

# 146<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the IFCC Executive Board September 17, 2020

## Minutes

The 146<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the IFCC Executive Board was held via Zoom Conference.

### Participants:

#### EB Members

Khosrow Adeli	(KA)	President
David Kinniburgh	(DK)	Secretary
Tomris Ozben	(TO)	Treasurer
Rolf Hinzmann	(RH)	Corporate Members Representative (Roche)
Adekunle Bashiru Okesina	(ABO)	African Federation of Clinical Chemistry (AFCC)
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)
Ann Gronowski	(AG)	North American Fed of Clin Chem and Lab Med (NAFCC)

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### 1.0 Preliminaries

Opening remarks from President

#### 1.1.145 Minutes of the Zoom meeting of July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020

The draft minutes have been circulated and accepted.

### Strategic Plan: Implementation of the New Strategic Plan:

#### Formation of New Taskforces:

KA is working on the calls for nominations for the 3 primary TFs and they will be posted shortly.

#### 13.1.17 Taskforce on Global Newborn Screening (TF-NBS)

#### 13.1.18 Taskforce on Global Lab Quality (TF-GLQ)

This topic includes 3 areas: IQC, EQA and global reference intervals. These could be under one TF or could be split into different working groups. The other functional groups that are working in these or related areas (for example the SD committee on reference intervals) could be asked to work on specific areas. The TF should coordinate and consolidate all IFCC efforts in the area of quality. Will issue a call for proposals from companies to provide materials and coordinate transportation and software. Ultimately, the TF could also consider

accreditation programs as part of its mandate. The TF will consider these suggestions and make recommendations. KA has had discussions with a number of IFCC individuals, including SSA and A. Haliassos, and the next task is to select TF membership. A first step will also be a survey to identify participating countries.

### **13.1.21 Taskforce on Global eLearning/eAcademy (TF-GEL)**

The first webinar was held on September 23, the second for October 14, on Global Lab Quality, and 2 more will be held before the end of 2020. Rojeet Shrestha (C-leL Social Media Coordinator) is cooperating with the office and WorkCast platform for webinar preparation. The webinars will be recorded and uploaded in the IFCC website. The C-DL (under EMD) will be closed and active members will move to the new TF. The C-leL (under CPD) will focus on e-communication/website/social media.

## **2.0 Full Members**

### **2.4 Annual Dues for Full Members**

*Myanmar Medical Technologist Association (MMTA) - dues payment*

The anticipated membership dues will be very high based on the association membership count provided. KA feels that the membership fee schedule should not discourage membership, especially for developing countries, and will propose a revised fee schedule for the next EB meeting. This will also need to be approved by Council. PB, TO and SSE will establish an interim fee for Myanmar for next meeting. TO will contact the MMTA for more information on membership.

## **3.0 Corporate Members**

### **3.2 Applications for Corporate Membership**

*JSC Megalab – Georgia*

The company appears to be a corporate lab, part of a hospital group. The EB voted to accept this new member (majority).

## **5.0 Regional Organisations**

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

RSA submitted a written report on the many COLABIOCLI activities that utilized IFCC funds. RSA also reported that 8 of 12 Pearls documents have been translated, 3 have been recorded, and 5 others are in progress.

## **6.0 International and Professional Organisations**

### **6.22 Bureau International des Poids et Mesures (BIPM)**

*IFCC-BIPM MoU*

The MoU has been signed. There is no financial commitment at this time.

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

### **7.2 International Congresses of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (ICCLM)**

*IFCC WorldLab Congresses*

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

*Seoul, January 6-10, 2021*

*Specialized Virtual Conference in 2021*

For the WorldLab Seoul conference, four possible plans have been proposed. 1. A Full in-person meeting, which is not considered possible now. 2. A small in-person regional meeting with a large virtual component, which is not considered possible due to COVID quarantine rules. 3. A full virtual meeting. 4. Postpone to 2022 and go ahead with a specialized 2 day COVID virtual meeting in 2021. It was confirmed that the Seoul conference centre is available June 26-30, 2022 and this would be a much better date than January. Moving to June is preferable to holding the meeting at another location. The scientific program should be updated. SSE expressed concern about June meeting being too close to APFCB congress

and the impact on their attendance. The EB agreed to help the other regional meetings that may be impacted. An announcement will be made in 1-2 weeks.

The specialty 2 day virtual conference on COVID would be a separate IFCC meeting in 2021, and a new contract will need to be signed. The TF-COVID will organize the meeting content working with MZ. KA will draft preliminary program and the Regions will be invited to participate.

The Council meeting will most likely have to be organized as a virtual meeting and could be scheduled close to the COVID meeting. The Awards could be presented either at the in conjunction with the Council meeting (virtual) or postponed to WL 2022. The IFCC Young Scientist (YSF) Forum will be organized in 2022 before the WorldLab Congress in Seoul.

The EB supported to change the WorldLab date to June 26-30, 2022 and hold a specialty COVID virtual meeting in 2021.

#### *WorldLab guidelines*

The draft guidelines will be circulated to the EB via email for review and approval.

7.3.1.16 Asia Pacific Federation for Clinical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine - APFCB  
APFCB Australia, 2022  
Sydney – NSW, 15-22 October 2022  
*IFCC Symposia proposal*

7.3.4.25 Latin American Confederation of Clinical Biochemistry -COLABIOCLI  
COLABIOCLI León – Guanajuato, Mexico, 2022  
March 28 – April 2, 2022  
*IFCC Symposia proposal*

The EB policy will be to sponsor 3 symposia for each regional congress, as chosen from proposals presented to the COC from the Divisions and EB. The COC is not required to choose a symposia from the EB and may choose 3 symposia from the Divisions.

7.3.2.25 EuroMedLab 2021, Munich (DE)  
Munich, May 16-20, 2021  
It was agreed that it is too soon to consider rescheduling of this meeting but a decision should be made by the end of the year, and the congress should include a virtual option. IFCC, EFLM and the local society will make the final decision.

#### *Follow up on DGKL Annual meeting 2021*

There has not been a response yet but we expect to hear soon.

7.3.6.16 Arab Federation of Clinical Biology (AFCB)  
AFCB Congress 2021  
AH reported that this congress will be cancelled due to COVID and political issues.

## **8.0 Scientific Division (SD)**

8.1 SD Executive Committee

8.3.53 Working Group “Immunosuppressive Drugs (WG-ID)”  
*Approved MoU with "The International Association of Therapeutic Drug Monitoring and Clinical Toxicology- IATDMCT"*

The MoU has been signed and will strengthen the toxicology expertise and activities in IFCC. It opens up the possibility of joint conferences, specialty conferences, webinars, and eAcademy content.

8.3.61 Working Group “Development of a Reference Measurement System PT/INR Standardization” (WG-PT-INR)

*Approval of the MoU*

In general the EB supports this initiative but there are some issues that need to be addressed in the MoU. KA, TO, SSA and DK will review the concerns and circulate revised document to the EB for final approval.

8.13 Joint Committee for Traceability in Laboratory Medicine (JCTLM)

*IFCC Representative to the JCTLM Executive Committee, Gary Myers 2<sup>nd</sup> term approval.*

This matter will be addressed via email.

**10.0 Communications and Publications Division (CPD)**

10.9.2 IFCC Booth

*AACC virtual conference – IFCC virtual booth*

Deferred to the next EB meeting

**13.0 Task Forces**

13.1.16 Task Force on COVID 19

KA stated that the “IFCC Interim Guidelines on COVID-19 Testing in Clinical Laboratories” are almost ready, and will be published as well as uploaded to the IFCC website.

**19.0 Meetings**

19.80 Executive Board Meetings

*EB Meetings 2020, 2021*

Future meetings will be dependent upon COVID travel restrictions.

The following meetings are tentative:

Lake Maggiore: March 4-5, 2021 full days, 6<sup>th</sup> ½ day am.

Munich at EuroMedLab Congress: To be defined

**16.0 Organisational Matters**

16.40 Other business

*IFCC office staff planning 2021*

Discussion deferred to a future meeting. If possible, a meeting in the Milan office will be held in the fall to address this, as well as the next budget, the issue of auditors.

A Doodle poll will be sent out to determine the best dates for future monthly EB meetings for this year.

*Air Travel Expense*

There was a discussion regarding the proposed change to the airfare expense claim for the EB. An email proposal was previously sent to the EB but it was not ratified. PB and DK will verify the previous email discussion. Those EB members still on the call (had quorum) supported the proposal that the president be allowed to claim for a business class ticket when flying for more than 6 hours, to a maximum of 3,500 euros. Other EB members would be allowed to book an upgradeable economy ticket, (Air Canada Flex ticket), with a cost maximum around 2000-2500 euros. It was however agreed that EB members can contact the President or Treasurer and receive permission to purchase higher upgradeable fares under special circumstances.