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European Federation for Medical Informatics

Report to the IMIA Board Meeting - August 1996

Since the last IMIA General Assembly, EFMI's main activities have been the current MIE in Copenhagen and a Special Topic Conference entitled 'Strategic Alliances between Patient Documentation & Medical Informatics' - known as AMICE 95 and held in Amsterdam in November 1995. This working conference was organised by the Dutch Society for Medical Informatics (VMBI) - to celebrate their 25th anniversary - in cooperation with the Foundation for Advancement of Health Informatics in the Netherlands (BIGN), the Belgian Society for Medical Informatics (MIM), and EFMI. Approximately forty papers plus posters were presented to 500 delegates. The conference was preceded by a one-day working conference for about thirty international experts, and supported by an exhibition. Delegates not only received the normal, well produced soft-back proceedings, but also received the entire proceedings including much of the presentation material on compact disc. This was probably 'a first' for EFMI and, no doubt, the way ahead.

Professor Jean-Raoul Scherrer (Switzerland) took over as President on 1st January 1996 and John Bryant (UK) became Vice-President (IMIA) on the same date. Other new officers were appointed at the Council meeting in Copenhagen in March this year and include:

Vice-President: Professor Attila Naszlady (Hungary)

Secretary: Dr Rolf Engelbrecht (Germany)

plus a new post of

Publication Officer: Professor Arie Hasman (Netherlands).

The remaining existing officers are:

Treasurer: Professor Pierre Le Beux (France)

Information Officer: Dr Jacob Hofdijk (Netherlands)

Executive Officer: Dr Assa Reichert (Israel).

Jos Aarts (the Netherlands) has been appointed Chairman of EFMI's WG9 - Organisational Impact of Health Informatics. He is working to ensure close collaboration with IMIA's WG13. A proposal has been made, in consultation with the IMIA President, to establish a special interest group on health informatics and development.

The MIE Congress in 1997 will take place in Thessaloniki, 25-29th May 1997.

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