

131<sup>st</sup> Meeting Executive Board  
Milan (Italy), February 24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>, 2017

## SUMMARY Minutes

Participants:

**EB Members**

Maurizio Ferrari	(MF)	President
Howard Morris	(HM)	President-elect
Sergio Bernardini	(SB)	Secretary
Tomris Ozben	(TO)	Treasurer
Rosa Sierra-Amor	(RSA)	Member
Vanessa Steenkamp	(VS)	Member
Rolf Hinzmann	(RH)	Corporate Representative (Roche)

**Invited guest:**

David Kinniburgh	(DK)	NAFCC President
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The 131<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the IFCC Executive Board was held in Milan, at the newly renovated IFCC office.

### Strategic Plan session

EB reviewed the progress with the Strategic Plan also considering the results from the SWOT analysis discussion.

#### Area A: Supporting our Membership

No.	Strategic Action	
3	a) Maintain support materials and web-based tools to demonstrate the benefits of IFCC membership to developing countries. b) Use and evaluate effectiveness of new support materials.	Done, will be continued
4	Extend to all countries the register of expertise of individuals in IFCC that may be of value to the Members.	Done, will be continued
5	a) Deliver the e-academy as the platform to support IFCC educational materials b) Develop and present a series of webinars to meet the needs of Members.	Done, will be continued
7	a) Improve communication with COLABIOCLI and Members in Latin America. b) Support at least one major new project in the Region in the next 3 years term.	Done, RSA is engaged in following this item. HM: it should be important to develop the communication also in Portuguese in particular towards some Countries in Africa and in Brazil
8	a) Improve communication with AFCB and Members in Arab countries. b) Support at least one major new project in the Region in 3 years term.	The communication with AFCB is still poor. A letter will be sent by MF to the AFCB to ask for a better communication in particular about the organization of the incoming congress in Palestine. No answer until now. Continuing to solicit good communication
9	a) Improve communication with AFCC and with Members in African countries. b) Support at least one major new project in the Region in the next 3 years term.	This item will change in improving communication and membership in Africa and define the MoU with ASLM.
11	Devise and introduce a strategy to encourage participation of countries in the 2017 Council meeting.	Continue advertising
13	Improve the visibility of IFCC by encouraging National Societies to include a short IFCC news section in their national newsletters or websites	Done. CPD activity will continue also requesting NSs to send a mailing list of their members for direct emails from IFCC.
15	Consolidate the mentoring programme as a Special Project and promote its gradual expansion	Done, will be continued

#### Area B: Broadening Our Horizons

No.	Strategic Action	
17	Identify, resource, prepare and deliver one new project each year in areas of laboratory medicine other than clinical chemistry	Will continue (HM)
18	a) Develop a plan to increase collaboration between IFCC and other international clinical organisations b) Establish at least one new collaboration each year with an international clinical organisation c) Invite organisations from outside laboratory medicine to contribute to the IFCC meetings to promote better interaction with healthcare professionals.	Difficult task, the EB agreed that an IFCC representative for each clinical field of interest will be nominated to address the list made by GB. Each EB member will suggest two Societies to make a priority. RH contacted the EADS to contribute a symposium on clinical chemistry (HbA1c) and management of Diabetes with the participation of IFCC
20	Agree and deliver a new work programme in the area of promoting clinical effectiveness of laboratory medicine.	Done
22	Collaborate with CLMA to agree and promote a programme of leadership development training.	EB is waiting for cost and programs (DK)

#### Area C: Improving the Quality of Laboratory Medicine

No.	Strategic Action	

24	a) In conjunction with others develop a route to laboratory accreditation for developing countries - DQCLM b) Apply the resource material at least once per year and evaluate its effectiveness	Done, will be continuing HM and RSA will organize a workshop about QA in Ecuador in Spanish language.
25	Establish one new high level project with WASPaLM that aims to promote the quality of laboratory medicine through promoting the value of Laboratory Medicine.	MF is in touch with the President, in Durban one session from WASPaLM and viceversa at the next WASPaLM Congress in Kyoto in November had been planned. HM is working with the IFCC-WASPaLM Joint Working Group on the "Value of Laboratory Medicine" which will hold a symposium in Kyoto. A discussion will start between the two International Organizations to find a synergy in promoting Laboratory Medicine.
26	Establish at least one new project with ILAC that aims to improve the application of quality management and laboratory accreditation	Done
27	Strengthen the links and collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO)	Difficult task! A handout proposing a plan of collaboration for 2018 has been sent following a number of revisions. The approval should come in Q1 2017. The Federations involved in the WHO plan for Laboratory Medicine session should be: ISBS, WASPaLM and IFCC. MF will continue to keep in contact with Adriana Velasquez Berumen (WHO).

#### Area D: Improving the Effectiveness of IFCC

No.	Strategic Action	
31	Devise and introduce a scheme to recognise the contribution of individuals who have given outstanding service to IFCC	Done

## 1. Preliminaries

### 1.0 Welcome and opening remarks from the President:

MF and all the EB appreciated the meeting about SWOT analysis revision. VS was not able to come.

#### 1.1.130 Minutes of 130<sup>th</sup> EB Meeting Taipei (Taiwan)

EB approved the Full Minutes and the Summary Minutes from the 130<sup>th</sup> Meeting.

## 2. Full Member Societies

2.4 MF reported on the creation of the new Russian Full Member Society: "*Association of Laboratory Specialists and Organizations «Federation of laboratory medicine» (FLM)*" from actual one: "*Russian Scientifically-Practical Society of Specialists in Laboratory Medicine (RSPSSLM)*". EB revised all documents sent by FLM: EB noted that it is still missing the letter on behalf of the actual Full Member's National Representative, declaring the merging with FLM and endorsing FLM as new IFCC Full Member. MF will call Prof. Lina Khorovskaya, as actual Full Member's Nat.Rep.

EB noted and approved the merging of Ukrainian Full Member "*Ukrainian Society of Clinical Laboratory Diagnostics (USCLD)*" with the Affiliate Member "*Association of Clinical Chemistry & Laboratory Medicine of Ukraine (ACCLMU)*", new name: "*Association of Clinical Chemistry & Laboratory Medicine of Ukraine (ACCLMU)*", provided the Statutes of the new Society are received.

EB noted the request of application for Full Membership on behalf of "*Kosovo Association of Clinical Chemistry (KACC)*". Kosovo is a non-UN member state recognized by at least one UN member state, same as another Full Member: Rep. of China (Taiwan). EB recommend full membership for KACC and will recommend NSs vote in support of this category of IFCC membership.

#### **4. Affiliate Members**

4.4 Annual Dues for Affiliate Members, update on outstanding societies' dues.

EB decided to review the Affiliate membership dues (RSA, HM and SB).

EB agreed to withdraw membership of "*Regional Association for Clinical Laboratory Diagnosis, St. Petersburg*", after 4 years of non payment of dues.

#### **3. Corporate Members**

##### **3.0 RH report**

RH clarified to EB some specific items of the MedTech Ethical Code: application of the Code even for a Conference outside Europe if European Companies are invited to support it even if through their "local representative blend" (transposition of the Code). On the other hand, there are some differences in the Code's application for "local distributors" depending from decisions of each IVD Company. It will be discouraged any advertisement in the conference's programs that can raise a "public perception" of touristic interests. Considering the global impact of the EC, it is important to diffuse the contents worldwide.

#### **15. Financial Matters**

##### **15.1 Treasurer's Report**

EB received an update on finances by TO.

Budget 2016 (CHF): total income 580.000 (proposal), 1.006.434 (actual 31/12/2016); total expenses 1.877.341(proposal), 1.442.889 (actual); net loss -1.297.341 (proposal), -436.455 (actual).

Every Operative Unit spent less than the allocated budget.

Proposal for Budget 2017 (CHF): total income 1.053.500 total expenses 1.779.155; net loss -725.655.

A careful monitoring of expenses in 2017 is needed.

Received dues 2016 (CHF): Full Members 181.314 (97,17%); Affiliate Members 3.565 (91,21%); CMs 290.092 (89,9%).

IFCC cancelled the portfolio mandate to LGT Bank on December 2016 and transferred the IFCC securities from LGT Bank to Credit Suisse Bank with a moderate risk profile and safe accounts in three currencies (EUR, CHF and USD). The return since 31/12/2016 to 21/02/2017 was +0.31%.

#### **8. Scientific Division (SD)**

EB confirmed PG proposal for the new members of the SD Executive Committee: Mario Plebani (IT) and Kostas Makris (GR).

- Collaboration with ICHCLR

HM reported on negotiations for collaboration with International Consortium for Harmonization of Clinical Laboratory Results (ICHCLR). The recommendation of the Short-Term Group (GB, PG, Greg Miller, Gary Myers) is to transfer the oversight and operation of ICHCLR from AACC to IFCC.

The Short-Term Group suggested to create a new Task Force for ICHCLR, which reports to the IFCC Executive Board. This Task Force would function as the IFCC Secretariat for ICHCLR. The Task Force would also have its own IFCC budget line, which could be used for ICHCLR income and expenditure. Finally the Short-Term Group recommends that two Memoranda of Understanding will be required: between AACC and IFCC to document the basis of transfer of Secretariat and between the ICHCLR Council and IFCC to document the working relationship.

EB approved the proposal, MF will send a letter to the Short Term Group members.

- Collaboration with European Commission Joint Research Centre

HM updated the EB about the collaboration with JRC (formerly IRMM) on Certified Reference Materials. He made a presentation about IFCC to JRC officers that was very much appreciated. There is particular interest regarding continuing the collaboration for the production of Certified Reference Materials (CRM) and want to expand it to standardization and harmonization for

population screening programs for cancer. Currently colon cancer and breast cancer biomarkers are the highest priorities. A SD WG for Fecal Immunological testing (WG-FIT) has recently been established and JRC officers suggested that they would be able to provide support in kind for its work.

Another topic being pursued by JRC involves clinical trials in pediatric patients (Arnd Hoeveler, Head of Unit of Advanced therapies and system medicine, EU Commission) currently involving collaboration between Pediatricians and the Pharmaceutical Industry. There is interest for involving the IFCC TF-PLM as a partner.

EB approved this collaboration and HM is responsible for follow-up.

- EB noted and appreciated the SD Meeting report
- EB approved the New Division with the name: “Emerging Technologies Division” (ETD).

Action Plan: Skype meeting between SB and PG to make the definitive proposal to be presented to the next EB meeting in Athens. Following approval by the EB nominations for the ETD-EC will be called.

## **9. Education and Management Division (EMD)**

EB Discussed evaluation of performance of Cs and WGs members in general (specific case being members of C-CLM) and agreed that if at the annual evaluation a member is considered not to be satisfactorily performing (with the exception for well motivated reasons) then membership can be terminated in advance of their original term of office by the Division Chair and a new member appointed.

## **10. Communications and Publications Division (CPD)**

EB appreciated the activity of e-Academy and approved the support by Siemens.

## **7. Committee on Congresses and Conferences (C-CC)**

EB noted and approved the revision of documents prepared by C-CC regarding:

- “Auspices” of the IFCC designates recognition of a professional event of high scientific and/or educational merit;
- Guidelines for the organization of a satellite meeting to an IFCC-sponsored congress or conference;
- Guidelines for preparation of the scientific programme for an IFCC International Congress of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine;
- Guidelines for preparation of the scientific programme for an IFCC-EFLM International congress of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine;
- Guidelines for Compliance with Applicable Codes of Ethical Business Practice.

### **7.2 IFCC WorldLab Congresses**

#### **7.2.23 IFCC WorldLab 2017, Durban (ZA)**

Durban, October 22<sup>nd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>, 2015

EB received updates from MF: the organization of the Congress is proceeding very well and further activity regarding its promotion is expected. The ICPLM programme and finances are finalized and accepted.

EB agreed to allocate 80.000 CHF for scholarships to support the attendance from South Saharian Countries which are member of Africa Federation Clinical Chemistry (AFCC) and IFCC low and lower middle income (reimbursing the expenses for travel and accommodation). The IFCC Office will make a rough estimate of costs to establish the number of scholarships and the maximum amount available for each country and we will ask for free registration for the scholarship winners.

#### **7.2.24 IFCC WorldLab 2020, Seoul (KR)**

Seoul, May 24<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>, 2020

### **7.3 IFCC Regional Congresses of Clinical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine**

#### **7.3.1.15 APFCB India, 2019**

Confirmed. Jaipur – Rajasthan, 17<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> November 2019 (tentative dates)

7.3.2.22 EuroMedLab 2017, Athens (GR)

Athens, June 11<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>, 2017

MF: Finalized. Sponsorship is full. 650 registrants to date

7.3.2.24 EuroMedLab 2019, Barcelona (ES)

Barcelona, May 19<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019

MF: COC and the Scientific Committee have commenced their work.

7.3.4.23 COLABIOCLI Uruguay, 2017

Punta del Este, 17<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> September, 2017

RSA: speakers from many countries of LATAM, scientific program is finalized. RH commented that there might be some problems in the sponsorship by European Companies because the Program had not been submitted to the CVS of MedTech.

7.3.6.15 AFCEB Congress

No update regarding next Congress to be held in Palestine in 2018 have been received

7.3.7.5 AFCC

Next AFCC Congress will be held in conjunction with WorldLab in Durban.

7.4 IFCC Specialised Conferences

7.4.1 Roche Bergmeyer Conference (March 2018, Eibsee, Germany)

Title: "Coagulation". IFCC is available to collaborate even if this year the Conference will be a Roche hosted meeting because of the MedTech rules. MF and Joe Passarelli will discuss about the possible involvement of IFCC in future Roche Bergmeyer Conferences..

7.40 Other Business

WASPALM Congress

See SP n.25

## **6. International and Professional Organisations**

6.1 World Health Organisation (WHO)

See SP n.27

6.2 Clinical Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI)

PG suggested as liaison officer James Pierson-Perry, Siemens (SD-EC Corporate Representative) which was agreed by EB..

6.4 International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) - liaison HM

A teleconference of the Steering Committee of the C-NPU Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

6.13 World Association of Societies of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine (WASPALM) –

6.23 International Standards Organisation (ISO) - liaison RSA

No specific items

6.50 International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC)

## **5. Regional Organisations**

The call for nominations of Regional Representatives for the EB 2018-2020 will be opened from March 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>, to be expected by the IFCC Office.

5.01 Asia-Pacific Federation of Clinical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine

EB approved the final draft of the IFCC-APFCB MoU

## 5.02 COLABIOCLI

No specific items

## 5.04 European Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine

No specific items

## 5.05 Arab Federation of Clinical Biology

No specific items

## 5.06 African Federation of Clinical Chemistry

No specific items

## 5.07 North American Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine

IFCC will have a booth at the AACC Congress in San Diego.

## 16. Organizational Matter

### 16.1 IFCC Office

- EB noted the new office premises, which are considered to be adequate for the constantly growing activities
- The Procedure Manual will be revised by HM and SB to be completed by December 2017.

### 16.3 IFCC Nominations Committee

EB noted the following schedule:

- Call for nominations for the *Treasurer and Secretary* (2018-2020) has been issued and finalized with the ballot taking place between April 1<sup>st</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017.
- Call for nominations for the *Corporate Representative* (2018-2020), is open until March 31<sup>st</sup>, ballot taking place on from June 1<sup>st</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017.
- Call for nominations for the *Regional Representatives* (2018-2020), is open from March 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>, ballot taking place September 1<sup>st</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

### 16.40 Other business

#### *The IFCC Medal for Outstanding Service*

EB agreed to give the medal to persons who performed outstanding service independent of being alive or not alive.

EB will send the list of the approved candidates to Council for ratification by electronic vote.

## 13. Task Forces: updates by the EB member liaisons with TFs

### 13.01.01 Task Force on Ethics (TF-E)

Call for membership opened

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

Finalized the satellite meeting in Durban

### 13.01.03 Task Force on Pharmacogenomics (TF-PG)

Call for membership opened

### 13.01.04 Task Force on Chronic Kidney Disease (TF-CKD) – liaison RSA

Call for membership opened

### 13.01.06 Task Force for Young Scientists (TF-YS) – liaison VS

EB noted and appreciated the YS report.

### 13.01.07 Task Force on Clinical Applications of Cardiac Biomarkers (TF-CB) – liaison TO

### 13.01.08 Task Force on POCT (TF-POCT) – liaison RSA

Call for membership opened

13.01.11 Task Force on Proficiency Testing (TF-PT) – liaison RSA

Call for membership opened

Website opened to register PT providers

13.01.13 Task Force for Geriatric Lab. Medicine (TF -GLM) – liaison SB

No specific comments

13.02 Professional Exchange Programmes

- Update on PSEP and PSEP applications

13.03 Roche Travel Scholarships

- Update on scholarships allocation

## 11. IFCC Awards

EB received an update by HM on WorldLab Durban Awards' sponsorships and Committee decision on successful nominees candidates for below confirmed Awards:

- IFCC Distinguished Clinical Chemist Award – *IFCC*
  - IFCC Distinguished International Services Award--Henry Wishinsky Award for Distinguished International Services– *SIEMENS*
  - IFCC Award for Distinguished Contributions in Education – *ABBOTT*
  - IFCC-Abbott Award for Significant Contributions in Molecular Diagnostics – *ABBOTT MOLECULAR*
  - IFCC Distinguished Award for Laboratory Medicine and Patient Care – *SEKISUI*
  - IFCC-Robert Shaffer Award for Outstanding Achievements in the Development of Standards for Use in Laboratory Medicine Co-sponsored by NIST and CLSI – *NIST / CLSI*
  - IFCC Young Investigator Award– *IFCC*
  - IFCC Hytest Distinguished Award for contributions to Cardiovascular Diagnostics - *HYTEST*
- Awards Dinner will be held after the Opening Ceremony on Sunday.

Siest Award: A proposal was received on behalf of company “Stabiligen”, France, to introduce a new award known as “Siest Award” in memory of Gerard Siést. The Award would be bestowed to a young investigator or young leader who has made an outstanding contribution in actively advancing the scientific discipline of Pharmacogenomics and Personalized Medicine and/or its impact on research, development, standardization, quality management, regulatory evaluation or utilization in therapy.

The EB agreed in principle with adding this Award to the list; HM will clarify the funding associated with this Award directly with Dr. Jean-Pascal Siést.

## 18. Foundation

EB received an update from TO about Foundation's activities. Three projects funded to date:

- “Laboratory based surveillance for communicable disease in Malawi”
- “Lab Surfing: A resource to facilitate global exchange between young scientists”
- “Adopt a Professional: Collaboration to support the training of laboratory medicine specialists”, in partnership with SIBioC from Italy

The Board is struggling to raise sponsorship. The FEN Board asked the IFCC Executive Board to consider whether it will support one or both of the following suggestions:

- 1) Encourage all registrants for IFCC congresses to make a small additional donation for the work of the FEN. This could be included in the on-line registration/payment system – advice required from MZ Congressi and can also be realized through a box. EB agree.



2) Encourage payment of an additional small sum linked to the annual dues. EB agreed in principle, but at present it is difficult to realize. EB agree that GB can write a letter to National Societies soliciting a donation to FEN.

### 13.0 IFCC Statutes and Rules

#### **General Conference** Sep-Dec 2018

EB agreed to collect information through the Office about possible venues and rough costs in Canada, Mexico and East European Countries to choose the most cost effective venue.

### **19.0 Meetings**

#### 19.3 Executive Board meetings in 2017:

- Athens, before the EuroMedLab Congress: June 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>, 2017
- Durban, before the WorldLab Congress: October 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>, 2017