European Committee on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing (EUCAST)

Unratified minutes of the Meeting on 4 May 2004
14th European Congress of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, Prague, Czech Republic

A list of attendees who signed the register is attached.

1. **Apologies for absence**
   None received.

2. **Minutes of meeting in Glasgow, 12 May 2003**
   The minutes were approved as a true record.

3. **Matters arising**
   None.

4. **EUCAST Steering Committee membership**
   Dr Kahlmeter reported that the current membership of the Steering Committee is:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chairman</td>
<td>Dr Gunnar Kahlmeter</td>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>2005</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scientific Secretary</td>
<td>Dr Derek Brown</td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>2005</td>
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<td>BSAC</td>
<td>Prof Alasdair MacGowan</td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>2005</td>
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<td>CRG</td>
<td>Dr Johan W. Mouton</td>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>2005</td>
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<td>DIN</td>
<td>Dr Arne Rodloff</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>2005</td>
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<td>NWGA</td>
<td>Dr Martin Steinbakk</td>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>2005</td>
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<tr>
<td>SFM</td>
<td>Dr Fred Goldstein</td>
<td>France</td>
<td>2005</td>
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<tr>
<td>SRGA</td>
<td>Dr Anders Österlund</td>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Committee</td>
<td>Dr Alkiviadis Vatopoulos</td>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Committee</td>
<td>Dr Pavla Urbaskova</td>
<td>Czech Republic</td>
<td>2004</td>
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   The term of membership of the General Committee representatives has expired. Applications from Russia and Spain were received by ESCMID. General committee representatives for the next two years will be Dr Olga Stetsiouk (Russia) and Dr Francisco Soriano (Spain).

5. **Confirmation of membership of EUCAST General Committee**
   Membership was reviewed (the current list is attached). Dr Kahlmeter explained that manufacturers of pharmaceuticals and susceptibility testing devices no longer have named representatives as these have been replaced by an email network of all interested individuals in relevant industries in order to widen consultation. All interested members of relevant companies are invited to take an active part in the
network (contact gunnar.kahlmeter@ltkronoberg.se).

6. **Changes to the constitution**
Dr Kahlmeter reported on changes to the EUCAST Constitution to reflect the reorganisation of the structure of committees, working practices, decision making, consultation and funding. The amended constitution is attached.

7. **EUCAST documents**
Dr Brown reported that in future Discussion Documents would be published on the EUCAST website and, following consultation, Definitive Documents would be published in Clinical Microbiology and Infection. All documents are available as pdf files on the EUCAST website. It was suggested that the website should be checked to ensure that it is up to date [Action Derek Brown].

Noted that a leading article on harmonisation of MIC breakpoints in Europe and based on EUCAST activities has been published in the Journal of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy (2003; 52:145-148)

A poster describing EUCAST is being displayed at the current ECCMID meeting.

8. **EUCAST progress report**
Dr Kahlmeter summarised activities over the past year.

8.1 A common format for expression for susceptibility classification, S< and R>, has been agreed.
8.2 The reference EUCAST microbroth dilution technique for the determination of MIC-values is being used as the basis of CEN and ISO documents. The joint effort will hopefully result in an international reference methodology for MIC determination by the end of 2004.
8.3 Processes for setting breakpoints for new agents and harmonising breakpoints for existing agents have been agreed (available on www.eucast.org).
8.4 Harmonised breakpoints for fluoroquinolones, aminoglycosides, linezolid and glycopeptides have been published for consultation (available on www.eucast.org).
8.5 New definitions for clinical breakpoints, wild type bacteria and epidemiological cut-off values have been agreed (available on www.eucast.org).

9. **EUCAST sub-committee report**
Dr Kahlmeter reported that currently the only EUCAST sub-committee was the Antifungal Susceptibility Testing Sub-committee. This is financed through EUCAST and has a decision/consultation process common with the process for the main EUCAST structure, including common definitions and strategy for breakpoint setting.
10. **EUCAST and the European Commission**

Dr Bronzwaer congratulated EUCAST on progress towards harmonisation of susceptibility testing in Europe and expressed the support of the EC for EUCAST activities.

11. **Finance**

Dr Kahlmeter reported that EUCAST is supported (2004 – 2007) by a grant from DG SANCO of the European Union, together with ESCMID and the National Committees represented on the Steering Committee.

12. **EMEA-EUCAST co-operation**

Dr Kahlmeter reported that EUCAST was collaborating with the European Medicines Agency regarding inclusion of the EUCAST breakpoint setting process in EMEA procedures for licensing new agents.

13. **EUCAST website**

Dr Kahlmeter reported on the current EUCAST website [http://www.eucast.org](http://www.eucast.org) which includes details of EUCAST organisation, EUCAST meetings, EUCAST documents, Wild type distributions and EUCAST breakpoints and epidemiological cut-off values.

14. **Future activities**

Dr Kahlmeter reported that activities for 2004- 5 will include:

14.1 Finalisation of harmonisation of clinical breakpoints for fluoroquinolones, aminoglycosides, glycopeptides and linezolid.
14.2 Start the process of harmonisation of breakpoints for cephalosporins, carbapenem and aztreonam breakpoints.
14.3 EMEA Standard Operating Procedure for registration of new drugs to be finalised.
14.4 Rationale documents explaining breakpoints to be established.
14.5 EUCAST documents to be updated as required.
14.6 A workshop on susceptibility testing for the General Committee will be set up in 2005.

15. **Any other business**

None.

16. **The next meeting of the EUCAST Committee**

Scheduled for 15th ECCMID, Copenhagen, Denmark, 2-5 April 2005.
General Meeting attendees signing the attendance register, 4 May 2004

Dr Antonio Anso  Spain
Dr. Robert E. Badel  USA
Dr. Éva Ban  Hungary
Prof. Jacques Bille  Switzerland
Dr Steff Bronzwaer  Luxembourg
Dr. Derek F.J. Brown  UK
Dr Rafael Canton  Spain
Dr. J. Peter Donnelly  The Netherlands
Dr. Niels Frimodt-Moller  Denmark
Dr Beth P. Goldstein  USA
Dr Heinz Grimm  Germany
Dr. Roberta S. Hare  USA
Prof. Wolfgang R. Heizmann  Germany
Prof. Dr. Waleria Hrynewicz  Poland
Ms. Manette Juvin  France
Dr Hanzen Juraj  Slovakia
Dr. Gunnar Kahlmeter  Sweden
Ms. Anna King  UK
Dr Francoise Leblanc  France
Dr. Anna Liskova  Slovakia
Mr. Daniel Malait  France
Mrs. Maureen Mansfield  UK
Dr. Jean-Pierre Marcel  France
Dr Luis Martineo-Martineo  Spain
Dr Linda Miller  USA
Dr. Johan Mouton  The Netherlands
Dr. Paul Naaber  Estonia
Dr. Milan Niks  Slovak Republic
Prof. Ian Phillips  Spain
Dr. Robert Rennie  Canada
Mr Micheal Roche  Sweden
Dr Katrin Roscher  Germany
Dr. Arno Schmalreck  Germany
Dr. Sergei Sidorenko  Russia
Prof. Francisco Soriano  Spain
Prof. Claude-James Soussy  France
Dr. Martin Steinbakk  Norway
Dr Olga Stetsiouk  Russia
Dr Agneisza Sulikowska  Poland
Dr. Arjana Tambic-Andrasevic  Croatia
Dr Peter Troke  UK
Dr Alkiviadis C. Vatopoulos  Greece
Dr. Jan Verhaegen  Belgium
Mr. Thierry Vidalenc  France
Dr. Hans-Otto Werling  Germany
Prof. Bernd Wiedemann  Germany
# EUCAST General Committee April 2004

**Chairman**  
Dr Gunnar Kahlmeter

**Scientific Secretary**  
Dr Derek Brown

### National representatives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Representative</th>
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<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>Prof. Helmut Mittermayer</td>
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<td>Belgium</td>
<td>Prof. Jan Verhaegen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bosnia</td>
<td>Dr Selma Uzunovic-Kamberovic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bulgaria</td>
<td>Prof. Krassimir Metodiev</td>
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<td>Croatia</td>
<td>Dr Arjana Tambic-Andrasevic</td>
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<td>Czech Republic</td>
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<td>Hungary</td>
<td>Dr Éva Bán</td>
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<td>Iceland</td>
<td>Dr Karl Gustaf Kristinsson</td>
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<td>Dr Martin Cormican</td>
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<td>Italy</td>
<td>Prof. Pietro Varaldo</td>
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<td>Lithuania</td>
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<td>Poland</td>
<td>Prof. Waleria Hryniewicz</td>
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<td>Portugal</td>
<td>Prof. Jose Melo Cristino</td>
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<td>Romania</td>
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<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>Dr Olga Stetsiouk</td>
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<td>Serbia</td>
<td>Dr Lazar Ranin</td>
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<td>Slovak Republic</td>
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<td>Slovenia</td>
<td>Dr Jana Kolman</td>
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<td>Spain</td>
<td>Dr Francisco Soriano</td>
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<td>Sweden</td>
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<td>Turkey</td>
<td>Dr Deniz Gür</td>
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<tr>
<td>UK</td>
<td>Prof. Richard Wise</td>
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<td>Yugoslavia</td>
<td>no representative</td>
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**ISC**  
Paul Tulkens

**FESCI**  
David Livermore

**Pharmaceutical Industry**  
Email network of any with an interest in antimicrobials

**Device Manufacturers**  
Email network of any with an interest in antimicrobials
**EUCAST Constitution with Amendments 2002 and 2004**

The **objectives** of EUCAST are

- to form in EUCAST, under the auspices of the European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases", a professional network of (i) the national breakpoint committees and experts on antimicrobial susceptibility testing and (ii) industry involved in the production and marketing of antimicrobial agents or of in-vitro diagnostic medical devices used in antimicrobial susceptibility testing;

- to set common European breakpoints for surveillance of antimicrobial resistance;

- to identify national differences in clinical breakpoints and to harmonise breakpoints for existing and new antimicrobial drugs;

- to produce, disseminate and update a series of documents on the technology of in-vitro antimicrobial susceptibility testing, promoting standardization of methods used in different parts of Europe and comparability of results obtained by different technologies;

- to encourage internal and external national and international quality assessment schemes;

- to collaborate with European and international groups concerned with antimicrobial susceptibility testing and/or the epidemiology of antimicrobial resistance;

- to advise European Community Institutions on the technology and interpretation of antimicrobial susceptibility testing;

- to work with NCCLS to achieve international consensus in susceptibility testing;

- to devise and participate in educational and training programmes for antimicrobial susceptibility testing.

The **EUCAST general membership consists of**

- **A Steering Committee**: ESCMID appoints the Chairman and Scientific Secretary of EUCAST and decides which national breakpoint committees shall be allocated a position on the Steering Committee. Active European national breakpoint committees may apply to ESCMID for a position on the EUCAST steering committee. Breakpoint committee positions on the steering committee will be re-appraised every three years (at annual general meetings in 2005, 2008, 2011 etc). ESCMID appoints two additional members from the EUCAST general committee (re-appointment every 2 years – at annual general meetings in 2004, 2006, 2008 etc).

- One member from each European country, representing and approved by national groups, preferably national societies of clinical microbiology and/or infectious diseases and/or medicine or national groups concerned with antimicrobial
susceptibility testing or antimicrobial resistance surveillance (re-appointment every 2 years – at annual general meetings 2004, 2006, 2008 etc).

- The immediate past EUCAST chairman (2 years);
- A network (list of email addresses) of one or more representatives of pharmaceutical companies that have an interest in being consulted on and informed of EUCAST activities;
- A network (list of email addresses) of one or more representatives of susceptibility testing device manufacturers that have an interest in being consulted on and informed of EUCAST activities;

EUCAST Decisions

Decisions by EUCAST are professional recommendations. The Steering Committee will make all decisions. Proposals will be distributed to EUCAST members for consultation and then ratified by the Steering Committee.

EUCAST Meetings

Business meetings will be held at least annually in association with the ECCMID. The annual meeting will be open to all attending the ECCMID meeting. The Steering Committee will meet as often as necessary.

EUCAST Publications

Discussion documents will be posted on the EUCAST website for comments and after a period of consultation they will be submitted for publication as Definitive Documents in CMI. Following publication they will also be available on the EUCAST website (www.eucast.org).

EUCAST tables of clinical breakpoints and epidemiological cut off values and distributions of wild type MIC values will be available on the EUCAST website (www.eucast.org).

Declaration of commercial interests by EUCAST Steering Committee members

Each Steering Committee member will make a declaration of commercial interests in companies involved in drug marketing and/or development or in the manufacture of susceptibility testing products.

EUCAST Finances

ESCMID is financially responsible for EUCAST. The EUCAST and its sub-committees may not accept financial support from industry.