fellowships & Travel Grants	0,00 €
	Online Webinars	3.074,00 €
Marketing & Promotion:	New webpage and newsletters	1.462,00 €
Administrative Costs:	Society Secretariat and Third Party Costs (*)	76.900,00 €
	Reimbursement travel expenses Board	28.000,00 €
	Bank fees	800,00 €
Incomes:	Congress (Milan 2022 – 1 st down payment)	100.000,00 €
Preliminary Balance December 31, 2022		-10.336,00 €

(*) Include expenses of the lawyer to support UEMS ORL and to update the Constitution Update: 17/10/2022.

One of the delegates asks how much it has been paid for the legal issues with the UEMS ORL Section, Miroslav Tedla confirms a total sum of 11.253,18 €.

With a total quorum of the present Eligible Voters, the Report of the Treasurer and the budget for 2022 are accepted.

7. Report of the Internal Auditors | 8. Election of two Internal Auditors

Stephan Lang reports that have checked the financial reports and have found that everything is in order and clear.

With a total quorum of the present Eligible Voters, the Report of the Internal Auditors is accepted.

Cem Mecoc thanks for the work done to Dr Lang and Dr Chevalier.

Cem Mecoc informs that for the next term approached Stephan Lang and Dominique Chevalier to continue as Auditors and accepted to be the Internal Auditors for another period of two years.

With a total quorum of the present Eligible Voters, the Re-election of the Auditors is accepted.

8. Election of Presidential Council positions

Cem Mecco presents the the elect positions of the next term Presidential Council that needs to be elected during this GA and the candidate proposals made by the PC for each position. These elect positions are open to all interested candidates who would fulfill the requirements according to our constitution. The proposals being made by the PC here reflects a concept system that the last two PCs unanimously believe that it prepares and promotes serving officers to the next higher level of service according to their merits which would enable continuous development of the Confederation within a framework with corporate continuity, while also searching and merging new candidates who would integrate rather from bottom to top. Of course, the ones who commit, work and have clear merit would get these promotions to be proposed to the GA like in any official institution.

- Treasurer-Elect: Prof. Elisabetta Zanoletti, Italy. Letters of support by Italian Society of ORL-HNS, EAONO and ESBS.
Elisabetta Zanoletti presents herself.
There are no other applications for this position. With a total quorum of the present Eligible Voters, Elisabetta Zanolletti is accepted as Treasurer-Elect.
Cem Mecco welcomes Prof. Zanoletti to the Presidential Council.
- General-Secretary-Elect: Prof. Miroslav Tedla, Slovakia. Letters of support by Slovak Society of ORL-HNS, ELS and UEP.
There are no other applications for this position. Miroslav Tedla presents himself and recognizes his mentors. With a total quorum of the present Eligible Voters, Miroslav Tedla is accepted as Secretary General-Elect.
- President-Elect: Prof. Jan Plzák, Czech Republic. Letters of support by Czech Society of ORL-HNS, EASM, ELS and UEP.
There are no other applications for this position. Jan Plzák presents himself. With a total quorum of the present Eligible Voters, Jan Plzák is accepted as President-Elect.

Cem Mecco congratulates all new members of the PC in the next term.

9. Vote on application of Young Confederation as subspecialty member Society, Armenia as national society and co-opted membership applications

As mentioned during the report of the President, there are new membership applications:

- Subspecialty member: Young Confederation of European ORL-HNS.
With a total quorum of the present Eligible Voters, the Young Confederation is accepted as subspecialty society member.
- National member: Armenia
With a total quorum of the present Eligible Voters, Armenia is accepted as national society member.
- Co-opted member: AAO-HNS Foundation
With a total quorum of the present Eligible Voters, AAO-HNS Foundation is accepted as co-opted society member.
- Co-opted member: Canada
With a total quorum of the present Eligible Voters, Canada is accepted as co-opted society member.

10. Vote on changes to constitution

As informed at the report of the President, there are some changes to the present Constitution:

2. Structure/Acquisition and Termination of Membership

New article – Individual Membership:

2.7. Individual membership is open to the following individuals:

2.7.1. ENT doctors who are practicing or retired that are members of a Subspecialty Society or National Society.

2.7.2. International members who are full members of a non-European ENT-society.

2.7.3. other ENT-related professionals.

2.7.4. all individual members have full access to all benefits of the Confederation; the Presidential Council will determine these benefits.

2.8. Individual members are allowed to attend the General Assembly (5.1.-5.7.), but do not have voting rights. 2.3. to 2.6. apply accordingly with the following modifications:

2.8.1. Individual members may resign from the Confederation at any time. The resignation becomes effective for the following year and can be declared until the end of the year.

2.8.2. The membership ends automatically with the death of the individual member. Individual members can be expelled by the Presidential Council 2.5.):

2.8.2.1. with immediate effect, if they fail to fulfil the obligation to pay the fees (7.1.1.) during a period of two years.

2.8.2.2. with immediate effect, if they no longer meet the conditions to be an individual member (2.7.1. to 2.7.3.).

2.8.2.3. without reason effective at the end of the respective year.

3. Aims and Objectives of the Society

Update:

3.9. The Confederation will collaborate with the UEMS ORL Section and **EBEORL-HNS and their Boards** and the aforementioned organisations to

3.9.1. assist in the distribution and use by trainees of the UEMS-ORL logbook,

3.9.2. encourage the principle of regular visitation of ORL-HNS Training Departments,

3.9.3. develop programs for subspecialty training in the field of ORL-HNS,

3.9.4. develop European Board Certification of ORL-HNS,

3.9.5. recommend, encourage and facilitate continuing medical education (CME) and continuing professional development (CPD),

3.9.6. ensure the highest possible standard of specialist certification in Europe in the field of ORL-HNS.

4. Presidential Council

Update:

4.6.4. The Presidential Council will meet at least once per year at a location and date to be decided, as far as possible, in the preceding meeting. The attendance of guests, in particular of the staff that deals with day-to-day business, can be admitted by a simple majority of the members of the Presidential Council. **Each National Society and each Subspecialty Society has the right to delegate one representative to meetings of the Presidential Council with no voting right.**

5. General Assembly of the Confederation

5.5. Votes

Present:

5.5.3. The European Junior Doctors (EJD) has two votes and delegate two eligible Representatives to the General Assembly: One representing doctors in specialised medical training. One representing fellows not holding senior positions.

New:

5.5.3. The **Young Confederation** has two votes and delegate two eligible Representatives to the General Assembly: One representing doctors in specialised medical training. One representing fellows not holding senior positions

6. Young Confederation

New article:

6.1. The Young Confederation is a group of individuals within the CEORL-HNS.

6.2. Any member of a Subspecialty Society, National Society or any individual member of the Confederation younger than 45 years of age at the time of the application to join, may apply to become part of the Young Confederation.

6.3. The membership with the Young Confederation ends automatically at the end of the year in which the respective member turns 45.

6.4. The members of the Young Confederation organise themselves in a transparent democratic process to select the delegates and exercise the votes (5.5.3.). They ensure that the provisions of 6.2. and 6.3. are complied with. They decide themselves who can join the Young Confederation and how membership ends.

6.5. The “Young Confederation List” as enclosed to these bylaws contains a list of the initial members of the Young Confederation.

Subsequent articles change the number:

7. Finance

8. Auditors

9. Internal Conciliation Board

10. Dissolution of the Society

11. Special Memberships

11. Special Memberships – Honorary Membership

Present:

10.1. Honorary Membership may be conferred on persons who have rendered special services to the Confederation. ~~The Presidential Council can nominate persons for an Honorary Membership. The General Assembly decides on the bestowal on the nominee.~~ An Honorary Member has the right to attend General Assemblies, but has no voting right.

New:

11.1. Honorary Membership may be conferred on persons who have rendered special services to the Confederation. **The Presidential Council awards honorary memberships.** An Honorary Member has the right to attend General Assemblies, but has no voting right.

11. Special Memberships – Co-opted Membership

Present:

10.3. National ORL-HNS-societies of non-European countries can become Co-Opted Members. The Presidential Council can nominate such societies for co-opted membership. ~~The General Assembly decides on their admission.~~ A Co-Opted Member has the right to nominate one Representative for the General Assembly 5.2 applies analogously. They have no voting right.

New:

11.3. National ORL-HNS-societies of non-European countries can become Co-Opted Members. The Presidential Council **decides on the admission of Co-Opted Members.** A Co-Opted Member has the

right to nominate one Representative for the General Assembly. 5.2 applies analogously. They have no voting right.

As there are no other comments on the proposed Constitution, with a total quorum of the present Eligible Voters, the new Constitution is approved.

11. Vote on Individual membership fee

Cem Mecco proposes a Membership fee of 50€ annually.

With a total quorum of the present Eligible Voters, the Individual Membership fee is approved.

12. 6th Congress of European ORL-HNS, October 29 – November 2, 2022, Milan

Cem Mecco, on behalf of the Confederation, recognises Piero Nicolai and Isabel Vilaseca for the organisation of the Congress.

Piero Nicolai thanks for the support received by the Presidential Council to organize the Congress and, thanks all the Representatives present for the support to the new Young Confederation as this is the future.

Isabel Vilaseca thanks for having the opportunity of being part of this project and building the scientific programme; she specially thanks the support of Piero Nicolai and Cem Mecco.

Cem Mecco reports about the figures:

- Registration Statistics as of Monday 31/10/2022:
 - Almost 2.933 Participants from 82 Countries
 - 639 Faculty Members
 - 1.821 Delegates
 - 397 Industry Representatives
 - (76 Staff)
 - Delegates per continent:
 - Africa: 33 / 1.32%
 - Asia: 227 / 9.08%
 - Europe: 1.979 / 79.13%
 - North America: 138 / 5.52%
 - Oceania: 8 / 0,32%
 - South America: 116 / 4.64%
 - Top 10 countries:
 - Italy (227)
 - United Kingdom (163)
 - Portugal (162)
 - Spain (154)
 - Sweden (98)
 - Germany (90)
 - United States (87)
 - Colombia (80)
 - Netherlands (78)
 - Switzerland and Turkey (74 each)
 - Invited countries:
 - Brazil
 - Canada

- Egypt
- China including Hong Kong:
- Malaysia
- Mexico
- Industry:
 - Sponsors: Medtronic, Olympus, Sanofi, Stryker, Storz, Cochlear, Atos, Karl Storz, GSK
 - 51 Exhibitors – 647sqm
- Projected result as of 03/10/2022: 303.299,53 €

Piero Nicolai thanks personally to Scientific Secretary Isabel Vilaseca, on behalf of Mondial Gloria Casanova and Sebastian Batestin, as well as on behalf of the PC President Cem Mecco personally.

13. 7th Congress of European ORL-HNS, June 15-19, Dublin

John Russell thanks the members of the current Presidential Council and the previous Presidential Council for supporting the Dublin proposal for 2024. He introduces Michael Kuo as Scientific Chair who presents the scientific programme of the Congress.

They present:

- The logo for the 2024 congress.
- The venue: The Convention Centre Dublin (CCD) with 17 parallel sessions.
- The scientific programme that will be similar to Milan.
- The Scientific Core Committee and the two key people responsible for the programme from each subspecialty.
- The timeline.
- The venue for the Congress evening.
- To finish the presentation, show a video of the city of Dublin and invite all the present delegates to attend.

14. Application 8th Congress of European ORL-HNS and election of the Congress President 2026

Cem Mecco informs that the PC received one proposal for Gothenburg from Ann Hermansson.

Ann Hermansson presents the application for 2026:

- Congress President: Ann Hermansson
- Scientific Chairs: Linda Erika Marklund and Per Cayé-Thomasen
- Dates: July 4-8, 2026
- Venue: Swedish Exhibition & Congress Centre and Gothia Towers
- Dublin:
 - Airport located 10 km from the city centre and 15 km from the CCD
 - Flights to over 195 destinations
- The congress venue Swedish Exhibition & Congress Centre and Gothia Towers is located centrally in Gothenburg. It is a fully integrated hotel and congress facility with restaurants and cafés, parks, culture, shops
- Other hotels conveniently within walking distance.

Ann Hermansson welcomes all participants to travel to Gothenburg in 2026.

With a total quorum of the present Eligible Voters, the venue and the President for 2026 Congress are accepted.

Cem Mecco thanks Ann Hermansson for the application and welcomes her to the Presidential Council.

15. Next General Assembly of the Confederation

It will take place on the occasion of the 7th Congress of European ORL-HNS in Dublin in June 2024.
Date t.b.a.

16. Any other Business

Manuel Bernal-Sprekelsen and, on behalf Marc Remacle also, Senior Counsellor Members, thanks the Presidential Council members for the great job done during the past two years.

Cem Mecco thanks personally Piero Nicolai, Isabel Vilaseca, the members of the Core Presidential Council, Jan Plzák and Miroslav Tedla, the Executive Officer, Gloria Casanova and the Mondial Team represented by the Project Manager, Sebastian Battestin.

17. Recognition of the Presidential Council 2019-2022

Cem Mecco recognizes and thanks personally with a certificate all members of the Presidential Council for the work done and dedication during the last three years.

18. Presentation of the new Confederation Presidential Council

Cem Mecco presents the new Presidential Council and welcomes Per Cayé-Thomasen as President of the Confederation, which will be effective with the closing ceremony of the Milano Congress.

Per Cayé-Thomasen expresses the gratitude to Cem Mecco for his leadership during the last period and recognizes him with a certificate honouring his service to the Confederation as the President between 2019 to 2022.

President: Per Cayé-Thomasen

President-Elect: Jan Plzák

General Secretary: Elisabeth Sjögren

General Secretary-Elect: Miroslav Tedla

Treasurer: Tomislav Baudoin

Treasurer-Elect: Elisabetta Zanoletti

Congress President 2024: John Russell

Congress President 2026: Ann Hermansson

UEMS Representative: John Fenton until 31/12/2022. From 01/01/2023 will be Adrian Agius

EBEORL Representative: Ulrik Pedersen until 04/11/2022

Past President: Cem Mecco

Senior Counsellor: Manuel Bernal-Sprekelsen

Senior Counsellor: Marc Remacle

Cem Mecco thanks all the participants for their attendance and closes the meeting using the Confederation Hammer.

The General Assembly is closed at 15:00 h