

EDUCATION & MANAGEMENT DIVISION

9.0 Minutes of the meeting of the EMD Executive Committee

Kuala Lumpur (November 16th-17th, 2012)

Confirmed in Milan, IT – May 18-19, 2013



Members	Position	Term	Time of Office
Maurizio FERRARI – MF (IT)	Chair	1 st	2012 01 – 2014 12
Leslie LAI – LL (MY)	Vice Chair / VLP	2 nd	2011 01 – 2013 12
Stella RAYMONDO – SR (UY)	Member	2 nd	2010 01 – 2012 12
Elizabeth FRANK – EF (IN)	Member	1 st	2012 01 – 2014 12
Rolf HINZMANN – RH (DE)	Corp. Rep. / Secretary	2 nd	2010 01 – 2012 12
In attendance (Chairs of Committees and Working Groups):			
Michael NEUMAIER – MN (DE)	C-CMBC Chair	2 nd	2011 01 – 2013 12
Egon AMANN – EA (DE)	C-AQ Co-Chair	1 st	2011 01 – 2013 12
Rob CHRISTENSON – RC (US)	C-EBLM Chair	2 nd	2012 01 – 2014 12
John KRAHN – JK (CA)	C-CLM Chair	1 st	2012 01 – 2014 12
Janet SMITH – JS (UK)	C-DL Chair	1 st	2012 01 – 2014 12
Ulrich SACK – US (DE)	WG-FC Chair	1 st	2011 06 – 2013 12
Michael THOMAS – MT (UK)	SP-DQCML	2 nd	2012 01 – 2014 12
Apologies:			
Janice GILL – JG (AU)	C-AQ Co-Chair	1 st	2011 01 – 2013 12
Mario PLEBANI – MP (IT)	WG-LEPS	2 nd	2010 01 – 2012 12

The meeting took place in Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia) on November 16 and 17, 2012. Minutes were taken partly by RH and partly by SC.

1 Welcome and introductions

The EMD Chair, MF, welcomed the participants and acknowledged the work of SR and RH whose terms will end by end of this year. EF will take on the function of secretary.

2 Meeting structure and finalisation of agenda

MF explained how the meeting would be structured and asked participants if they have further topics to discuss.

MF repeated the EB request that the Division should increase the number of WGs and VLP projects. MF suggested proposing to the EB a new WG on sports medicine and doping, concept of haematological / biological passport. RH recommended involving Michael Ashenden (SIAB Research Consortium, Gold Coast, Australia).

MF emphasized that detailed reports should be sent periodically and should include 2 to 5 goals with a clear work-plan, performances and milestones to evaluate the future committee activity.

It was also suggested that the number of VLP requests should be increased through the C-CLM activity (courses on Lab Management).

EMD-EC should also find a way to measure the effectiveness of published material on the website; the contents developed by EMD should be made available in the website and the CPD should be involved in this latter action.

3 Review of minutes of EMD-EC meeting – Varese January 2012

The minutes of the meeting held in Varese in January 2012 were approved

4 Filling open positions in EMD-EC

The suggestion of EMD-EC was for Paolo Fortina to start in 2013 and Ana Leticia Maselli in 2014. The EB has already approved this procedure during the meeting with the EMD chair in Kuala Lumpur.

There was only one candidate for the position of Corporate Representative, Christoph Ebert from Roche. He also has been approved by the EB.

5 Report from Executive Board

News from the EB: MF summarised the most important points discussed at the EB Meeting in November and those taken from the minutes of the EB Marrakech Meeting.

Website: The website is in a much better than it has been at the time of the last EMD-EC meeting.

New voting system: MF informed participants that the new voting system ("instant run-off voting") has been adopted for the election of Executive Board Members (only).

EFLM: EFCC has changed its name to EFLM (European Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine).

Africa: ACTION ITEM: MF will meet with Michael Thomas on Monday.

PSEP-PMEP: ACTION ITEM: MF to speak to Graham Beastall (GB) how to continue with this budget-wise.

Co-operation IFCC-ILAC: ACTION ITEM: MF will ask JS about news on ILAC.

New SD WG on Thyroid: The EB has approved the establishment of a new WG "Thyroid Function Tests" within the SD. **ACTION ITEM:** MF will contact Ian Young again regarding the aim of this new WG and how EMD could be involved.

TF-POCT: This TF has been established and will meet for the first time during the General Conference in Kuala Lumpur. RH will be the Roche corporate representative.

New TF on medical value added by lab labtesting: EB decided to establish Task Force (TF) on the Value of Laboratory Medicine under the chairmanship of Mike Hallworth (UK). This TF will meet for the first time during the General Conference in Kuala Lumpur. EMD should be involved in this project.

CLSI: MF will contact GB to know if he wants some names to propose as CLSI reviewers and to ask if CLSI guidelines are available to IFCC Officers.

6 Review of Committees and Working Groups

▪ 9.02.04 Clinical Molecular Biology Curriculum (C-CMBC)

Michael Neumaier	(DE)	Chair	2 nd	2011 01-2013 12
A. Ferreira-Gonzalez	(US)	Member	1 st	2011 01-2013 12
Evi Lianidou	(GR)	Member	2 nd	2012 01-2014 12
Kenji Izuhara	(JP)	Member	2 nd	2012 01-2014 12

ACTION ITEM: MF will ask Michael Neumaier to collect proposals for a new chair.

The Molecular Biology course took place in early November 2012 with 22 participants in 5 groups and lasted for 6 days. MN explained in detail how the course was conducted.

The next course shall happen in Africa: Vanessa Steenkamp from the EB will support MN in finding the right contacts within the African Federation of Clinical Chemistry. Potential countries are Kenya, Zambia, South Africa, Uganda and Ghana (currently not IFCC member). The topic "bioinformatics" shall be included in the next course, preferably from a local lecturer, comprising some "*in silico*" exercises.

In order to generate sustainability MN suggested implementing an advanced course which should be conducted 6-18 months after the beginner's course.

MF highlighted that a strong link with the IFCC Scientific Division (in particular with the C-MD) would be advisable.

MN has added "Associated Members" Parviz Ahmad-Nejad (Germany) and MF (Italy) and "Guest Members" to his committee: Eugenia Maria Schröder (Uruguay, 2011), Karin Richter Lopez (Guatemala, 2012) and Mohd Khairul Nizam (Malaysia, 2013). The purpose is to use these highly motivated guest members as "ambassadors" to their respective countries as they are highly motivated. MN wants to have them included in the meetings of C-CMBC. MF made it clear that currently this sort of status doesn't exist and that in the current framing of IFCC there was no funding such activities. In addition, the diagnostic industry might be addressed regarding the travel costs for these people. **ACTION ITEM:** MF will elaborate this topic with the EB.

As MN's term will end by end of 2013 it might be useful to appoint him in a "Special Project/WG" as he is interested to continue with the courses. **ACTION ITEM:** MF will elaborate this topic with the EB.

▪ 9.02.05 Analytical Quality (C-AQ)

Janice Gill	(AU)	Co-Chair	1 st	2011 01-2013 12
Egon Amann	(DE)	Co-Chair Corp.Rep.	1 st	2011 01-2013 12
David Bullock	(UK)	Member	1 st	2011 01-2013 12
Mitch Scott	(US)	Member	1 st	2010 02-2012 12
Ann Vassault	(FR)	Member	1 st	2011 01-2013 12
Graciela Velazquez	(PY)	Member	1 st	2012 06-2014 12

Christa Cobbaert has moved to SD. The 2nd term of Mitch Scott has been approved.

The annual report of C-AQ is analyzed in details. MF said that it would be advisable to have meetings instead of conference call.

VLP Nepal: EA raised the question of outcome measures of the lectures: Have the learnings been implemented in the labs? MF suggested that there should be a follow-up by the local organizers after 6 month, e.g. by email. Further lectures have been solicited by different countries. **ACTION ITEM:** EA will contact LL with regard to this.

The new C-AQ website content for the IFCC has been almost finalized. A section on "Consultation and Advice" and a "Resource Table" will be added. EA criticized that the procedure to get new content posted on the web is still cumbersome and takes too much time.

C-AQ wants to compile a list comprising EQA schemes on a world-wide basis to identify gaps. The list shall include a list of contact persons at local EQA organizations. It is planned to send a questionnaire to the national societies. RH recommended performing a need assessment to identify what exactly is required, describe the steps to be taken and how the outcome is measured.

The 2nd monograph jointly developed by C-CLM and C-AQ "Quality of Measurement and Quality of Analysis - A Handbook for Developing Countries" has been published and is available on the IFCC website.

The preparation of the chapter on EQA to the AACB Clinical Biochemist Reviews Supplement 'Analytical Quality – a Technical Checklist' for publication by the IFCC is on-going.

ACTION ITEM: MF will contact the C-AQ Co-Chairs to have a tentative date for the finalization of this project.

The review of the IFCC Fundamentals for EQA/IQC (3 year initiative) and the Distance Learning project (6 year initiative) seem not producing any results.

ACTION ITEM: MF will contact the C-AQ Co-Chairs to know the progress for these two projects.

The new project on a worldwide EQAP list is a very good project but at the moment the EMD-EC would suggest that it would preferable to concentrate the Committee efforts to complete the current numerous projects.

▪ 9.02.07 Evidence Based Laboratory Medicine (C-EBLM)

Robert Christenson	(US)	Chair	2 nd	2012 01-2014 12
Hernan Fares-Taie	(AR)	Member	1 st	2011 01-2013 12
Chris Florkowski	(NZ)	Member	2 nd	2012 01-2014 12
Diler Aslan	(TR)	Member	2 nd	2012 01-2014 12

RC has confirmed that he will continue as the chair until the official end of his term. No report was received for the meeting in KL and RC will send it within the end of the year.

The WG held a course on EBLM in Turkey in April 2012.

ACTION ITEM: MF will ask RC to produce a report of the meeting.

Hernan Taie is very active and led a number of educational sessions throughout South America and of central America.

MF wondered if this Committee participated at the 2013 Nordic Conference in Iceland last June.

ACTION ITEM: MF will contact RC to have further information.

RC reported that he wants to contribute to the joint educational effort of SD and EMD on cardiac markers. EMD so far has not been officially involved in this. MF will discuss with EB that EMD wants to get involved more strongly and seek SD's formal commitment for a co-operation.

Proposals for 2013: (a) to develop more distance learning activities in co-operation with C-DL. (b) To co-operate with the TF-POCT with regard to evidence-based techniques that could help to establish data for analytical requirements e.g. for cardiac marker POCT assays in developing countries. (c) To co-operate with WG-LEPS on patient safety: CDC has established "Best Practice Documents" on safety and effectiveness of clinical laboratory tests and C-EBLM / WG-LEPS could develop topics that could be forwarded to CDC for further investigation. (d) To develop a curriculum for evidence-based laboratory medicine.

▪ 9.02.09 Clinical Laboratory Management (C-CLM)

John Krahn	(CA)	Chair	1 st	2012 01-2014 12
Rajiv Erasmus	(ZA)	Member	1 st	2011 01-2013 12
Barbara Goldsmith	(US)	Member	1 st	2011 01-2013 12
Mahmoud Srour	(Palestine)	Member	1 st	2011 06-2014 12

EF has moved to EMD-EC and JK is the new chair of C-CLM.

No report was received for the meeting in KL and the last report did not include the specific goals for the future. **ACTION:** MF will contact the JK to have the plan for the future committee projects.

LL pointed out that also the report for the VLP held in Cape Town still have to be sent.

This Committee should have a proactive approach towards Courses. The EMD-EC recommended a joint action in the activities promoted by Jocelyn Hicks and Donald Young on this topic. Moreover, JK should liaise with JS for distance learning projects.

During the meeting with the Committee Chair, the following actions have been highlighted:

1. To review the Committee's terms of references;
2. To focus on its core competency: lab management;
3. To define lab management action field in order to avoid overlaps with other committees;
4. To include leadership training;
5. To develop a mission statement and a strategic plan with priorities and action points to be reviewed in Milan 2013 during the committee meeting.

The 2nd monograph jointly developed by C-CLM and C-AQ "Quality of Measurement and Quality of Analysis. A Handbook for Developing Countries" has been published and is available on the IFCC website.

▪ 9.02.10 Distance Learning (C-DL)

Janet Smith	(UK)	Chair	1 st	2012 01-2014 12
Ronda Greaves	(AU)	Member	1 st	2012 04-2014 12
Damien Gruson	(BE)	Member	1 st	2012 04-2014 12
Endang Hoyaranda	(ID)	Member	1 st	2012 04-2014 12
Craig Webster	(UK)	Member	1 st	2012 04-2014 12

The goal of this Committee is to find topics to be then transmitted to the CPD C-leL for the development in distance learning courses. For this purpose, a questionnaire has been sent to the National Societies.

Feedback was received from 66 individuals from 43 countries. The survey feedback has showed that the most voted topics are also topics of the EMD Committees therefore, JS suggested that it would be advisable to have liaison person inside each EMD C to better identify specific sub-topics.

The C has not yet developed any own distance learning materials but links to external sites with distance learning materials have been placed on the IFCC website. Some of the links are currently not working and need to be activated.

ACTION ITEM: JS and MF will send a letter to NSs informing about these already available links.

▪ 9.03.08 Laboratory Errors and Patient Safety (WG-LEPS)

Mario Plebani	(IT)	Chair	2 nd	2010 01-2012 12
Laura Sciacovelli	(IT)	Member	1 st	2009 01-2011 12
Oswald Sonntag	(GE)	Member	1 st	2009 01-2011 12
Maurice O'Kane	(UK)	Member	1 st	2009 01-2011 12

The term of MP will officially end by end of this year. EB has decided to maintain the WG-LEPS and maintain the name but has requested that MP selects a new chair within a reasonable time. **ACTION ITEM:** MF will contact MP.

▪ 9.04.01 IFCC Abbott Visiting Lecture Programme (VLP)

Leslie Lai	(MY)	Chair	2 nd	2011 01-2013 12
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EB has approved that LL will hand over the responsibility for the VLP programme to EF in mid-2013.

Once again, it was highlighted the need to improve the number of VLP requests in order to better use the financial contribution from Abbott.

ACTION ITEM: at the beginning of 2013, LL will send a letter to NRs reminding them the opportunity to apply for VLP.

▪ 9.04.02 Working Group on Flow Cytometry (WG-FC)

Ulrich Sack	(DE)	Chair	1 st	2011 06-2013 12
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US presented the activities: The WG has identified the need for a high level flow cytometry course, focussed on selected, changing topics (immunodeficiency, haematology, etc.) Beckman Coulter will continue to sponsor and organize the courses. The last course "Flow Cytometry in Immunology and Stem Cell Research" took place from February 23 to 25 in Leipzig, Germany with scientific support from ESCCA (European Association for Clinical Cell Analysis).

The next IFCC / ESCCA flow cytometry course will take place on April 11th - 14th in Saint Étienne (close to Lyon, France) The title is "Differentiation, Myelodysplasia, Inflammation, Signalling, Deficiencies".

US is trying to receive certification by ISAC (International Society for Analytic Cytometry) for this course. This would help in particular participants from the USA as they need these certificates for their professional recognition as flow cytometrists.

Further, US is seeking organizational support (mailing lists, etc.) for the ESCCA basic summer school educational course in 2013.

ACTION ITEM: US will also send a proposal for a flow cytometry symposium at one of the upcoming IFCC congresses to MF.

Regarding the issue of the Flow Cytometry book, Gregor Rothe (GR) did not ship any books to the IFCC Office as previously agreed with RH in January 2011. Once again, it was stated the importance to

distribute the books in the near future to avoid that they becomes outdated. **ACTION ITEM:** US will make a final attempt to call Gregor Rothe again to try to make him ship the books to the IFCC office.

▪ 9.04.03 Developing Quality Competence in Medical Laboratories (DQCML)

Michael Thomas (UK) Chair 2nd 2012 01-2014 12

Being the budget of this special project quite high, the EMD-EC wondered if travel scholarships could be promoted using this budget. **ACTION:** MF will contact the Mike Thomas and the EB to know if this is feasible. EMD-EC members reconfirmed the importance to be more pro-active towards Africa but a better coordination with the activity promoted by Jocelyn Hicks and Donald Young in Africa is needed and this action can no longer be postponed.

ACTION: MF will inform the EB.

7 EB strategic plans

MF presented the EB Strategic Plan and carefully analyzed the content with EMD-EC Members.

Distance Learning (points 4 and 7)

This is one of the priority for the EB and the EMD C-DL will closely work with the CPD C-leL for the achievement of this goal.

New projects (point 13)

EMD Chairs will be pushed to present new project. **ACTION:** MF will contact EMD Chairs.

Collaboration with international clinical organisations (point 14)

Even if this is not one of the division's priority, EMD will be happy to collaborate with international clinical organisations.

TF-ICO (point 15)

MF is the link between this TF and EMD.

TF-POCT (point 16)

RH is the link between this TF and EMD.

Laboratory accreditation for developing countries (point 18)

ACTION: MF will contact JK to involve him on this project.

Laboratory Accreditation

ACTION: MF will contact JS to have some project proposals.

Budget

Bernard Gouget has suggested to provide a reduced budget for all divisions for the first half year 2013 and to review this mid-year. The reason is to be able to reshuffle some money between committees and working groups (and even between divisions?)

8 EMD strategic plans

None.

9 Corresponding Members

None.

10 Integrated projects

The EMD liaison person inside integrated projects is as follows:

- TF-CKD Leslie Lai
- TF-CM Rob Christenson
- TF-POCT Rolf Hinzmann

11 EMD contributions to IFCC News

More frequent contributions to IFCC News are solicited. **ACTION ITEM:** MF will send a letter to all chairs of committees and working groups.

12 EMD Sessions at IFCC Congresses

EuroMedLab 2013

The proposal from C-EBLM was accepted for an IFCC Symposia.

WorldLab 2014

ACTION ITEM: SC will soon circulate a communication to C and WG Chairs to collect requests for EMD symposia at the Congress in Istanbul.

13 Link with other Divisions

Peter Vervaart requested to be included in the publication process of SD and EMD and to receive help to set up a list of publications. **ACTION ITEM:** MF will send a letter to all chairs of committees and working groups.

One person from EMD-EC is solicited to be a link to CPD. It was decided that one of the two new members of EMD-EC that will start in January 2013 should take on this role. Contact person in CPD is Gábor Kovács.

14 Any other business

RH distributed a memory stick containing a flash-animated presentation prepared by Prof. David Owens from Cardiff, UK, and sponsored by Roche, containing an example of Distance Learning (Topic: Self-monitoring of blood glucose in type 2 diabetic patients not on insulin. The presentation is intended for physicians and diabetes nurse educators). In addition, RH distributed a recent educational review article by himself and his team on the role and limitations of HbA1c in diabetes management (Int J Med Sci 2012; 9(7):665-681. doi: 10.7150/ijms.4520: What do we need beyond hemoglobin A1c to get the complete picture of glycemia in people with diabetes). RH asked the EMD members to have a closer look at the content of the materials and provide feedback to him.

Regarding the article, it was also decided to add it in the list of EMD publications.

ACTION: SC will include the article (Int J Med Sci 2012; 9(7):665-6819 in the list of EMD publications.

15 Date and location of the next meetings

The next EMD Executive Committee meetings will be held on:

- May 17-19, 2013 in Milan
- October 29-30, 2013 in Bali (29 Oct - morning h. 9.00-13.00 - 30 Oct - full day h. 9.00-17.00)

MF suggested that the committees and working groups meet at least one per year face-to-face, preferably on one of the two above-mentioned occasions. MF will send a letter to all chairs of committees and working groups.