



It was with great sadness that we learned of the sudden death of our friend Professor Umberto Solimene, President of FEMTEC.

The cooperation that ESPA maintained with FEMTEC helped to develop the influence of balneotherapy on a European and global level.

The relationship that I quickly established with Umberto over the last fifteen years has evolved into a sincere friendship shared with our wives.

His knowledge of balneotherapy in a great many countries has contributed to making all FEMTEC meetings of great interest. I have always been greatly impressed by his medical knowledge, particularly in the field of spa treatments.

He was very creative, with a very good vision of the evolution of this sector of activity.

A tireless worker accompanied by his charming wife, he travelled extensively to spread the word about the spa industry around the world on spa treatments around the world. He has never spared any effort to support and promote balneotherapy.

His presence at the World Health Organisation has also helped to maintain recognition of the spa medicine as a key player in the treatment of a number of chronic illnesses and in prevention.

His death leaves the spa industry in a great void; it will be very difficult to replace him.

ESPA sends its sad condolences to Umberto Solimene's family, and in particular to his wife, as well as to the members of FEMTEC, and assures them of its support in overcoming this painful ordeal.

Thierry Dubois

European Spas Association, President

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