

Annual Report of the European Society of Cardiology 2009



EUROPEAN
SOCIETY OF
CARDIOLOGY®

A DOCUMENT SUBMITTED BY THE EUROPEAN
SOCIETY OF CARDIOLOGY (ESC)

INTRODUCTION

As per our tradition, we would like to report to you, the ESC members, on the situation of our Society. In September 2008, we saw the end of the Presidential term of Prof Kim Fox and the beginning of my term. Each President and his Board has his own style which makes the Society ever-changing, reaching new goals and opportunities in full respect of a continuity of strategies.

2008-2009 has indeed been a year of change and consolidation.

The success of the Society depends in a large part on the development and the expansion of the Associations. The Association Presidents are now on the Board to assist the entire ESC family of the Working Groups, the Councils and of course the 52 National Societies. As you probably know, my concept of the ESC can be summarised in a tree with the Associations being the trunk (*as they refer to main topics in cardiology*), with solid roots into the real soil of the ESC - the National Societies - and the leaves being the Working Groups and Councils (*as they refer to special issues of cardiology*). The challenge of the President, CEO and Board is to harmonise all of the tree's activities in order to make it flourish. I should say that such harmonisation has been enriched even more, if this is possible, with new projects, developed solely for the Associations, Working Groups and National Societies. This has been the main strategy: try to consolidate and improve the core ESC activities involving all of the Constituent Bodies.

Let's analyse what has happened in the last year.

CEO AND FINANCE

The past year has been difficult financially for most of the Western World, but in spite of this, the ESC has continued to go from strength to strength, still able to develop new projects for the future. This was clearly one of the major successes of our CEO, Alan Howard, and we will never be able to thank him enough for having made the ESC such a strongly recognised society. As I am sure you know, Alan Howard was approaching retirement from the ESC and decided to pursue a new opportunity. In April 2009 he joined another scientific organisation *The European Society for Medical Oncology* in Lugano. We were not prepared for this early departure, and therefore for a while the ESC was managed by all of the Directors and myself, awaiting the completion of the transparent process to attain a new CEO. The CEO selection Committee, headed by Kim Fox along with Michel Komajda, Akbar Seddigh and myself had a complex task interviewing many candidates with different skills and personalities and in appointing the right one as they were all extremely good, reflecting the high reputation and the desire to come and

lead our Society. After careful examination, we have selected two excellent candidates and we hope to announce the final decision in Barcelona. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Alan Howard for his loyal service of 25 years, and I know that it will be a difficult assignment to follow in his footsteps.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Our annual ESC Congress grows stronger every year and the congress in Munich exceeded everyone's expectations, both in terms of delegates and scientific quality. Our congress has become a reference point worldwide. Cardiologists have a very well organised place to update their knowledge and present their science in Europe. Not only this, but, today, when you are entering a meeting venue of the ESC you immediately recognise that you are at home with the professional yet friendly atmosphere and spirit of the ESC. The success is not limited to the ESC Congress, but applies to all of the Association, Working Groups, National Societies and Council meetings.

After six years of successful leadership by Frans Van de Werf, Thomas Luscher took over in January this year as Editor of the *European Heart Journal*. The journal is now ranked 4th in the world with an impact factor close to 9. The concept of a family has immediately been taken up by Thomas who created a rapid link between the ESC journals, working closely with the Editors from the other Association journals. This is of course for clinical science. However, basic science is not at all neglected thanks to the work of Hans Michael Piper as Editor of *Cardiovascular Research*.

The other committees continue to work hard: Guidelines are the most important ESC platform to harmonise medical care across Europe. Most European National Societies endorse and translate the Guidelines and the success is also reflected by the popularity of the Pocket Guidelines and of the recently published Guidelines Compendium. Equally, the Education Committee is working towards the provision of several outstanding products; specifically the new edition of the ESC Textbook of Cardiovascular Medicine. This year we will also welcome the new Textbook on Imaging produced by the Council on Cardiovascular Imaging.

More recently, the role of the ESC in the political arena in Brussels and Strasbourg has become one of our most important opportunities to achieve our mission of reducing the burden of cardiovascular disease. We will continue to work for the prevention of CVD and are closely cooperating with Spain to ensure that Cardiovascular Prevention will be considered a priority by all Ministries of Health under the Spanish Presidency of the European Union.

ASSOCIATIONS

Obviously the Associations are key to the ESC core activities and the trunk of the ESC tree. Their Presidents are members of the Board to facilitate communication and harmonisation. Each Association has its own personality and spirit; but all contribute enormously to science, clinical care, education and political awareness within their own boundaries. The ESC is proud to be able to help them in the coordination of their activities providing a unified brand which we believe is important to establish a united European cardiology. The Board is willing to further improve the services and contribution to each Associations projects.

WORKING GROUPS

Like the Associations, every WG contributes with its own style and approach to specialised important areas of cardiology. The Board would like to recognise their scientific success by providing, for the first time, a contribution for publication of scientific material in the form of position papers or WG recommendations.

NATIONAL SOCIETIES

They are the real soil of the Society. The new Board recognises this by involving them in two ways. — 1) helping them in the dissemination of the Guidelines during their national congresses. For this, two speakers and one chairman will be provided in order to establish an ESC NS joint session during the annual congress of each NS with the aim to promote the most recently produced Guidelines. In this way, we are able to disseminate the Guidelines every year, not only through the ESC activities, but also through all of the National Societies annual congresses. This will become an extremely powerful instrument. We also believe that this will encourage the presence of the ESC delegates at a national level, allowing interaction, exchange of ideas, preparation of new projects etc. — 2) For the first time ever, the National Societies will be involved in and economically supported for one of the most important core ESC projects: the ESC Registries and Surveys.

REGISTRIES AND SURVEYS

The Board believes that these are indeed one of the core activities of the ESC being the only group who could provide such information not only to its constituent bodies but also to Brussels and Strasbourg. The Registries and Surveys are a unique instrument which will allow the ESC to understand whether the Guidelines are being implemented and which are the needs regarding research and production of necessary data for the next Guidelines to come.

We have completely renovated the structure of the Registries and Surveys, making them independent from pharmaceutical and device industries and therefore valid for political use. We have involved the Constituent Bodies mainly National Societies, Associations and when appropriate Working Groups in running them in each country. For the first time the National Societies will be economically supported to assist with meetings and other activities directly related to conducting registries.

There will be three different types of Registries: **general** surveys/registries related to epidemiologically important clinical domains, **sentinel** surveys/registries related to interventional and diagnostic procedures and **specific** surveys/registries related to orphan/rare highly demanding diseases in terms of outcome, high cost, complex management, etc. Luigi Tavazzi is leading the project.

In addition to our National Societies, our Affiliated programme is extending and we are please to announce that up to date, 28 Affiliate National Societies have joined. We welcome new friends and colleagues to the ESC family whilst maintaining a European soul.

COUNCILS

Our 5 Councils are very active and include not only interested parties from the ESC scientific community but also external organisations that are enthusiastic to cooperate. They are essential as the ESC recognises the importance of liaising and interlinking with sister societies.

FELLOWS

We are delighted that over the past year 187 cardiologists have successfully applied for ESC Fellowship. The Fellows play a leading role in every aspect of our Society, and indeed the Society needs their enthusiasm to grow.

So, in conclusion, another good year, thanks to the 52 National Societies, 19 Working Groups, 5 Associations and 5 Councils: and one ESC.



PROFESSOR ROBERTO FERRARI

PRESIDENT OF
THE EUROPEAN SOCIETY OF CARDIOLOGY
2008-2010

SUMMARY OF MAIN ESC ACTIVITIES FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2008/2009

CONGRESSES AND MEETINGS



ESC Congress 2008 Munich

Participants from all across the world gathered in Munich, Germany from 30 August – 3 September for the ESC Congress 2008, which this year focused on Cardiovascular Imaging.

Highlights included:

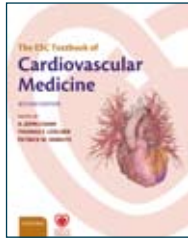
- 30,380 participants, consisting of 23,605 active participants from 137 countries
- Asia-Pacific participation reached 14%
- 363 ESC sessions (including 187 pre-arranged, 127 oral abstract and 20 Focus sessions) took place across 28 lecture rooms
- 64 Satellite symposia, eight EBAC accredited educational programmes and 15 Workshops were organised by the Industry
- Outside the regular timeslots, participants could also attend 11 “Meet the Experts”, eight “Read with the Experts”, three “How-to tutorials”, three “Meet the Trialists” and four “Cardiac Anatomy” sessions
- 9,669 abstracts were submitted, of which 3,455 were accepted (36%)
- New modernised layout of the Posters Area
- New award in cardiovascular nursing: Atie Immink New Investigator Award

Congresses organised for constituent bodies

In 2008, four sub-specialty congresses were organised, providing cardiologists with unique opportunities for research, education and exchange.

- The Association for Cardiovascular Prevention and Rehabilitation (EACPR) held their EuroPrevent congress in Paris from 1 to 3 May, with the focus on Diabetes, Hypertension and Lipids. It was attended by 1,255 people, with 773 abstracts submitted and 542 accepted (over 70%)
- Heart Failure 2008, the congress of the Heart Failure Association of the European Association of Cardiology, was held in Milan from 14 to 17 June and attracted 3,455 participants and 1,097 abstracts
- The ESC Working Group on Acute Cardiac Care hosted their biennial congress in Versailles (25 to 28 October), with a total of 1,262 attendees and 549 abstracts submitted
- Euroecho, the European Heart Rhythm Association's congress, in Lyon from 10 to 13 December involved 2,983 participants with 1,270 abstracts submitted

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMMES



EDUCATION

Over the past year, the ESC Education Committee has initiated and developed a number of new projects.

- The updated ESC Core Curriculum, developed as part of an effort to harmonise the training for General Cardiologists across Europe, was published in summer 2008
- Technical development on the Case Based Learning platform was completed in 2008, with the launch planned in 2009/2010
- The second edition of the ESC Textbook of Cardiovascular Medicine and the first edition of the new ESC Textbook of Cardiovascular Imaging are both scheduled for publication in 2009
- Six Educational Training Programmes took place at the European Heart House during 2008, and ESC Cardiology Update Meetings took place in Rotterdam and Davos. The Asian Meeting Programme in India and China continued successfully, and more meetings are planned for 2009



EURO HEART SURVEY

The Euro Heart Survey (EHS) Programme represents the most extensive database (with more than 140,000 patient cases) on current clinical practice in a variety of cardiac diseases in Europe. EHS is a core activity of the ESC and a common scientific project for all constituent bodies (Associations, Working Groups, Councils and National Societies). The Euro Heart Survey is an independent scientific research programme, which will allow the ESC to fulfil its role as a scientific society in the field of Cardiology at both national and EU levels.

- From 2006 to 2008, the Euro Heart Survey Programme moved from its former cyclic survey structure to continuous data collection in ongoing registries using the European Cardiology Audit and Registration Data Standards (CARDS) on Percutaneous Coronary Interventions (PCI) and Acute Coronary Syndromes (ACS). The PCI and ACS Registries led to the production of two main manuscripts, and several other manuscripts are currently being prepared
- The data collection period for the Euro Heart Survey on “Pregnancy Patients with Heart Disease”, which was launched in November 2007, has been extended to the end of 2010
- A new programme strategy was agreed by the ESC Board to develop three types of survey (general, sentinel and specialised registries)
- New methodologies have been adopted to improve the representativeness of the data, and greater involvement of the ESC constituent bodies has been facilitated



GUIDELINES

ESC Guidelines are scientifically recognised worldwide. They are edited under the umbrella of the ESC Board and Committee for Practice Guidelines (CPG), who solicit the involvement of ESC Associations, Working Groups, Councils, and National Societies.

- 2008 saw the publication of 3 new Pocket Guidelines as well as a desk Compendium of Clinical Practice Guidelines
- New guidelines planned for 2009: pulmonary hypertension, infective endocarditis, syncope and the management of patients during non-cardiac surgery
- Task forces were set up on GUCH, atrial fibrillation, dyslipidemias, myocardial revascularisation and peripheral arterial disease
- A national “coordinator” from each National Society was appointed to oversee implementation programmes of ESC guidelines at a national level
- A new feature on the ESC website features translated versions
- Essential Messages containing 10-12 key points plus gaps in evidence were introduced



JOURNALS

This was a particularly important year for the ESC Journals Family, the second-highest contributor to ESC funds, which saw the following changes and initiatives:

- Change in editorship (and editorial board) of the European Heart Journal (EHJ), now under the leadership of T. Lüscher in Zürich
- EHJ and sub-specialty journal interaction
- Manuscripts shared between ESC Journals
- EHJ reviews shared when reallocating manuscripts
- EHJ editorial team now includes sub-specialty journal editors
- CV Nursing has been accepted by ISI (Thomson Reuters), so now all ESC journals have an impact factor

MEMBERSHIP



NATIONAL SOCIETIES AND FELLOWS RELATIONS

The year was dedicated to increasing the link, and establishing a more direct dialogue, between the National Societies and the ESC Board through concrete projects and cross-initiatives.

- A programme of Joint Scientific Sessions with National Societies during their annual congresses will be launched to support the dissemination of guidelines and to increase scientific exchange
- Identification of new leaders in cardiology and implementation of registries at a national level were two other main collaboration topics discussed at the well-attended Spring Summit
- Kosovo will officially join the 51 member countries during the General Assembly in Barcelona
- An ESC stand (or joint stand) was present at the annual congress of 15 National Societies, and ESC leaders visited more than 20 national congresses
- A network of 48 National Society journals has been set up with simultaneous publications in 39 journals and more educational initiatives planned for the future
- 182 Fellows and two Nurse Fellows were elected in May 2009 (from a total of 2,916

FESC and 72 NFESC for 2009) and they will receive official recognition in Barcelona

- Several requests for affiliation were received during the year and six new affiliate societies will be accepted in Barcelona (Brazil, Chile, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Uruguay), bringing the total number of affiliated societies to 29.

WORKING GROUPS

Working Groups of the ESC are dedicated to research and education in 19 subspecialties of cardiology. These are their main achievements for 2008:

Acute Cardiac Care

- ACC Congress 2008 in Versailles, including accreditation exam
- Study Group on Cardiac Biomarkers continued to be very active in 2008
- Participation in the third EHS ACS registry

Cardiac Cellular Electrophysiology

- Annual meeting in Madrid with 154 participants
- Collaboration with the ESC council on basic science

Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance

- EuroCMR meeting
- Position paper on magnetic resonance imaging in individuals with cardiovascular implantable electronic devices
- Taskforce on assessment of system performances for measurements of velocity (phase-contrast technique) in a multi-centre setting using solid stationary phantoms
- European CMR Registry and CMR booklet update

Cardiovascular Pharmacology and Drug Therapy

- Annual CVCT Forum and CVCT Workshop – new concept of meetings/brainstorming/interaction with NIH-EMEA-FDA and industry
- Partnership with Fundamental and Clinical Pharmacology
- Educational meeting

Cardiovascular Surgery

- "Surgeons meet the Cardiologists" session during the meeting of the European Association of Percutaneous Cardiovascular Interventions (EAPCI) (Barcelona (SP) 2009), a platform where both cardiology and cardiovascular surgery can be discussed

Cellular Biology of the Heart

- Participation in the Winter Meeting of the Heart Failure Association of the ESC
- Joint symposium with WG atherosclerosis

Computers in Cardiology

- Organised joint session/symposia with other ESC-endorsed meetings (e.g., Euroecho)
- Participation in the Council on Cardiovascular Imaging (CCVI)

Coronary Pathophysiology and Microcirculation

- Clinical manuscript on 'why to study microcirculation'

Developmental Anatomy and Pathology

- WG biennial meeting
- Hands-on educational sessions at ESC Congress 2008

Grown-Up Congenital Heart Disease

- Third teaching course on Adult Congenital Cardiac Disease
- Accreditation exam on Congenital Heart Disease Echocardiography
- First European teaching course on GUCH
- Two registries: EURIPIDES and EuroHeart Survey on pregnancy

Hypertension and the Heart

- Participation in the meeting of the Hellenic Society of Cardiology
- "Meet the Expert" session: Benefits and risks of sports in patients with arterial hypertension
- Organised sessions at different meetings in collaboration with the European Society of Hypertension
- Participation in the ESC Council for Primary Cardiovascular Care

Myocardial Function

- WG annual meeting: Influence of specific risk factors on myocardial function, with Travel Awards granted to young scientists
- Position paper on Inflammation in Heart Failure

Myocardial and Pericardial Disease

- Annual European Conference on Myocardial and Pericardial Disease and Workshop on Inherited Cardiomyopathies
- Clinical Expert Consensus Document on Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy
- AHA/ACC/ESC statement on: The Role of Endomyocardial Biopsy in the Management of Cardiovascular Diseases
- Position statement on the Definition and Classification of Cardiomyopathies and the continuation of case and paper of the month

Nuclear Cardiology and Cardiac CT

- ETP course: Clinical Nuclear Cardiology & Cardiac CT (100 people)
- Two position papers: Cardiac computed tomography: Indications, applications, limitations, and training requirements; and Clinical value, cost-effectiveness, and safety of myocardial perfusion scintigraphy: a position statement
- ICNC 9 (co-organiser) including Accreditation
- E-communication: Monthly review and newsletter

Pathogenesis of Atherosclerosis

- Symposium: Translational medicine in cardiovascular disease
- Joined symposium on EAS meeting in Istanbul, where the WG had a stand

Peripheral Circulation

- Meeting on advances in the diagnosis and treatment of peripheral artery and venous disease
- Joint symposium with the Central European Vascular Forum: "the cardiologist beyond the coronary arteries: carotid and peripheral artery disease"
- Participation in the annual congress of the Italian Society of Cardiology

Pulmonary Circulation and Right Ventricular Function

- Educational courses on Pulmonary Hypertension
- International workshop on Chronic Thromboembolic PH

Thrombosis

- Registry protocol on triple antithrombotic therapy. Recruitment of centres and initial registration of patients' data
- Launch of exchange programme for post-doctoral training in European labs
- Position paper on Anticoagulants in Heart Disease

Valvular Heart Disease

- Consensus document on Percutaneous Procedures for Valvular Heart Disease
- Taskforce on a new set of guidelines for Infective Endocarditis
- Taskforce on "Risk scores for valve surgery" with a paper to be published in the European Heart Journal
- Registry on "Structural heart disease in pregnancy" initiated
- ETP course: difficult valve disease: Focus 2009. Guidelines and beyond: an interactive case-based course

COUNCILS

- In 2009, the Council for Cardiology Practice launched a new programme, «Cardiology Practice in Europe», a series of joint sessions in major national meetings with associations of private practice cardiologists.
- The Council on Basic Cardiovascular Science held its first Summer School at the European Heart House in Sophia Antipolis, France from 5 to 9 July 2009, specifically aimed at young basic scientists. The Council is currently planning its first basic science meeting in July 2010. Entitled «Frontiers in Cardiovascular Biology», the meeting will be a new platform in Europe for the exchange and discussion of cardiovascular science. It will cover the entire cardiovascular field and combine it with the newest developments in technology and scientific strategy.
- The Council on Cardiovascular Nursing and Allied Professions held a successful congress with the Irish Nurses Cardiovascular Association in Dublin, 24 and 25 April 2009, and is elaborating its strategy for the next three years.

- In 2009, the Council on Cardiovascular Primary Care introduced its newsletter, concentrating on reports from major congresses on primary care, and travel grants for general practitioners to attend major events
- The Council on Cardiovascular Imaging has focused internally on the Textbook of CV Imaging of the ESC, which will be launched this year, and externally on the collaboration with the other specialties, active in the field of CV imaging, i.e., radiology and nuclear medicine. Together with these specialty groups, the CCCI is preparing a common guideline on the use of non-invasive imaging in stable coronary artery disease, and a discussion on training and accreditation of the “cardiac imager” is also underway

ASSOCIATIONS



HEART FAILURE ASSOCIATION OF THE ESC (HFA)

HFA improves quality of life and longevity, through better prevention, diagnosis and treatment of heart failure, including the establishment of networks for its management, education and research. This year they have achieved this by:

- Developing an attractive, user-friendly HF patient website available in several languages (English, German and French, with Spanish following soon): www.heartfailurematters.org
- Organising workshops and producing consensus documents on several topics such as: translational research, Standards of Care, Palliative Care, Acute Heart Failure, Diastolic Heart Failure
- Providing two research fellowships, travel grants to the congress and lobbying at the EU in Brussels
- Successfully running the Heart Failure 2009 event in Nice, which attracted 3,281 participants, and the fourth HFA Winter Translational Research meeting
- Organising educational courses at the European Heart House (the ESC headquarters)
- Reaching an impact factor of 2.986 for the European Journal of Heart Failure



EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY (EAE)

EAE provides the best possible tools to promote excellence in diagnosis, research, education and technical developments in cardiovascular ultrasound around the world. This year's achievements include:

- “EAE summit”: to build up its European network
- 3D Echo Box (a compilation of 3D echo contents)
- Recommendation documents, with some published in the European Journal of Echocardiography
- An outstanding impact factor of 1.97 for the European Journal of Echocardiography
- Progression of accreditations process for laboratories
- Successful Euroecho Congress in December
- An increase in the number of association members to 1,450



EUROPEAN HEART RHYTHM ASSOCIATION (EHRA)

EHRA strives to provide the best possible tools, education and information in electrophysiology, and counts the following among its achievements this year:

- Implementation of paying membership with exclusive benefits
- EHRA summit and alliances with other ESC associations
- Thirteen training fellowships (with applications from individuals and training centres)
- Success of EP and CP accreditation exams
- New initiatives on the web, including webinars and online courses
- Network of centres collaborating in the performance of registry initiatives and research studies
- High success of Europace Congress



EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR CARDIOVASCULAR PREVENTION AND REHABILITATION (EACPR)

2008 was a year for EACPR to define its future strategy to support its mission and evolution. Highlights include:

- Increased membership to 1,600 members
- Good attendance and quality of scientific programme for EuroPREvent Congress
- Increased impact factor for the EJCPR
- Contribution to scientific publications and guidelines
- Responsibility of cardiovascular prevention implementation agenda
- Full update of the HeartScore program, plus national versions according to the 2007 European Guidelines on CVD Prevention and the launch of a PC application format



EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR PERCUTANEOUS CORONARY INTERVENTIONS (EAPCI)

EAPCI's aim is to become the leading exchange forum for all who care about cardiovascular health and who wish to contribute to its improvement through the application of percutaneous cardiovascular interventions. Many of this year's new developments indicate that EAPCI is moving in this direction:

- Success of EuroPCR
- EuroIntervention indexed in PubMed/Medline and linked to the congress
- Research and training grants and fellows courses in Europe
- Stent for Life initiative to promote lifesaving indications of PCI

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

EUROPEAN RELATIONS

National governments and European institutions are essential partners to secure a European environment that is favourable for cardiovascular health. The main activities in 2008 were:

- Contribution to European Commission (EC) workshop on translational research objectives for the drafting of the upcoming call for Health in Framework Programme 7 (FP7)
- List of independent experts in CV research to assist the Directorate General for Research with evaluations required under FP7
- A scientific response to 10 consultations in 2008 provides scientific support to regulatory bodies in Europe
- EuroHeart project co-funded by the EC Public Health Programme 2003-2008 to determine areas of policies and public health interventions, bringing together 30 partners in 21 countries
- The MEP Heart Group, made up of 85 MEPs representing all 27 EU Member States, is a discussion forum aimed at promoting measures that will help raise CVD as a priority on the EU political agenda. The group met three times in 2008 and will resume activities after the EP elections in June 2009

CARDIOVASCULAR ROUND TABLE

The Cardiovascular Round Table (CRT) is a strategic forum for high-level and transparent dialogue between ESC leadership and that of the cardiovascular industry (19 companies), to create an environment in Europe favourable to cardiovascular research, innovation, prevention and management. In 2008, the CRT activities were focused on:

- Innovation in Research & Development: innovation in the cardiovascular field to be preserved through discussions on alternative ways to conduct randomised controlled clinical trials and methodology. Regular workshops organised on topics identified as critical. "Acute Heart Failure" and "Secondary Prevention after ACS" were the first topics addressed
- Regulatory issues: CRT continues to establish a dialogue with regulators on the requirements for registration in specific therapeutic areas. Workshops were held involving representatives from academia, industry and regulators on jointly selected topics
- Health economics: Economic assessment of interventions are to become an integral part of decision-making in health services. CRT has a responsibility to promote knowledge and understanding of health economics among cardiologists, so as to develop their participation in debate and decision-making
- Awareness actions will be developed towards ESC leadership, National Societies and the Cardiology Community
- Inventory of available databases and registries will be undertaken with an analysis of current/past data from an HE perspective

List of participating companies:

Astra Zeneca	Lilly Critical Care Europe
Abbott Vascular	Medtronic
Bayer Healthcare AG	Merck Sharp and Dohme
Boehringer Ingelheim	Novartis Pharma
Boston Scientific Corporation	Pfizer Inc
Bristol-Myers Squibb Company	Philips Medical Systems
Cordis Corporation,	Sanofi-Aventis
a Johnson and Johnson Company	Schering Plough
GlaxoSmithKline	Servier International
F. Hoffman- La Roche	Siemens Medical Solutions

ACCREDITATION



EUROPEAN FOR ACCREDITATION IN CARDIOLOGY (EBAC)

The fiscal year 2008/2009 has been very active for EBAC, with EBAC accreditation being awarded to over 300 educational programmes, as well as involvement in the following projects:

- Renewal of the Cooperation Agreement signed with UEMS/EACCME for a 5-year period
- Awarding CME Credits for Reviewers and Authors of CME EBAC-accredited articles and texts
- Development of a new, upgraded version of the EBAC online accreditation services tool



EUROPEAN BOARD FOR THE SPECIALITY OF CARDIOLOGY (EBSC)

In 2008/2009, the e-Platform for Training and Revalidation in cardiology has been the focus of the EBSC, keeping with their mission to harmonise training throughout Europe. Activities include:

- Production of an e-Platform prototype presented at the ESC Annual Congress in Munich
- Revised version of Chapter 6 of the UEMS Charter on Cardiology Training
- MCQ Bank (Multiple Choice Questions Bank) in development

TREASURER REPORT

The commercial and financial activities of the European Society of Cardiology are shared between two companies. The European Society of Cardiology houses all the business and commercial activities and "Maison Européenne du Coeur", a property company, owns the Heart House and land. The figures presented below include both legal entities.

The treasurer report includes on a 5 year period the Group statement of income and expenditure together with the group balance sheets, business reporting analysis and graphs on the evolution of the revenue, profit and headcount and membership funds.

ESC GROUP STATEMENTS OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE (FRENCH GAAP) EUROS

€	12 months 31/03/2009	12 months 31/03/2008	12 months 31/03/2007	12 months 31/03/2006	12 months 31/03/2005
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	51 288 756	54 040 263	46 910 722	32 786 139	29 122 831
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	-46 323 433	-46 271 970	-41 614 847	-28 507 963	-27 192 092
OPERATING PROFIT	4 965 323	7 768 293	5 295 875	4 278 176	1 930 739
TOTAL FINANCIAL INCOME	1 228 429	1 031 927	1 113 948	506 317	285 291
TOTAL FINANCIAL EXPENSES	-496 197	-339 704	-84 383	-398 973	-140 320
FINANCIAL RESULT	732 232	692 223	1 029 565	107 344	144 971
NET SURPLUS ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION	5 697 555	8 460 516	6 325 440	4 385 520	2 075 710
EXTRAORDINARY ITEMS	43 288	327 840	-59 610	156 359	-31 011
NET SURPLUS BEFORE TAXATION	5 740 843	8 788 356	6 265 830	4 541 879	2 044 699
INCOME TAX AND PROFIT SHARING	-1 931 521	-3 350 642	-2 250 377	-1 821 701	-849 198
RESULT FOR THE PERIOD	3 809 322	5 437 714	4 015 453	2 720 178	1 195 501

FY 2006-2007 Operating income and expenses include sales and purchases of hotel rooms for 9542 K€.

FY 2007-2008 Operating income and expenses include sales and purchases of hotel rooms for 13 116 K€.

FY 2008-2009 Operating income and expenses include sales and purchases of hotel rooms for 11 738 K€.

ESC GROUP - BALANCE SHEET (EUROS)

€	31/03/2009	31/03/2008	31/03/2007	31/03/2006	31/03/2005
Assets					
Cash and securities (2)	30 987 056	34 033 744	27 166 191	23 770 416	17 543 141
Accounts receivables	14 025 372	9 774 344	10 325 011	5 295 720	9 150 822
Other receivables / prepaid expenses / stocks	11 150 896	7 880 465	8 738 721	8 293 743	6 381 491
Fixed Assets (1)	5 768 763	5 930 356	6 404 609	6 816 210	9 415 453
TOTAL ASSETS	61 932 087	57 618 909	52 634 532	44 176 089	42 490 907
Liabilities / Society's equity					
Accounts payable	4 853 710	5 452 686	7 982 576	7 622 237	7 404 492
Other Creditors / deferred income	30 272 671	28 971 679	26 893 141	22 714 664	21 712 994
Banks	0	0	0	0	22 367
Provisions	296 344	494 505	496 490	592 317	469 580
Mortgage	0	0	0	0	344 320
Surplus of the year	3 809 323	5 437 714	4 015 453	2 720 178	1 195 501
Society equity (Members Funds)	22 700 039	17 262 325	13 246 872	10 526 693	11 341 653
TOTAL LIABILITIES	61 932 087	57 618 909	52 634 532	44 176 089	42 490 907

Note (1) Tangible assets include the Heart House - Net book value 31/3/2009 including LHI : 5298 K€

Note (2) Cash and marketable securities include WG and Associations funds for 7733 K€ (after allocation of FY09 results)

COMMENTARIES ON ESC GROUP ACCOUNTS

Following a record 2007-2008 exercise, the results reported by the European Society of Cardiology to its members for fiscal year 2008-2009 remain excellent with a profit before taxes of 5.7 million (to be compared with a 2.9 million budget) and 3.8 million after taxes. The level of profit is comparable to fiscal year 2006-2007, which included the World Congress.

The revenues excluding hotels rooms sales (39.5 millions) have slightly decreased (-2%) but less than anticipated , following 38% revenue growth achieved over the last 5 years. The next year anticipates a flat revenue in a very difficult economical and regulatory environment.

OPERATING PROFIT

A 5 million operating profit has been generated this year which can be explained by the various activities of the ESC.

— EDUCATIONAL PRODUCTS AND ACTIVITIES

The ESC has continued and increased its investments (+53% compared to last year) for the guidelines development with a total investment of -647 k€. 3 guidelines have been published in 2008 and 4 will be in 2009.

The educational products have generated a 360 k€ contribution in line with budget but lower than last year. It includes the compendium (+145 k€) and the margin generated by the sales of pocket guidelines which continue to be one of the key scientific assets of the ESC.

— **EHS:** the Euroaspire 3 study has been completed this year generating a 1 890 k€ revenue and a gross contribution, before allocation of EHS department costs, of 710 k€. The 2 ongoing registries have generated a gross contribution of 385 k€ for ACS and 30 k€ for PCI.

The challenge is now to identify sponsors for the new registries model starting FY2010 to ensure the long term financing of these activities.

— JOURNALS:

The journals have generated a total contribution of 3 243 k€ (before allocation to the profit to the Associations). Six of the seven journals are now published by OUP.

The EHJ royalties for 2008 are below budget and previous year; this is mainly due to a drop in the non subscription sales and reprints in particular. The supplement sales remain popular.

The 2008 CVR royalties and European Journal of Echocardiology have increased in connection with the transfer of the journal to OUP.

— CONGRESSES:

5 congresses were organized in 2008: ESC annual congress, Heart Failure, Euroecho, EuroPrevent and ACC, generating a global contribution of 9 390 k€ and representing:

-14 101 submitted abstracts

-37 038 participants

-762 90'scientific sessions and 110 industry sessions.

Financial contribution of the 2008 Munich ESC congress (8 793 k€) was lower than Vienna, the variance being mainly due to the congress centre costs.

— MEMBERSHIP

2709 fellows and nurse fellow are now registered.

— **EXTERNAL AFFAIRS** (Prevention, European affairs and CRT)

The contribution of the division (+432 k€) is higher than expected, this is mainly due to a donation for prevention activities +300 k€.

19 companies are currently members of the CRT.

— **BOARD AND COMMITTEES**

The Board expenses (-594 k€) have increased compared to last year. The Board contributed for 130k€ to the scientific activities of the WG and councils.

Research and training grants have been distributed for 369 k€ and 70 k€ by the councils.

— **ASSOCIATIONS**

The 5 associations have had a positive contribution this fiscal year but remain dependant from their congress and journal. Despite the absence of congress this year, EHRA has generated a +272 k€ operating profit thanks to various projects sponsored by industry.

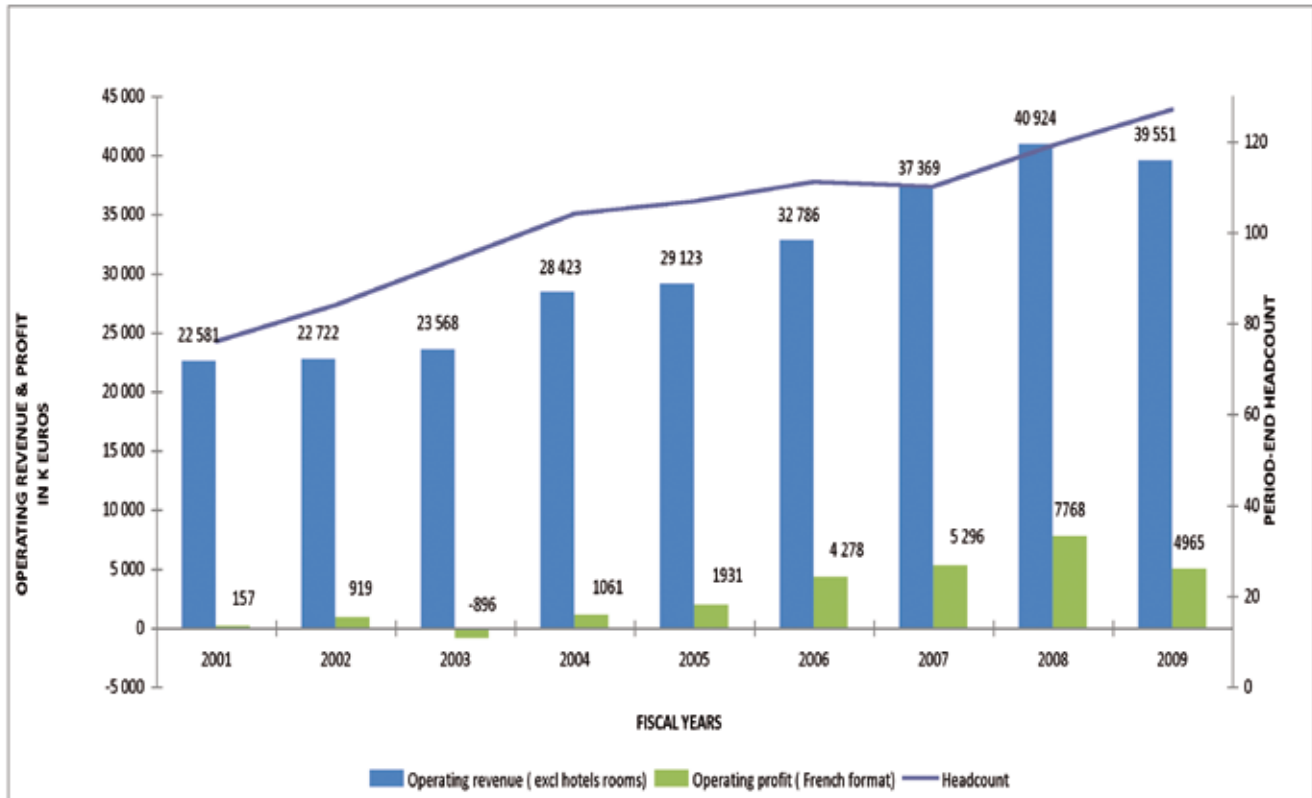
At the end of FY2009 their cumulated membership funds amount to 749 k€ for EAE, 2 118 k€ for EHRA, 3 064 k€ for HFA, 176 k€ for EAPCI and 113 k€ for EAPCR.

— **FINANCIAL INVESTMENTS AND PROFITS**

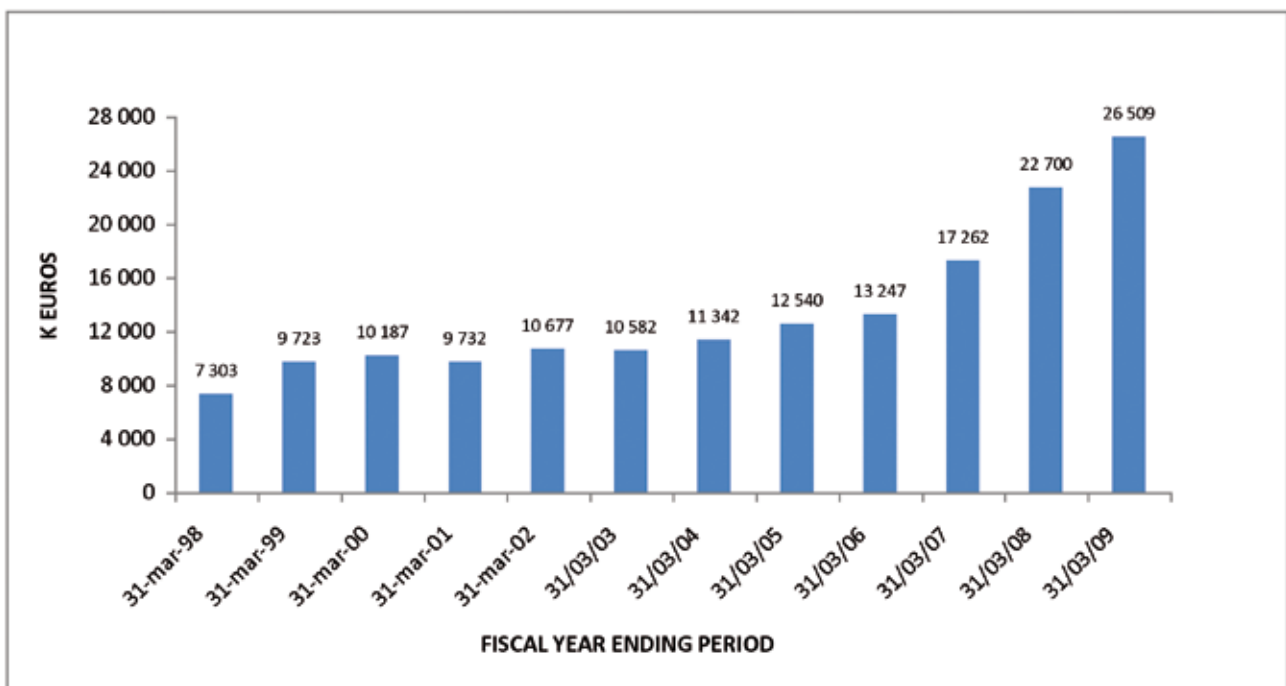
The treasury (31 millions) is currently invested in low risk profile financial investments mainly short terms deposits and monetary funds in major banks. It includes also structured products (98% to 100% capital protected) for a total amount of 4 487 k€.

During the year, in connection with the financial crisis a loss of -320 k€ (including accruals) has been done on a non protected financial product Shanti, but the net financial profit remains very positive (+718 k€).

GROWTH IN GROUP ANNUAL REVENUE, PROFIT & HEADCOUNT



GROWTH IN MEMBERSHIP FUNDS



ESC FINANCIAL RESULTS BY DIVISION (ESC REPORTING)

FISCAL YEAR Description	2008/2009 Actual EUROS	2009/2010 Budget EUROS
INCOME :		
CONGRESS & MEETINGS	25 333 775	26 737 886
SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMMES	953 325	1 171 454
EURO HEART SURVEY	2 402 084	930 000
PRACTICE GUIDELINES	0	105 000
PUBLISHING	6 757 556	7 008 949
MEMBERSHIP COMMUNICATION	5 449	9 000
MEMBERSHIP SERVICES-	1 104 288	1 304 791
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS	1 105 170	682 000
EHH & MAINTENANCE	0	0
MGT / FINANCE / HR	18 789	18 200
TECHNOLOGY & BUSINESS SERVICES	0	0
ACCREDITATION	369 200	309 550
BOARD & COMMITTEES	333 024	337 092
WORKING GROUPS	439 524	434 110
<i>Total ESC CENTRAL</i>	<i>38 822 184</i>	<i>39 048 032</i>
HEART FAILURE ASSOCIATION	725 744	652 456
EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY	390 674	369 718
EUROPEAN HEART RHYTHM ASSOCIATION	1 506 168	2 081 776
PREVENTION ASSOCIATION	422 500	222 108
EU.ASSOCIATION OF PERCUT. CVR INTERVENTIONS	198 464	493 500
ASSOCIATIONS BUSINESS MGT GROUP	0	0
<i>Total ASSOCIATIONS</i>	<i>3 243 550</i>	<i>3 819 558</i>
INTERNAL BILLING ADJUSTMENTS	-2 522 191	-3 904 512
OPERATING INCOME	39 543 543	38 963 078
EXPENSE :		
CONGRESS & MEETINGS	-16 761 967	-20 222 998
SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMMES	-592 852	-761 012
EURO HEART SURVEY	-1 577 705	-866 747
PRACTICE GUIDELINES	-647 051	-748 556
PUBLISHING	-4 338 217	-4 865 342
MEMBERSHIP COMMUNICATION	-873 612	-866 619
MEMBERSHIP SERVICES-	-610 564	-617 499
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS	-672 757	-1 260 386
EHH & MAINTENANCE	-970 241	-984 213
MGT / FINANCE / HR	-2 781 735	-2 286 366
TECHNOLOGY & BUSINESS SERVICES	-2 280 612	-2 430 791
ACCREDITATION	-507 984	-352 186
BOARD & COMMITTEES	-1 357 200	-1 628 711
WORKING GROUPS	-98 954	-496 650
<i>Total ESC CENTRAL</i>	<i>-34 071 451</i>	<i>-38 388 076</i>
HEART FAILURE ASSOCIATION	-557 028	-603 932
EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY	-312 862	-462 080
EUROPEAN HEART RHYTHM ASSOCIATION	-1 233 843	-1 734 164
PREVENTION ASSOCIATION	-339 626	-236 400
EU.ASSOCIATION OF PERCUT. CVR INTERVENTIONS	-197 087	-357 540
ASSOCIATIONS BUSINESS MGT GROUP	-332 209	-263 276
<i>Total ASSOCIATIONS</i>	<i>-2 972 655</i>	<i>-3 657 392</i>

ESC FINANCIAL RESULTS BY DIVISION (ESC REPORTING)

FISCAL YEAR Description	2008/2009 Actual EUROS	2009/2010 Budget EUROS
INTERNAL BILLING ADJUSTMENTS	2 522 191	3 904 514
OPERATING EXPENSE	-34 521 915	-38 140 954
RESULT :		
CONGRESS & MEETINGS	8 571 808	6 514 888
SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMMES	360 473	410 442
EURO HEART SURVEY	824 379	63 253
PRACTICE GUIDELINES	-647 051	-643 556
PUBLISHING	2 419 339	2 143 607
MEMBERSHIP COMMUNICATION	-868 163	-857 619
MEMBERSHIP SERVICES-	493 724	687 292
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS	432 413	-578 386
EHH & MAINTENANCE	-970 241	-984 213
MGT / FINANCE / HR	-2 762 946	-2 268 166
TECHNOLOGY & BUSINESS SERVICES	-2 280 612	-2 430 791
ACCREDITATION	-138 784	-42 636
BOARD & COMMITTEES	-1 024 176	-1 291 619
WORKING GROUPS	340 570	-62 540
<i>Total ESC CENTRAL</i>	<i>4 750 733</i>	<i>659 956</i>
HEART FAILURE ASSOCIATION	168 716	48 524
EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY	77 812	-92 362
EUROPEAN HEART RHYTHM ASSOCIATION	272 325	347 612
PREVENTION ASSOCIATION	82 874	-14 292
EU ASSOCIATION OF PERCUT. CVR INTERVENTIONS	1 377	135 960
ASSOCIATIONS BUSINESS MGT GROUP	-332 209	-263 276
<i>Total ASSOCIATIONS</i>	<i>270 895</i>	<i>162 166</i>
OPERATING RESULT	5 021 628	822 122
FINANCIAL INCOME	748 527	446 167
FINANCIAL EXPENSES	-72 485	-14 500
CONTINGENCY PROVISIONS	43 174	-427 975
FINANCIAL RESULT	719 216	3 692
RESULT before Tax	5 740 844	825 814
PROFIT SHARING	-342 194	0
CORPORATE TAX	-1 589 327	0
Net Surplus	3 809 323	825 814

AUDITOR'S REPORT

European Society of Cardiology (Ste Européenne de Cardiologie) Association

STATUTORY AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARS 2009

This is a free translation into English of the statutory auditors' report issued in the French language and is provided solely for the convenience of English speaking readers. The statutory auditors' report includes information specifically required by French law in all audit reports, whether qualified or not, and this is presented below the opinion on the financial statements. This information includes an explanatory paragraph discussing the auditors' assessments of certain significant accounting and auditing matters. These assessments were considered for the purpose of issuing an audit opinion on the financial statements taken as a whole and not to provide separate assurance on individual account captions or on information taken outside of the financial statements.

This report should be read in conjunction with, and construed in accordance with, French law and professional auditing standards applicable in France.

TO THE MEMBERS,

In compliance with the assignment entrusted to us by your Members' general meeting, we hereby report to you, for the year ended March 31, 2009, on:

- the audit of the accompanying financial statements of S.E.C. association,
- the justification of our assessments,
- the specific verifications and information required by law.

These financial statements have been approved by the Board of Directors. Our role is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

I. OPINION ON THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

We conducted our audit in accordance with professional standards applicable in France. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the annual financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statements presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the annual financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the association at March 31, 2009, and the results of its operations for the year then ended, in accordance with the accounting rules and principles applicable in France.

II. JUSTIFICATION OF OUR ASSESSMENTS

In accordance with the requirements of article L. 823-9 of the French Company Law (Code de commerce) relating to the justification of our assessments, we bring to your attention the following matters:

Accounting principles

The note to the financial statements relating to «Explanations on the recognition of certain income» sets out the accounting standards and methods used with regard to long-term contracts. In the context of our assessment of the accounting standards and procedures applied by the association, we have checked the appropriateness of the accounting methods described above and the information given in the notes to the financial statements and we have ensured their correct implementation.

Accounting estimates

Your association sets aside provisions to cover contingencies as described in the note to the financial statements relative to «Accruals booked in the balance sheet». In the context of our assessment of these estimates, we verified the reasonableness of the assumptions adopted and the resulting evaluations.

The assessments were thus made in the context of the performance of our audit of the financial statements, taken as a whole, and therefore contributed to the formation of our unqualified audit opinion expressed in the first part of this report.

III. SPECIFIC VERIFICATIONS AND INFORMATION

We have also performed the specific verifications required by law in accordance with professional standards applicable in France.

We have no matters to report regarding the fair presentation and the conformity with the financial statements of the information given in the Board and Treasurer's Reports and in the documents addressed to the members with respect to the financial position and the financial statements.

Sophia Antipolis,

The Statutory Auditors
ERNST & YOUNG Audit
Anis Nassif

European Heart House
(Maison Européenne du Cœur, S.C.P)

**AUDITORS' REPORT ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE
YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2009**

This is a free translation into English of the auditors' report issued in the French language and is provided solely for the convenience of English speaking readers.

This report should be read in conjunction with, and construed in accordance with, French law and professional auditing standards applicable in France.

To the shareholders,

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Maison Européenne du Cœur as of March 31, 2009. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with professional standards on auditing applicable in France. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statements presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the Company's financial position and its assets and liabilities, as of March 31, 2009, and of the results of its operations for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting rules and principles applicable in France.

Anis Nassif
Ernst and Young

Annual Report
of the
European
Society
of Cardiology
2009



EUROPEAN
SOCIETY OF
CARDIOLOGY®