

141st Meeting of the IFCC Executive Board March 31, April 1, 2020

Minutes

The 141st Meeting of the IFCC Executive Board was via Zoom conference call.

Participants:

EB Members

Maurizio Ferrari	(MF)	President
Khosrow Adeli	(KA)	President-Elect
David Kinniburgh	(DK)	Secretary
Tomris Ozben	(TO)	Treasurer
Rolf Hinzmann	(RH)	Corporate Members Representative (Roche)
Abderrazek Hedhili	(AH)	Arab Federation of Clinical Biology (AFCB)
Sunil Sethi	(SSE)	Asia-Pacific Fed for Clinical Biochemistry and Lab Med (APFCB)
Sverre Sandberg	(SSA)	European Fed of Clin Chem and Lab Med (EFLM)
Rosa Sierra-Amor	(RSA)	Latin-American Conf of Clin Biochemistry (COLABIOCLI)

Apologies

Ann Gronowski	(AG)	North American Fed of Clin Chem and Lab Med (NAFCC)
Adekunle Bashiru Okesina	(ABO)	African Federation of Clinical Chemistry (AFCC)

1.0 Preliminaries

1.0 Apologies for absence

AG and ABO were not able to attend on Mar 31. AG, ABO and RH were not able to attend on Apr 1.

1.0 Opening remarks from President

1.1.140 Minutes of Special Zoom meeting February 27, 2020

The revised minutes have been circulated to the EB for final review.

Strategic Plan: 2020-2023

KA distributed PP slides with his draft Strategic Plan and the details of the plan were presented and discussed on April 1, 2020.

The intention is for the IFCC to more directly impact healthcare and patient outcomes, to develop evidence on the value and impact of Lab Med in healthcare, to directly contribute to global lab quality, and make a major expansion of eLearning/Distance learning program.

There was general support for the strategic plan and agreement to move forward as soon as possible on some aspects of the plan. Further discussion on the details will be required. The strategic plan will be presented and discussed with the newly elected EB as soon as possible.

13.0 Special Projects and Task Forces

IFCC Task Force on COVID-19

The Task Force is intended to provide high quality information for IFCC Members and others on COVID testing and laboratory safety. The Chair is Prof. Lippi and other initial members have been identified. Other members with expertise will be invited from all IFCC Regional Federations. The name has been changed to "IFCC Task Force on COVID-19", and the ToR for the TF are being finalized. No budget should be required.

A special IFCC Information Guide has also been set up by KA on the website and will be updated weekly.

13.1.06 Task Force for Young Scientists (TF-YS)

Young Scientists Forum

The EB agreed to continue with the YS Forum at the Seoul Congress and to retain the budget for the Forum.

13.15 Task Force Corporate Members (TF-CM)

Provision of CM email addresses to TF-CM and direct contact with CMs

RH noted that the TF-CM appreciated the decision to provide Corporate Member email addresses, allowing them to communicate directly with all CMs.

Letter to CVS response to Entertainment question

A letter for the CVS will be drafted with very specific questions on what is allowed for entertainment at IFCC Congresses. Input will be obtained from the TF-CM and final approval of the letter by EB.

7.0 Committee on Congresses and Conferences (C-CC)

7.2 International Congresses of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (ICCCLM)

IFCC WorldLab Congresses

Request for proposals (RFP) for WorldLab 2026

New rules for WorldLab 2026 are in place. The release of the RFP for hosting the meeting will be delayed until summer when we hope members will be able to respond. It was reaffirmed that all Regions should have the opportunity to contribute to the WorldLab Congress.

7.2.24 IFCC WorldLab 2020, Seoul (KR)

Seoul, January 6-10, 2021

Update on planning for rescheduled Seoul congress

The decision to reschedule the Seoul congress to January 2021 was made on basis of the COVID pandemic, the availability of hotel and conference centres, and avoidance of cancellation penalties.

19.0 Meetings

19.80 Executive Board Meetings

EB Meetings 2020, 2021

AACC Chicago July

It is not certain that the AACC meeting will be held in July, but if it does go ahead we will have an EB meeting.

Milan area, Oct/Nov 2020.

Meetings with Division Chairs in 2020.

KA will meet with the Division Chairs via Zoom.

Frequency of Functional Group meetings for 2020 and 2021.

Functional Groups should hold their meetings at either WorldLab or EuroMedLab in 2021 only have one meeting, not reschedule meetings that could not be held in 2020. The use of Zoom meetings will be encouraged for all functional groups.

15.0 Financial Matters

15.3 Income and Expenditure

To receive the financial report from Tomris Ozben

The Audit is complete for 2019 and approved. Expenses so far have been minimal due to reduced meetings and travel. Officers were advised to try to get refunds for cancelled flights

and hotels from providers, but TO is refunding if they cannot. It is recognized that some individuals who are holding credits may not be able to use them and will ask for refunds at some time in the future. Additional investment of IFCC funds is being delayed due to market fluctuation with COVID. The budget for functional group meetings will not be moved to 2021.

16.0 Organisational Matters

16.4 Annual Report

Update on Annual Report for 2019

PB and DK are reviewing the Annual Report now.

6.0 International and Professional Organisations

6.1 World Health Organisation (WHO)

To receive update from SSA

Sverre attended a meeting with 25 individuals where a number of clinical and laboratory issues related to COVID-19 were discussed. SSA presented IFCC website and Task Force and it was well received. WHO has a COVID website too. WHO will put together an IVD group for COVID. SSA noted that one problem with respect to IFCC providing input to WHO, when requested, is that we have no formal mechanism to respond and we cannot be nimble in responding. This will be investigated.

11.00 Emerging Technology Division (ETD)

11.2.3 Committee on Mobile Health and Bioengineering in Laboratory Medicine (C-MHBLIM)

Request to hold 2 day POCT Conference in Rome March 15-16, 2021

The request is being reviewed.

4.0 Affiliate Members

4.4 Annual Dues for Affiliate Memberships

Update on revised plan for new dues calculation

Only a few Affiliate members have replied to the request for the number of members. Some of the Affiliated Members will have much higher dues now. It was previously agreed to look at individual situations and to apply the increases over time. In view of the difficult time with the COVID pandemic the increase will be maintain the same fees for 2020 and reconsider for 2021.

9.0 Education and Management Division (EMD)

9.2.10 Committee on Internet and Distance Learning (C-DL)

Update on the Pearls of Wisdom translation into Spanish

All agreements have been signed and the project can go forward now.

UNIVANTS

Update on UNIVANTS meeting

MF and KA attended a recent UNIVANTS meeting. They presented an update on IFCC activities. IFCC and UNIVANTS have a common goal in promoting the value of lab medicine. UNIVANTS is expanding their program to include regional awards.

10.0 Communications and Publications Division (CPD)

10.40 Other business

El Microscopio project – future plans for Global Radio

We are waiting for detailed plan and budget for the Global Radio.

12.0 IFCC Awards

12.1 Awards Committee

How to encourage more nominations for IFCC Awards

MF noted that while there were few nominations for each category, the nominations were high quality and deserving candidates.

5.0 Regional Organisations

Latin-American Confederation of Clinical Biochemistry (COLABIOCLI)

To receive a report from RSA

RSA met with the COLABIOCLI and made a presentation on the activities IFCC. COLABIOCLI is developing its strategic plan. There was a problem with the IFCC funds sent but this is being addressed. The planning for the Mexico Congress, Aug 2021, in the state of Leon, is underway. The COLABIOCLI report is attached.