

32nd UMEMPS CONGRESS
30th September- 3rd October 2009 Dubrovnik

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32nd UMEMPS congress (Union of Middle Eastern and Mediterranean Pediatric Societies), was held in Dubrovnik in the congresses halls of the Hotel Croatia-Cavtat, on September 30th - October 3rd 2009 under auspices of the Mr. Stjepan Mesić - The President of Republic of Croatia, Ministry of Science, Education and Sport of Republic Croatia and under patronage of Dubrovnik Neretva County, Split Dalmatia County, City of Dubrovnik and City of Zagreb.

The congress had been designed with the aim of achieving a balanced flow of knowledge from different pediatric fields of research and clinical experience in order to improve pediatric daily practice and scientific horizons. On plenary sessions there were some very interesting lectures about Pediatrics in the 21st c., Children health and environment, Millennium development goals and international child health, Globalization in perinatal medicine and UMEMPS role in the past and future. Very interesting lectures about Errors in diagnostic thinking and new primitive reflex (elbowing reflex) were also presented on plenary sessions as well as experience of partnership in child health promotion in Dubrovnik.

In total 68 lectures were held and 82 posters were exhibited and discussed on poster symposium, where some of them were orally presented. Especially notable were scientific sessions about rotavirus, pneumococcal and HPV diseases and vaccinations, diagnosis and endoscopic and surgical treatment of obstructive tracheal pathology, pediatric cardiac surgery, pediatric gastrointestinal endoscopy and education on pediatric resuscitation and emergency. The oral presentations by invited speakers and participants are particularly interested on the topic drew renal transplantation, the role of ultrasonography in evaluating children after urinary tract infection, neonatal screening, the importance of genetic counseling in pediatrics, childhood tuberculosis, nosocomial infections, antibiotic therapy in AOM, aspects of atopic diseases and problem of nutrition, obesity as well and specify of adolescent medicine.

During the Congress, an industrial exhibition of medical manufacturers and pharmaceutical companies was organized in the congress area. In that place some upcoming events, such as The Excellence in Pediatrics which will be held in Florence in December 2009. and 26th International Congress of Pediatrics of the IPA to be hosted in Johannesburg, South Africa by the South African Paediatric Association from the 4th – 9th August 2010. were presented as well as Turkish National Pediatric Society as a candidate for organizing 28th International Pediatric Congress 2016 in Istanbul.

293 participants from UMEMPS and many other countries from different parts of the world were in Dubrovnik during those four days of the 32nd congress. They spent pleasant time during social events and enjoyed in beauties of local landscape. During Opening ceremony attendees were welcomed by representatives of the organizers, patronages and hosts, Prof. Andreas Konstantopoulos, President of the European Paediatric Association and Prof. Jane G. Schaller Executive Director, International Pediatric Association. Congress was opened personal by parish Dubrovnik-Neretva County, Mr. Nicholas Dobrosravić as a representative of Croatian president. Opening the program was completed with effective performance of folklore ensemble Lindjo. The opening ceremony was followed by the pleasant company on the terraces of the Hotel Croatia, with a wonderful view of the Dubrovnik Riviera, delicious food and excellent performance of Dubrovnik jazz ensemble.

At the 1st October evening participants of the Congress were present at the Concert of the Dubrovnik Symphony Orchestra. Congress participants, by personally and by Congress Service organization, spent a lot of time in the sightseeing tour of Dubrovnik and its surroundings. Gala dinner was organized in the Old town restaurant in the center of Dubrovnik, with a performance ensemble from the Renaissance music.

UMEMPS General Assembly was held at the 1st. October. Some decisions of UMEMPS General Assembly are:

1. New Board was elected: President: Ali Halabi; Vice –President: Vjekoslav Krzelj; General Secretary:Enver Hasanoglu; Treasure: Robert Sacy

Councilors: Maria Kalmanti, Ahmed Younef, Jean Christophe Mercier, Ivan Vidmar, Ali Al Matti, Saayda Ben Becher

2. Honorary presidents for life were elected: Prof. İhsan Dogramaci, Prof. Hussein Bahaeldin, Prof. Theodore Thomaidis, Prof. Hassan Pharaon

3. Collaboration with Egyptian Pediatric Society to share diamond Jubilee's Congress in February 2010

4. Next 33rd UMEMPS Congress will be held in Jordan, Amman 2011.

I hope that the Congress had successful scientific program and pleasant moments of social events with an exchange our knowledge and experiences and thus contribute to better health care for children.

Prof .Dr. Enver Hasanoglu

General Secretary

