



EUROPEAN REGION

**World Confederation
for Physical Therapy**

Report from WCPT Regional Representative to the General Meeting 2008

**ADOPTED at the
General Meeting 22-24 May 2008
Athens, Greece**

REPORT FROM WCPT REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE TO THE GENERAL MEETING 2008

European Region of the World Confederation for Physical Therapy (WCPT)

1. WCPT Regional Representative

The WCPT Executive Committee comprises the President, Vice President and five regional representatives. Prof. Marilyn Moffat and Ms Zola Dantile were elected a President and Vice President respectively at the General Meeting (GM) of WCPT in Vancouver in June 2007.

In the year prior to the GM, each of the five WCPT regions elects a representative to become a member of the WCPT Executive Committee. The current WCPT Executive Committee began their work after the GM in June 2007. Below is a picture of the current WCPT Executive at the first full held meeting held in October 2007 in London.



WCPT Executive Committee

From left to right: Emma Stokes (European Region), Mabel Yvonne Espinel Gonzalez (South America Region), Sandra Thornhill (North America Caribbean Region), Marilyn Moffat (President), Sylvia Kambalmetore (Africa Region), Margot Skinner (Asia Western Pacific Region), Zola Dantile (Vice President)

2. Purpose of the Report of the Regional Representative

It is the first time the Regional Representative will present a separate report and the purpose of this document is to describe the role and activities of the Regional Representative for Europe on the WCPT Executive Committee and the European Region of WCPT (ER-WCPT) Executive Committee. It is intended to communicate activities and outputs regularly to build an understanding of the role of the Regional Representative.

3. Function of the Regional Representative

The Regional Representative (RR) is elected onto the WCPT Executive by the Member Organisations (MO's) and is also a member of the ER-WCPT's Executive Committee.

3.1 ER-WCPT Executive Committee

The extent to which the RR is involved at the Executive Committee level varies between regions. In the European Region (ER-WCPT) the RR has not been a member of any of the Region's Working Groups and has traditionally been responsible for attending WHO Regional Committee for Europe and Twinning. The RR communicates WCPT matters to the ER-WCPT Executive Committee and vice versa. If the RR wishes to communicate with the MO's about ER-WCPT matters, s/he does so via the Secretariat of ER-WCPT e.g. report from WHO Regional Committee for Europe meeting.

3.2 WCPT Executive Committee

In addition to communicating Regional matters to the WCPT Executive Committee, the RR works with the other members of the WCPT Executive Committee on the strategic workplan for 2007-2011. Should MO's wish to raise matters about WCPT with the RR and vice versa, direct communication via e-mail can be made with the RR.

4. ER-WCPT meetings and activities

Since joining the ER-WCPT Executive June 2007, I have attended three Executive Committee meetings in addition to the WHO Committee Regional Committee for Europe meeting in Serbia in September 2007. It is important that when meetings such as this are attended, at a cost to the Region, we should make every opportunity to create value for ER-WCPT in attending. In addition, to attending and hearing about the activities and becoming aware of future activities, MO's could use it as an opportunity to have Regional Representative raise issues with attending representatives.

While I was in Serbia, I was invited to attend the Serbian Physiotherapy Association's annual meeting. It was a wonderful opportunity to meet with physiotherapists from Serbia, in addition to colleagues from Bosnia Herzegovina and Macedonia.

RR outputs from the to date include:

- Report from WHO Committee Regional Committee for Europe.
- Report on Twinning for review and discussion at the GM 2008.
- Proposal for ER-WCPT Awards.
- Report to the GM from the Regional Representative.

5. WCPT Executive Committee

5.1 Meetings of the WCPT Executive Committee

The WCPT Executive Committee has met on three occasions since the GM in June 2007. There was a first short meeting in Vancouver, and thereafter two working meetings in London – October 2007 and March 2008. In addition, regular conference calls take place, scheduled at least every six-eight weeks.

5.2 WCPT Strategic Priorities 2007-2011

At the WCPT Executive Committee meeting in October 2007, the strategic activities of WCPT were considered. They were informed by discussions at the General Meeting as well as motions passed at the GM proposed by member organisations

(MO's). A copy of the plans for 2007-2011 was sent to all MO's. 2-3 members of the Executive Committee have agreed to work on particular projects. In March 2008, project plans were approved and work commenced on the projects in London at the meeting. The areas of work at the March 2008 meeting were:

- Patient/Client documentation
- Guidelines for standard evaluation process for the recognition/accreditation of physical therapy education programmes
- Development of physical therapy education
- Model practice act:
- Vision
- World Physical Therapy Day
- Patient satisfaction
- Disaster management:

After each WCPT Executive Committee meeting, a summary is prepared of the work of the meeting and this is sent to each MO. Once the documentation for each project is completed, it will be sent to each MO for feedback and suggestions.

6. Communication with the Regional Representative

MO's should be happy to contact the RR with queries, suggestions, and comments can do so directly by e-mailing estokes@tcd.ie.

7. Recommendations to the General Meeting

That the General Meeting adopts the report of the Regional Representative

Dr. Emma K. Stokes

European Region Representative, WCPT Executive Committee