

Summary

122nd Meeting Executive Board
Washington DC, USA, March 21-23, 2014

Minutes

Members:	Dr. G Beastall (GB)	President
	Prof. J Hicks (JH)	Past President
	Prof. H Morris (HM)	Vice President
	Dr. B Gouget (BG)	Treasurer
	Prof. S Bernardini (SB)	Secretary
	Prof. L Kricka (LK)	Member
	Prof V Steenkamp (VS)	Member
	Dr. U. Tuma (UT)	Member
	Dr. T Brinkmann (TB)	Corporate Representative
In attendance:	Ms P Bramati (PB)	IFCC Office

2. Full Member Societies

2.2 Applications for Full Membership

EB noted the application submitted by the Macedonian Society of Medical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine, which was out for voting.

3. Corporate Members

3.2 EB noted the approval of new Corporate Members: SNIBE Co. Ltd. (3.1.90), Fujirebo-Europe (3.1.91); Diatron (3.1.92) and Guangzhou Wondfo Biotech (3.1.93)

3.40 Other matters relating to Corporate Members

EB noted the election of Prof Rolf Hinzmann as the next Corporate Representative on EB.

4. Affiliate Members

EB discussed the correspondence from the Full Member Israel society (2.1.22) about the logo of the Palestine Affiliate Member society (4.1.8) posted on the IFCC website. EB noted that this logo includes the actual map of the present State of Israel. EB expressed understanding of the concern expressed by the Israel society and agreed to remove the logo from website. EB has no locus in approving or rejecting the logos of its Members, IFCC had not knowingly endorsed a political issue but only gave publicity to a scientific conference that is being run by one of its Members.

5. Regional Organisations

5.01 Asia-Pacific Federation of Clinical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine (APFCB)

EB noted the success of the 13th APFCB Congress in Bali and that the 14th and 15th APFCB Congresses will be held in Taiwan (2016) and in India (2019) respectively.

EB noted the progress with the project on Pre-analytical Phase suggested by the APFCB Executive Board at the joint meeting held in Bali and the importance to connect everyone who is interested on it.

5.02 Latin-American Confederation of Clinical Biochemistry

EB celebrated the signing of the IFCC-COLABIOCLI agreement.

EB discussed how to collaborate with COLABIOCLI on the joint IFCC-COLABIOCLI project: "Traceability in Clinical Laboratory". DM agreed to find, together with the SD, some specific items like an educational programme to promote analytical quality and traceability in Laboratory Medicine in specific areas. The "Salud Sexual Y Reproductiva-Disfuncion Vaginal" is a project which needs some expertise in microbiology and Spanish language knowledge. A new contact is needed to find the way to help COLABIOCLI in this relevant project (GB).

UT reported on the COLABIOCLI Congress and General Assembly in Lima, Peru in October 2013, it was a good Congress with almost 500 participants and 20 booths. The Argentine Society (CUBRA) was re-elected to lead COLABIOCLI for a further two years.

5.04 European Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (EFLM)

EB received the notes of the EFLM Executive Board held in Paris and discussed recent correspondence between GB and the EFLM President. EB noted that some misunderstandings had been clarified regarding the MoU between IFCC and EFLM but some differences remain. EB also discussed the role played in the election by EFLM because it received several complaints about EFLM involvement from candidates in the election and from other Regional Federations. The EB agreed that it was inappropriate for EFLM to involve itself in IFCC elections in the manner that it did, although the EB was satisfied that the motive behind the EFLM action was a genuine desire to inform voting IFCC Members in Europe. GB will send a commentary on the IFCC elections to the Presidents of Regional Federations, Candidates and EB members to answer to the complaints about the EFLM involvement from candidates in the election and from other Regional Federations.

5.05 Arab Federation of Clinical Biology (AFCB)

EB received a report from BG. The AFCB represents eleven Arab countries: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia and Yemen. Pr Layachi Chabraoui, current AFCB president, sent a report on the 2013 scientific activities. Dr Osama Najjar is nominated as responsible for communication with the IFCC. He is coordinating the participation of members of the Arab Federation in the IFCC committees and is trying to encourage more Arab representatives involved in the IFCC activities.

The AFCB was very active in organizing many workshops, including: SMCC (MO) Winter Seminar 2013 entitled "Good Practices of Computerization of the Medical Laboratories; Feb 2013, the workshop organized during the 2013 Jordan Society for Medical Laboratory Sciences (JSMLS) Annual Meeting (Amman, March 23-25) where the AFCB EB meeting was held; the workshop organized by the Sudanese Society of Clinical Biology at Al-Neelain University Faculty of Medical Laboratory Sciences on 4-5 December 2013 on basic principles in stem cell isolation. The AFCB was present at different annual congresses organized by national societies: the annual meeting in Amman (March 2014), the 13th Moroccan Annual meeting in Casablanca (June 6-8). The Egyptian society of Clinical Chemistry organized its 58th scientific congress on November 27-28 on the topic Lab Medicine and Genomics update.

5.06 African Federation of Clinical Chemistry (AFCC)

EB received a report from AFCC Past President Vanessa Steenkamp.

The AFCC currently consists of 14 Member countries: Botswana, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Morocco, Nigeria, Rwanda, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

During 2013 the website of the AFCC (www.afccafrica.com) was launched. A course in Laboratory Quality Management (LQM) took place in Zambia and Zimbabwe in March; a course on LQM was also held in Cape Town, South Africa in July. Students from Africa visited South Africa, specifically the laboratory of Prof Erasmus (Cape Town) and Prof Steenkamp (Pretoria). This was made possible by the support of PSEP. Reports were sent to IFCC e news.

The 3rd congress of the African Federation of Clinical Chemistry was held in conjunction with the Laboratory Medicine Congress (LMC) at the Cape Town Convention Centre, South Africa, 29 – 31 July. There were 28 countries represented at LMC 2013. The C-CMBC of the IFCC in collaboration with South African Association for Clinical Biochemistry (SAACB) and AFCC ran a Beginners Course in Molecular Diagnostics which preceded the LMC/AFCC congress, moreover a 2-day course on multivariate analysis was held from 31 July – 1 Aug, just after the LMC/AFCC congress.

Election of the Executive Board to serve for the term 2014-2015 took place. The board members are: President: Prof Okesina (Nigeria); President-Elect: Prof Erasmus (South Africa); Secretary: Dr Matarira (Zimbabwe); Treasurer: Dr Amayo (Kenya); Members at large: Dr Charles-Davies (Nigeria) and Mr Lumanoh (Botswana). Prof Steenkamp (South Africa) remains on the board as Immediate Past-President.

EB noted that GB connected Dr Akalu with Abbott to support a project on the prevalence of HBV infection in healthcare workers in Ethiopia.

5.1 American Association of Clinical Chemistry (AACC)

LK reported that he had discussed the motion on EB representation with Gary Myers and the AACC would be having internal discussions on this issue in anticipation of the Council meeting in June.

6 International and Professional Organisations

6.1 World Health Organisation (WHO)

The relationship with WHO showed both negative and positive developments. WHO failed to recommend a speaker to address the issue of 'A Global Perspective on Women's Health' at the Bergmeyer Conference. Despite several reminders WHO has failed to commit to leading a project on global standards for the use of POCT – as recommended in a NEJM article. The IFCC TF-POCT is now considering whether to take leadership of this project without WHO involvement. The project Update of 'Laboratory Diagnosis and Monitoring of Diabetes Mellitus' is progressing under the IFCC leadership of Garry John. The WHO Expert Committee on Biological Standards (ECBS) is working closely with the IFCC WG on Commutability (Chair Greg Miller).

6.2 Clinical Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI)

EB discussed the text of the new IFCC-CLSI agreement for signing on 24 March. The agreement is ready to sign after minor modifications. EB noted that CLSI will have a complimentary booth at IFCC WorldLab Istanbul 2014 and that participated in assessing the IFCC Robert Schaffer Award for outstanding achievements in the development of standards for use in laboratory medicine.

LK reported that he had contacted Glen Fine and there were no issues relating to the CLSI.

6.4 International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC)

EB noted that IUPAC has signed its agreement to collaborate with IFCC and the Danish Board of e-Health to promote between NPU Terminology and to define the terms of reference for the NPU Terminology Steering Committee (7 January 2014). "IUPAC and IFCC are the owner of the exclusive, worldwide intellectual property rights associated with the NPU terminology" (4.3-A) and "they will jointly explore the options to establish, maintain and increase the protection the intellectual property of the NPU Terminology" (4.3-G).

6.13 World Association of Societies of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine (WASPaLM)

EB noted the active collaboration between TF-CKD, APFCB and WASPaLM regarding the management of chronic kidney disease in the Asian Pacific region.

HM met the new President of WASPaLM in Singapore and they agreed that the present Health System is not longer sustainable all over the world and this also concerns Laboratory Medicine.

World Association of Societies of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine (WASPaLM)

WASPaLM and IFCC collaboration is critical to share issues and work together on healthcare delivery and professionals needs. IFCC should encourage high level discussion inviting the WASPaLM President to a future EB meeting and should create an Advisory Committee to put together all the healthcare stakeholders including the institutions and politics. GB will make a Joint Agenda to discuss.

6.22.1 Joint Committee for Traceability in Laboratory Medicine (JCTLM)

EB noted the Minutes of the JCTLM Executive Committee meeting from December 2013.

An ad-hoc WG on JCTLM structure has been established, to explore options for the future evolution of the JCTLM organizational structure to best meet the future challenges expected to be faced by the JCTLM. Members of the WG: GB and M. Mueller (IFCC), R. Kaarls (CIPM), R. Wielgosz (BIPM), G. Jones (ILAC), H. Schimmel (JCTLM). The ad-hoc working was established to consider the future development of the JCTLM and prepare proposals for increasing the impact of JCTLM activities, considering the need for a wider scope and opening up for the participation of other international bodies charged with professional activities in laboratory medicine, improving the efficiency of JCTLM activities and extended or alternative funding models for JCTLM activities. GB wrote a paper "JCTLM: the next phase" which aims to explore the issues raised by posing a series of questions and by inviting answers. This paper has been distributed to the JCTLM Executive and executive bodies of IFCC, ILAC and BIPM. HM prepared the EB IFCC response, this was endorsed by EB. The next stage is to produce a draft document using the "Declaration of Cooperation" as starting point. The IFCC EB will continue to discuss this item in Istanbul.

7 Committee on Congresses and Conferences (C-CC)

7.0 Minutes

EB received the annual report of C-CC.

7.20 Membership

EB noted that C-CC has appointed Tomas Zima (CZ) as its new member with effect from January 2014 and Rajiv Erasmus as Corresponding member.

7.2 IFCC WorldLab Congresses

7.2.22 IFCC WorldLab Istanbul 2014 (22-26 June 2014 www.istanbul2014.org)

EB noted that the scientific programme is complete and that the congress is being marketed actively. Almost 1500 abstracts have been received suggesting a good number of participants.

7.2.23 IFCC WorldLab Durban 2017

EB received a report from VS on plans for WorldLab 2017. The organization is moving on.

7.2.24 IFCC WorldLab 2020

EB agreed that this congress would take place in Seoul, S Korea. The formal announcement will be done in Istanbul.

7.3 IFCC Regional Congresses of Clinical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine

7.3.1.14 APFCB Taipei 2016

EB noted that this congress will take place from 5-8 November 2016 in Taipei.

7.3.2.20 EuroMedLab Paris 2015

EB received a report from BG. The organization of the Congress is going very well. A flyer will be distributed in Istanbul and the Congress will also be presented through the IFCC booth at the AACC Congress in Chicago. All the Symposia proposed by IFCC have been accepted. There should be a wide Expo with almost 15 platinum exhibitors.

7.3.2.21 EuroMedLab 2017

EB noted that this congress will be held in Athens. The contract has been signed between IFCC, EFLM the Greek Society and MZ Congressi. There are some concerns about the venue in particular for the exhibitors. A new proposal by the COC is expected.

7.3.4.21 COLABIOCLI 2013 Lima, Peru

UT reported on the COLABIOCLI Congress and General Assembly in Lima, Peru in October 2013, it was a good Congress with almost 500 participants and 20 booths.

7.3.4.22 COLABIOCLI 2015 Quito, Ecuador

EB noted that this congress will be held in October 2015 and that EB has received an invitation to meet at the congress.

7.3.6.14 AFCB 2015 Sudan

EB noted that this congress will be held in Khartoum in November 2015.

7.3.7.4 AFCC 2015 Zimbabwe

EB received a report from VS on plans for the next AFCC congress. Zimbabwe will be host country.

7.4 IFCC Specialised Conferences

7.4.1 Roche Bergmeyer Conference (3-5 March 2014, Eibsee, Germany)

EB noted the outstanding success of this Conference on 'Women's Health'.

7.4.6 Siemens - IFCC Conference, Toronto, October 24/25 2014 'Bio-markers in Neuropsychiatric Disorders'

The scientific programme is completed and has been showed on the IFCC website. Andy Deelen is the Content Development Manager at Elsevier which will be responsible for the publication process for the special issue of CCA containing the invited reviews (Guest Editors: Sergio Bernardini and Ronald Booth). PB is doing the administrative arrangements for the Conference together with the Canadian Society of Chemical Chemists (CSCC). EB discussed the strategy for a wide promotion of the Conference starting from Istanbul and Chicago (AACC).

7.4.9 IFCC General Conference

The next General Conference will be held in Spring 2016. The proposed venue is Madrid, the Office is going to look for information about logistics and the final decision will be taken at the next EB in Istanbul. BG proposed a 4 day Conference with some innovations: 1) a session on “How laboratory medicine interacts with the economy of the Healthcare System” (invited speakers: economists, clinicians, international organizations and IVD representatives); 2) a roundtable with the Presidents of the Regional Federations; 3) a session on “How healthcare information technology will enable to improve patient care”. Other session should include the “Have your say” from SD, EMD, CPD, CMs, and C-CC; simultaneous interactive workshops; reports from the IFCC President and Treasurer.

7.4.10 Bio-Rad Quality Conference in Latin America

EB noted the absence of any progress in trying to formalise a link with IFCC.

7.8 Congresses with IFCC Auspices

EB noted that the list of congresses awarded IFCC auspices is updated and published on the IFCC website.

Other Meetings

EB noted arrangements for the Joint Symposium IFCC-Roche in Rome “ Biomarkers in Alzheimer’s Disease” prior to the EB meeting in November 2014. The site will be the “Anfiteatro 2000 Hall” at the Policlinico Tor Vergata in Rome. The scientific programme is ready and the speakers will be invited by the Office by the end of March. PB is doing the administrative arrangements for the Symposium together with MZ and Roche.

8. Scientific Division (SD)

8.0 Minutes

EB received the minutes of the 52nd meeting of SD, which was held in Bali.

8.2 SD Committees

8.2.6 C-Nomenclature, Properties and Units (C-NPU)

EB received the agreement between IFCC, IUPAC and the Danish Board of e-Health in respect of the development of NPU terminology see also point 6.4.

EB received Minutes of the Steering Committee meeting held (by Skype) on 11 March 2014.

8.2.21 C-Reference Systems for Enzymes (C-RSE)

EB confirmed the appointment of Denis Grote-Koska (DE) and Shyamali Pal (IN) as members of C-RSE.

8.2.24 C-Reference Intervals and Decision Limits (C-RIDL)

EB confirmed the appointment of Josef Macri (CA) and Binod Yadav (NP) as members of C-RIDL.

8.40 Legal liability insurance for volunteers

EB received a report from GB following the investigation of practice in other international organisations. In particular ILAC, IUPAC, AACC none of them have legal liability insurance for volunteers. It is possible to get it but it is very expensive. EB agreed that IFCC has a responsibility to support volunteers who have complied with its policy and procedures.

9.0 Education and Management Division (EMD)

9.0 Minutes

EB received the minutes of the meeting of EMD, which was held in Bali in October 2013 and in Milan in January 2014.

9.2 Committees

9.2.5 C-Analytical Quality (C-AQ)

EB approved the appointment of Alexander Haliassos (GR) and Annette Thomas (UK) to C-AQ.

9.2.6 C-Evidence-Based Laboratory Medicine (C-EBLM)

EB approved the appointment of Chris Florkowski (NZ) as Chair of C-EBLM from 1 January 2014.

9.2.9 C-Clinical Laboratory Management (C-CLM)

EB noted that no suitable candidates were nominated as Chair of C-CLM and that further nominations have been sought.

9.2.10 C-Distance Learning (C-DL)

EB noted that C-DL has been introduced to Michelle Rossier (CH) who is a Board Member of the Health Science eTraining Foundation (<http://hset.bio-med.ch>), which has a number of relevant distance learning programmes available and which may be prepared to collaborate with IFCC.

9.4 Special Projects

9.4.1 Visiting Lecturer Programme

EB noted the list of approved VLP for 2013 and the list for 2014 [Cyprus (H. Morris), Romania (M. Oellerich), Palestine (TBD)].

9.4.2 Flow Cytometry

EB noted that the IFCC/ESCCA Beckman Coulter Flow Cytometry Course will be held in Vienna from 24-26 April 2014.

9.4.3 Developing Quality Competence in Medical Laboratories (DQCML)

EB reviewed the slide presentation aimed at summarising and promoting DQCML and noted that DQCML will hold an open meeting in Istanbul. It will be very important to involve EMD in the implementation.

IFCC is able to sustain the accreditation of individual laboratory by giving the expertise on Internal Quality Control and External Quality Assurance, local and international Liaison, Accreditation preparation and Quality management System through the Visiting Lecturer Programme, Distance Learning (C-DL), Analytical Quality (C-AQ), Laboratory Management (C-CLM) and in Mentoring the Laboratory Director (IFCC Past-President).

9.4.40 Other Business

Quality Assessment Scheme in Zambia

EB noted that the EQA programme in Zambia is going very well, 14 laboratories were enrolled.

Collaboration with Clinical Laboratory Management Association (CLMA)

EB reviewed a planned collaboration between EMD and CLMA and the proposal to establish an IFCC-CLMA Joint Taskforce. CLMA is an international organization focused solely on the non-technical needs of laboratory management and has developed a Body of Knowledge identifying the domains of management for the laboratory. The opportunity for partnership, through the activity of the C-CLM, could serve to create a more comprehensive offering in a shorter time and at a lower cost serving the goals of both organizations and the needs of their respective members. EB in principle agreed, there will be a meeting in Istanbul.

LabSkills Africa Leadership Retreat

EB noted the very interesting content of the programme run in Moshi Tanzania 15-19 February 2014 funded by a UK charity. IFCC could recommend people to register or to give someone to participate at this educational programme as mentor or speaker. All is part of the growing picture in developing quality and management competence for laboratory professionals in Africa.

Educational Support Programme: Ortho-Clinical Diagnostics

EB received a report from HM on the educational support programme on laboratory quality being produced by OCD in the Asian Pacific region. The educational support in management and accreditation in this Region is an OCD marketing strategy. The OCD will fund the production of the programme but needs the IFCC help in reviewing the educational content. IFCC may link into this project also through distance learning programmes that could be delivered free of charge by IFCC.

10. Communications and Publications Division (CPD)

10.0 Minutes

EB received the draft minutes of the meeting of CPD, which was held in Bali in October 2013 and in Switzerland in March 2014.

10.2 Committees

10.2.2 C-Internet and Distance Learning (C-IeL)

EB received a report from GB following the meeting between Peter Vervaart (Chair of C-IeL) and Michelle Rossier (Board Member of HSeT) to examine the potential to share the platform used to deliver IFCC distance learning and the implications for the IFCC e-Academy. The meeting was very constructive and Michelle Rossier was very keen. The Health Science eTraining Foundation has a number of relevant distance learning programmes available and which may be prepared to collaborate with IFCC.

10.3 Working Groups

10.3.1 Electronic journal of IFCC (e-JIFCC)

EB noted the publication of an excellent double edition of e-JIFCC dedicated to the 'Role of Clinical Laboratories in Personalized Medicine' that addressed big challenges for the role of Laboratory in Healthcare like Alzheimer's disease, Pharmacogenetics and personalized therapy. EB is very satisfied with the e-JIFCC improvements.

10.3.2 IFCC e-News

EB noted further improvements to the presentation of IFCC e-News, including the 'flip page' facility which is pleasant and easier to read.

10.3.4 Ibero-American Nomenclature and Translation (WG-IANT)

The radio continues to produce high quality radio programmes and the audience continues to grow. Despite concerted efforts by GB, BG and TB it has not proved possible to obtain commercial sponsorship for the radio. This puts the long-term prospects for the project in jeopardy. IFCC provided 15.000 CHF; the proposal for 2014 is 20.000 CHF. More efforts are needed: TB will send a letter to CMs inviting sponsorship for this programme even if it is mainly in Spanish, with some Portuguese and English content. UT will contact IVD Companies which focus their marketing in Latin America. JH will contact Siemens. The whole strategy has to be coordinated to avoid duplication of efforts. The 'El Microscopio' team will be in Istanbul.

10.9.2 IFCC Booth

EB noted that IFCC has a booth at the AACC congress in Chicago in July 2014.

10.40 Other business

'Labs Are Vital'™

EB noted that the 'Labs Are Vital' website is now operational www.labsarevital.com, that E Welsh (IFBLS) has been appointed as Chair for the first year and that E Delvin is working as Clinical Editor.

Advertising in IFCC Publications

EB discussed the CPD suggestions for advertising. The CPD discussed the issue of advertising in the various IFCC media (eNews, Website, eJIFCC). The CPD unanimously agreed that advertising should start with eNews, An advertising fee schedule will be established with different rates for Corporate member and non-members. Moreover the IFCC Code of Practice clearly indicates that "Paid advertising in IFCC publications is acceptable as long as it is clearly identifiable as such". EB agreed the CPD proposal.

Insoft-IFCC Periodicals

There is a draft agreement between Insoft Digital and IFCC that has to be finalized. In particular the Insoft Digital agrees to provide the IFCC with 6 issues of the e-Newsletter and 4 issues of the eJIFCC per year (the IFCC Periodicals), to provide a new layout and design template for the IFCC Periodicals, produce both a PDF and a flip-page version of each issue, maintain an archive of the PDF version of the IFCC Periodicals. The CPD will work further on the agreement.

11.0 IFCC Awards

11.01 IFCC Awards Committee

EB received a report from HM on the outcome of the seven IFCC Awards, it was stressed that all the Committee members actively participated to the discussion and the vote: Matthew McQueen (CA) (IFCC Distinguished Clinical Chemist), Robert Dufour (US) (IFCC Henry Wishinsky Award for Distinguished International Service), Carl M Burtis (US) (IFCC Award for Distinguished Contributions in Education), Francis Barany (US) (IFCC Award for Significant Contributions in Molecular Diagnostics), Mario Plebani (IT) (IFCC Distinguished Award for Laboratory Medicine and Patient Care), Greg W Miller (US) (IFCC Robert Schaffer Award for outstanding Achievements in the Development of Standards for use in Laboratory), Geoffrey Baird (US) (IFCC Young Investigator Award). The Awards presentations in Istanbul will be done in a very nice location. HM will organize the presentations while JH and the IFCC Office will arrange the dinner.

13.0 Special Projects and Task Forces

13.01.01 Task Force on Ethics (TF-Ethics)

EB noted the TF-Ethics launched a survey to better define educational goals and design optimal educational material for ethics useful in developing training in ethics for clinical laboratory directors. Nine nominations have been received to fill three vacant positions to replace members who have completed their term of office (deadline 19 March 2014). All nominees have a strong CV. EB agreed that Ann Gronowski (US) should be appointed with a view to succeeding D Bruns as Chair in 2015. For the other appointments GB will talk with the Chair DB and wait for his feedback. Possibly 3 further nominees can be appointed as TF-Ethics members and the others as corresponding members. At meeting in Bali in October 2013 the IFCC Executive Board felt that it should invite outline proposals for new projects for TF-E from IFCC Members. These were reviewed by EB and by DB and were prioritised. They will be used to set the programme of work for TF-E.

13.01.02 Task Force on Paediatric Laboratory Medicine (TF-PLM)

EB discussed the arrangements for the ICPLM being held in Istanbul. The Turkish National Paediatric Society and the Turkish Biochemical Society will support the Congress. JH proposed that the next Siemens Conference be in Paediatric Laboratory Medicine. Indeed there are few Paediatric Laboratory specialists all over the world.

13.01.06 Task Force for Young Scientists (TF-YS)

EB received a report from BG. There have been three very successful meeting from the last months, nevertheless an effort of NSs to encourage YS (<40 years) to participate is needed. The "White book project" focused on Young Scientists and the future of Laboratory Medicine is very ambitious and impressive but there is no progress, EB expressed some concern about it.

13.01.08 Task Force on POCT (TF-POCT)

Probably the satellite meeting being held in Istanbul June 22, will have great success, the programme of the meeting is very attractive. EB expressed appreciation for the work that has been done.

13.01.09 Task Force on the Impact of Laboratory Medicine on Clinical Management and Outcomes (TF-ICO)

This TF has not shown great progress; a manuscript has been submitted to Clinical Chemistry. GB will discuss the future of the TF with the Chair, M. Hallworth, who will participate in Worldlab Istanbul 2014 in IFCC symposium to report on work.

13.01.10 Task Force on Proficiency Testing (TF-PT)

EB considered the list of nominations received (14) and approved the suggestions by the TF Chair Alexander Halioussos (GR) : Cas Weycamp (NL), Berna Asla (CA), A. Perret-Liaudet (FR), Anna Carobene (IT), Michael Rottmann (Roche), Jian Dai (Siemens). The TF will hold its first meeting in Istanbul.

13.01.11 Task Force on Geriatric Laboratory Medicine

EB is very interested on this TF. GB has contacted Steve Wong (AACC President), Patti Jones (NACB), Charles Pippenger (IATDMCT), Pierre Wallemacq and HM proposing an agreement for a joint project from AACC, NACB, IATDMCT and IFCC. In this context is critical the involvement an international clinical partner like the International Association of Gerontology & Geriatrics and think about structure and terms of reference through a Steering Group that comprises one representative from each partner organization. The objectives of this TF could include: reference values, therapeutic drug monitoring, specific clinical problems in the elderly, inflammation, malnutrition, poly-morbidity, metabolism and others.

13.02 Professional Exchange Programmes

EB received a report on the recent PSEP and PMEP applications. PSEP: MO Rodriguez (Spain) for Prof. R O'Kennedy in Dublin. PMEP: MC Siulapwa and A. Sichilima (Zambia) for Prof. Rajiv Erasmus in Tigerberg-Cape Town.

13.03 Roche Travel Scholarships

Twenty scholarships will be available for the WorldLab in Istanbul and the IFCC Office received 44 applications. EB accepted the generous offer from JH to fund an additional scholarship for someone from Africa. EB agreed the criteria showed by GB to assign the scholarships: geographic area, abstract submitted, non previous scholarship and statements. EB then agreed on the selection of 20 scholarship recipients from 15 countries.

14.0 IFCC Statutes and Rules

The changes to the IFCC Statutes following the Council meeting held in Berlin in 2011 were approved.

EB discussed the possible changes to the Statutes as a result of the Motions submitted to Council in Istanbul about the presence of a representative for each Regional Federation in future Executive Boards. The Motions will be discussed at the Council meeting in Istanbul, session 5. The electronic voting will be expressed at a later time.

16.0 Organisational Matters

16.4 Annual Report for 2013

The LMI version of the annual report is complete; the web version will be available in time for Istanbul.