

Discussion Paper from EFSPI Strategy Working Party

1. Minutes of Council meeting October 2000

“PK asked for volunteers to establish a WP to consider the direction for the further future of EFSPI. The current ‘Future’ paper focuses on internal structure, website etc. and all this should be consolidated in 2001.

It was suggested that a list of EFSPI achievements would be useful and that the WP should look at gaps in the market with an aim to provide something different where EFSPI could make an impact. Also, a more structured approach to the FDA could be made. It was agreed that DM would lead the WP, assisted by PK and LD.”

An interim report was made at the Vienna Council meeting in April 2001.

2. Questions for discussion

1. What have we done to achieve our objectives?
- see Background Document Section 1.
2. Review Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats updated from 1998 strategic review – see Background Document Section 2.
3. What can we learn from the experience of a similar organisation?
- see Background Document Section 4 and Appendix 1
4. What long term directions do we wish to move in?
- see Section 3 below.
5. What do we need to do to achieve our objectives in the future? And what do we NOT want to do to avoid having too many targets and have no focus.
- Set / re-establish priorities
- Volunteer commitment
Are we doing the basics? Eg as per Constitution and ‘Job Descriptions’ (see Background document Appendix 2)
6. How can we work with other organisations to achieve our objectives?
- PhRMA and JPMA
- Form a virtual global federation of statisticians in the pharma industry
- This would simplify liaison with global organisations such as IFAPP
- Already have good links with DIA
- ESAC members from EFSPI
- Organise non-clinical meeting
- Develop link with EFPIA
- Develop structured approach to EMEA/FDA

3. Potential activities / services

Activity	Current	Comment	Proposed action
Scientific meetings	No	Multi-day meetings require up-front spending. Only possible with joint meetings. Single-day meetings are more feasible. Should we distinguish links between non-profit and for-profit organisations? Arrange with host country group?	RfB to advise on costs and commitments for 1-day meeting in London and Brussels. Establish Standing Committee.
Publications	No	Journal too ambitious. Electronic newsletter possible. Bulletin board discussions on web-site? Use web-site to link together national working parties. Contribute to PSI Journal when launched.	
Web site	Yes	In progress.	
Training courses	Possible	Council to advise on needs / feasibility.	
Qualifications working party	No	Re-activate to update findings and influence statistical education. Present at ISI 2003.	Establish Working Party.
Regulatory Affairs Committee	Yes	EFSPI input requested and seems to be valued. Need to streamline process to ensure high quality. Feedback to contributors would be useful.	Needs some restructuring / process improvement.

4. Short term recommendations

1. Establish Standing Committee on Scientific Meetings to develop plan for and implement EFSPI meeting programme with related organisations.
2. Re-establish Working Party on Qualifications and Training of Statisticians to influence statistical education in Europe.
3. Resulting from the discussions at the Council meeting in September 2001, Paris, make an inventory of actions for the next 2-3 years

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