

## **The Annual Assembly of MSSA (December 2006 – December 2007)**



The Annual Assembly of MSSA (December 2006 – December 2007) took place on 21.12.2007, at the library of the Institute for Special Education and Rehabilitation, Faculty of Philosophy – Skopje.

The Assembly was attended by: Vladimir Trajkovski, Kristin Vasilevska, Nataaa Cicevska-Jovanova, Ana Poposka, Zivka Dimitrovska, Natasa Stanojkovska-Trajkovska, Biljana Kujundzic, Jasmina Ivanovska, Zoran Kitkanj, Dejan Trajkov, Aleksandar Petlickovski and Vasilka Galevska.

Absent by previous notification were: Ljupco Ajdinski, Dragoslav Kopacev, Jordan Jovev and Goran Ajdinski.

The Assembly officially started at 12.15 with the announcement of the MSSA' president, Dr. Vladimir Trajkovski of the planned timetable which was accepted by the present persons.

First timetable issue was the Adoption of the Annual Assembly 2006 minute book. The present persons didn't have any notices on the suggested minutes thus it was unanimously adopted.

Referring to the second timetable issue – Report of MSSA activities in 2007, Dr. Vladimir Trajkovski spoke. At the first part, he made retrospection of few activities, including:

- NGO platform for service providers in Macedonia organized by EASPD, which took place on 16.03.2007 at the Faculty of Philosophy. EASPD presenter was Mr. Luk Zerderloo and from Macedonia participated Prof. Dr. Ljupco Ajdinski, Mr. Vlado Krstovski and Mrs. Lidija Krstevska Dojcinovska. As Dr. Trajkovski informed, there have been efforts done in order to establish regional or national structure of service providers for disabled persons, but so far there are no concrete results.

- Participation of Doc. Dr. Vladimir Trajkovski at the EASPD seminar: "Trans Limits - Cultures - Approaches", Sofia in My 2007, as well as the visit realized at the Centre for Autism in Sofia.

- A request for MSSA inclusion sent in May to the National Council for disabled persons in RM, since the so-far included organizations do not cover this category of disabled persons.

- Participation of Doc. Dr. Vladimir Trajkovski at the Autism Europe seminar: "European Days of Autism", Brussels. Dr. Trajkovski also informed about the announced retirement of the president, as well as the expected new presidency in January, 2008 and the announcement of follow-up meeting of the Council of Administration in May, 2008.

- Creating of the new official MSSA web-site [www.mssa.org.mk](http://www.mssa.org.mk) (sponsored by Macedonia Project AD, Skopje) which is also modernized, including new information, papers, photo-gallery, as well as some of the contents presented on the previous web-site.

- A request for establishing national register of persons with autism, as well as Centre for detection, diagnostics, treatment and rehabilitation of persons with autism sent to the Prime minister and the Minister of health.



With respect to the first part of Dr. Trajkovski's speech referring to the MSSA activities in 2007, there was discussion started. Prof. Vasilevska gave an explanation concerning the Nacional register of persons with autism creation. She said that, according to the Law regulations, this register should be functioning at the Institute of Social Medicine, but regrettably, there was no will, nor interest.

Since Dr. Trajkovski informed that in Ireland this kind of register is functioning under Ministry of health' competence, Dr. Trajkov point out that there could be some problems if it is required that MSSA or the Institute for Special Education and Rehabilitation are responsible for the register and suggested that the Institute of Epidemiology should be engaged for this register. Prof. Vasilevska stressed that there was willing and capacity, but there were no adequate law determinations. Ass. Kitkanj suggested initiating amendments of the Health Care Law so that the conclusion was to make appointment with the Minister or the Deputy-minister of Health.

On the sub-issue Applying and Realization of Projects, Dr. Trajkovski briefed on two projects: Determination of auto antibodies, cytokines and CD markers in the persons with autism in Republic of Macedonia (initially returned due to the invalid concurs and re-submitted in October 2007 to the Ministry of education and science) and Educational communication (submitted to the Ministry of finance but not approved). In this context, Vasilka Galevska informed on the new Announcement of the Ministry of education and Science referring to joint research projects with institutions in Croatia, so it was suggested to take possibility of participation in account.

Dr. Trajkovski also informed the present persons on 4 new papers about autism published in 2007, as well as about the participation at seminars and congresses at home and abroad, so that the second timetable issue was completed.

Next timetable issue was Financial Report 2007, so the MSSA treasurer, Jasmina Ivanovska informed about the account condition at the end of 2006 (5.126,00 MKD), the total incomes in 2007 (519,50 MKD), the total outcomes in 2007 (2.439,00 MKD) and the current condition of the MSSA account (3.207,00 MKD).

Then followed the fourth timetable issue – Program of MSSA Activities in 2008. Respecting this, Dr. Trajkovski point out the following planned activities:

- Starting of the analysis of the children with autism and their parents' blood if there are financial means approved by the Ministry of education and science of RM aimed for the project: "Determination of auto antibodies, cytokines and CD markers in the persons with autism in Republic of Macedonia";
- Defending of two master dissertations by the MSSA members - students on Post-graduated studies at the Institute for Special Education and Rehabilitation, and eventually registration of doctorate;
- Publication of at least two papers of autism in foreign magazines;
- Activities for establishment of national register for autism in RM;
- Organization of seminar-conference dedicated to autism issues;
- Participation of MSSA experts at international seminars, congresses and conferences treating autism issues;
- MSSA participation at the Autism Europe and EASPD (European Association of Service

Providers for People with Disabilities), projects;

- Introduction of the autism to the broad public through the electronic and printed media and identification of new autism cases.

On the fifth timetable issue Various, Jasmina Ivanovska reminded that at the end of December 2006, there was New Year's Party organized for the children with autism which took place in "Balloons" play centre and informed that this year, as well, this kind of event will be organized, at the same place, on 28.12.2007, in the period 2 to 4 p.m. She also briefed about the initiative and the announcements of shooting a video-clip about the autistic children, which should be used during the free campaign. At the end of this issue, Zivka Dimitrovska briefly informed the present persons that the department for autism at the Institute for hearing, speech and voice is not functioning any longer.

After the completing of the timetable issues, Dr. Trajkovski thanked to the present MSSA members and wished them happy holidays and successful 2008.

Minutes prepared by  
Galevska Vasilka

Skopje,  
21.12.2007