

side, she'll try to assist you in getting you what you need. That's all I have at this point.

STATUS REPORT ON COUNTRIES

DR. JACOBSON: Thank you, Bonnie.

We're ready now for the first item of business, a status report on countries. At our last meeting we had asked officials from Hungary a question regarding health insurance for students and Joyce Jones will review the response we received to that question. For those of you who want to look at the information that we received from Hungary and also from St. Maarten, they're behind tab P in your folder.

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HUNGARY

MS. JONES: Thank you and good morning, Mr. Chairman and members of the committee.

I want to briefly summarize the status of a concern that you raised last meeting concerning the health care services that are available to non-Hungarian students who study medicine in Hungary. You also wanted to know what it costs to the students who receive those medical services.

Dr. Gyorgy Benedek, the Foreign Students Secretariat, responded to your concerns in a June 13, 2003 letter. Primarily, Hungarian authorities require that all students have valid health insurance if they want to study medicine in Hungary. There are two ways to fulfill this requirement.

Students may obtain their own home country's health insurance and document that coverage with a certificate stating that the student is insured by a named company. Or students may purchase Hungarian health insurance offered through the respective university. The Hungarian health insurance coverage includes any type of hospitalization and medical care. This insurance is institution-specific and the university's doctors provide the medical care. The insurance does not cover dental treatment except in emergency cases, prenatal or abortive treatment, cosmetic and rehabilitative treatment, alcoholic and drug cases, medical check-ups and HIV treatment.

If a student buys medicine at a pharmacy

under this plan the insurance will refund a percentage of the price if the student keeps the receipt. In addition, students may obtain separate insurance for their spouses and children.

According to Dr. Benedek, non-Hungarian students are entitled to health insurance that is provided by the Generali Providencia Insurance Company. I'm sure I've murdered the pronunciation but if you need for me to spell it, I'll do so. And the cost basically of the coverage per semester, according to the exchange rate that I got a couple of months ago, was \$120 per semester. Thank you.

Any questions?

DR. JACOBSON: Thank you. Is the committee satisfied with that answer?

DR. DOCKERY: Dockery. Does it address anything about psychological counseling in the insurance program?

MS. JONES: No, it did not.

DR. JACOBSON: Any other questions?

Bonnie, do we have to formally accept or

acknowledge this as acceptable to us?

MS. LeBOLD: I think we can just accept it as an information item. It wasn't really a formal report that we requested. We asked them just that one question.

DR. JACOBSON: So that's a point of information.

Okay then, the department also received some information from St. Maarten. This information, however, was not in response to the committee's request for a report and Ron is going to--Ron Lipton is going to summarize the information.

ST. MAARTEN

MR. LIPTON: Good morning. The Accrediting Commission on Colleges of Medicine, also known as the commission, on behalf of St. Maarten will present a full report to you at your next meeting in March 2004. In the meantime the commission, which accredits the island's only medical school, the American University of the Caribbean, has reported the following.