



S.I.D.O.  
Società Italiana  
di Ortodonzia

Associazione Legalmente Riconosciuta  
(Decreto Ministeriale 28/01/00)

## **MEDITERRANEAN ORTHODONTIC INTEGRATION PROJECT (MOIP)**

During the XVIII SIDO International Conference in Florence (15-18 November, 2006) the second meeting of the Mediterranean Orthodontic Integration Project (MOIP) took place in the Fortezza da Basso on Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2006.

Representatives from all the participating Societies had been invited, to reflect on the future and the possible implementation of the project, originated during the Cairo Workshop organized by professor G. Siciliani in 2005.

SIDO was represented by Prof. Alberto Laino, President, Prof. Giuseppe Siciliani, immediate past-president and founder of the project, Dr. Claudio De Nuccio, president –elect, Prof. Roberto Martina, FEO immediate past-president, Prof. Francesca A. Miotti, delegate for International Affairs, and Dr. Mauro Cozzani, representing the journal Progress in Orthodontics, the SIDO international publication.

Professor Alberto Laino welcomed the participants in Florence and opened the meeting, suggesting that its focus should be on the implementation of the MOIP project according to the possible suggestions proposed from each participant Society, one year after the first steering group meeting.

Professor Roberto Martina, who had participated in the first MOIP Meeting in Cairo as FEO President, while welcoming the assembly and giving his full personal support to the project, suggested that dr. Olivier Mauchamp should take over as FEO president.

Dr. Mauchamp illustrated the possible future cooperation between FEO and the MOIP program, briefly illustrating to common SFODF-SIDO project of jointly organizing the next official MOIP Congress in Venice in May 2008.

Professor Siciliani read his report, illustrating his reflections in the following note:

Dear friends,

thank you for being once again SIDO guests!

About one year ago, in El Cairo, I opened the first workshop on the Mediterranean project, and I wanted to thank you for your kind collaboration. Last year, I told you that the relationship between Europe and the Mediterranean, could have been compared to a wall or a bridge and that during the conference that was held on 1995, the European Union chose the "bridge".

More than 10 years have passed since that decision was taken and even if lots of work have been done on the economic and cultural level, very few has been done in our field for the creation of a bridge between the European society and the Mediterranean one.

The very first attempt was done last year, by SIDO at El Cairo, getting through many difficulties, both economic and prejudicial. Last year I said in my speech:

*We think that, from this day forth, we can start talking about a Mediterranean orthodontic culture, as an alternative to the American, European or Islamic ones.*

*Even the thought of a cultural "bridge" among the orthodontic societies can be useful. In fact, if at the end of this day we will feel a little bit closer, I am sure we will have already set the first stone of a road that will bring us to the Mediterranean orthodontic culture.*

Last year, at the end of the workshop we gave you a sort of roadmap that indicated:

- 1. the support for an official language for all the societies that join the program. The language that we consider the most suitable for this aim is the English language. So that, every national congress has to be translated into English.**
- 2. the creation of a Mediterranean *mailing list* in which all the orthodontists joining our societies will be recorded. That will allow to our societies, when we organize our own national congress, to send the program to all the members joining the MOIP (Mediterranean Orthodontic Integration Program).**
- 3. a consent among the societies that join the MOIP of considering the Mediterranean Society members as members of our own societies, when referring to the *congress economic matter*.**



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4. *the creation of a Mediterranean Orthodontic Academy among the presidents of the orthodontic societies and the choose of a President, as a coordinator, that have the following aims:*
- *Supporting the meeting among the Mediterranean orthodontic societies and promoting studies and research on common interest topics that refers to the development of Orthodontics in the countries joining the MOIP.*
  - *Realizing seminars, debates and conferences in the occasion of national congress for the improvement of the integration process among Mediterranean orthodontic societies.*
  - *Developing information regarding the aims of the Academy, through the creation of a website for the simplification of the relationship among the Mediterranean orthodontic societies.*
  - *Establishing and assigning awards for merits and research grants in favour of professionals and/or researcher of the Mediterranean orthodontic societies, that during the previous year have published articles in collaboration with the countries that join the MOIP.*

ALL THIS HAS NOT YET BEEN DONE.....

And you are once again here, as SIDO guests, but you have never invited SIDO at your congress, or an Italian speaker.

But the worse thing is that you have not even advertised this congress among your members, in fact, no one of them has ever sent a poster or a scientific communication to our national congress.

I hope that next year all the plans we talked about in El Cairo will be finally carried out. Otherwise, I believe that this project will definitely "die".

I leave you with a consideration expressed by Giulio Andreotti, our ex Prime Minister, at the birth of the European Union, hoping that you will remind it:

***"The integration among all the people will take place when people and not only the leaders will meet each other"***

In our case, a real Mediterranean culture will exist only if our members, and not only the Societies' Presidents, will meet each other during our national congress.

Professor Miotti took over the chair of the meeting and commented on professor Siciliani somewhat strong words. It is true that the project presented in Cairo might not be progressing at the speed suggested and hoped for by professor Siciliani. However, this must still be considered a preliminary phase, and it must be remembered that it is a very ambitious program, that does require time and organization to be launched. One of the problems faced after Cairo was creating a real operating network, and this has taken some time. The list of affiliated associations has nearly been completed and new countries have been contacted and joined the original group, while Portugal opted out for internal reasons. The problem of communication needs to be considered, as not all countries have provided SIDO Secretariat with their updated contacts and membership list, either for transcription or privacy problems. Moreover, the MOIP mission had been described and sent to all the Presidents of the affiliated Associations, with the report of the meeting in Cairo and the dates of the upcoming meetings until 2008: it was hoped that the documents would have been disseminated to the memberships of the various Societies via their journals or newsletters, but so far only Progress has printed all information. Also, a distribution of different tasks needed to be established: while SIDO had suggested the project and offered the logistic support needed, all affiliated associations need to be active, thus decisions needed to be made as to "*what to do and how to do it*".

Dr. Mauchamp added that different languages and cultural differences need to be considered. France is really interested in the project, but it needs time to get organized to plan everything together. MOIP must be included in cultural projects of all societies and can be promoted through the newsletter, but one must be patient, avoid trying to do things too fast.

Dr. Stathopoulos added that the MOIP project indeed is in a preliminary stage, as suggested by professor Miotti. In regretting the small number of participants attending the meeting in Firenze, he hoped that that next time there will be more participants, as better communication is established.

Dr. Kyriakides asked about the organization of the Academy in Cairo. It was answered that in this preliminary stages the plan appeared too complex to be activated, thus it had been postponed -not cancelled.



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Dr. Skoularikis thanked SIDO for originally suggesting the project, for continuing to implement it and for the hospitality in Firenze. In stating that the MOIP "*must work step by step*", three suggestions were put forward:

- 1) the establishment of a committee responsible to create a group of official MOIP speakers (from the countries involved in MOIP project) who will be annually invited to lecture in the national congresses of the affiliated societies. The work of this committee will provide a closer cooperation between the societies and organizations in the MOIP and will promote its aims. National Societies should provide travel and accommodation costs to the speakers.
- 2) The creation of a MOIP Award to be given annually to a presentation by a postgraduate student in orthodontics of the Mediterranean countries involved. A specific committee should therefore establish the criteria of the MOIP Award and choose between the nominated presentations. Education in orthodontics in the Mediterranean area must become an important interest for the MOIP.
- 3) For the better development of the MOIP project, the release of a newsletter with all the latest developments of the MOIP project is recommended. A committee should be responsible for editing the newsletter or at least providing the societies and organizations involved with all the latest information so that these can be included in the newsletter released by every organization.

A discussion followed on how to elect the committees and to facilitate the dissemination of the information. Dr. Skoularikis suggested that the presidents of all societies should be involved in the various committees, Dr. Kyriakides indicated the possible use of Progress rather than the newsletter, while Prof. Siciliani would prefer the e-mail as way of communicating.

Dr. Stathopoulos suggested the creation of a newsletter, the organization of meetings all around the world, the frequent exchange of information among Societies and the creation of a committees with specific goals. According to Prof. Siciliani the goal is to exchange information among all countries and the digital newsletter would help, the committees should provide the material, and a MOIP page on the SIDO website should be created.

Dr. Mauchamp pointed out that in France the list of membership cannot be distributed for privacy law and that there are costs' problems in forwarding material.

Prof. Kucukkeles suggested that the newsletter can be distributed among the Societies' Presidents, who could then disseminate it to the membership.

Dr. Shpack indicated the need for Italy to be more active, in asking the participants what to do. It was answered that SIDO would also like to hear ideas and suggestions coming from the different associations.

Dr. Cozzani pointed out that to create a committee is a risk and Dr. Tabbara indicated that the committees might be the "cemetery" of the project, while Dr. Skoularikis was in favour of the nomination of committees, as working in a big group might not be an efficient way of dealing with tasks. This was agreed upon by most of the participants.

Prof. Siciliani suggested the possibility of nominating a coordinator, responsible for the different committees reporting to the whole group and of creating a group address. SIDO advocated the role of coordinator to the Italian Society, as promoter of the project, and prof. Miotti will collect all information from the committees.

Prof. Martina indicated the need to discuss the next conferences, their frequency, the MOIP day in May 2008 during the joint SFODF-SIDO congress in Venezia, and this would lead to considering the creation of the list of speakers as a high priority.

Prof. Laino asked for the names of some speakers for the upcoming SIDO Congress in Naples, dealing with "treatment in the adult patient".

The issue of collecting nominations for possible speakers from the different Societies will be dealt with by dr. Shpack, who will kindly contact all Societies asking for names and areas of research and main interest (with a short CV and a picture) of the possible speakers. This list will then be made available to all Societies.

Dr. Skoularikis will act as delegate responsible for communication among the MOIP societies, facilitating the creation of the newsletter.



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Prof. Kucukkeles enquired about the Editorial Board of Progress. Prof. Miotti explained the new situation with the Journal, as the new Editor, prof. Fraser McDonald, was about to take over from prof. Gianelly. The Editorial Board would then be discussed with the new Editor, and, as previously indicated, will be implemented with members of the MOIP.

Dr. Mauchamp indicated that the 2008 MOIP Congress should be advertised through Progress as soon as possible. Dr. Stathopoulos asked whether the organizing committee will be limited to members of SIDO and SFODF or it is open to other societies. Prof. Martina and prof. Miotti stated that an International Scientific Committee will be nominated for the organization of the MOIP day. The Congress should however not only be advertised by PIO, but by all the Journals and Newsletters of the affiliated Societies.

The President declared the meeting closed and a light lunch was shared by all.

A great spirit of cooperation and willingness to "work together" was felt by all participants, and this will hopefully lead to improved contacts among Societies in the future.

Francesca A. Miotti