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To:

Prof. Lorenzo Moretta
President of EFIS

Dear Prof. Moretta,

I would like to inform you about the organization of the **2nd Meeting of Middle-European Societies for Immunology and Allergology** that will take place in Opatija, Croatia, October 10th through 13th this year (<http://www.opatija2013.uniri.hr/>) and kindly ask you for support. This meeting is a joint meeting of national societies for immunology and allergology in the Middle-European region, including the countries: Austria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Slovakia and Slovenia.

In early 2012 the Croatian Immunological Society (CIS) launched an initiative to organize a joint meeting of Middle-European societies for immunology and allergology as a follow-up on the very successful meeting organized by Austrian Society for Allergology and Immunology (OGAI) in Vienna in 2010 with participation of invited societies from the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Slovenia, Hungary and Croatia. The initiative was very well received by the invited societies which led to the first meeting of the societies' representatives in Opatija, Croatia in July 2012. Soon after, the Scientific Board and the Organizing Committee were established and the official title of the meeting was adopted. The underlying idea is to provide a communication platform for immunological and allergological societies in the region (most of which are rather small) aimed at improving mobility and collaboration, particularly for the young members. The initiative is set to continue by adopting a regular schedule for this meeting to take place every three years, always following the year of the ECI meeting, with societies taking turn in organizing the event every time at a different location. I have to emphasize here that this meeting does not intend to compete with the ECI meetings by any means. In contrary, this should be considered as it is: a multilateral meeting of regional societies which should improve basic and translational immunological research and collaboration within the region.

I hope that EFIS will embrace and support organization of the **2nd Meeting of Middle-European Societies for Immunology and Allergology** as a regional contribution to collaboration and strengthening immunological research in Europe. It would also be my great pleasure and honor if you would accept our invitation to attend the meeting as special guest, in show of support for the initiative.

Sincerely,

Prof. Bojan Polić
President of the Organizing Committee