

118th Meeting Executive Board

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, November 16-17, 2012

Minutes

Members:	Dr. G Beastall (GB) Prof. J Hicks (JH) Prof. H Morris (HM) Dr. B Gouget (BG) Prof. S Bernardini (SB) Prof. L Kricka (LK) Prof V Steenkamp (VS) Dr. U Tuma (UT) Dr. T Brinkmann (TB)	President Past President Vice President Treasurer Secretary Member Member Member Corporate Rep
In attendance:	Prof D Young (DY) Prof L Chabraoui Dr M Fuhrer (MFu) Prof D Mazziotta Dr I Watson (IW) Prof T Ozben (TO) Prof I Young (IY) Prof P Gillery (PG) Prof M Ferrari (MFe) Prof E Jacobs (EJ) Prof K Adeli (KA) Ms P Bramati (PB)	Past President AFCCB (Agenda item 5) APFCB (Agenda item 5) COLABIOCLI (Agenda item 5) EFLM President (Agenda item 5) C-CC (Agenda item 7) SD (Agenda item 8) SD (Agenda item 8) EMD (Agenda item 9) CPD (Agenda item 10) CPD (Agenda item 10) IFCC Office

2. Full Member Societies

2.2 Applications for Full Membership

The national societies of Kazakhstan and Zambia both were accepted as new Full Members of IFCC: Kazakhstan Association of Medical Laboratory Diagnostics (2.01.96), Biomedical Society of Zambia (2.01.97).

3. Corporate Members

The Applications for Corporate Membership were approved as follows: Oneworld Accuracy Collaboration (3.01.82), Wisplinghoff Laboratoriumsmedizin Köln (3.01.83), BG Medicine (3.01.84), ELGA Labwater (3.01.85) – from 2013.

4. Affiliate Members

The application on behalf of the “Federación Nacional de Químicos Clínicos A.C. Mexico (CONAQUIC)” for Affiliate Membership was approved.

5. Regional Organisations

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

Abstract of the report from the APFCB President, Leslie Lai

At present the APFCB has 16 Member Societies, 17 Corporate members and 2 Affiliate members. Education Committee (Chair Samuel Vasikaran, Australia) participated in many projects: the APFCB Travelling Lecturer (“Inflammatory markers in renal disease”), the IFCC-Abbott Visiting Lecturer (“Current Markers of Cardiovascular Disease”), the APFCB Webinar (“How to prepare your lab for accreditation”), the APFCB Interpretative Comments Education Program (coordinated by Dr Gordon Challand of UK). Moreover the Education Committee organised the APFCB-sponsored symposium “Osteoporosis: Investigations, fracture risk assessment and monitoring of treatment” at the EFLM-UEMS Conference, in Dubrovnik, 10-13 October 2012.

The Scientific Committee (Chair Kiyoshi Ichihara, Japan) led collaboration by countries in the APFCB region (Japan, China, India, Philippines) in the worldwide study on reference values (coordinated by the C-RIDL, IFCC). A web site showing the results is being built. The entire results from Asia are to be presented and discussed during the 2013 APFCB Congress in Bali. A joint project is under way on the standardisation of testosterone and related analytes assay by use of mass spectrometry as well as a project for paediatric screening of neuroblastoma by mass spectrometry in Vietnam.

The Laboratory Management Committee (Chair Tony Badrick, Australia) has been working in planning QA workshops, survey of members for quality/accreditation activities, publication of newsletters in the APFCB website on the environmental impact of clinical laboratories.

The Communications Committee (Chair Praveen Sharma, India) has been working in updating the APFCB Website (www.apfcb.org) in which the e-News, the annual reports and the APFCB webinars are published online.

The Congress and Conferences Committee (Chair Joseph B. Lopez, Malaysia) is actively working in the organization of the 13th APFCB Congress, 27-30 October 2013 (COC Chair July Kumalawati).

5.02 Latin-American Confederation of Clinical Biochemistry

Abstract of the report from Daniel Mazziota on behalf of COLABIOCLI President Carlos Navarro

COLABIOCLI comprises 22 countries (16 are members of IFCC). The main objectives of the COLABIOCLI strategic plan are: to complete license procedures of Clinical Laboratories in all country members; to reinforce already established EQAS covering all areas of Clinical Laboratory; to promote the establishment of EQAS in countries that still do not have it; to promote the developing of local/regional resources of reference analytical measurement procedures and reference materials; to promote local and distance learning programs, to promote the application of national and international guides for accreditation programs; to increase cooperation with other international organizations like WHO, PAHO and IFCC, to increase cooperation with academic and research institutions in the LA region.

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

Abstract of the report from the EFLM President, Ian Watson

During the meeting the following items were discussed.

Professional Name: considering that at present a plethora of names exist for clinical laboratorians, EFLM decided that a common name for use in discussions inside EU and with government officials and of other organizations is needed. After an open debate with National Societies, the name "Specialist in Laboratory Medicine" has been chosen for all communications, discussions and publicity.

National Society Relationships: EFLM is supporting NSs to ensure recognition of Eur.Clin.Chem level scientists as being able to head laboratories and to ensure their inclusion, along with medical staff, on national registers. EFLM is also supporting NSs efforts to ensure that standards of knowledge and competence are not undermined by policies informed by 'technician organisations'. EFLM aims to improve Young Scientist engagement in the NSs activities.

Professional Registration: A Register of Specialists in Laboratory Medicine has been created to facilitate their freedom of movement inside the EU. Currently, only around 10% of practitioners are present on the Register; the enrolment is automatic in the Netherlands and the UK and the other recognised countries are being encouraged to put similar procedures in place.

Moreover at present there are very significant variations between countries as to disciplines covered as Clinical Chemistry; the level of attainment to be achieved; training and roles: a common polyvalent training, a common syllabus and attainment are needed. The implementation of the Directive for the liberal professions (Rapporteur, Bernadette Vergnaud MEP) passed by European Parliament and now is under consideration by European Council.

Scientific projects ongoing: biological variation; cardiac markers guidelines; post-analytical external quality assessment; pre-analytical phase; test evaluation; harmonization.

Education: considering that different standards for medical and non-medical Specialists in Laboratory Medicine exist, EFLM is working to get a joint post-graduate syllabus for medical and non-medical Specialists as well as to compare the UEMS (Union of European Medical Specialists) 'Blue Book' with the EC4/EFLM Syllabus with the aim of achieving a common syllabus.

Meetings delivered and being developed: Euromedlab (odd years); Joint EFLM-UEMS Congresses (even years); Pre-analytical errors series; Dubrovnik Courses; Visiting Lecturer Programme.

European Regulatory Engagement: EFLM is involved in the revision of the IVD Directive. NSs should better engage with accreditation and standard making bodies.

5.05 Arab Federation of Clinical Biology (AFCB)

Abstract of the report from the AFCB President Layachi Chabraoui

At the present twelve Arab countries are members of AFCB (Egypt, Syria, Sudan, Kuwait, Jordan, Tunisia, Morocco, Algeria, Lebanon, Palestine, Yemen and Libya).

The main objectives of the AFCB strategic plan in collaboration with IFCC are: to continue the education program for young scientists in the field of molecular biology; to reinforce the education program in Quality Assurance and Quality management; to initiate/continue governmental process for updating and modernizing local legislations and regulations pertinent to the specialty of laboratory Medicine; to promote the culture of Quality Assurance and work with concerned governmental bodies to implement national Quality Assurance Programs in both, public and private sectors; to encourage and promote the participation of scientists from Arab countries in scientific activities at the regional and international levels.

In 2012 the 13th ArabMedLab Congress was held with success in Marrakech (Morocco).

5.06 African Federation of Clinical Chemistry (AFCC)

Abstract of the report from the AFCC President, Vanessa Steenkamp

AFCC comprises 11 countries (8 are members of IFCC). During 2012, 2 AFCC member countries joined the IFCC

The EB members are: Prof Steenkamp, South Africa (president), Prof Okesina, Nigeria (president-elect), Prof Agbedana, Nigeria (secretary), Dr Ikamari, Kenya (treasurer), Dr Tugirimana, Rwanda and Mr Lumano, Zambia (members).

The 1st congress of AFCC was held in 2009 in Ibadan, Nigeria; the 2nd AFCC congress in 2011 in Nairobi Kenya; the 3rd congress of the AFCC will be held in 2013 on 28-31 July 2013 in Cape Town, South Africa.

In 2012 the AFCC participated to the 1st International conference of the African Society for Laboratory Medicine [ASLM]. A Course in Quality Management will be held in Zambia and Zimbabwe in March 2013.

The AFCC Website is under development.

5.1 American Association of Clinical Chemistry (AACC)

EB received the notes of the meeting with AACC leadership held in July 2012: IFCC and AACC updated each other about strategic plans and leadership. The possible collaborative opportunities are: AACC will provide IFCC links to free webcasts, podcasts and its speakers' bureau. AACC showed the proposal for participation in the international consortium for harmonization of clinical laboratory results.

5.40 Discussion of value of joint meeting with Presidents of Regional Federations

EB and the Presidents of the five Regional Federations agreed that this had been a useful first joint meeting. It was recognized that improved communication is the key to optimising the working relationship. It was also recognized that the five Regional Federations are at different stages of evolution and that they have different priorities for their own programs and their shared programs with IFCC. It was agreed that further joint meetings should be held in the future with an agenda that comprises specific items suggested by Regional Federations.

6 International and Professional Organisations

6.1 World Health Organisation (WHO)

EB noted that IFCC has submitted in June the Report of IFCC activities for 2009-2011 and the Strategic Plan for IFCC activities 2012-2014 (with cross references to published WHO Strategic Directives, Core Functions and Global Health Agenda) for consideration by the WHO Executive in January 2013.

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

EB noted that WASPaLM will sponsor a symposium at WorldLab Istanbul 2014 and the collaboration with WASPaLM in TF-CKD continues.

7 Committee on Congresses and Conferences (C-CC)

7.2 IFCC WorldLab Congresses

7.2.22 IFCC WorldLab Istanbul 2014 (22-26 June 2014)

The organization is moving well. The venue will be the International Congress Center in Istanbul. TO (C-CC Chair), TB (EB) and TZ (C-CC) are IFCC representatives in the COC. IFCC will sponsor five symposia at the congress (two from SD and one each from EMD, CPD and EB).

7.2.23 IFCC WorldLab Durban 2017

COC organization is in progress.

7.3 IFCC Regional Congresses of Clinical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine

7.3.1.13 APFCB Bali 2013 (27-30 October 2013)

EB noted that due to an Indonesian Government decision to hold the APEC summit in Bali in October, the 13th APFCB Congress has been postponed to 27-30 October 2013.

7.3.2.20 EuroMedLab Milano 2013 (19-23 May 2013)

EB noted the completion of the programme and high level of interest in this congress. IFCC will sponsor the following symposia at the congress: "Harmonization in autoimmune testing", "Evidence in action: translating guideline recommendations into clinical practice", "Public relations and the value of Laboratory Medicine".

7.3.2.21 EuroMedLab Paris 2015

EuroMedLab 2015 will be held at the Palais des congress, Porte Maillot, Paris.

The 2015 joint Event will be composed of: a scientific congress (“EuroMedLab Paris 2015 Congress”, from 21st to 25th June), the JIB conferences, and a joint Exhibition (“EuroMedLab – JIB 2015 Exhibition”, from 22nd to 24th June). The EuroMedLab congress will cover all scientific topics related to Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine. The JIB conferences will not deal with scientific issues as the EuroMedLab congress would do, but instead will treat subjects related to practice, techniques, organization, etc. for private laboratories (managers, technicians...).

7.3.2.22 EuroMedLab 2017

EB noted that C-CC and EFLM have jointly invited bids with a closing date of December 2012. Selection will occur during the EFLM General Assembly in Milano in May 2013.

7.3.4.21 COLABIOCLI 2013 Lima, Peru

EB noted that the next COLABIOCLI congress will be held in Lima, Peru from 29 October to 1 November 2013.

7.3.6.14 AFCB 2015 Sudan

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

7.3.7.3 AFCC 2013

EB noted that the site for the congress will be Cape Town and the congress will be organized by the South African Association of Clinical Chemistry.

7.4 IFCC Specialised Conferences

7.4.1 Roche Bergmeyer Conference (5-7 March 2012, Eibsee, Germany)

EB noted that the edited Proceedings have been published on the Scand J Clin Lab Invest.

7.4.7 IFCC-Abbott Turning Science into Caring

EB noted the completion of a signed agreement with Abbott Diagnostics Division for IFCC to work collaboratively on the global ‘Turning Science into Caring’ meetings (“TSIC Events”).

7.8 Congresses with IFCC Auspices

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

8.0 Scientific Division (SD)

8.2 Committees

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

IFCC continues to work on a MoU between IFCC, IUPAC and the Danish National Board of e-Health. The purpose of the MoU is to support and ensure maintenance, availability and development of the international NPU terminology and to identify the roles and responsibilities of each party as they relate to ownership, development and maintenance of NPU database and terminology.

8.2.11 Committee on Molecular Diagnostics (C-MD)

SD reported that the work of this important Committee will be refocused under a new Chair. Two members have completed their first terms and replacements will be sought.

8.2.21 Committee on Reference Systems of Enzymes (C-RSE)

EB endorsed the SD recommendation that the Chair be reappointed for a second term.

8.2.23 Committee on Traceability in Laboratory Medicine (C-TLM)

The Chair and one Member have completed their second term and replacements will be solicited.

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

EB endorsed the SD recommendation that the Chair and two Members be reappointed for a second term.

8.3 Working Groups

8.3.35 Working Group on Standardisation of Hemoglobin A2 (WG-SHbA2)

The Chair has been renewed to allow completion of the project.

8.3.42 Working Group on Standardisation of Insulin Assays (WG-SIA)

Two new IFCC members required to support Chair.

8.3.45 Working Group on Harmonisation of Autoantibody tests (WG-HAT)

Chair to be renewed for second term.

8.3.46 Working Group on Quality Specifications for Glucose POCT (WG-POCT)

Closed with work transferred to Task Force on POCT

8.20 Membership

To note that J Passarelli (SD-EC Corporate Rep.) will finish his 1st term in December 2012. EB agreed that he is confirmed for the 2nd term.

9.0 Education and Management Division (EMD)

9.1 Division Executive Committee

EB noted that the Division Executive met in Kuala Lumpur from 16-17 November 2012.

9.2 Committees

9.2.7 Committee on Evidence Based Laboratory Medicine (C-EBLM)

An EBLM session will be held at EuroMedLab, (Milan 2013).

9.2.9 Committee on Clinical Laboratory Management (C-CLM)

Publication of the monograph: *Quality of Management & Quality of Analysis - A Handbook for developing Countries (2012, jointly developed by C-CLM and C-AQ)*

9.3 Working Groups

9.3.8 Working Group on Laboratory Errors and Patient Safety (WG-LEPS)

The WG-LEPS Website has been developed (it will be accessible from the IFCC website).

9.4 Special Projects

9.4.2 Flow Cytometry

The IFCC-Beckman Course: "Flow cytometry in immunology and stem cell research" will be held in St Etienne (April 2013).

9.20 Membership

To note that Rolf Hinzmann (EMD-EC Corporate Rep.) and S. Raymondo (EMD-EC member) will finish their 2nd term in December 2012.

To note that WG-LEPS Chair, M. Plebani will finish his 2nd term in December 2012.

10.0 Communications and Publications Division (CPD)

10.1 Division Executive Committee

During 2012 a Monograph ("Quality of Management & Quality of Analysis - A Handbook for Developing Countries") has been published.

10.2 Committees

10.2.1 Committee for Public Relations (C-PR)

The PR brochure (2012-14) has been updated and produced in Arabic, Chinese, English, Farsi, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Spanish, Polish, Portuguese, Turkish, Russian.

A PR slide kit and a second slide kit on the role of Lab Medicine and its role in healthcare delivery have been created.

10.2.2 Committee for Internet and e-Learning (C-leL)

The growth of the website visits in 2012 has been of 5% (81,344 people visited the site).

Two products for the Siemens/IFCC distance learning programme are available (BNP and Developing a Quality System in line with ISO 15189).

10.3 Working Groups

10.3.2 IFCC News

It was noted that Prof Edgard Delvin would complete his term of office as Editor of IFCC News at the end of 2012. He would be replaced by Prof Tahir Pillay. EB expressed its thanks to Prof Delvin for improving the quality of IFCC News.

10.7 Website

EB appreciated the further improvements to the presentation of the home page as well as the rapid updates to website content.

10.20 Membership

EB noted that EJ completed his second term as Chair of CPD at the end of 2012. EB expressed its gratitude to EJ for his excellent leadership of the Division during this important period. EJ would be replaced by KA from January 2013 and Prof Edgard Delvin would become Vice Chair of CPD.

10.40 Other business

Official Journal of IFCC

After conducting a detailed tender exercise the CPD recommendation for the Official Journal of IFCC is to change from Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (De Gruyter Ed.) to Clinical Chimica Acta (Elsevier). The EB accepted the CPD recommendation and the switch will occur from August 2013 at the cessation of the current contract with De Gruyter.

IFCC Historian

EB noted that Peter Wilding (US) has been appointed as IFCC Historian and that he is reviewing current publications and will visit the IFCC Office in May 2013.

11.0 IFCC Awards

11.01 IFCC Awards Committee

EB received a report from HM on the suggested timetable for soliciting and evaluating IFCC Awards for 2014. June 1, 2013: call for nomination to national representatives and Presidents; November 30, 2013: close the nominations and distribute documentation to Awards committee; February 28, 2014: inform the President of IFCC of decisions so that he may inform the successful applicants; May 1, 2014: public announcement of successful applicants.

13.0 Special Projects and Task Forces

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

The TF-PLM will run the ICPLM as a satellite meeting to IFCC WorldLab 2014 in Istanbul

13.01.08 Task Force on POCT (TF-POCT)

The TF-POCT is proposing to organise a satellite meeting to IFCC WorldLab 2014 in Istanbul.

13.02 Professional Exchange Programmes

13.02.01 Professional Scientific Exchange Programmes (PSEP)

EB noted that four PSEP (Spain, Bulgaria, Colombia and Democratic Republic of Congo) and one PMEP (Kenya) have been approved during 2012. The report of the experiences will be published in IFCC News.

13.03 Roche Travel Scholarships

EB noted approval for the 2012 Roche Travel Scholarships (of which 22 scholarships to attend the GC). The participants to GC will be asked to report about this experience. EB will receive these reports and a summary will be published in IFCC News.

14.0 IFCC Statutes and Rules

EB received the second draft of revision of the IFCC Statutes and Rules. The campaign to overcome the rule “one country as full member for one nation” has to be continued. The big problem is how voting and the rule “one vote for country”. A document showing possible solutions is needed (GB). A demonstration election is being carried out using the Election Buddy process and the alternate vote system. The result will be declared and explained at the General Conference.

15.0 Financial Matters

15.1 Treasurer’s Report

BG reported that, as anticipated, 2012 had been a financially difficult year, due to the fact that no major congresses revenues were held and that the General Conference is expensive for IFCC. The global financial crisis also limited the business support on behalf of partner Companies. However, to date the financial outcome was better than the budget because all functional units had responded well to a request to contain expenditure. The annual accounts for 2012 will be discussed in detail at the next EB meeting in March 2013.

EB discussed the historical process for setting the annual budget. It agreed that BG should discuss alternative methods with Regional Organizations, Divisions, and TF to prepare a more accurate 2013 budget proposal.

16.0 Organisational Matters

16.3 Nominations Committee: P. Laitinen, M. Thomas, J. Hicks, L. Burnett, F. Herb, S.

Raymondo. EB approves the schedule for the Nominations Committee showed by the Chair Paivi Laitinen.

16.4 Annual Report

EB noted that the full version of the Annual Report has been published.

16.5 Handbook

EB noted that the Handbook for 2012-14 had been published.