

## NEWSLETTER TO EUROPEAN

## HEALTH LIBRARIANS

BULLETIN D'INFORMATION DES  
 BIBLIOTHECAIRES EUROPEENS  
 DE LA SANTE

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## EDITORIAL

Last October in Brussels, the 300 participants of the First European Conference of Medical Libraries expressed their interest in a better cooperation among information services and health libraries in Europe, and in better health library training opportunities and improved information for their professionals.

The meetings of colleagues in Brussels, the library visits, the continuing education courses and the exhibits at the Conference have certainly contributed as much to this goal as have the eighty papers which will be published in the Proceedings on 15 July 1987 by North-Holland Publishers. Meanwhile, here now is the first (modest and experimental) issue of the Newsletter which most participants at our Conference have asked for.

Also, in order to ascertain the continuity of the action taken in Brussels, it had been agreed there to gather the professionals in health libraries and information services of the Member States of the Council of Europe in a European association of health libraries and to associate to it the information specialists and librarians from the other European countries.

En octobre passé à Bruxelles, les 300 participants à la Première Conférence européenne des bibliothèques médicales ont manifesté leur intérêt pour une meilleure coopération les services d'information et des bibliothèques de santé en Europe et pour une meilleure formation et information de leurs responsables.

Les rencontres entre collègues à Bruxelles, les visites de bibliothèques, les cours de formation permanente et l'exposition de la Conférence contribuèrent certainement, de même que les 80 communications dont les textes sortiront des presses de North Holland le 15 juillet prochain. De plus, voici le premier numéro (modeste et expérimental) d'un bulletin d'information demandé par la plupart des participants à notre Conférence.

Cependant, pour assurer la continuité de l'action entreprise à Bruxelles, il y fut convenu de regrouper les professionnels des services d'information et des bibliothèques de la santé des Etats Membres du Conseil de l'Europe dans une association européenne des bibliothèques de santé, et d'y associer ceux des autres pays européens. Grâce aux contacts entre les organisateurs de la Conférence de

Thanks to contacts between the organizers of the Brussels Conference and a good number of colleagues from several countries, the draft statutes and the programme of work could be drawn up and distributed. In order that all of the profession may be represented in this European Association, we recommend to all our colleagues to send us before 30 July their suggestions concerning the Association, its statutes, activities, membership fees and management.

Moreover, in agreement with I.F.L.A., we have chosen the I.F.L.A. General Conference in Brighton, UK, as the place and time for the foundation of the new European association : thus, our association will be placed in immediate contact with all the national and international associations with which it will cooperate in one way or another.

We are therefore inviting all our colleagues to attend the I.F.L.A. General Conference, held 16 to 21 August 1987 in Brighton (the first such Conference in Europe since 1983), and to participate there on 18 August at 3 p.m. in the official foundation of our European Association for Health Information and Libraries. That is, after a last preparatory consultation on 15 or 16 August, the statutes will then be signed, the programme of work and the budget adopted, and the officers of the association elected by all the colleagues present. We sincerely hope that all Member States of the Council of Europe will be duly represented and that our European Association for Health Information and Libraries will then be officially constituted and actually operational from August 1987.

Finally, as foreseen last October in Brussels, the Second European Conference for Health Libraries will indeed be held in 1988 in Italy. Following the excellent proposal of our Italian colleagues, it will be held from 2 to 6 November 1988 in Bologna in the framework of the Ninth Centenary of this famous university. The European Organizing Committee will be set up on 18 August in Brighton.

Thus, thanks to the cooperation of many colleagues, our new European Association can function as from this summer and we shall then meet again in 1988 in Bologna, and in greater numbers than in Brussels last year. This will allow us to improve our continuing education programme and it will intensify the cooperation of our services in Europe in accordance with our objectives and for a better information in biomedical research and health services.

Bruxelles et un bon nombre de collègues de divers pays, des projets de statuts et de programme de travail ont pu être élaborés et diffusés. Pour que cette nouvelle association européenne soit aussi représentative que possible de l'ensemble de la profession, nous recommandons à tous les collègues de nous adresser avant le 30 juillet leurs suggestions concernant ses statuts, ses activités, ses cotisations et sa direction.

Par ailleurs, pour la fondation de cette nouvelle association européenne, nous avons choisi, avec son accord, le cadre de la prochaine Conférence générale de l'I.F.L.A. à Brighton : notre association sera ainsi d'emblée mise en contact avec toutes les associations nationales et internationales avec lesquelles il importe qu'elle coopère.

Nous invitons donc tous nos collègues à assister à la Conférence de l'I.F.L.A. du 16 au 21 août prochain à Brighton (la première en Europe depuis 1983) et à y participer le 18 août à 15 h. à la fondation officielle de notre Association européenne pour l'Information et les Bibliothèques de santé : après une concertation préparatoire le 15 ou 16 août, les statuts devraient alors être signés, le programme de travail et le budget fixés, et les responsables élus par tous les collègues présents. Nous espérons vivement que tous les Etats Membres du Conseil de l'Europe y seront dûment représentés et que notre Association européenne pour l'Information et les Bibliothèques de santé sera ainsi officiellement constituée et effectivement opérationnelle dès ce mois d'août 1987.

Enfin, comme prévu dès octobre passé à Bruxelles, la Deuxième Conférence européenne des bibliothèques de santé aura bien lieu en 1988 en Italie : suite à l'excellente proposition de nos collègues italiens, elle se tiendra du 2 au 6 novembre 1988 à Bologne, dans le cadre du neuvième centenaire de la célèbre université. Le Comité européen d'organisation sera constitué à Brighton ce 18 août.

Ainsi, grâce à la coopération de nombreux collègues, notre nouvelle Association européenne pourra fonctionner dès cet été et nous nous réunirons en 1988 à Bologne plus nombreux encore qu'à Bruxelles l'an passé. Ceci nous permettra d'améliorer notre formation permanente et de renforcer la coopération de nos services en Europe, conformément à nos objectifs et pour une meilleure information de la recherche biomédicale et des services de santé en Europe.

# NEWS FROM . . .

## AFRICA

The First Congress of African Medical Library Association was held from 22 to 25 February 1987 in Dakar, Senegal, with the participation of 31 colleagues from 14 African countries under the theme "African Health Science Libraries : Myth or Reality ?"

In plenary session, recommandations were made for improving professional education and intercountry cooperation, for the development of core collections and for publication of an African Index Medicus, a new African biomedical union catalogue, etc.

A workshop was organized about the project "Selective medical library on microfiche".

Last, Mr A. Ikama-Obambi (WHO Reg. Off. for Africa, Brazzaville, Congo) was elected as president by the members of the African Medical Library Association.

(Newsletter IFLA biomed.section, April 1987).

U. S. A.

## M.L.A. 87th Annual Meeting

The Medical Library Association met from 17 to 21 May in Portland, Oregon, for its 87th annual meeting. More than 1600 attended the round of seminars for continuing education and the three days of invited or contributed papers.

The major themes dominating the debates : -strategic planning for the Association, with its set of objectives to be achieved by 1992,

- bioethics, with its controversial decisions of life and death : in a lively discussion, panelists (including a lawyer, a psychologist, a pathologist and a librarian) raised issues of professional responsibilities, the cost of living and the cost of dying.

The cutting edge of technology was everywhere to be seen, from the colourful slides of ISI, to the exhibitors booths, the 87 educational panels and the topics of contributed papers. Descriptions of projects with CD-ROM, interactive videodiscs, online integrated systems, online reference services and whole networks of delivery services enlivened many a session.

Worth a special mention is the SHOW - Slide program of UCLA Biomedical Library for library users education in online searching.

Georgetown University had a Minimedline project on a MacIntosh through which a user can retrieve a citation from a set of medline references and insert these citations in a bibliography in progress.

In all, a meeting bursting with eager participants, ideology, strategic planning, technology.

## LAST NEWS FROM . . .

## NETHERLANDS

The Dutch Health Sciences Library Group BMI held a general meeting on 10 April ... and authorized the Board to declare that the Group BMI endorses the resolution assumed in Brussels on 24 October 1986 with regard to the founding and the aims of a European Association of Health Libraries. The Group BMI also intends to become a member of that Association.

## SWITZERLAND

The Swiss Commission des bibliothèques biomédicales has on its last meeting approved to become a member of the European Association for Health Information and Libraries and is applying to be accepted as member.

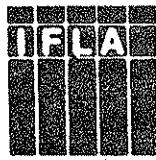
At the same meeting, the draft statutes was discussed ... and suggestions were made ... :

- the election of the (Ex. Board, especially) of the President and the Vice-President shall take place by secret ballot and by mail...
- News, activities, annual reports should be delivered regularly in short intervals ...

## BIBLIOTHEQUE DE LA FACULTE DE MEDECINE - CENTRE MEDICAL UNIVERSITAIRE

The Library of the Medical Faculty of the University of Geneva and the Library of the Scientific Basis of Medicine have officially merged in June 1987 and become the Library of the Faculty of Medicine at the Medical University Center. The new library is located on 3 floors and has an extension of 4.000 m<sup>2</sup>. It is open to students, doctors, scientists as well as to anyone interested in consulting it. The library's holding consists of 10.000 monographs and 2.264 periodicals, of which 1.245 are currently received, including Index Medicus, Science Citation Index, etc. The readers have on-line access to the main data banks through DOKDI (Dokumentationsdienst) in Bern. The library is part of the SIBIL network covering the Frenchspeaking Swiss universities, and the team of RPM (the catalogue of biomedical journals in Swiss libraries) is also located on the library's premises.





# IFLA JOURNAL

Official quarterly journal of the International Federation of Library Associations  
and Institutions - Volume 13 (1987) No. 1, p. 1-88 ISSN 0340-0352  
K.G. Saur München · London · New York · Oxford · Paris

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Official quarterly journal of the International Federation of Library Associations  
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Ligue des Bibliothèques Européennes de Recherche

No. 19 / 20

Bulletin **27**



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of the Medical Library Association



Volume 75  
Number 2  
April 1987  
6MLAAG 762189 19211987  
ISSN 0362-7138  
Due Mail 1st class

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## NEWS FROM . . .

### BELGIUM

"BIOMED 1987", published in March by the Committee of Belgian biomedical libraries and the University of Louvain Medical Library, is the third edition of the "Inventaire des périodiques biomédicaux en cours dans les bibliothèques belges". This edition includes for the first time 4300 current titles in 40 Belgian libraries (Royal Library and libraries of universities and the main Belgian medical institutions). It is helpful for acquisition policy and document delivery.

### FINLAND

The 7th year of activities of Bibliothecarii Medicinae Fenniae (BMF), the Association of Finnish Medical Librarians, showed a membership increase of 14, the total being now 86. The Annual Meeting in April included presentations on computerized ordering systems of Finnish book agencies. The Education Task Force, founded last year, arranged a seminar on classification with 18 participants, and will organize a course on reference sources in September. The new Hospital Library Task Force is collecting information of the status of hospital libraries in Finland. Members of the Association have started end user training in computerized data bases in their respective libraries. BMF will participate in the 2nd Scandinavian Meeting of Medical Librarians in Sweden in 1988.

### FRANCE

IDT 87 : STRASBOURG, 12-14 MAY 1987 "L'espace européen de l'information" was the theme of the IDT congress organised from 12 to 14 May in Strasbourg by the Association française des documentalistes et bibliothécaires spécialisés (ADBS) and the Association nationale de la recherche technique (ANRT). From the geographic, economic and professional points of view, Europe becomes the framework of a real information market where new technologies are a major factor. Papers and discussions produced exchange on the present developments of networks, on-line services and products. The importance of those changes for information professionals was emphasized, especially for their education. IDT 87 was also an opportunity for WERTID (West European Round Table on Information and Documentation) to invite delegates from professional associations from 9 European countries to discuss the role of associations in national information policies. They have also been informed that a European Association for Health information and Libraries will be founded at the IFLA Conference in Brighton next August.

### FRANCE

LE CATALOGUE COLLECTIF BIOMEDICAL (Biomedical Union catalog) was published last December by the C.C.N. (Catalogue Collectif français des publications en série, 5, rue Aug. Vacquerie, 75116 Paris). The three first volumes list by title 124.830 entries of 17.267 biomedical serials located in 1730 libraries. The fourth volumes gives details on the corporate authors and the libraries.

INSERM's innovations : the National Institute for Health and Medical Research launches in June QUESTEL PLUS and MEDACTUA. Thanks to QUESTEL PLUS, Medline is now available through subject headings in French and full texts can be ordered on-line. MEDACTUA is a new data base offering the last 3 months the contents of 250 biomedical journals ; searches can be done by journal title, subject headings, authors, title words of journals or articles. This new data base is available in Videotex through Minitel (3615 code MEDACTUA). Teleordering of article reproductions is accepted.

### ICELAND

A major event for the Icelandic Medical Libraries Group has been the moving of the largest teaching hospital, that of the National Hospital, into new and spacious premises. With its increased staffing and improved facilities, this library is an important link in strengthening our medical library network.

There is increasing use of computers in the medical libraries. We now have 12 MEDLINE users, twice as many as last year, and on-line courses are regularly organised by the head librarian of the National Hospital, a teaching representative of Mic/Kibic (Sweden).

### ITALY

The Italian Group of the Documentalists of the Pharmaceutical Industry and Research Institutes (GIDIF-RBM) organizes for its members on 30 June in Milan a workshop on software packages for micros (Texto, Inmagio, Superfind, Tinlib). The general meeting of the association will be held in the afternoon.

The proceedings of the medical libraries meeting in Rome (1984) were published at the end of 1986 by the Istituto Superiore di Sanita (ISS): "Convegno su biblioteche e centri di documentazione nella biomedicina : realtà e prospettive" by V. Alberani and G. Poppi (I.S.S., Roma, 1986), Annali I.S.S. 1986, 22 (4).

# NEWS FROM . . .

## ITALY

At the end of 1987 a new updated edition of the CATALOGO DEI PERIODICI DELLA BIBLIOTECA DELL'ISTITUTO SUPERIORE DI SANITA, will be published. It was compiled by Gabriella Poppi and Rosalia Ferrara, Istituto Superiore de Sanità. The catalogue containing more than 8000 titles, mostly from biomedicine and public health, will serve as basis for the updating of the Union Catalogue of Biomedical Periodicals in Italian Libraries. The CATALOGO DEI PERIODICI will be compiled with the aid of the ISRDS/CNR computer file.

## MEDLARS COURSES

Being responsible for all literature searching in NLM files in universities, hospitals, research and public health institutions in Italy, the Istituto Superior di Sanita (ISS) has conducted periodically training courses on a primary as well as an advanced level designed especially for staff of these centers searching NLM databases. ISS Documentation Department staff is also conducting interviews and renders expert advice. Two such courses were held in January and June 1987. Another one has been tentatively scheduled for the Fall (November 1987).

## NORWAY

The Norwegian Library Association, Medical Section held its annual meeting in Oslo on April 27. Turid Tharaldsen (National Institute of Public Health, Library Geitmyrsveinen 75, 0462 Oslo 4) was elected president for 2 years. In connection with the annual meeting courses were held on searching in Data-star and the Swedish SPRI.

Earlier this year Elisabeth Buntz (The National Hospital, Oslo University, Medical Library, Pilestredet 32, 0027 Oslo 1) was elected the Nordic representative to IFLA Section of Biological and Medical Sciences Libraries Standing Committee. Norway is to follow Finland for the coming period.

Anna Nannestad Nicolaysen (Ullevaal-Oslo City Hospital, Medical Library, 0407 Oslo 4) will act as liaison to the European Association for Health Information and Libraries.

## PORUGAL

Portuguese Librarians had their 2nd National Congress in Coimbra 27-29 May. Its main theme was: "European Integration: a Challenge to Information". The health information field was discussed in a sectorial panel. The subject was divided between two communications: one referring to the European Communities health area and the other describing the overall Portuguese situation and future prospects.

## PORUGAL

On 13 May Dr.Rodriguez-Alonso, of the Latin-American Information Center for Health Sciences -BIREME (institution with the frame of OPS-WHO) visited Portugal on behalf of the Primary Health Care Department of Ministry of Health and held a public session describing its organization. BIREME produces Latin-American Index Medicus (IMLA) and runs a bibliographic data base for Latin-American literature both in Portuguese and Spanish languages: Because of the cultural affinities the session was attended by great number of participants of the Health Information Working Group of the Portuguese Librarians' Association Contact : M.M.Prates CAETANO, Librarian, Faculdade de Ciencias Medicas Campo de Santana 130 P-1198 P-1198 Lisboa Codex

## SPAIN

The "Coordinadora de Documentacion Biomedica de Catalunya" (CDBC) is an association of 44 university biomedical libraries, professional associations, health centers and pharmaceutical laboratories in Catalonia (autonomous state in Spain).

For 7 years the CDBC has enhanced library co-operation through acquisition co-ordination, exchange of bibliographic data, document delivery and professional education.

In 1983, the CDBC published the Catalog collectiu de publicacions periodiques de les biblioteques biomediques, which rapidly spread throughout the state. The updating of this union catalogue of biomedical libraries was an opportunity to set up a data base which will be available on-line very soon.

## SWITZERLAND

RPM 1987 : REPERTOIRE DES PERIODIQUES BIOMEDICAUX DANS LES BIBLIOTHEQUES SUISSES / V M Z 1987 : VERZEICHNIS DER BIO-MEDIZINISCHEN ZEITSCHRIFTEN IN SCHWEIZEIRISCHEN BIBLIOTHEKEN. The third paper edition of the RPM will be available in the summer 1987. This catalogue aims at being comprehensive and will include 15.000 titles with bibliographic identification and locations in Swiss libraries. In addition to this printed alphabetical list, a permuted KWIC index (on microfiches) serves as an aid for identification of titles.

## TURKEY

At a meeting on 5 June 1987 "Hacettepe University Libraries Automation Project" was introduced to universities and to the library community. There was also a demonstration of the first stage of the project : circulation, aquisition and management sub-systems.

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

**LIBER ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1987**  
(Ligue Européenne des Bibliothèques de Recherche)

1-4 July 1987 Zurich, Switzerland

Theme : Acquisition Policy :  
Principles-coordination-cooperation

Place: Zentralbibliothek Zurich  
Contact: B. Wartmann, Zentralbibliothek  
Zähringerplatz 6  
CH-8025 Zurich Switzerland  
Tel. : 41-1-477272

**53rd IFLA ANNUAL GENERAL CONFERENCE**  
(International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions)

16-21 August 1987 Brighton, United Kingdom

Theme : Library and Information Services in a Changing World  
- Document supply and information transfer  
- Conservation  
- Libraries & inf. services in developing countries

Registration : £185 (Daily £20)  
Contact : Rob Palmer, Library Assoc.  
7 Ridgmont Street  
LONDON WC 1E 7AE  
Tel. 44/1/636.75.43

### EVENTS FOR HEALTH LIBRARIANS :

1/ **First Meeting of the European Association for Health Information and Libraries**  
- official foundation of the Association : adoption of the statutes, election of officers...  
- Preparation of the Second European Conference of Medical Libraries (Nov. 1988, Bologna, Italy)

Tuesday 18 August at 15.00 hrs at the Metropole Hotel (Preparatory meeting mainly about the Association draft statutes : 15 or 16 August)

2/ **Meeting of the IFLA Section of Biological and Medical Libraries**  
Wednesday 19 August :  
08.30 hrs : Standards for Medical and Health Care Libraries  
15.00 hrs : CD-ROM and related Technologies

3/ **Visit of Medical Libraries in London**  
Thursday 20 August 1987

**LIBRARY ASSOCIATION - MEDICAL, HEALTH AND WELFARE LIBRARIES GROUP ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

4-7 September 1987, Aberystwyth, Wales UK

The **Library Association Medical Health & Welfare Libraries Group** will hold their **Annual Study Conference** at the College of Librarianship Wales, Aberystwyth from 4-7 September.

Theme : Education :

- health education
- nursing education
- information about AIDS
- education for librarianship
- workshop on computer technology

Fee : £90(+ VAT) with reduced rates for partial/non-residential attendance

Contact : Ms V.Baker, Librarian,  
Bronglais General Hospital  
ABERYSTWYTH, Dyfed SY23 1ER, UK

### 2as JORNADAS DE INFORMACION Y DOCUMENTACION BIOMEDICAS

8-10 October 1987, Barcelona, Spain

This session tries to renew and re-affirm the exchange of experiences of professionals in bio-medical documentation, like the one in Santander in June 1986.

An attendance of 250 participants from all over Spain and also from Portugal is foreseen. There will be communications about cooperation of Spanish librarians in the use of new technologies for retrieval and storage of scientific information. Spanish and Portuguese specialists in those fields are invited and also a representative of the European Association of Health Libraries.

### ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ARBEITSGEMEINSCHAFT FUR MEDIZINISCHES BIBLIOTHEKSWESEN

(Working Group for Medical Librarianship)

27-28 October 1987 Homburg, Saar, FRG  
Univ.Bib., Med.Abt.

Contact: Klaus Gerber  
Bibliothek, R.Koch-Institut  
des Bundesgesundheitsamtes  
Nordufer 20. D-1000 Berlin 65  
Tel. 030.450.3275

### SECOND EUROPEAN CONFERENCE OF MEDICAL LIBRARIES

2 - 6 November 1988, Bologna, Italy

Within the celebration of the IX Centenary of Bologna University

At the new congress centre of the Instituti Ortopedici Rizzoli (Rooms for 500 people or more, simultaneous translation, exhibition hall, etc.)

The Organising Committee will be set up at the first meeting of the European Association for Health Information and Libraries on 18 May 1987 in Brighton.

Further details in our next newsletter.

EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR HEALTH  
INFORMATION AND LIBRARIES

INAUGURAL MEETING

held in the framework of the  
IFLA 53rd Council and General Conference

Brighton, U.K., 18 August 1987

Opening of the Meeting at 3.15 p.m.  
at the Metropole Hotel  
on Tuesday 18 August 1987

DRAFT AGENDA

1. Opening of the Meeting
2. Election of chairperson and secretary
3. Adoption of the agenda
4. Report of the Interim Committee on the preparation of the statutes
5. Discussion and adoption of the statutes of the Association
6. Presentation, discussion and adoption of the rules of procedures
7. Election of officers
8. Presentation, discussion and adoption of the proposed programme of work
9. Presentation, discussion and adoption of the proposed Association budget
10. Report of the Interim Committee on the state of planning of the 2nd European Conference of Medical Libraries
11. Presentation of the Italian Organizing Committee
12. Election of the European Organizing Committee of the Conference
13. Presentation, discussion and adoption of the proposed Conference budget
14. Date of joint meeting of the European and Italian Organizing Committees
15. Other business
16. Close of the meeting

N.B. The statutes of the Association will be signed by colleagues from the Member States of the Council of Europe ; person signing as representative of an institution or an association needs to present an autorisation.

-----  
This is a first experimental issue of a newsletter for European health librarians published under the responsibility of  
- Mrs U. HAUSEN, WHO Library,  
Av.Appia, 1211 GENEVA  
- Mr M. WALCKIERS, UCL Library,  
50 Av.Hippocrate, 1200 BRUSSELS  
Copies available from Mr Walckiers.  
Comments and suggestions will be welcome.  
News for the next issue to Mrs U. Hausen  
before 31 August 1987

ASSOCIATION EUROPEENNE POUR L'INFORMATION  
ET LES BIBLIOTHEQUES DE SANTE

REUNION INAUGURALE

organisée dans le cadre des 53mes  
Conseil et Conférence générale de l'IFLA

Brighton, U.K., 18 août 1987

Ouverture de la réunion à 15 h.15  
au Metropole Hotel  
le mardi 18 août 1987

ORDRE DU JOUR PROPOSE

1. Ouverture de la réunion
2. Election des président et secrétaire
3. Adoption de l'ordre du jour
4. Rapport du Comité intérimaire sur la préparation des statuts
5. Discussion et adoption des statuts de l'Association
6. Présentation, discussion et adoption du règlement d'ordre intérieur
7. Election des administrateurs
8. Présentation, discussion et adoption du programme de travail
9. Présentation, discussion et adoption du budget
10. Rapport du Comité intérimaire sur la programmation de la 2nde Conférence européenne des Bibliothèques médicales
11. Présentation du Comité Italien d'organisation
12. Election du Comité européen d'organisation de la Conférence
13. Présentation, discussion et adoption du projet de budget de la Conférence
14. Date de la réunion conjointe des Comités européen et italien
15. Divers
16. Clôture de la réunion

N.B. Les statuts de l'Association seront signés par les collègues des Etats Membres du Conseil de l'Europe ; les personnes signant comme représentants d'une institution ou d'une association doivent présenter une autorisation.

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Ceci est un premier numéro expérimental d'un bulletin d'information pour les bibliothécaires européens de la santé publié sous la responsabilité de  
- Mme U. HAUSEN, bibliothèque OMS,  
Av.Appia, 1211 GENEVE  
- Mr M. WALCKIERS, Bibliothèque UCL,  
50 Av.Hippocrate, 1200 BRUXELLES  
Exemplaires disponibles chez Mr Walckiers  
Commentaires & suggestions sont bienvenus  
Nouvelles pour le prochain numéro : chez  
Mme Hausen avant le 30 août 1987