

19/12/2016

Invitation to 8th Annual General Meeting

We are pleased to invite you to ECHDO's Annual General Meeting (AGM) which will be held on the 5-6th of May 2017 in Nicosia, Cyprus which was agreed in the last AGM. The meeting will take place at Europa Plaza Hotel (13 Alkaiou street, 2404 Egkomi, Nicosia Cyprus). You can find the preliminary program enclosed.

Arrival

The easiest way to get to Nicosia is to fly to LARNACA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT which is the closest airport to Nicosia (approx. 30 min). From Larnaca Airport there is connection to Nicosia with Kapnos Airport Shuttle – www.kapnosairportshuttle.com. Oneway ticket from Larnaca to Nicosia is approx. 8 euros.

Other option is to fly to PAPHOS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT which is about one and half hour drive from Nicosia. Paphos Airport is also connected to Nicosia by Kapnos Airport Shuttle. Oneway ticket from Paphos to Nicosia is around 15 euros.

From Kapnos Station easiest way to get to meeting venue/hotel is by taxi which takes about 10 minutes. If you choose to take taxi straight from Larnaca to Hotel, it is around 50 euros. From Paphos taxi to Nicosia is more than 100 euros.

Lodging

The Annual General Meeting will be held at the Europa Plaza Hotel (www.europaplazahotel.com). We are pleased to infrom, that we were able to negotiate a reduced price for the lodging with the help of the Cypriotic member assosiation. The prices for a single room is 40 euros/night, for a double room 60 euros/night and for a triple room 80 euros/night. Rates include breakfast and free internet access. The price is valid for whole stay if you choose to come earlier and/or stay longer.

The reservations of the rooms need to be done via e-mail to the address: info@europaplazahotel.com

Please mention ECHDO AGM in the reservation. You also need to mention name, arrival and departure date and for how many people the reservation is made for. Please note that the hotel reservation needs to be done by and not later than the 28th of February – prices are valid only until that date! There is also limited amount of the rooms so act fast to ensure your room with the special price.

Program and registration

Attached you can find preliminary program and the registration form for the meeting. We kindly ask you to finalise the registration by the end of February. It is also

possible to register via our web-page <u>www.echdo.eu</u> for ECHDO's AGM. We kindly ask you to finalise the registration by the end of February.

Call for the best practices

We kindly ask all of the participants to prepare a presentation of your best fundraising activities and/or campaigns/projects what you are having in your organisation at the time being for example raising awareness with the congenital heart defect (poster or short summary with PowerPoint max. 5 slides). Please send your presentations to the board by the end of March via e-mail to board(at)echdo.eu. We would also like to open a slogan competition among our members - please help us inventing a slogan for ECHDO! The best one will be rewarded with the small amount of money. If you have an idea for slogan, please send that also by the end of March to the board.

Call of possible board members

There are currently two open seats on the ECHDO board. Please contact us if you are interested to join the board. Please note that currently ECHDO does not have the possibility to pay travelling costs or other expenses, so the representatives' own organisation or individuals need to fund travelling and lodging expenses to attend meetings.

Bursaries

Also this year we have availabilities for AGM bursaries. If the representative of your organization would like to attend the AGM, but cannot afford the costs, please send us your application, and the board will evaluate your request. Given our current budget, we can allocate a total of 1000 euros for bursaries (5 bursaries of 200 euros each). If you would like to apply for a bursary, proof of economic adversity would be appreciated. The board will finalise decision on bursary applications by the 15th of February 2017.

On behalf of ECHDO board,

Katja Laine

The President

European Congenital Heart Disease Organisation