European Committee for Homeopathy

MEETING MINUTES

COUNCIL

Meeting name	**Council, Mainz**		
Date	14 May 2023	**Time**	10.00 – 12.00 CET
Attendees	Jean Pierre Jansen (JPJ) Natalia Tzima (NT) Ileana Rîndașu (IR) Tiziana Di Giampietro (TDG) Susann Buchheim (SB) Dora Pachova (DP) Cristal Skaling-Klopstock (CSK) Joan Vidal (JV) Margaret Wyllie (MW)	**Apologies**	Edward De Beukelaer (EB) Neli Oleh (NO)
Minutes	Margaret Wyllie	**Moderator**	Cristal Skaling-Klopstock
Next meeting	**Thurs 13 July, 18.30-20.30 CET**	**Venue**	Zoom

DISCUSSION OF TOPICS

1	*10.00*	*Welcome, amendments to Agenda*	*Cristal*
Discussion summary	Extra item: WissHom support for ECH Academy – in AOB.		

2	*10.02*	*Approval of previous Minutes*	*Cristal*
Discussion summary	The Minutes of 09.03.23 were approved.		

2b	*10.03*	*Feedback from weekend (additional agenda item)*	*All*
Discussion summary	SC Politics: there was very positive feedback about the Council and about the PR session. There was approval for the inclusion of vets and pharmacists for the purposes of the WHO benchmark but a few members are still very resistant to including non-doctors. Members thought some WGs were working well but were waiting to see the outcome of others before being able to gauge their success. It is important that the different WGs are scheduled to have separate meetings to avoid confusion with SCs, eg WG Terms & Concepts is not solely the preserve of SC Research and needs to stand by itself. WG Terms & Concepts: many members felt the focus of this WG should be on scientific concepts rather than on basic terminology, as the latter would be a never-ending task, it would be impossible to reach agreement and ECH already has an extensive thesaurus. (The core Capra group may be able to suggest terms for new scientific concepts.) There was a vigorous discussion and it was agreed that Council will first agree the required outcomes and objectives, keeping in mind who our audience is. Then a meeting can be arranged with WissHom, LIGA and HRI, instead of having 4 separate groups all working on the same issue.		
Conclusions	WGs should be scheduled to have separate meetings. Council to discuss focus of WG Terms & Concepts.		

Action items	**Person responsible**	**Deadline**
Agree objectives and outcomes for WG Terms & Concepts.	Council	Zoom meeting
Arrange meeting with WissHom, LIGA and HRI.		

3	*10.21*	*Agrohomeopathy*	*Ileana*
Discussion summary	Meetings have been held with agronomist Leonardo Faedo (Coventry Univ) and ABHAMA (Brazil). ECH and ABHAMA will have a joint online conference/symposium on 6 and 7 December. Another meeting has been arranged for 29 May. There is some discussion about the term agrohomeopathy and it is suggested we refer instead to Homeopathy in Agriculture and the Environment. It is important to share ideas with LIGA, who are also developing an agrohomeopathy programme, and we may be able to propose a common project.		
Conclusions	ECH will set up a WG, with IR and Leonardo Faedo as coordinators, and with meetings alongside the SCs.		

Action items	**Person responsible**	**Deadline**
Share ideas with LIGA at online meeting on 26 May	Council	26 May
Set up WG with Leonardo Faedo.	IR	asap

4	*10.30*	*Establish ECH Foundation for receipt of funds*	*Jean Pierre*
Discussion summary		Wim Menkveld has advised that, once we have Dutch bank account, a separate account should be opened under the name of ECH Foundation in order to receive grants, subsidies, etc	
Conclusions		Council approved expenditure for legal advice.	
Action items		**Person responsible**	**Deadline**
Specialist advice to be sought re legal requirements.		Jean Pierre	asap

5	*10.48*	*Autumn meeting, Vienna, 13-15 Oct*	*Jean Pierre*
Discussion summary		This meeting will be organised in conjunction with ÖGHM, and Reinhardt Flick and Erfried Pichler have this in hand. They require an outline ECH timetable by the end of June. Suggested programme: Thurs – SC Provings* Friday am – Council meeting Sat am or pm – lecture by Prof Christian Schubert, neuroimmunologist (Innsbruck) (open to all interested parties) Sat am or pm – SCs and WGs Sun am – Council meeting Fri (or Sat?) evening – dinner to celebrate 70 years of ÖGHM *Reinhardt Flick and Peter Smith have offered to become joint coordinators of SC Provings. It is intended to set up a series of symposia to collect expertise (esp from Austria who have over 40 years' experience) to transfer existing knowledge to younger specialists and to share expertise about safe trituration.	
Conclusions		Approved invitation to Prof Schubert.	
Action items		**Person responsible**	**Deadline**
Invite Prof Schubert to speak on Sat am or pm (2 hrs, incl Q&A).		JPJ	asap
Send outline programme to Reinhardt and Erfried.		JPJ	end June

6	*10.48*	*Priorities for revision of statutes*	*Jean Pierre*
Discussion summary		JPJ had presented some proposed changes to SC Politics. A majority had been in favour of including dentists and vets; discussion about pharmacists would continue by email. The allocation of votes for these professions should perhaps be by association rather than by country, and this also remains to be discussed. The SC members were resistant to the idea of an increase in subscriptions, and it was pointed out that they had to pay to belong to other groups as well and were not necessarily clear about the	

	advantages of belonging to ECH and our developments often seem abstract. To attract younger members, it was suggested that ECH funds 4 young doctors to come to Vienna and present a short (3-point) programme of their intentions, and then mentor them to achieve this for perhaps a 3-month period.
Conclusions	We need to organise more events to benefit members (see 5 above). Approved proposal to invite young doctors to events and to organise programme for them.

Action items	**Person responsible**	**Deadline**
Invite 4 young doctors to Vienna.	DP (2), JV (1), NT (1)	when Prof Schubert confirmed
Further discussions required regarding statute changes.	JPJ / NT	

7	*11.07*	*LMHI–ECH collaboration*	*Jean Pierre*
Discussion summary		1 LIGA to present their strategy and then we can discuss shared projects. 2 Prepare proposal for cooperation of doctors and non-doctors in preparation for WHO guidelines. Initial discussions will be with LMHI and, following that, with ECCH. This is important in order to avoid homeopathy being excluded – "United in Diversity". This topic will also be included at the stakeholder meeting at HRI on June 16.	
Conclusion		NT and EDB will write proposal.	

Action items	**Person responsible**	**Deadline**
Prepare proposal for meeting on 26 May.	NT / EB	asap
Include topic on Agenda for Stakeholder meeting.	IR	5 June

8	*11.15*	*2025 LMHI Congress in Utrecht, Netherlands*	*Natalia*
Discussion summary		Ideas for collaborating, eg common SC/WG sessions, satellite session(s), social event, key speakers (Van Eyck – photon research on simile principle) should be shared with Beatrice Roldaan, key contact for the event. Bogota – Education for the Professionalisation and Qualification of Homeopathic Medicine: ask for more information; LMHI needs high-quality practical papers about education.	
Conclusion		Participate in Utrecht meeting.	

Action items	**Person responsible**	**Deadline**
Confirm ECH's ideas for meeting; share with Beatrice.	Council	asap

Ascertain LMHI expectations for Bogota.	DP	asap

9	*11.20*	*Stakeholders meeting in London: Thurs 15 June, 1-2pm*	*Natalia*

Discussion	New venue: Leonardo Royal Hotel, Tower of London, London ECH will host HRI, LMHI, ECHAMP, ECCH – establish a common vision; only 1 hr available so a clearly defined agenda is a must. It was agreed to share the ECH SWOT analysis prior to meeting and ask people for additions; this will then inform the discussion to dovetail efforts of forward plans.
Conclusion	Moderator: CSK; Minutes: MW

Action items	**Person responsible**	**Deadline**
Send SWOT analysis and ask other groups to submit ideas.	IR	29 May
Send clearly defined agenda	IR	5 June

10	*11.34*	*Gino Santini's proposal for a scientific newsletter*	*Dora*

Discussion summary	Proposal to offer SIOMI's expertise for an ECH Academy scientific newsletter as a tool for ECH Academy to maintain contact with our network; ECH would need to purchase the rights to articles (€1,000-€2,000 per annum) and select people, under Gino's guidance, to translate these into English and write abstracts. However, younger people don't accept such filtering; now get their information from multiple sources and use ChatGTP. Suggestion that ECH makes an agreement with ChatGTP or develops strategy around feeding it positive questions and information about homeopathy.
Conclusions	Wait until our database is completed, then assess if producing a scientific newsletter similar to SIOMI's would be of value to members and collaborators for 1-2 year trial of 3-4 issues per year. Investigate and nurture ChatGTP.

Action items	**Person responsible**	**Deadline**
Send presentation researched from Chat GTP.	JV	Already sent
Discussion to be continued – keep on agenda.	IR	Future meeting

11	*11.54*	*Possibility of honorary ECH membership*	*Jean Pierre*

Discussion summary	Luc Uyttenhove, a founding member of SC Provings since 1993, has now stepped down. JPJ proposed he be awarded Honorary Membership of ECH.
Conclusions	Agreed.

Action items	**Person responsible**	**Deadline**

Design Certificate of Honorary Membership.	JP	for next meeting

12	*11.55*	*ECH meeting in Como, Spring 2024*	*Jean Pierre*
Discussion summary	Carlo Rezzani had offered to organise this, but the costs are prohibitive, and he suggested Bergamo as an alternative. TDG offered to research appropriate venues in Bergamo and JV in Barcelona.		
Conclusions			
Action items		**Person responsible**	**Deadline**
Ask Miranda to send ECH meeting requirements to TDG and JV.		JPJ	asap

13	*12.00*	*AOB*	
Discussion summary	**1 *CAPRA* - Dora** IR will need to resend invitation, but numbers are good. All applicants to submit brief letters of motivation explaining how their participation would benefit ECH including Council members. There are 16 applicants to date. From Council: JPJ, NT, IR, EB, SB, TDG, NO (?), DP, CSK (8 or 9) From membership: Brigitte Jauch-Wimmer, Sara Faggin, Sigrid Krüse, Niurka Meneses, Vangelis Zafeiriou (5) Awaiting confirmation from: Russell Malcolm, Bruno Galeazzi/Antonella Ronchi, Nana Gianopolou (3) **2 Bank account - Jean Pierre** We will soon be able to transfer the money from our current account (and hopefully also our deposit account) to the new Dutch bank. However, because, despite exhaustive enquiries, we cannot account for the origin of the Investment Account, we will be investigated for money laundering. All inquiries should be directed to JPJ or MW who have the full information. **3. WissHom projects which also support ECH - Dora** a) An e-learning module, openly available through their website; the intention is to translate this into English. (MW will be contracted to edit the final version.) b) An online learning program for advanced students; this consists of 7-minute videos describing 40 remedies. This is a very good introductory video. c) An online lexicon (which would connect with ECH Terms & Concepts strategy) – SB is involved in this. d) blended learning - ECH should support these projects to avoid duplication of work. DP has asked to see the material so the next steps can be discussed. **4. Editing Margaret** Whilst very happy to continue to help with editing documents of 2-3 pages, MW is no longer prepared to undertake larger texts without payment, as these can take several hours' work. To		

	avoid any conflict of interest, the role should be advertised, and the most suitable candidate selected.
Conclusions	All items agreed.

Action items	**Person responsible**	**Deadline**
CAPRA letter to be re-sent.	IR	asap
Look at WissHom programs to gauge use for ECH Academy.	DP	shortly
Editor position to be advertised through website and newsletter.	MW	asap

Meeting ended at 12.10