

# **Chapter 5**

## **Regional Organisations**



## 5. REGIONAL ORGANISATIONS

There are six Regional Professional Laboratory Medicine organisations, which can be considered IFCC regional partners:

- Asia-Pacific Federation for Clinical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine (APFCB)
- Latin-American Confederation of Clinical Biochemistry (COLABIOCLI)
- European Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (EFLM)
- Arab Federation of Clinical Biology (AFCB)
- African Federation of Clinical Chemistry (AFCC)
- North American Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (NAFCC)

### 5.1. Asia Pacific Federation for Clinical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine (APFCB)

The Asia Pacific Federation for Clinical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine (APFCB) had its humble beginnings in the late 1970s. Today in 2018, after forty years of growth and development, the APFCB is the largest of the six regional federations of clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine. The APFCB is a massive regional federation with 18 full Ordinary Members, 6 Affiliate Members and 18 Corporate Members, and we comprise:

The following Full Members:

- Australasian Association of Clinical Biochemists (AACB)
- Chinese Society of Laboratory Medicine (CSLM)
- Hong Kong Society of Clinical Chemistry (HKSCC)
- Association of Clinical Biochemists of India (ACBI)
- Indonesian Association for Clinical Chemistry (IACC)
- Iranian Association of Clinical Laboratory Doctors (IACLD)
- Japan Society of Clinical Chemistry (JSCC)
- Korean Society of Clinical Chemistry (KSCC)
- Mongolian Association of Health Laboratorians (MAHL)
- Malaysian Association of Clinical Biochemists (MACB)
- Nepal Association for Medical Laboratory Sciences (NAMLS)
- Pakistan Society of Clinical Pathologists (PSCP)
- Philippine Association of Medical Technologists (PAMET)
- Singapore Association of Clinical Biochemistry (SACB)
- Association for Clinical Biochemistry, Sri Lanka (ACBSL)
- Chinese Association for Clinical Biochemistry, Taiwan (CACB)
- Thailand Association of Clinical Biochemists (TACB)
- Vietnamese Association of Clinical Biochemistry (VACB)

The following Affiliate Members:

- Association of Medical Biochemists of India (AMBI)
- College of Community Physicians of Sri Lanka (CCPSL)
- Chinese Association of Clinical Laboratory Management (CACLM)
- Macao Laboratory Medicine Association (MLMA)
- Nepalese Association of Clinical Chemistry (NACC)
- Philippine Council for Quality Assurance in Clinical- Laboratories (PCQACL)

In addition, the APFCB has close partnership and collaboration with eighteen in-vitro diagnostic companies, comprising global multinational, regional and local companies. Our corporate partners support the APFCB in many of its activities.

Apart from the size, a feature of the APFCB is the diverse range of laboratory practices, within the federation. This puts us in a unique position for drawing on the expertise of the more developed societies to assist the less developed. Over the years, the APFCB travelling lecturer program has been enabling information and technology transfer within the region.

The APFCB has a good history of collaboration with other international federations. We have a long-standing partnership and good support from the IFCC. In addition, the APFCB has on-going MoUs with the World Association of Societies of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine (WASPaLM) and the American Association for Clinical Chemistry (AACC).

At our last APFCB council meeting in Taipei, Taiwan, we resolved to have the following calendar for future APFCB Congresses:

15th APFCB Congress in Jaipur, India, 17-20 November 2019

16th APFCB Congress in Sydney, NSW, Australia, 15-18 October 2022.

It was also resolved that beyond the year 2022, the APFCB Congresses will be subsequently held every two years, instead of the current three-yearly cycles. This will mean that the 17th APFCB Congress will be held in 2024, at a destination, which will be decided at the next council meeting.

In 2018, the APFCB EB and Working Committees have put together an ambitious plan for a variety of activities. Details of our ongoing scientific and educational activities are on the APFCB website ([www.apfcb.org](http://www.apfcb.org)) and our communications committee will feature a rich array of articles, reports and interesting information.

One highlight activity in 2018 is the AACC- APFCB Global Laboratory Quality Workshop series “Adding Value to Patient Care Using Quality Control”. This will feature a series of workshops in Nepal, Sri Lanka and the Philippines. The team is already putting together an exciting program for the workshops.

The APFCB Executive Board is actively looking for participation from our younger colleagues and laboratory professionals. We do need renewal and succession as we prepare to support our healthcare partners to manage their patients. Do participate in the activities of the APFCB and do step forward to contribute where possible. Everyone else outside the Asia Pacific Region is invited to engage the federation, collaborate with us, participate in our activities and become part of the family.

### **President APFCB**

#### **Dr. Sunil SETHI**

Head Clinical Chemistry  
Department of Laboratory Medicine  
National University Hospital  
5 Lower Kent Ridge Road  
Singapore 119074  
Email: [patsks@nus.edu.sg](mailto:patsks@nus.edu.sg)  
Website: [www.apfcb.org](http://www.apfcb.org)

## 5.2. Latin-American Confederation of Clinical Biochemistry (COLABIOCLI)

The Latin American Confederation of Clinical Biochemistry, COLABIOCLI, was founded in 1968 in Mar del Plata, Argentina and all local societies of Latin America for Clinical Chemistry are today its members. In December 1968, in the first Congress of the Confederation, we have the presence, of distinguished professionals: Dr. Bernardo Houssay, Argentina (Nobel Prize), Dr. Luis Leloir, Argentina (Nobel Prize), Dr. Martin Rubin and Dr. Cesar Milstein, Argentina (Nobel Prize).

In 1973, The Latin American Confederation of Clinical Chemistry was officially established during the II Congress of Biochemistry in Porto Alegre Brazil.

Since 1968, COLABIOCLI has developed multiple activities regarding scientific matters and professional regulations. The mission of COLABIOCLI is the improvement of the profession through policies aimed at the continuous improvement of the ethical and scientific standards of Clinical Biochemistry. The main objective is to work together with academic units to reach a consensus of the curricular bases for vocational training in the region and to establish a system of continuous quality improvement in all laboratories in Latin America, with the cooperation of PAHO / WHO, IFCC, the National Societies of Clinical Chemistry, ministries of Public Health and University Authorities in Latin America.

Since its formation important results have been achieved with respect to implementation of continuous quality improvement programmes. Due to the dynamics of knowledge impacting on the progress of clinical laboratory science and technology it has become essential to strengthen alliances with the academic units in the region, for the purpose of managing knowledge, and specific policies for continuous training. By the asymmetry between the countries of the Confederation, actions are needed to achieve implementation of registration and licensing of the profession and to support programmes of external and internal quality assessment to ensure the results of the laboratory as a contribution to public health.

The Latin American Congress is organised every two years. These conferences have been held in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, El Salvador, República Dominicana, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Venezuela and Peru. The average attendance was 1,200 professionals.

One of the main objectives of COLABIOCLI, is give support, to the establishment of programmes of continuous quality improvement in the laboratory. Since 1990 COLABIOCLI, PAHO / WHO with support from other institutions have developed complementary activities:

- Courses and workshops on quality
- Publication of three books on quality assurance
- Visits to various health institutions, to stimulate their interest in our programmes
- Provision control material
- Seminar on the management of external quality assessment
- Training courses for tutors on quality management systems
- Participation in National Congresses and organisation of the Latin American Congress
- Financing of visiting lecturers, according to local needs.
- National regulations and registration of laboratories in the following countries: Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Paraguay, Peru, Colombia, Chile, Ecuador, El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, Venezuela and Uruguay

The General Assembly of COLABIOCLI elects a National Executive Body for the

following two years. Recent elections have established the lead organization for the National Executive Body as follows:

- 2011-2013 Confederación Unificada Bioquímica de la República Argentina (CUBRA)
- 2014-2015 Confederación Unificada Bioquímica de la República Argentina (CUBRA)
- 2016-2017 Asociación Biochimica Uruguaya (ABU)
- 2018-2019 Asociación Biochimica Uruguaya (ABU)

COLABIOCLI Executive Committee 2018-2019

- President: Dr. QF Stella Raymondo (Uruguay)
- Vice-President: Dr. Álvaro Justiniano (Bolivia)
- Secretary: Dra. QF Ana María Lena (Uruguay)
- Treasurer: BC Natalia Amor (Uruguay)
- 1<sup>st</sup> Vocal: Technician Méd. Lizbeth Campilla (Panama)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Vocal: Dr. Bioq. Micr. Juana Ortellado (Paraguay)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Member: Lic. Lourdes Cruz (Dominican Republic)
- Past President: Dr. QF Graciela Queiruga (Uruguay)

COLABIOCLI has developed the following programmes:

- Quality management
- Standard operating procedures
- Documents laboratory
- Internal control and external quality assessment
- Internal and external audits
- Continuing education and training
- Biosafety standards,
- Preventive and corrective maintenance of equipment.

COLABIOCLI also managed to achieve goals in the records of national regulation, in: Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Cuba, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Honduras, Guatemala, Peru, Colombia, Venezuela, Paraguay, Uruguay and Ecuador and, recently, Bolivia.

COLABIOCLI also promotes the implementation of external quality assessment and has an ethical commitment to institutions and professionals of health. The countries with External Quality Assessment are: Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Spain and Uruguay.

Goals achieved:

1. External quality assessment in 89% of countries.
2. Preparation of control samples: Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Guatemala, Mexico, Uruguay.
3. 'Guide to Accreditation, Quality Management Course', Second Edition 2009.
4. Establishment of a quality system.
5. Audit of quality management systems.
6. In October 2008, the National Clinical Society of Colombia, held the course, auditing for members of all countries of South America.
7. In June 2009, the National Society of Clinical Chemistry Panama, conducted an auditing course for delegates from Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean.
8. Meetings were organised on external quality assessment in: San Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Dominican Republic, Bolivia, Peru, Uruguay, Ecuador and Colombia.

Strategies and Objectives:

1. The completion of the registration procedures, in all countries
2. Innovation of the external quality programme,
3. Developing professional resources to manufacture reference materials
4. Continuing with the efforts for the establishment of a quality control programme in the Latin American countries.
5. Facilitation of active involvement with health authorities
6. Continuity of local distance learning programmes, and the implementation of national and international guidance for the accreditation programme.

In addition, COLABIOCLI, implements and administers a programme of visiting professors. This ensures participation of lecturers in the Congress of the National Institutions that require it, according to local needs.

One of the policies of COLABIOCLI also includes visits to Ministers of Health, university authorities and national health programmes to strengthen at laboratory professionals and their activities. Many of the activities described above have been supported by PAHO/WHO, in cooperation with the IFCC.

**President COLABIOCLI**

**Prof. Stella RAYMONDO**

Ejido 1589

CP 11100 Montevideo

Uruguay

Email: [raystela@gmail.com](mailto:raystela@gmail.com)

Website: [www.colabiocli.com](http://www.colabiocli.com)

## 5.4. European Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (EFLM)

In 2007 The European Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (EFLM formerly EFCC) was formed by the merger of FESCC (Forum of European Societies of Clinical Chemistry) and EC4 (European Communities Confederation of Clinical Chemistry). EFLM connects National Societies of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine and creates a platform for all specialists working in the field in Europe. The mission of EFLM is to 1) enhance patient care, 2) improve outcomes by promoting and improving the scientific, professional and clinical aspects of clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine and 3) to ensure effective representation of laboratory medicine both at European Union level and to other pan-European and sub-regional bodies. EFLM represents IFCC in Europe.

All member societies of IFCC in Europe may become members of EFLM. Non-IFCC societies may obtain provisional membership for three years, provided that they apply for IFCC membership in the meantime. The General Meeting is the governing body of EFLM and is composed of a nominated representative from each EFLM National Society Member. It convenes at least once every two years. The main decisions reserved for the General Meeting are: admission and exclusion of member associations as full, provisional or affiliate members; election of the Executive Board; adoption of accounts and budgets; amendment of EFLM Articles of Association; and approval of Executive Board proposed policies. EFLM is legally registered in Belgium. The Operative Office is located in Milan where the office is also maintained in collaboration with IFCC.

Current (Full) membership of EFLM comprises the national societies of the following 40 countries: Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kosovo, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, UK, Ukraine. EFLM has also 1 Affiliate Member: AEFA (Spain) and 1 Provisional Member: SSLM (Slovak Rep).

The operational structure of EFLM consists of an Executive Board (EB) and currently five Committees (C), which conduct out their tasks via Working Groups (WG), Task and Finish Groups (TFG) and Task Groups (TG). Officers of the EB (president, past-president, president-elect, secretary, treasurer and two members-at-large) are elected by the General Meeting for 2-year terms. In the current EB the following countries are represented: Germany, Norway, Croatia, Italy, The Netherlands, Portugal and Czech Republic. Membership and corresponding membership in Cs, WGs is by application and open to nominations by EFLM national societies.

The main activities of EFLM relate to education, research, development of the profession, requirements for competence, quality and accreditation of laboratories, organisation of congresses, and publications. EFLM has five Committees:

- Science (C-S)
- Quality and Regulations (C-QR)
- Profession (C-P)
- Education and Training (C-ET)
- Communication (C-C)

For updates, please visit the EFLM website ([www.eflm.eu](http://www.eflm.eu)).

The Science Committee (C-S) focuses on promotion of research that translates the scientific results of laboratory medicine to clinical applications and improves patient outcomes through the appropriate use and interpretation of laboratory data in clinical

practice. The Committee currently has WGs on:

- Biological Variation (WG-BV) which explores the sources of variation in and develops a critical appraisal checklist for papers on biological variation.
- Guidelines (WG-G) for the laboratory investigation and management of various conditions based on best practice.
- Harmonisation of Total Testing Process (WG-H) aims to act as a collector of the harmonization initiatives arising from other WGs or Task and Finish Groups of EFLM and from National Member Societies active in the field and will disseminate them to all the EFLM Member Societies attempting to monitor their application and effects.
- Patient Focused Laboratory Medicine (WG-PFLM) aims to evaluate and study methods for how specialists in laboratory medicine can communicate directly with the patients and how the laboratory can play an active role in patients using self-monitoring for monitoring their disease.
- Personalized Laboratory Medicine (WG-PLM) aims to develop papers on potentials and limits of the most recent laboratory technologies applied in personalized medicine.
- Postanalytical Phase (WG-POST) which carries out international surveys amongst general practitioners and investigates how doctors use and interpret laboratory tests commonly used for managing patients in primary care.
- Preanalytical Phase (WG-PRE) which promotes the perception of the importance of the quality of the preanalytical phase of laboratory medicine by carrying questionnaires for assessing the current practices related to some pre-analytical variables and defining the best practices for some critical activities in the preanalytical phase.
- Test Evaluation (WG-TE) which sets standards and develops practical tools for designing research studies for the evaluation of the clinical value and impact of new biomarkers.

The Quality and Regulations Committee (C-QR) supports the establishment of effective accreditation schemes and quality management systems in all European countries and liaises with ISO, CEN and the European Accreditation body (EA). The Committee currently has one WG on:

- Accreditation and ISO/CEN (WG-A/ISO), which represents EFLM in EA, ISO TC212 and CEN TC140. The WG focuses on influencing ISO/CEN standards and harmonisation of accreditation by international surveys, education and training of assessors related to specific professional standards of ISO 15189 and on setting European procedures for accreditation according to the flexible scope.

The Education and Training Committee (C-ET) has general responsibility for the postgraduate training aspects of the work of EFLM, in liaison with the Congress and Conferences Division and the Education and Management Division of IFCC, and also with UEMS. The Committee organizes regional and sub-regional conferences, workshops and postgraduate continuing education courses in association with relevant national societies. The Committee operates three WGs:

- Congresses and Postgraduate Education (WG-CPE), which is involved in the evaluation of bids for EuroMedLab Congresses, in maintaining the EFLM Speakers Bureau and in developing/ maintain the EFLMLabX project: the EFLM exchange programme. Moreover, the WG is responsible for granting of EFLM auspices.
- Distance education and e-learning (WG-DE), which aims to establish and maintain efficient distance learning channels between EFLM and its member societies in education within the field of clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine.
- Laboratory Medicine Credit Points (WG-LMCP), which aims to establish and run an EFLM project to allocate credit points for educational events held in Europe and address to all Specialists of Laboratory Medicine.

The Professional Committee (C-P) addresses the professional interests of specialists in laboratory medicine across Europe and promotes the contributions of specialists in laboratory medicine to better health and best care. Its aim is to achieve recognition of professional qualifications under European Union legislation based on the principles of free movement of professionals within Europe. It liaises with CEPLIS (European Council of the Liberal Professions) and the European Commission on professional matters and takes the lead in developing pan-European professional and ethical standards.

The Committee currently has one WG on:

- Register (WG-R), which manages the Register of European Specialists in Laboratory Medicine (EuSpLM).

The Communication Committee (C-C) is responsible for efficient communication channels between EFLM and its member societies and other professional institutions, individuals and other targeted audience via EFLM's website ([www.eflm.eu](http://www.eflm.eu)) and EFLM Newsletter "EuroLabNews". The official scientific journal of EFLM is Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (CCLM).

- The Committee carries on its activities via its Working Group on Promotion and Publications (WG-P).

Awards. EFLM has four awards:

- The EFLM Scientific Award for Laboratory Medicine – sponsored by Roche. This award is to honour an individual from an EFLM member country, who has made unique contributions to the promotion and understanding of clinical chemistry throughout Europe or who has made one or more contributions that have had a major impact on clinical chemistry. The award is given bi-annually on occasion of the EuroMedLab congresses and is financially supported by Roche with an amount of 7,500 Euros.
- The EFLM Award for Excellence in Outcomes Research in Laboratory Medicine – sponsored by Abbott. The award is presented to the author(s) of the best-published paper, as judged by an independent panel of experts, which demonstrates the relationship between the application of an in-vitro diagnostic test or testing strategy and clinical and/or economic outcomes. The award is given bi-annually on occasion of the EuroMedLab congresses and is financially supported by Abbott with an amount of 5,000 Euros.
- The EFLM Walter Guder Preanalytical Award – sponsored by Becton Dickinson. The award is addressed to young scientists under 40 years of age, who have made a significant contribution to the advancement of the preanalytical phase. The award is given to the best study accepted for peer reviewed publication, where the nominee is the first author and a member of an EFLM member society. The award is financially supported by Becton Dickinson with an amount of 5,000 Euros.
- The EFLM Cardiac Marker Award for remarkable scientific work in the field of cardiovascular diseases – sponsored by HyTest. This award has been created to achieve wider recognition of the importance of high quality research in the field of cardiac markers among laboratory professionals in Europe. The EFLM-HyTest Cardiac Marker Award is granted to a young scientist under 40y for remarkable scientific work in the field of cardiovascular diseases. The award is given bi-annually on the EuroMedLab congresses and is financially supported by HyTest with an amount of 5,000 Euros.

A memorandum of understanding between EFLM and IFCC has formalised the relationship between the two Federations. EFLM has recently published its Corporate membership policy and is aiming to establish various models of collaboration with

corporate partners from the IVD industry by setting up various projects that support the development of the profession in Europe.

Currently EFLM has formalised its collaboration with the following organizations: AACC (American Association of Clinical Chemistry); AACB (Australasian Association of Clinical Biochemists); CEPLIS (European Council of the Liberal Professions); EC (European Commission); EA (European co-operation for Accreditation); EAPM (European Alliance for Personalised Medicine); EAS (European Atherosclerosis Society); EASL (European Association for the Study of Liver); EDMA (European Diagnostic Manufacturers Association); EuPA (European Proteomics Association); EUCOMED (Medical Devices Industry); ISO-CEN; EPMA (European Ass. for Predictive, Preventive & Personalized Medicine); EQALM (External Quality Assurance Programmes in Laboratory Medicine); ESPT (European Society for Pharmacogenomics and Theranostics); UEMS (European Union of Medical Specialists).

EFLM intends to set up even wider collaboration with sister federations in order to harmonise scientific, educational and professional efforts in a complementary fashion, so that laboratory and health care professionals enjoy the benefits of such a collaboration both in the Euro-region and worldwide.

#### **EFLM President**

##### **Prof. Michael NEUMAIER**

University Medicine Mannheim  
Heidelberg University  
Institute for Clinical Chemistry  
Mannheim – Germany  
e-mail: [presidentEFLM@eflm.eu](mailto:presidentEFLM@eflm.eu)  
Website: <https://www.eflm.eu/>

## 5.5. Arab Federation of Clinical Biology (AFCB)

The Arab Federation of Clinical Biology (AFCB) was established in 1974 in Egypt. The AFCB is managed by its Executive Board (EB) that is elected periodically every three years. Each member society in the AFCB is represented by one delegate in the EB. In its first meeting the EB elects its President, Vice-president, Treasurer, General Secretary, and chairs of its needed committees according to its bylaws. The past AFCB President also is a member of the EB. AFCB is a federation of associations, syndicates and bodies representing specialists in the field of laboratory medicine and health, in scientific and educational institutions and in medical laboratories for diagnosis and research in both private and public sectors, within the Arab world.

The twelve countries that currently form the AFCB are:

Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, and Yemen.

The aim of the AFCB is to tighten relationships between all those who work in the field of clinical laboratory all over the Arab world, Activities include:

1. Sharing information, expertise and scientific achievements;
2. Organising seminars and training in clinical biology and laboratory medicine;
3. Publishing scientific journals and periodicals specializing in clinical and laboratory medicine;
4. Organising training and educational sessions;
5. Participating in the creation of national bodies and associations within the Arab countries that do not have such organizations in respect to their local legislation;
6. Giving support and advice to national bodies and associations within the Arab countries;
7. Providing consultation and expertise as requested to scientific and production institutions in the Arab world
8. Organising scientific congresses at both regional and national congresses in the Arab world, providing the organising countries with all the scientific support needed;
9. Co-ordinating with the Council of Arab Ministers of Health on clinical laboratory scientific matters;
10. Implementing International Units;
11. Providing support to IVD industry in the Arab world;
12. Supporting quality management programmes in health laboratories.

The AFCB has organised 14 congresses since 1974 in: Egypt (1974, 1980, 1986 and 1988), Syria (1979, 1994 and 2006), Tunisia (1991 and 2004), Jordan (1997), Morocco (2000 and 2012), Lebanon ( 2009), Sudan (2015).

Our Vision:

To work on the development of the profession and the science of laboratory medicine in the Arabic world.

Our Mission:

1. To be the legitimate voice for the profession of laboratory medicine in the Arabic world.
2. To be lead in the Arab and international community for the profession of laboratory medicine
3. To serve members with the maximum potential.
4. To maintain high professional standards in the practice of medical laboratory sciences in the Arabic world.

#### Our Objectives:

1. Strengthening the link between workers in the field of clinical laboratory science in the Arab world, and exchange of experiences and scientific information.
2. Organising periodic scientific conferences in the field of clinical laboratory science and scientific symposia, seminars, and exchange briefing visits. Contributing to the Arab national conferences, providing adequate scientific support.
3. Issuing scientific documents and specialised publications.
4. Contributing to the formation and support of national bodies and associations in the Arab countries that do not have such bodies, where such formations, according to the laws and regulations in force in those countries.
5. Providing advice and expertise to the Arab production companies in the field of clinical laboratory reagents and equipment.
6. Supporting programmes of laboratory quality assurance in the Arab world and the exchange of information and scientific advice. This includes studying the possibility of the use of international units.
7. Coordinating with the Council of Arab Ministers of Health in matters of clinical laboratory science.
8. Working on the harmonisation of legislation and laws governing the work of the clinical laboratory in different countries; making an agreement on a common definition of certificates of competence and work with the Arab Health Ministers for approval.
9. Facilitating cooperation and coordination with the World Health Organization in the curricula of rehabilitation, training and quality assurance programs.
10. Promoting the AFCB presence in international and regional organisations concerned with clinical laboratory sciences.

#### Our Membership:

The Arab Federation of Clinical Biology accepts membership of organisations, associations, trade unions and professional associations that:

- Accept the AFCB Statute and work to achieve its objectives
- Submit a request for enrollment that is consistent with its basic system of the AFCB.

#### **AFCB President**

##### **Dr. Mohammed Hassan KAMIL**

Director of Kamil's Laboratories for Medical Investigations  
Sudanese National Council for Medical and Health Professions  
Sudan National Medical Specialization Board  
Email: kamil\_mhassan@yahoo.com  
Website: www.afcbforyou.org

## 5.6. African Federation of Clinical Chemistry (AFCC)

The African Federation of Clinical Chemistry ([www.afccafrica.org](http://www.afccafrica.org)) is an organisation of Clinical Chemistry Societies in the African continent, and a regional society of the International Federation of Clinical Chemistry (IFCC). At present, the membership comprises of the following fifteen countries:

- Botswana (no official Society)
- Egypt (Egyptian Society of Clinical Chemistry and Clinical Laboratory Sciences – ESCC)
- Ethiopia (Ethiopian Medical Laboratory Association - EMLA)
- Ghana (no official Society)
- Kenya (Clinical Chemists Association of Kenya)
- Malawi (Malawi Association of Medical Laboratory Scientists - MAMLS)
- Morocco (Société Marocaine de Chimie Clinique - SMCC)
- Nigeria (Association of Clinical Chemists of Nigeria - ACCN)
- Rwanda (Rwanda Society of Pathologists)
- South Africa (South African Association of Clinical Biochemistry - SACB)
- Sudan (Sudanese Association of Clinical Biology - SSCB)
- Tunisia (Société Tunisienne de Biologie Clinique - STBC)
- Uganda (Uganda Association of Biomedical Scientists)
- Zambia (Biomedical Society of Zambia - BSZ)
- Zimbabwe (Zimbabwe Association of Clinical Biochemists - ZACB)

Eleven of these countries are Full Member Societies of the IFCC.

The inaugural congress of the AFCC took place in October 2009 in Ibadan, Nigeria and the second congress was in Nairobi, Kenya 2011. The third congress was held in Cape Town, South Africa in 2013. The fourth congress took place in Harare, Zimbabwe 28-30 April 2015. The fifth congress coincides with the IFCC WordLab congress in October 22 to 25 2017 in Durban, South Africa.

The current Board members serving for the term 2018 - 2020 are: President: Prof RT Erasmus (South Africa), Immediate Past-President: Prof AB Okesina (Nigeria), President-Elect: Dr M Charles Davies (Nigeria), Secretary: H. Lumano (Zambia), Treasurer: Dr J.A.A. Onakoya (Nigeria), Members-at-large: Mr GT Akalu (Ethiopia) and Dr Chabraoui (Morocco).

The aim of the AFCC is to promote and improve the quality of provision of health care services to communities it serves. This is on going through improving the development and practice of clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine through education and excellent scientific exchanges in Africa. To date, academic exchanges between Nigeria and South Africa have been taking place. A major impact that AFCC has enjoyed in recent times is Young Scientist Program of IFCC, which has been a platform to support many young Africans to attend conferences in various part of the world. Recently we have been having communication with Egypt with a view for further collaboration.

Areas of concern in clinical chemistry have been identified and to this end quality management courses have been organised. The clinical case study programme provided by the AACC has continued to be distributed to all AFCC member countries where it is being incorporated in the training of residents. Another important support from IFCC Foundation for Emerging Nations (FEN) is the donation of substantial amount of money to AFCC to start internet radio programme, which is located in Zimbabwe.

### **AFCC President:**

#### **Prof. Rajiv Timothy ERASMUS**

Dept of Chemical Pathology  
PO Box 19113

Tygerberg, 7505, South Africa  
e-mail: [rte@sun.ac.za](mailto:rte@sun.ac.za)

## 5.7. North American Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (NAFCC)

The North American Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (NAFCC) was formed in December of 2014, representing the American Association for Clinical Chemistry (AACC) and the Canadian Society of Clinical Chemists (CSCC), both member societies of the IFCC. The NAFCC was recognized by the IFCC in February of 2015. The NAFCC was formed in response to changes to the structure of the IFCC Executive Board (EB) to allow each federation to nominate a member to the EB, thus providing for regional representation of all IFCC member societies on the EB.

The AACC or CSCC Boards will approve a member to serve as the NAFCC representative to the IFCC EB, alternating between the AACC and CSCC with each new EB election cycle. The representative, as proposed by the AACC, for the period of 2018-2020 is Dr. Ann Gronowski.

The primary responsibility of the NAFCC is to facilitate high level communication in relation to the work of IFCC, including:

- Developing and promoting the contribution of laboratory medicine to healthcare
- Strategic planning, policy direction and implementation

### NAFCC Representative

#### **Ann M. GRONOWSKI, Ph.D.**

Professor Pathology & Immunology and Obstetrics & Gynecology

Washington University School of Medicine

660 S. Euclid, Box 8118

St. Louis, MO 63110

USA

Email: [gronowski@wustl.edu](mailto:gronowski@wustl.edu)

