Welcome to the 2015 symposium on MDS, JMML, and bone marrow failure.

We have the pleasure hosting the 7th International Symposium on Myelodysplastic syndromes, JMML, and Bone Marrow Failure Syndromes. The symposium will be held at the Radisson Blu Scandinavia Hotel in the city center of Aarhus, Denmark from 1st to 3rd October 2015.

The European Working Group on Myelodysplastic Syndromes (EWOG-MDS) was established in 1993. The founding members were pediatricians, pathologists, and geneticists from Austria, Denmark, Germany, Italy, and The Netherlands. Since then the number of participating countries has been expanded and includes Belgium, Czech Republic, Ireland, Poland, Spain, and all of the Scandinavian countries.

The EWOG family has been expanded by the EWOG-SAA that has organized and conducting the European study on severe aplastic anemia.

The EWOG-MDS symposia have since the first in Titisee in 1997 been held on a 3-yearly basis. We had the pleasure to host the 2nd symposium in 2000 at Hindsgavl Castle, Funen, Denmark, attended by over 100 colleagues from most of the world. Since then a string of successful and steady growing symposia in Stresa, Freiburg, Rotterdam, and Prague have followed.

From the symposium in Rotterdam 2009 the subjects have not only focused on MDS and JMML but also constitutional and acquired bone marrow failures.

During the last two decades we have seen a wealth of progress in diagnostics, genetics, molecular biology and classification of the diseases. The rational management of patients has benefited from the improved understanding of the diseases. Most patients eventually will need stem cell transplantation but future research may lead to more patient specific and diverse treatment regimens.

We are welcoming colleagues from all over the world to participate in the 2015 symposium to share the latest news about the fascinating and challenging world of bone marrow failure, myelodysplastic, and myeloproliferative diseases.

Looking forward to see you in Aarhus.

With our best regards,

Aarhus November 2014,

Professor Henrik Hasle, MD, PhD
Dept. Pediatric Hematology & Oncology
Aarhus University Hospital
Skejby, Aarhus, Denmark

Gitte Birk Kerndrup, DMSc
Dept. Pathology
Aarhus University Hospital
Tage-Hansens Gade, Aarhus, Denmark