

164th Meeting of the IFCC Executive Board February 27 & 28, 2023

Summary Minutes

The 164th Meeting of the IFCC Executive Board was held at the IFCC Office, Milan.

Participants

EB Members:

Khosrow Adeli	(KA)	President
David Kinniburgh	(DK)	Secretary
Alexander Haliassos	(AHA)	Treasurer
Joseph Passarelli	(JP)	Corporate Members Representative (ROCHE)
Adekunle Bashiru Okesina	(ABO)	African Federation of Clinical Chemistry (AFCC)
Abderrazek Hedhili	(AH)	Arab Federation of Clinical Biology (AFCB)
Endang Hoyaranda	(EH)	Asia-Pacific Fed for Clinical Biochemistry and Lab Med (APFCB)
Tomris Ozben	(TO)	European Fed of Clin Chem and Lab Med (EFLM)
Ana María Lena Rodríguez	(AMLR)	Latin-American Conf of Clin Biochemistry (COLABIOCLI)
Ted Dunn	(TD)	North American Fed of Clin Chem and Lab Med (NAFCC)

1.0 Preliminaries

1.0 Opening remarks from President

KA welcomed Ted Dunn, replacing Stephen Hill as the representative for NAFCC for the 2023 term. David Grenache from the AACC will be the NAFCC representative for the next term. TO attended her first EB meeting as President Elect, and Ana Maria Semundic will replace TO as the EFLM representative to the EB. Mario Plebani will be the EFLM representative for the next term. Endang is now officially representing the APFCB and Tony Badrick will be next representative. Trica Ravalico is expected to be the next Corp Rep to the EB, replacing JP. See 5.0 Regional Organization for voting details.

Congratulations to AHA for another term as Treasurer, and to Sergio Bernardini as the Secretary for the next term.

Website Redevelopment

The new website is now completed and will go live March 1, 2023. There are significant improvements to the appearance and functionality, and behind the scenes to improve the content management system. AMLR noted that the reference to the Council meeting every 3 years will need to be updated, which may require a change to the IFCC Statutes. **The EB was asked to review the new website and report any issues or required changes.** The e-Academy website, other smaller websites and databases are also being updated.

Changes to Insoft agreement

Insoft, the previous IT provider, has agreed to continue to provide support for some IT functionality during the migration to the new provider, Digiwedo.

Updates on Dubai 2024 WorldLab

The COC membership was finalized and met the first week of December. The SCC and ISAB committees have also been finalized. There is also a United Arab Emirates Advisory Group. The EB agreed that there will be no increase to the Exhibitor fees.

Rome 2023 EuroMedLab COC update – Accreditation of Scientific Program

The last COC meeting was Thursday, March 2. The expectation is for a very successful meeting, with a strong scientific program, good attendance, a large exhibition, good sponsorship and a very good income for IFCC and other partners. The meeting will be accredited by the new EFLM CPECS accreditation program for continuing education credits. **A promotional video has been prepared and will be advertised via an IFCC broadcast email, and posted on the new IFCC website.**

IFCC Professional Exchange Program

The budget has been doubled for the PEP. Nine of the current 31 applications have been approved. There were many very good candidates and additional grants could have been awarded if funds were available. Additional host laboratories are needed.

IFCC Virtual Platform

The platform is now being used routinely without any major problems. There is a learning curve, but Paola has provided a document to help users. One issue is that only 17 individuals can actively participate at the same time (listening and presenting) which is a problem for larger meetings. Many others can listen but cannot participate. **The Office will find out if there are other options available.**

IFCC-JCTLM-ICHCLR Relationship/Concerns/Proposed Changes

The Chair of SD, Christa, now sits on the JCTLM Board. Discussions are still ongoing with the ICHCLR regarding working with the SD on Working Groups.

Minor updates to IFCC Conference Guidelines: WorldLab and EuroMedLab

The Current President in office at the time of the conference will be co-Chair of COC. The IFCC President at the time of the conference will be the Conference President. The EB agreed that the current IFCC President (Conference President) and President-Elect will be on the COC.

New Guidelines for Preparation of the Scientific Programme for an IFCC-EFLM EuroMedlab Congress and the IFCC WorldLab Congress

Guidelines for the preparation of the scientific program for IFCC congresses have been developed to ensure consistency from meeting to meeting and improved communication. They have been shared with the Dubai SPC. **EB members should review the document and communicate any concerns or suggestions to KA.**

Potential changes to IFCC Election By-Laws

Changes will be proposed to the by-laws to specifically name other professional groups as prospective members, and to broaden IFCC membership to other areas of Laboratory Medicine in addition to clinical chemistry, who would be added as affiliate members. In the future it may be a good idea to change the IFCC name to the International Federation for Laboratory Medicine (IFLM). The second change is the election of the EB officers, such that the maximum time in office should be 2 terms (in the same position), for a maximum of 6 years total and not just 6 consecutive years. Secondly, that individuals cannot be nominated for more than one position in the same EB election cycle. Also, the Regional

Federation Representative should be a member of that Federation. It was noted that this stipulation is already in the By-Laws and the Peruvian candidate should not have been allowed to run as the Regional Federation representative. The President, Secretary and Treasurer should be nominated and elected at the same time. The Regional Federation Representatives should be elected at the same time. The Corporate Representative can be elected at a separate time. A consideration is to allow the elected Treasurer and Secretary to be observers on the EB a year prior to assuming office, via virtual attendance. This could also be allowed for Regional Federation Representatives. Voting will be in October of the year prior to President-Elect taking position. The EB agreed to the proposed changes. **KA will update the document for EB review.**

New IFCC Taskforce on Environmental Impact of Lab Medicine: Terms of Reference and Call for Nominations (Review of nominations received as of February 20th)

The Office has received several nominations and a summary of candidates is being prepared by Smeralda, **to be reviewed by KA, DK, AHA and TO for recommendation to the EB.** There is also a corporate representative nomination from Roche. It was suggested that this committee could organize the proposed conference on Environmental Impact of Lab Medicine, as proposed by Sergio Bernardini.

Proposal for a joint IFCC-Chinese Society of Laboratory Medicine (CSLM)

Conference on Precision Laboratory Medicine - November 8-10, 2023

KA is planning a joint conference on precision medicine with the Chinese Society of Laboratory Medicine. The income from the meeting will be shared 50:50 between IFCC and Chinese society. It was noted that while China is a major market for most corporate members there is little notice to allow for companies to sponsor this meeting. KA noted that sponsorship will come primarily from Chinese companies. It was noted that attending a meeting in China will be a problem for some delegates in some countries.

Proposal for a "2nd IFCC virtual meeting on COVID-19" (Fall 2023) – proposed by Giuseppe Lippi - TF-COVID 19

EB members asked what the topic will be, if it will include pandemics in general and other threats, and if it would be in-person or virtual. Concern was expressed as to how many people will be interested in paying for and attending a conference on COVID. It was also noted that there is not sufficient time to allow companies to sponsor and be involved in this event. The EB was not too enthusiastic about this request. **KA will discuss with Giuseppe about a broader topic (pandemics in general and emergency preparedness) and determine if he is interested.**

Global MEDLAB Week 2023 – Plans by the Committee on Public Relations

Last year's event was successful and plans are in place for this year, being led by the Committee on Public Relations. Another advertising company from Ecuador has made a proposal to promote the event through videos and pamphlets, at 1/10 of the previous cost.

APFCB request for IFCC support for a new regional federation office in Australia

KA, DK and AHA have discussed this and suggest that the APFCB could use up to \$10,000 of their annual IFCC funds for this, but not all of it, since the majority of those funds should be used for educational purposes. IFCC cannot provide additional funds for this, as this would establish a precedent for other Regions. This should be a one-time funding situation and not regular funding to support their Office. The EB supported this.

MOU with FIFBCML-Francophone Federation

MOU with Balkan Clinical Laboratory Federation collaboration

KA will draft an MoU for FIFBCML, EQALM and the Balkans Federation.

WASPaLM collaboration (WASPaLM Symposium at WorldLab 2024 in Dubai)

WASPALM wanted to have a symposium in Rome but this is not possible and instead a symposium will be organized for Dubai. IFCC supports accommodation and meals for speakers and WASPALM supports travel, for 3-4 persons.

New initiative on development of IFCC Practice Guidelines in Laboratory Medicine – March 1st meeting

This meeting was held on Mar 1, 2023.

1.1.162 Minutes of 162nd Meeting Brussels – October 26th-27th
Draft minutes were circulated.
Review of the Summary version is in progress. Action items were reviewed.

1.1.163 Minutes of 163rd Meeting December 14th
Draft minutes were circulated.
Review of the Summary version is in progress. Action items were reviewed.

15.00 Finances

15.2 2023 Budget proposal

The IFCC Budget is prepared for 2023, projecting a deficit of 484,128.48CHF, but in reality, with reduced expenses and increased conference will realize a healthy surplus. The EB voted to accept the budget with the revision to include the existing corporate donations as a carry-over, or reserve fund, asset, etc that is applied to the budget deficit and reduces the current year deficit. The EB met with KPMG and they confirmed that the previous income for specific SD projects should be reported as an equity, or reserve fund, or carry over income for subsequent years and applied to any budgeted deficit, on the bottom line. It should not be just shown as an expense and then not spent. KPMG can audit the IFCC meetings with MZ, regardless of location around the world. KPMG stated that IFCC does not need our financial records to be audited because we use an independent financial company to prepare our finances. KPMG can recommend an auditor if the Swiss Commercial Register requires this.

Online Expense Claim Form

The Office and AHA will work with Digiwedo to develop an application so expense claims can be submitted, and then managed and paid, online.

13.0 Task Forces

13.1.17 Task Force on Global Newborn Screening (TF-NBS)

The new Liaison will be Ted Dunn. South African and Latin American workshops with clinical experts and local government representatives in 2023 were approved.

13.1.18 Task Force on Global Lab Quality (TF-GLQ)

The pilot project is completed with the first 10 countries and 50 labs. More than 40 labs have reported and the program was successful. One issue was the reporting of results which has been improved for the next phase of the project, with an increase to 100 labs in the same countries. It was hoped that OneWorld Accuracy could reduce shipment costs with fewer shipments but they need to ship 4 times a year based on their receipt of supplies and the shipping schedule for all other labs. AHA will pay OneWorld Accuracy at the same frequency as last year – after the shipment of materials.

13.1.19 Task Force on Outcome Studies in Lab Med (TF-OSLM)

Study grant agreements

Smeralda was advised that she can send out the revised agreements for the grants. A cover letter needs to go to the investigator who is asked to contact their institution to set up the grant account. Their legal department may want changes to the agreements, and we

may need some confirmation that the funds were received. Five of 55 applications were approved. Funds are in the in new budget for 5 more grants of 10,000 each.

Database for literature on outcome studies

The estimated cost to develop a database for the TF-OSLM references was quite high and alternatives to find a more cost-effective solution are being explored. It was noted that the AACC also has a Working Group focused on the value of laboratory medicine and the EB agreed that the TF-OSLM can share the literature search with the AACC to avoid duplication of effort. The TF-OSLM is also working on publications and a proposal to present a symposia in Dubai.

13.1.20 Task Force Global Ref Intervals database (TF-GRID)

Global Reference Interval Database

The TF-GRID is finalizing a database for Global Reference Intervals and expect the first phase to be live in 6-9 months.

13.1.21 Task Force on Global eLearning/eAcademy (TF-GEL)

IFCC eLearning Accreditation Program

Nader, DK and Smeralda are working on the accreditation program for Webinars, the Adaptive Learning Program, and other IFCC educational events, and progress is good but can hopefully be sped up.

IFCC Accreditation Program (Rome 2023)

The accreditation for CE credits for Rome will be through the EFLM CPECS program. KA feels there need for an IFCC program.

IFCC Webinars

AMLR reported that TF-GEL is checking credentials of presenters to be sure they are qualified experts in area they are presenting. Presentations are being developed for the e-Academy and Website is being upgraded. The list of experts is being updated.

Adaptive Learning Program

PB will check to see that a link to Adaptive Learning Program is put on the IFCC Website. The Adaptive Learning is being translated in Chinese and will be translated into Spanish.

13.1.22 New Task Force on Environmental Impact of Laboratory Medicine

The call for nominations ended on February 20th, and 17 nominations were received and KA, DK, AHA and TO will review the nominations to recommend membership. DK and AH will be liaisons to this TF, and AH could join the TF after his term with the EB has ended.

13.1.1 Task Force on Ethics (TF-E)

The TF-E has prepared an article for the eNews and has offered to submit an article for the guidelines project. The opinion of the EB was that we still need this TF as ethics is an ongoing and evolving issue. The TF can reconsider its scope and goals when the new Chair begins.

13.1.6 Task Force Young Scientists (TF-YS)

The requests for membership renewal were approved, including S. Fares (Chair), G. Sancesario, C. Imperiali and I.W. Masfufa.

13.1.12 Task Force History (TF-H)

IFCC 70th anniversary History book

Mathias Muller and Bernard Gouget are the two members of the TF-H. A special volume was prepared for the 70th anniversary. The final version of this IFCC History Book is expected to be ready for Rome.

13.1.15 **Task Force Corporate Members (TF-CM)**

A question was asked at the TF-CM regarding organizing corporate meetings while at IFCC events, for example the Snibe event where KA and TO presented at the Snibe event during the GC. KA responded there are no rules against this and Snibe did not invite delegates attending the General Conference, except for the five speakers from IFCC. Snibe did apply to the IFCC for Auspices for this event. JP also suggested that there may be a problem with the MedTech rules since speakers were financed by IFCC but the benefit went to only Snibe. It was agreed that there should not be overlap or scheduling conflict between corporate events at IFCC events. Guidelines will be prepared for IFCC events to provide direction to avoid confusion. **JP will report back to the TF-CM that guidelines will be developed to advise Corporate Members on events that are conducted in association with IFCC events.**

13.1.16 **Task Force on COVID 19**

KA will ask the TF-COVID 19 to make final recommendation on pandemic preparation and global risks, and thereafter this TF should probably be closed.

KA will speak to Dr. Lippi on this matter.

2.0 **Full Member Societies**

2.2 Applications

There is an application from the Armenia Association of Medical Laboratory Diagnostics Specialists, and there was no objection from the EB to approve the application.

Mongolia is also expected to submit a request for membership.

2.3 Possible withdrawal:

It was agreed to wait until the end of the year with reminders and hope to contact with overdue members and affiliate members in Rome.

3.0 **Corporate Members**

3.2 Applications

i-SENS (KR) - 3.1.124 approved membership

United Robotics GmbH – membership request pending. JP reviewed again and this company is a OEM provider to larger companies. There may be an opportunity for corporate members if these type of companies attend IFCC congresses and can network with formal IVD companies. This would be good for corporates at meeting. EB approved this company and sees value in this type of company as corporate members. This should be a focus for MZ in advertising the IFCC congresses. **KA will talk to MZ about this.**

3.40 Corporate Members Advisory Board

An advisory board has been established for Rome and JP will discuss further with the TF-CM. A similar body will be established for Dubai.

4.0 **Affiliate Members**

4.4. Annual Dues

Update 2022 dues

It was agreed to wait until the end of the year with reminders and hope to contact with overdue members in Rome.

5.0 Regional Organisations

Regional Federations updates:

5.1. Asia-Pacific Federation for Clinical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine (APFCB) EH provided the following update.

1. Change of EB effective into office by 1 January 2023:
 - a. President: Tony Badrick (AACB)
 - b. Vice-President: Samuel Vasikaran (AACB)
 - c. Immediate Past-President: Endang Hoyaranda (IACC)
 - d. Secretary: Praveen Sharma (ACBI)
 - e. Treasurer: Raja Elina (MACB)
 - f. Corporate Representative: Douglas Chung (Abbott)
2. New Committee Chairs: 5 committees are now present instead of 4 – Education and Lab Management is now split into Education Committee and Lab Management Committee:
 - a. Scientific: Tze Ping Loh – Singapore
 - b. Education: Cui Wei – China
 - c. Lab Management: Tjan Sian Hwa – Indonesia
 - d. Communication and Publication: Pradeep Dabla – India
 - e. Congress and Conferences: Woei Horng Fang - Taiwan
3. EB decided to meet online each month and have 3-4 Council meetings a year.
4. Move of secretariat from Singapore to Australia is in discussion with the AACB. AACB has agreed to support APFCB with secretarial services.
5. A new website creation has been finalized and will be launched in a short time.
6. A plan is discussed to set up an APFCB Young Scientists Task Force
7. The EB gives its appreciation to IFCC for granting the utilization of the grant from IFCC in support to the secretarial office which will be newly set up in Australia.
8. On the Precision Medicine Conference in China: APFCB EB is positive to collaborate and share the possibility of providing speaker (s) for this conference.

Replacement of Regional Federation Representative

Dr. Endang Hoyaranda was proposed as the APFCB Representative to the IFCC EB for the 2023 term. The Council voting on this EB change and the other changes is on-going until February 28th.

5.2. Latin American Confederation of Clinical Biochemistry (COLABIOCLI)

Radio El Microscopio

The IFCC funding for Radio El Microscopio has ended and the EB suggested that they fund raise for themselves. It was suggested that the annual IFCC grant to the federation should not be used to fund the Radio program.

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

Replacement of Regional Federation Representative

The EFLM has recommended Prof. Ana-Maria Šimundić as the EFLM Regional Federation Representative to the IFCC EB, and the EB endorsed the recommendation. Council voting with EFLM Societies is scheduled from March 15th to April 15th. The proceedings of the EFLM Strategic Conference have now been published, and the EFLM is planning for the next Strategic Conference. Two new taskforces: Direct to Consumer Testing, and Emergency Preparedness have been established. An MoU has been signed with the Arab Federation of Biology which will include rotating meetings between the two groups.

5.5. Arab Federation of Clinical Biology (AFCB)

The new Board, and new President Christian Haddad, have been elected.

5.6. African Federation of Clinical Chemistry (AFCC)
ABO provided the following update.

Elections: Dr Charles-Davies assumed post as the new president of AFCC with effect from 2023 January. Voting for other board members is ongoing and we hope to conclude soon.

Conferences: The last region conference of AFCC was held in Zambia in November 2021 and we enjoyed support from IFCC. IFCC supported the conference by approving the participation of 3 IFCC Committees (Emerging Technologies, Lab Mx and POCT). The conference was well attended and a huge success.

National society of Zambia had their annual conference in December 14th to 18th December. They were successful in obtaining 2 international speakers through the IFCC VLP program. These were Prof Erasmus (South Africa and Prof Okesina (Nigeria). 30 young scientists were supported to attend this conference.

Webinars: a number of webinars were organized in collaboration with several academic institutions such as the Empower School of Health, Switzerland. For future webinars It was suggested that a Webinar Committee be appointed, members to be drawn from the AFCC member societies.

Appointment of Committees:

The formation of 3 subcommittees was recommended.

- (a) Education and Training – Mr G Akalu
- (b) Standardisation and Traceability – Prof Anetor
- (c) Point of Care Testing – Prof Erasmus

Web-Site Revamp:

The Board recommended that another company be engaged to revamp the website. The President obtained 3 quotes from South Africa and one of the 3 companies is expected to be chosen in 2023.

Sponsorships:

AFCC supported young scientists to:

- (a) IFCC Conference on COVID, 2021
- (b) POCT Africa Conference, 2021
- (c) BSZ AFCC Conference, 2021
- (d) 1st Africa Cardio Metabolic Conference, 2022
- (e) IFCC WorldLab, Seoul, 2022
- (f) BSZ Annual Conference, 2022

Board Meeting:

The IFCC kindly agreed for the Board members to come to the General Conference in Brussels from 29-30th October. Accommodation was funded by IFCC and air tickets paid by AFCC. Early in 2022 face to face meeting was held in Ethiopia. The face to face board meeting planned for Livingstone, Zambia could not take place due to lack of quorum and poor connectivity.

Future Plans: Secretariat and constitutional amendment and membership derive.

The board resolved that Zambia will host the secretariat and we hope that this will improve our record keeping and continuity. We plan for amendment of our constitution to tally with our current practice most especially in relation to Presidential election.

5.7 North American Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (NAFCC)
Replacement for Stephen Hill

Dr. Ted Dunn (CA) was confirmed as NAFCC Regional Federation Representative at the EB for the 2023 term.

There was a discussion on what the CSCC and AACC can do to promote the Rome Congress.

6.0 International and Professional Organisations

6.1 ABO, the WHO Liaison, reported that the WHO had requested input on the diagnostic methods for streptococcus A antigen and cryptococcus antigen measurement. ABO forwarded the request to the IFCC Divisions for their information and any response by the deadline of March 13, 2023.

7.0 Committee on Congresses and Conferences (C-CC)

7.2.27 IFCC WorldLab 2026

The call for bids has been issued with a deadline of April 30th, 2023

7.3.2.26 EuroMedLab 2025. Brussels (BE)

Dates: to be confirmed

The EFLM has proposed members for the COC and SPC, and PB will arrange for a call for nominations for a corporate member for the COC. The COC membership will include the Belgian National Society representative as President (Damien Gruson), KA as Chair of SPC, Alexander as Treasurer, and one C-CC member (Antonio Buno Soto). The SPC representatives from IFCC will include KA as Chair, plus two members from the Scientific Division (Christa Cobbaert, Kostas Makris).

7.20 Membership

Two new Members were approved via email for 2023-2025: Woei-hong Fang (TW) and Vladimir Palicka (CZ)

8.0 Scientific Division (SD)

8.2.6 Committee on Nomenclature, Properties and Units (C-NPU) in collaboration with International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC)

Agreement proposal IFCC-IUPAC and SNOMED for C-NPU database

The EB approve the request to create a mirror version of parts of the C-NPU database which will be available to SNOMED users. There will be no cost for this.

Proposal for Working Group on "Standardization of foetal haemoglobin (HbF)"

Concern was expressed that this is not a priority, and how accurate this measurement needs to be. The EB concerns will be addressed to Christa directly so this matter can be closed.

8.20 Membership

Approved via email.

8.2.25 Standardization of Thyroid Function Tests (C-STFT)

K. Van Uytvanghe (BE) was approved as Chair (2023-2025).

8.3.35 Standardization of Hemoglobin (WG-HbA2)

C.G. Arsene (DE) was approved as Chair (2023-2025).

8.3.43 Standardisation of Troponin I (WG-TNI)

C. Swart (DE) was approved as Chair (2023-2025).

- 8.3.54 Apolipoproteins by mass spectrometry (WG-APO MS)
L.R. Ruhaak (NL) was approved as Chair 2023-2025).
- 8.3.55 Pancreatic Enzymes (WG-PE)
A. Staaden (DE) was approved as Chair for 1 year, 2023.
- 8.3.64 Working Group on “Natriuretic Peptides” (WG-NP)
A. Reid (UK) approved as Chair (2023-2025).
- 8.40 JCTLM Task Group for knowledge transfer – SD Chair CC request
Continuity of reference materials.
Christa identified an issue with laboratory materials. These materials are not being kept up to date, similar to problems with shortages of supplies all over the world. The problem is exacerbated by the economic, political, world conflicts, etc that are creating supply problems, and lack of communication and lack of coordination, and monitoring by IFCC or some other body. The question is how to address this. Christa will discuss this issue with the SD and proactively ask for a plan of action. Potential stakeholders include Corporate Members, WHO, NIST, etc.

Christa would like to set up a WG to identify education tools so SD members have this information to do their jobs in IFCC. There is no one available with the knowledge or experience that is willing to take on this task, and Christa would like to pay a contractor (a previous IFCC SD officer) to do this. The EB approved this as a short-term consultant if no other suitable volunteer can be found.

JP reported that a proposal for a symposium in Dubai, on automated mass spectrometry, has been submitted by a colleague at Roche as a pre-conference event. The audience includes suppliers and delegates. **Christa will ask the SPC to consider the proposal.**

9.0 Education and Management Division (EMD)

- 9.4.1 Visiting Lecturer Programme (VLP)
ABBOTT sponsorship request is on-going.

- 9.40 Other
Document Cloud storage
Cloud storage for functional group documents is now available. **DK will follow up with Smeralda on the advertisement and training for this feature, and the extent of use.**

IFCC Website Link to Adaptive Learning Program

DK will follow up with the Office to have a link to the Adaptive Learning Program put onto the new IFCC Website.

10.0 Communications and Publications Division (CPD)

- 10.8. Related Journals
10.8.2.2 Clinica Chimica Acta (CCA) – Agreement approved (2024-2028)
The agreement with Clinica Chimica Acta (CCA) has been renewed until 2028.

11.00 Emerging Technologies Division (ETD)

- 11.3 Working Groups
New Working Group proposal:
The Health Technologies Assessment (HTA) Core Model for Laboratory Medicine
WG-HTA

This request will be considered and a final decision made at the meeting in Rome.

- 11.40 Request from Sergio (ETD) to hold conference on “Laboratory Medicine in monitoring the environment impact on Public Health”
This request will be identified as a deliverable for the new TF on the Environmental Impact of Laboratory Medicine, working with Sergio.

12.00 IFCC Awards

WL Rome 2023 and Dubai 2024

Proposal for Awards’ distribution and sponsorship update:

- 12.1.1. IFCC Howard Morris Distinguished Clinical Chemist Award - sponsored by *Yashraj Biotechnology Ltd.* – **Dubai (support received)**
- 12.1.2. IFCC Distinguished International Service Award (1981-1987), since 1990 IFCC Henry Wishinsky Award for Distinguished International Service - sponsored by *Siemens* – **Rome – support to be received**
- 12.1.3. IFCC Award for Distinguished Contributions in Education – sponsored by *Abbott Diagnostics* – **Rome – (support received)**
- 12.1.4. IFCC Abbott Award for Significant Contributions to Molecular Diagnostics - sponsored by *Abbott Molecular* - **Dubai – (support received)**
- 12.1.5. Distinguished Award for Laboratory Medicine and Patient Care (ex-Sekisui) – **Dubai** – call for sponsorship issued
- 12.1.6. IFCC Robert Schaffer Award for Outstanding Achievements in the Development of Standards for Use in Laboratory Medicine - sponsored by *NIST* and *CLSI* – **Rome (support received)**
- 12.1.7. IFCC Young Investigator Award – sponsored by *SNIBE* - **Rome (support received)**
- 12.1.8. IFCC Distinguished Award for Contributions to Cardiovascular Diagnostics - sponsored by *Hytest* – **Dubai (pending support confirmation)**
- 12.1.9. Gérard Siest-Biologie Prospective Award - sponsored by *Biologie Prospective* – **Dubai (support received)**
- 12.1.10 IFCC Distinguished Women Scientist Award for Contribution to In-Vitro Diagnostics – sponsored by *Yashraj Biotechnology Ltd.* - **Dubai – (support received)**

Selected Awardees for Rome Awards and discussion

Concerns have been expressed that IFCC awards should be more broadly distributed among IFCC member societies globally There was agreement that as an international organization the EB should do something to make the IFCC Awards more globally equitable, diverse and inclusive. KA will be the next chair of the Awards Committee and the terms of reference will be changed to limit the number of nominations from any country to a maximum of two. The IFCC nomination committee could also be proactive in encouraging more nominations.

The EB accepted the award winners as selected by the Nominating Committee.

13.03 Scholarships

Roche sponsorship support has been confirmed.

The call for scholarship applications has been released and the deadline is March 1, 2023. Thus far there are 90 applications with more coming. The YS Scholarships (10 Roche and 40 IFCC and 15 EFLM) will be selected by a committee of KA, AHA, TO, Paivi and Maurizio. The committee will ensure that there is no duplication of scholarships from EFLM and IFCC.

- 13.2. IFCC Professional Exchange Programmes (PEP)

In mid-March a second call for applications will go out with same letter as last time, and close by May 5, 2023. Individuals not previously successful need to reapply and existing applications will not be automatically considered for the next round of scholarship awards.

18.0 IFCC Foundation for Emerging Nations (FEN)

Status, board renewal, future goals

After discussion it was decided not to ask FEN to close, and additional efforts will be made to find donations. IFCC may also be able to use the FEN funds or transfer the requests to FEN for sponsorship. There is 30,000 CHF in FEN now and we need to keep some funds in the account (15,000) for ongoing fees to maintain registration of FEN.

19.0 Meetings

19.1.24 Council meeting
Munich Minutes – in review

19.1.25 **WorldLab Rome**
The IFCC Council meeting is planned for WL Dubai in 2024

19.80 EB Meetings & International Relationships

Executive Board Meetings 2023 – in person
May 25-26, 2023 in Rome after the WL/EML Congress

Other in-person meetings

In person EB meetings will be organized at the AACC Conference, July 23-24, 2023, and in Prague, October 15-16, 2023.

Executive Board Meetings 2023 – conference calls
To be planned as necessary

16.0 Organisational Matters

16.1 IFCC Office

Additional Office staff

Two candidates were interviewed, and Elisa Fossati was selected as the new IFCC Office staff member. Sofia will remain on staff for a one-year period.

Meeting with Office staff

The EB met with the IFCC Office Staff to review the status of a number of projects. The History Book is not an anniversary book but will be completed with the addition of recent activities, and every five years thereafter. One or two additional individuals could be added to the WG to help with the work. There are still a number of records and documents in storage at the Office, and those that are in useable condition will be scanned at a cost of about 6.000 euros.

IFCC Procedure Manual

PB will revise the Procedure Manual by April 1 and include the changes in nominations, and the requirement for functional groups to hold a minimum of 4 meetings per year.

16.7 Project Proposals

Potential new working groups on:

- Essential IVD Accessibility (Meeting with WHO and Joris Delanghe)
- Environmental Impact of Laboratory Medicine – Papers

- Project Proposal on “New Conference format for Clinical Mass Spectrometry in routine settings”
Deferred to next meeting.

16.40 Other business

Combined Functional Group Annual Evaluation form and Annual Report form

The combined yearly Functional Group Evaluation form and Annual Report form was distributed to Divisions/Committees/Task Forces, with a March 15, 2023 deadline to respond.

IFCC and AACC potential collaborations re global initiatives

Deferred to next meeting.