



September 2017

Dear Delegates,

Our GGB meeting in Salzburg is at an advanced stage of preparation. Following our decision in Athens we are continuing the one day scientific meeting prior to our GGB. This year we are focussing, once again, on a topic that is important to patients, healthcare providers and to us. We are presenting 'Biomedical Scientists Adding Value to the Healthcare System'. The conference will examine many facets of this important topic.

Again in addition to the plenary sessions we also plan a poster session. This session is designed for each of you to share with all of us how you see the 'value added' of our profession to healthcare. We are seeking one poster per member of our association for this session. By sharing our visions we can work together to enhance our profession in all countries. Abstracts and poster titles should be submitted to the General Secretary now.

Over the past year we have turned our attention more directly to the EU. Our Spanish Colleagues have lodged a petition directly to the European Parliament Committee on Petitions and this has been supported directly by EPBS and by many of our members, including via their MEPs.

In pursuit of our agenda a delegation, consisting of Fernando Mendes, Anneke Geurts and myself, met, in Brussels, with Sophie Weisswange, Policy Officer Professional Qualification and Skills at the Directorate-General for Internal Market. We discussed regulation of Biomedical Scientists, the ESCO project and links between that project and the ISCO standards. In tandem with this our colleagues in IFBLS have met with the ISCO Secretariat. During our meeting in Brussels we also met with the Director General of CEPLIS, the European Council of Liberal Professions. A relationship between CEPLIS and EPBS would be of benefit to EPBS in pursuing our agenda in Brussels.

Last year in Athens we were examining our strategy. One of the areas for discussion was production of policy statements. It was suggested that we prepare a short statement identifying who and what Biomedical Scientists are. A draft of this statement is being prepared and will be presented in Salzburg for your consideration. We also considered the financial health of EPBS and our Treasurer, Anneke Geurts, will present proposals for ensuring our financial stability

As we present EPBS, and the profession, we must consider an important question. Does EPBS represent all Biomedical Scientists in Europe? We know that in many of our member countries that there is more than one representative organisation for Biomedical Scientists. Some additional organisations, from time to time, approach us requesting membership. We reply outlining our regulations and suggesting they contact our member noting that we can have one member per country. So I ask you to consider approaching such organisations in your country with a view to listening to their voice and concerns so that you can work with them to ensure that EPBS can be a voice for all.

I look forward to meeting and working with you all in Salzburg.



European Association for Professions
in Biomedical Science
EPBS is an International Non-Profit Association (AISBL) registered under the Belgian law.

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Yours sincerely,

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President