

Buzzacott LLP  
130 Wood Street  
London  
EC2V 6DL

**Your ref TEA001/KP/AP**

Dear Sir or Madam

**Audit representations - The European Association for Cardio-Thoracic Surgery (EACTS)**

This representation letter is provided in connection with your audit of the financial statements of The European Association for Cardio-Thoracic Surgery (EACTS) ('the charity') for the year ended 31 March 2021 for the purposes of expressing an opinion as to whether the financial statements are true and fair, in all material respects.

We confirm that the following representations are made on the basis of enquiries of management and staff with relevant knowledge and experience (and, where appropriate, of inspection of supporting documentation) sufficient to satisfy ourselves that we can properly make each of the following representations to you:

**General**

We have fulfilled our responsibilities under the Companies Act 2006, as set out in the terms of engagement letter dated 2 July 2019 for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (UK GAAP) which give a true and fair view and for making accurate representations to you as auditor.

We confirm that all the accounting records have been made available to you for the purpose of your audit and all the transactions undertaken by the charity have been adequately reflected and recorded in the accounting records. All other records and related information, including minutes of trustee and management meetings, have been made available to you. We have provided additional information that you have requested from us for the purposes of the audit and we have given you unrestricted access to persons within the charity in order to obtain audit evidence.

**Going concern**

We believe that the charity's accounts should be prepared on a going concern basis on the grounds that, based on the charity's assessment of the feasibility of future plans, current and future sources of funding or support will be adequate for the charity's needs.

We confirm that we have considered the impact of the current Coronavirus pandemic on the charity's operations, with a particular focus on its effect on the charity's financial position including the charity's income, expenditure and reserves; the charity's beneficiaries; and the charity's employees.

While we acknowledge the disruption caused by the pandemic to the charity's day-to-day operations, we confirm that we do not consider this to be cause for material uncertainty in respect to the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. The charity has and is continuing to develop contingency plans which are being implemented successfully and we consider that the charity has sufficient cash resources to continue for the foreseeable future, despite the current crisis.

We believe that no further disclosures relating to the charity's ability to continue as a going concern need to be made in the accounts. In assessing going concern, we have paid particular attention to a period of not less than one year from the date of approval of the accounts.

### **Accounting policies**

We believe that the accounting policies and estimation techniques adopted for the preparation of the financial statements are the most appropriate to the circumstances in which the charity operates.

### **Fraud**

We acknowledge our responsibility for the design and implementation of internal controls to prevent and detect fraud, and have disclosed to you the results of our assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud. We are not aware of any irregularities, including fraud and suspected fraud, involving management, employees who have significant roles in internal control, or those employed by the charity where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements. No allegations of such irregularities or breaches have come to our attention.

### **Laws and regulations**

Details of all laws and regulations that are fundamental to the operation and activities of the charity have been made available to you. We confirm that we have informed you of all serious incident reports made to the Charity Commission.

We are not aware of any breaches or possible breaches of statute, regulations, contracts, agreements or the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association which might prejudice the charity's going concern status or

that might result in the charity suffering significant penalties or other loss. No allegations of such breaches have come to our notice. We are not aware of any reason why the tax status of the charity may be jeopardised.

### **Loans and arrangements**

The charity has not had nor entered into at any time during the year, any arrangement, transaction or agreement to provide credit facilities (including loans, quasi-loans or credit facilities) for trustees nor to guarantee or provide security for such matters.

### **Liabilities, provisions and contingencies**

Except as stated in the financial statements, there are no unrecorded liabilities, actual or contingent. We are not aware of any material provisions, contingent liabilities, contingent assets or contracted for capital commitments, that need to be provided for or disclosed in the financial statements.

### **Related parties**

We confirm that we have disclosed to you the identity of the charity's related parties and all of the transactions with those parties of which we are aware. Other than those included in the financial statements, the charity has not entered into any transactions involving trustees, officers or other related parties, which require disclosure under the Companies Act or Financial Reporting Standards.

### **Post balance sheet events**

There have been no events since the balance sheet date which necessitate revision of the figures included in the financial statements or inclusion of a note thereto. Should further material events occur, which may necessitate revision of the figures included in the financial statements or inclusion of a note thereto, we will advise you accordingly.

### **Grants and donations**

All grants, donations and other income, the receipt of which is subject to specific terms or conditions, have been identified in the financial statements and accounting records appropriately or otherwise notified to you. There have been no breaches of terms or conditions during the period in the application of such income.

### **Accounting estimates**

The methods, the data, and the significant assumptions used by us in making accounting estimates and their related disclosures are appropriate to achieve recognition, measurement or disclosure that is reasonable in the context of the applicable financial reporting framework.

The key assumptions used are:

- The allocation of staff costs and support costs;
- Estimating the useful economic lives of intangible fixed assets and tangible fixed assets for the purpose of determining amortisation and depreciation rates;
- Estimating future cashflows for the purpose of assessing going concern; and
- Determining the value of designated funds needed at the year end.

### **Adjustments**

We confirm that we have agreed the adjustments detailed in your post-audit report which have been made to the statement of financial activities and balance sheet which we presented to you for audit.

### **Unadjusted misstatements**

We confirm that the reason why the misstatements that you have brought to our attention in your post-audit report have not been adjusted is that the trustees believe that the combined effect is not material to the truth and fairness of the financial statements.

### **Ethics**

We confirm that we have been notified by you that there are no matters which you are required to raise with us to comply with your profession's ethical guidance which are in addition to the matters included in your planning letter to us for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Yours faithfully

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Signed on behalf of the trustees of  
The European Association for Cardio-Thoracic Surgery

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Date