Dear Jean-Raoul,

Enclosed I am sending you the reports for IMIA Workinggroup 4 and IMIA Workinggroup 10. I will bring 70 copies of each with me to Copenhagen.

I am also trying to arrange for the meeting of the Special Committee that is preparing for the transition of Workinggroup 10 into a Special Interest Group. In conjunction with MIE '96.

Looking forward to successful meetings in Copenhagen.

Yours sincerely,

Ab Bakker

Enclosures
Report of IMIA Workinggroup 4 to IMIA AGM and IMIA board

After the successful MEDINFO 96, where three sessions were dedicated to security, the workinggroup organised its workingconference "Communicating health information in an insecure world" in Helsinki, September 30 - October 2 1995. The workingconference brought together 52 participants from (15 countries) different disciplines, 28 invited papers were presented.

The proceedings are in print at the moment, as a special issue of the International Journal of BioMedical Computing and in a hard cover version, which version will also contain all the discussiongroup sessions reports.

After the working conference Barry Barber handed over the chairmanship to Ab Bakker.

Our Japanese colleagues volunteered to hold the next working conference in Japan. Koji Yamamoto will be the main engine behind this activity, that in the mean time got the official support of our Japanese member. This next working conference will take place November 22 - 25 1997. The first meeting of the scientific programme committee will take place in conjunction with the MIE 96 conference in Copenhagen.

It is difficult to find sponsorship for working conferences on the subject security. For that reason the organisers of the Japanese working conference are asking financial support of IMIA, an amount of 5,000 SWFR would be quite helpful.

The current list of members is attached. The national representatives are asked to review the list, to change the representative if appropriate or nominate new candidates.

Ab Bakker

(4 |imiawg4-report)
Report of IMIA Workinggroup 10 (Health Information Systems) to IMIA AGM and IMIA board

The subject "Health Information Systems" attracted a lot of attention during the MEDINFO 96 conference. There were ten sessions on HIS, many of them were overcrowded. This showed clearly that the subject is still very vital.

In view of the new statutes of IMIA it was decided in principle to change the status of workinggroup 10 into a special interestgroup (SIG). This transition is still being prepared. It is a process that is hardly known within IMIA, the only example until now is workinggroup 8, that changed its status.

In view of the new statutes several other workinggoups will have to go through such a transition process. For that reason it is recommended that the board pays attention to the structuring and planning of such a transition process.

For workinggroup 10 a preparatory committee was installed, consisting of 6 members from the same number of countries. Until now this has turned out to be a difficult procedure. Because of the complexity of the subject a meeting of the committee members is desirable, but on the other hand it is difficult to get such a meeting organised. During MIE 96 it will be tried again to have a meeting and come with a concrete proposal (a discussion document has been mailed to the members).

Another important issue is the chairmanship of the workinggroup. The committee is also asked to come with a proposal.

Until now workinggroup 10 has been an active and productive workinggroup. The status issue and the chairmanship issue hampers the activity of the group seriously. At the moment the activity level is low. There is only a suggestion for a next working conference in Hongkong in 1997, however it is doubtful whether that is realistic.

The current list of members is attached to this report. It is proposed not to modify this list before the SIG status is achieved and the structure of the SIG has been made explicit.

Ab Bakker
Dear Ab,

Thank you very much for the update of IMIA WG 4 activities which you sent me to present on your behalf before the IMIA Board in Seoul at the end of January. Your report was very well received by the Board and we all wish you the very best of success as the new Chairman in this already well motivated working group.

There was one item that the IMIA Board discussed in Seoul concerning IMIA WG 4 and which I will now briefly outline and would be pleased to get your initial response as to how to set this in action.

The IMIA Board have recommended that the WG 4 invest effort to investigate the security problems related to present and future networking approaches with the broader use of connected PCs. This is so that IMIA can have a set of recommendations to promote concerning these topics in the future. The proposition was to get feedback in time to present at the next IMIA AGM and Board taking place in Copenhagen around August 17/18 just before MIE 96.

I will be in touch with you after next Monday, February 26 on my return from vacation.

With warmest best wishes,

Jean-Raoul Scherrer MD