



<http://www.efcs.eu>

June 30, 2010

Dear President, Dear Claude,

The European Federation of Cytology Societies (EFCS) currently represents 25 National Cytology Societies covering nearly all of Europe. This European, international organization highly appreciates the efforts of UEMS to standardize pathology training comprising histology, cytology, autopsy and molecular pathology. We find it extremely important that the training charter of the UEMS clearly states that basic training in gynecological and non-gynecological cytology is integral part of the common trunk of pathology training. Furthermore the declaration of cytology as a new subspeciality – in the same sense such as neuropathology, dermatopathology or forensic pathology already are – will open new opportunities in harmonization cytopathology practice all over Europe. We have to keep in mind at the same time, that even accepting that “the sovereignty of the member states cannot be overruled” a common European cytology subspecialty training followed by a European certificate will lessen the differences which right now do exist among many European countries in cytopathology training and practice.

In our opinion, the only acceptable European organization to help these efforts at a high professional level is EFCS. Thus we are ready to be mandated by the UEMS in developing criteria for training in cytology as a subspecialty of pathology in Europe. This is in accordance with our previous negotiations in Porto (Portugal): the final practical results of this work will be presented to UEMS within one year.

We are convinced that this joint effort and its expected result will be an important part of the professional integration process under the umbrella of the UEMS.

Looking forward to hearing from you soon.

With our warm regards,

Fernando Schmitt (EFCS President)  
Martin Tötsch (EFCS Treasurer)  
Philippe Vielh (EFCS Secretary General)