EUCAST steering committee meeting
Summary of minutes of meeting in Frankfurt, 29th January 2003

1. Members present were:
   - Dr Derek F.J. Brown, DB, Scientific Secretary, United Kingdom
   - Dr Fred W. Goldstein, FG, SFM, France
   - Dr Gunnar Kahlmeter, GK, Chairperson, Sweden
   - Dr Mats Kalin, MK, SRGA, Sweden
   - Professor Alasdair P. MacGowan, AM, BSAC, United Kingdom
   - Dr Johan W. Mouton, JM, CRG, The Netherlands
   - Dr Arne Rodloff, AR, DIN, Germany
   - Dr Martin Steinbakk, MS, NWGA, Norway
   - Dr Pavla Urbaskova, PU, EUCAST, Czech Republic
   - Dr Alkiviadis Vatopoulos, AV, EUCAST, Greece

2. Minutes of meeting of 18-19 November 2002. Accepted as a correct record with minor modifications. The process for preparing and approving minutes was agreed.

3. EUCAST websites. Steering Committee website is working well. The MIC wild type distributions website is being set up and some enhancements were agreed. EUCAST official site needs updating.

4. Definitions for clinical breakpoints and epidemiological cut-off values were revised.

5. Meeting with EMEA. A meeting with EMEA in December 2002 was felt to be positive and the main points made by EMEA were that EUCAST needs to show that it is supported by other interested parties, funding should preferably be from the public sector, and setting of breakpoints needs to be tied in with the requirements of regulatory authorities.

6. CEN. CEN is setting up a new technical committee on MIC methods and breakpoints. EUCAST, through AR, will suggest that the EUCAST standards and breakpoints be used by CEN.

7. Harmonization of quinolone clinical breakpoints. There was extensive discussion of quinolone clinical breakpoints based on information provided by Steering Committee members and tabulated by the EUCAST secretariat. Proposals for species breakpoints for ciprofloxacin, levofloxacin and moxifloxacin were agreed and will be taken to national committees and then to the EUCAST general committee for comments.

8. NCCLS. GK reported on the meeting at Tampa, Florida, January 2003.

9. EUCAST documents. Drafts of documents on broth microdilution and quality assurance have been distributed to the Steering Committee for comments by the end of February.

10. ECCMID Glasgow. A modified programme for the EUCAST symposium on breakpoints for quinolones will be sent to ECCMID. A poster on EUCAST will be included in the ECCMID Study Group corner.

11. Harmonization of clinical breakpoints for other agents. Agreed to begin the process for aminoglycosides, glycopeptides and linezolid.

12. Clinical breakpoints for new agents. Breakpoints for garenoxacin (BMS), daptomycin (Cubist), tigecycline (Wyeth) and ertapenem (Merck) are needed.

13. EARSS. GK reported that a joint application to the EU will include quality assurance for EARSS.

14. Next meeting. 9 May 2003, 08.00-17.00, Glasgow, before ECCMID meeting.