

ICOH General Assembly I on 11 June 2006



ICOH General Assembly II on 16 June 2006



ICOH Board and Officers Triennium 2006 – 2008



Seated (left to right): Brigitte Froneberg, Sergio Iavicoli, Marilyn Fingerhut, Jorma Rantanen, Kazutaka Kogi, Suvi Lehtinen
Standing (left to right): Ken Takahashi, Antonio Mutti, Hua Fu, Marco Maroni (deceased), René Mendes, Ian Eddington, Petter Kristensen, Jorge Morales

Members of the Board

Prof. Sin Eng Chia, Singapore	Dr. René Mendes, Brazil
Mr. Ian Eddington, Australia	Dr. Jorge Morales, Mexico
Mr. Kaj Elgstrand, Sweden	Mr. Franklin Muchiri, Kenya
Dr. Brigitte Froneberg, Germany	Prof. Antonio Mutti, Italy
Prof. Michel Guillemin, Switzerland	Prof. Yves Roquelaure, France
Prof. John Harrison, United Kingdom	Ms. Jennifer Serfontein, South Africa
Prof. Hua Fu, People's Republic of China	Prof. Ken Takahashi, Japan
Prof. Petter Kristensen, Norway	Prof. Frank Van Dijk, The Netherlands
Ms. Suvi Lehtinen, Finland	Dr. Martha Waters, USA

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Professor Jorma Rantanen, Finland

Vice President

Dr. Marilyn Fingerhut, USA

Vice President

Dr. Kazutaka Kogi, Japan

Secretary General

Dr. Sergio Iavicoli, Italy

Past President

Professor Bengt Knave, Sweden

Scientific Committee Officers

Scientific Committee	Chair	Secretary
Accident Prevention		
Aging and Work	Masaharu Kumashiro	Clas-Håkan Nygård
Allergy and Immunotoxicology	Kanehisa Morimoto	Mario Di Gioacchino
Cardiology in Occupational Health	Peter Schnall	Reiner Rugulies
Education and Training in Occupational Health	Bonnie Rogers	Janine Bigaignon-Cantineuau
EPICOH, Epidemiology in Occupational Health	Dana Loomis	Hans Kromhout
Fibres		
Health Services Research and Evaluation in Occupational Health	Carel T.J. Hulshof	Timo Leino
History of Prevention of Occupational and Environmental Diseases	Pier Alberto Bertazzi	Daniela Fano
Indoor Air Quality and Health	Giacomo Muzi	Paolo Carrer
Industrial Hygiene	Peter S.J. Lees	Nils G. Plato
Musculoskeletal Disorders From 2007	Thomas Lüubli Laura Punnett	Bradley Evanoff Paul F.M. Kuijjer
Neurotoxicology and Psychophysiology	Roberto Lucchini	Seong-Kyu Kang
Occupational and Environmental Dermatoses	Kristiina Alanko	Pietro Sartorelli
Occupational Health and Development	Suvi Lehtinen	Shyam Pingle
Occupational Health for Health Care Workers	Hans-Martin Hasselhorn	Lotta Dellve
Occupational Health in Small-Scale Enterprises and the Informal Sector	Toru Itani	Panu P. Oksa

Occupational Health in the Chemical Industry (MEDICHEM) From 2007 From 2008	Stephen W. Borron Thirumalai Rajgopal	Robert Winker Georg Wultsch Diane J. Mundt
Occupational Health in the Construction Industry	Knut Ringen	Jean Francois Boulat
Occupational Health Nursing From 2009	Marjatta Peurala	Megan Kingham Louwna Pretorius
Occupational Toxicology	Claude Viau	Maurizio Manno
Radiation and Work	Maila Hietanen	Fabriziomaria Gobba
Reproductive Hazards in the Workplace	Jens P. Bonde	Olga V. Sivochalova
Respiratory Disorders	Sverre Langård	Yukinori Kusaka
Rural Health: Agriculture, Pesticides and Organic Dusts	Claudio Colosio	Petar Bulat
Shiftwork and Working Time	Giovanni Costa	Sonia Hornberger
Thermal Factors	Ken C. Parsons	Ingvar Holmér
Toxicology of Metals	Monica Nordberg	Ole Andersen
Unemployment, Job Insecurity and Health	Thomas Kieselbach	Simo Mannila
Vibration and Noise	Jukka Starck	Pietro Nataletti
Work Disability Prevention and Integration	Patrick Loisel	Glenn S. Pransky
Work and Vision	Dino L. Pisaniello	Bruno Piccoli
Work Organisation and Psychosocial Factors	Norito Kawakami	Stavroula Leka

Task Groups

Finance Committee
Task Group on Transparency and Ethics
Task Group on Information
Task Group Constitution, Bye-Laws
and Guidelines
Task Group on Membership

Network

International Communication and Information
Technology Network for Occupational Safety
and Health

Working Groups

Biological Agents and Infectious Diseases
Child Labour
Occupational Medicine
Professional Curricula
Women and Work

Chair

Frank van Dijk
Petter Kristensen
Suvi Lehtinen

Jorma Rantanen
Sergio Iavicoli

Chair

Max Lum

Chair

Ruddy Facci
Brigitte Froneberg
Jorma Rantanen
John Harrison
Marilyn Fingerhut

President's Report 2006–2008 Triennium

Professor Jorma Rantanen



The first triennium of ICOH second century

The middle of the first decade of the 21st century was also the beginning of the second century of ICOH activity. The seven first years of the decade were a period of unprecedented rate of economic growth and development of global economies. Many occupational health aspects were seen in a wider perspective and understanding started to spread on the positive impact of occupational health and safety as a valuable factor for overall socio-economic development. While transferring their production units to developing countries, many (although not all) leading global corporations adopted the principles of social responsibility and introduced safe and healthy working practices and sound occupational safety and health management to their new areas of operation. Thanks to the efforts of ILO, WHO and national governments, more attention was also paid to occupational health issues, and countries committed to the ratification of the relevant ILO Conventions, such as C 155, C 161 and C 187 and began to draw up their national occupational safety and health strategies and national occupational safety and health profiles and programmes. Similarly, the WHO Global Plan of Action on Workers' Health (GPA) was considered by many governments, and actions for the development of occupational health services, and other actions for the GPA implementation were and continue to be undertaken.

ICOH has been a close partner for Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs) in producing international instruments and in supporting their implementation into practice.

Unfortunately at the very end of the ICOH triennium the whole world was tuned down to a financial crisis and economic recession. This crisis, the deepest since the second half of the 1930s, together with several other challenges in the development of post-modern work life will challenge international and national occupational health actors, including ICOH, for a long time in our uncertain future. There is, however, no doubt that occupational health in times of such turbulences is needed more than ever to provide professional support and advice to workers and their workplaces in the critical years of economic recession.

Outcomes of the Milan Centennial Congress

The ICOH Centennial Congress in Milan, Italy, on 11–16 June 2006 was a distinguished and most successful high point in the centennial life of ICOH. While presenting an inventory of the most distinguished results of contemporary research on occupational health in the world in the form of 1800 different types of research communications in 158 scientific

sessions, the Milan Congress also presented a comprehensive collection and reporting of ICOH centennial heritage, well-documented, organized and preserved – an asset, that only a few international professional associations can enjoy.

The Milan Congress approved the *ICOH Centennial Declaration*, which presented the call to ICOH itself and to our partners and allies:

The International Commission on Occupational Health wants to call all the Intergovernmental Organizations, Governments, Industrial and other Economic Organizations, Professional Associations and Non-governmental Organizations to join forces for improvement of the conditions of work, health, safety and well-being at work, and to provide basic occupational health services to all working people throughout the world, particularly in the developing countries.

We particularly call for the following global actions:

- 1. Effective prevention and control, through legal and other appropriate means, of all types of hazards, risks and conditions affecting the health, safety and work ability of working people*
- 2. Development of working conditions, which are conducive to health, safety, well-being and work ability of workers and productivity of their workplaces*
- 3. Provision of competent occupational health services for every working individual and every workplace in the world, ensuring services for prevention and protection, as well as competent diagnosis, recognition and just compensation of occupational diseases and injuries*
- 4. To strengthen research efforts on the relationship between work and health, and the development of good occupational health practices as important prerequisites for the quality of work life*
- 5. To adopt occupational health as a basic right of working people, as an important means for sustainable development and for social and economic productivity of people, companies, communities and nations.*

ICOH is committed to contributing to these goals with all our professional competence, experience, energy and enthusiasm and thus also to meeting the expectations that the Founders of ICOH set 100 years ago.
<http://www.icohweb.org/news/centennial.asp>

The Declaration is still valid and will be for a long time in the future, reminding us of our centennial commitment to the development of occupational health globally, nationally and locally.

Strategic objectives for the tenure 2006-2008

Since the Milan General Assembly II, ICOH has focused on the implementation of strategic objectives chosen for the tenure.

During the whole 2006–2008 triennium ICOH has carried out activities according to the lines defined by its Constitution, Centennial Declaration and the Milan General Assembly II. ICOH has been active in all its four substantive elements of the mission: Research, Information, Training and the Introduction of good practices. We also worked for strengthening ethical conduct in occupational health activities both within ICOH and outside.

This report contains a summary of the ICOH activities during the

triennium, June 2006–December 2008. Numerous detailed reports will be presented on various special activities and can be referred to for more information.

The Milan General Assembly II approved two sets of strategic objectives for 2006–2008 tenure:

A. Substantive priorities

1. Strengthening *training and education* in occupational health and safety
2. Developing *occupational health services* throughout the world, including development and dissemination of BOHS
3. Responding to *challenges from the changing world of work* & identifying and assessing *new risks*
4. Developing *good occupational health practices, GOHP*
5. Developing and strengthening *induction, guidance and conduct in ethics*.

B. Organizational development: Developing ICOH as an Association

1. Continuation of *Organizational development, OD*
2. Developing *Collaboration with allies*
3. Strengthening *Information activities*
4. Development of *Membership*.

The implementation was reviewed by the Mid-term Meeting of the ICOH Board on 13–15 March 2008 in Hamburg, Germany. This report presents a review of the progress made in each of the above priority areas throughout the whole triennium.

A. Substantive priorities

The five substantive objectives were chosen to give a response to the ICOH constitution-defined mission and to the recognized needs for development of occupational health both internationally and nationally by taking particularly into consideration the needs of occupational health professionals and their partners and clients (working people and their workplaces) in the world.

1. Strengthening *training and education* in occupational health and safety

Training and education constitute an important part of ICOH's mission. The activities through which it is implemented are relatively limited. Training and education activities have been carried out in following forms:

- a) *Development of professional curricula*. A special Working Group was appointed by the President under the chairmanship of Professor John Harrison, UK with a key contribution by Professor Frank van Dijk, The Netherlands and with the following terms of reference:
 - Follow-up of professional curriculum development for occupational health and occupational medicine in other bodies (EASOM, US, Asia)

- Development of Curricula for occupational health professionals, particularly in view of basic occupational health.

It was recommended that the Working Group work in close collaboration with the Scientific Committees on Training and Education in Occupational Health and with the Scientific Committee on Occupational Health and Development.

A special report of the Working Group is available. The proposals of the Group are as follows:

- Activities for international core curriculum for Basic Occupational Health should be undertaken
- Expected proposals to the Cape Town Board: To seek funding for a global training project to incorporate core knowledge, skills and attitudes to underpin basic occupational health practice in national and multinational teaching programmes. The project will seek to build on existing initiatives, with particular emphasis on the effective use of information technology and multidisciplinary teaching and training.

The Working Group activity has been integrated with the activities of the above Scientific Committees and with the ICOH contribution to the WHO Global Plan of Action on Workers' Health.

- b) *Course activities, including Pre-congress Courses and Post-congress Courses* in connection with the ICOH Congress and other scientific meetings:
 - Numerous courses were organized in connection with scientific meetings particularly for young members and for members from developing countries
 - ICOH members have contributed to a large number of courses and other training events organized by other actors and partners.
- c) *Seminars for introduction and implementation of Basic Occupational Health Services, BOHS*. Such seminars were organized in China, Vietnam, WHO SEARO; WHO WPRO, the Balkan Subregion, the African Region (Benin and Republic of Congo), Turkey, the Northern European Region, including North-West Russia. The training of trainers strategy is the main type of activity and will be continued.

2. Developing occupational health services throughout the world including development and dissemination of BOHS

Several activities for the development of occupational health services were carried out at various levels:

- a) International policies, instruments and collaboration with UN agencies:
 - ICOH has contributed to the inclusion of Basic Occupational Health Services in the WHO Global Action Plan on Workers' Health, which was adopted by the World Health Assembly in May 2007. Similarly, ICOH has contributed to strategies of WHO Regions, such as WHO EURO, PAHO; WHO SEARO, WHO WPRO and WHO AFRO.
 - ICOH has presented the need for development of occupational health services and particularly BOHS to the 95th International

Labour Conference and its Committee on Occupational Safety and Health. Appropriate provisions for Development of OHS and BOHS are included in the ILO Global Strategy on Occupational Safety and Health and in Framework Convention 187. A number of regional strategy events have been organized jointly by WHO, ILO and ICOH.

- ICOH contributed to a session on BOHS in the ILO-ISSA XVIII World Congress on Safety and Health at Work, held in Seoul, Korea on 29 June–2 July 2008.

- In the first World Summit on Occupational Safety and Health, in Seoul 29 June 2008, ICOH encouraged international partners and national governments to develop occupational health services for all working people in the world by particularly considering the opportunities provided by the new BOHS approach.

- b) International collaboration for implementation of OHS
Since 2003 ICOH has collaborated with WHO and ILO for the implementation of the decision of the 13th Joint ILO/WHO Committee on Occupational Health for the development of BOHS, its principles and work tools. Numerous national seminars and courses have been held and guidelines for BOHS principles and practices have been drafted.
- c) Regional Policy-level meetings on OHS with ICOH contribution were organized in WHO AFRO (Brazzaville, Congo 2007), WHO EURO (Buxton, UK 2007), in WPRO and SEARO (Kuala Lumpur 2007), in Turkey (Izmir 2007), in Northern Europe (Vilnius 2007), in WHO EURO/EU (Bonn 2007) and in WHO PAHO (Vancouver 2007).
- d) Country-wide programmes for BOHS were supported through policy advice, guideline documents, training and education and support for implementation of pilot projects in China, consultations for Vietnam (2007), Thailand (2007) and South-Eastern Europe Sub-region (2006, 2007), a workshop on BOHS in India (2008), Northern Europe and North-West Russia (2007 and 2008), Turkey (2006, 2007 and 2008) and 14 South-East Asian countries (2008) which expressed high interest in BOHS pilot implementation and Serbia (2008), as well as in the Nueva Leon University and State Administration in Mexico (2008). Several other countries have also expressed interest in BOHS implementation.
- e) Through Vice President Marilyn Fingerhut and through the Scientific Committee on Occupational Health for Health Care Workers, ICOH has collaborated with WHO and NIOSH/USA on occupational health in the health care sector, particularly for the prevention of needle stick injuries in health work. Special sessions on the topic were organized, for example, in the Vancouver Meeting of the Scientific Committee and in the World Safety 2008 Congress in Seoul, Korea 29 June-2 July 2008.

3. Responding to challenges from the changing world of work & identifying and assessing new risks

- a) The impact of globalization on occupational health and safety has been

continuously followed up and analysed for consequences to occupational health. Numerous presentations on globalization and occupational health have been presented by ICOH members, for example, by the President in the Düsseldorf AA Fair 2007, ACOH Singapore 2008, and FOHNEU London.

- b) The planned Global survey was initiated, but due to the changed conditions of the assigned Swedish National Institute for Work Life, it has so far been suspended.
- c) Risk observatory activity has comprised the follow-up of the EU Bilbao Agency Risk Observatory programme. Risks such as nanotechnology, avian influenza, new types of risks, as well as noise and NIHL have been recent topics (<http://riskobservatory.osha.europa.eu/>). ICOH experts have contributed the *Global Governance in the Changing World of Work and Governance of Occupational Health Risks* chapters of the book: *Risks in the Modern Society 2008*, which was published by the Springer Verlag, Germany (2008).
- d) Risks related to *nanotechnologies* and other new technologies have been discussed by ICOH in several congresses, e.g. at the EuroNanOSH in December 2007 in Helsinki, Finland, German Association of Occupational Medicine DGAUM Congress in March 2008 in Hamburg, Germany and WorldSafety 2008 in July 2008 in Seoul, Korea. Secretary General, Professor Sergio Iavicoli, in particular, has been active in this field.
- e) Concerning *old global risks*, ICOH has been active in the prevention of asbestos hazards. Regional asbestos conferences have been organized in Latin America in Sao Paulo, Brazil, in collaboration with Fundacentro, Brazil; ILO; WHO; ICOH; the Finnish Institute of Occupational Health; West Virginia University; and the Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York. The proceedings of the Meeting will be published.

Similarly ICOH contributed to the Asian Asbestos Meeting in Bangkok, Thailand on July 26-27, 2006, hosted by the Department of Disease Control of the Thai Ministry of Public Health, the Department of Labour Protection and Welfare and the Social Security Office of the Ministry of Labour co-sponsored by ILO, WHO and ICOH. A Declaration of this 300 participants' Congress coming from four continents was signed at the end of the Congress jointly by ICOH and the other sponsors of the Congress.

4. Developing good occupational health practices, GOHP

The Scientific Committee on Health Services Research and Evaluation organized a 700-participant Congress in Paris, France on 22–24 October, and actively discussed good occupational health practices from both scientific and practical points of view, also reporting a high number of national examples and experiences. Good practices for basic occupational health services, BOHS, have been introduced in dozens of seminars, and guidelines for practices have been introduced. At present, about 10 practical guidelines have been drafted and will be jointly finalized with WHO and ILO. Some of the practical guidelines have been translated into national languages, including guides in Chinese, Vietnamese, Russian, Serbian and





the Turkish languages. A textbook on Basic Occupational Health edited by Professor Tee Guidotti is currently in press and the Manual on Good Basic Occupational Health Practice is under preparation.

5. Developing and strengthening induction, guidance and conduct in ethics

- a) Mainstreaming ethics in the training of occupational health at all levels and for all professionals has been emphasized by the ICOH Leadership in all training activities and policies carried out by ICOH. The President has also called that every training event organized by ICOH should include an element of professional ethics related to the topic in concern.
- b) The ICOH International Code of Ethics was intended to be amended, but so far the necessary provisions have been included in the ICOH Good Association Practice Guideline, which will be presented to the 2009 Board Meeting in Cape Town. The necessary amendments are drafted for ICOH Bye-Laws.
- c) The filling in of the Declaration of Freedom from Conflict of Interest has been implemented by all ICOH Board Members, Officers, Scientific Committee Officers, and National Secretaries. The cases with problems have been examined by the ICOH Committee on Transparency and Ethics.
- d) The Committee on Transparency and Ethics will be proposed as a permanent ICOH Committee stipulated by ICOH Regulations. The necessary amendments in Bye-Laws will be presented to the 2009 Board in Cape Town.
- e) ICOH has included a clause of observance of the ICOH Code of Ethics principles in all formal contracts and agreements to be made by ICOH. Ethics was also included in the Triple Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on collaboration between ICOH, IEA and IOHA and in the MoU between ICOH and ISSA. This implies that ICOH sets its ethical principles as a condition for its contract-making and collaboration with every partner.
- f) ICOH has participated in the preparation of the CIOMS (Council for International Organizations of Medical Sciences) Guidelines: *International Ethical Guidelines for Epidemiological Studies*. (http://www.cioms.ch/080221feb_2008.pdf) In this work, ICOH contributed occupational epidemiology aspects.

B. Organizational development

1. Continuing to strengthen the Scientific Committees

Scientific Committees constitute the backbone of ICOH substantive activities. Vice President Marilyn Fingerhut has actively developed their work. A special report on Scientific Committees by Dr. Marilyn Fingerhut is referred to. ICOH reorganized the Scientific Committees during the triennium. Immediately after the Milan 2006 Congress, three previous Scientific Committees, SC on Organic Dusts, SC on Agriculture and SC on Pesticides were, on the basis of their own initiative, merged to form one Scientific Committee on Rural Health: Agriculture, Pesticides and

Organic Dusts, chaired by Professor Claudio Colosio (Italy). Two other Scientific Committees were established on the proposal of the President and approval of the Hamburg Mid-term Board: Scientific Committee on Women, Health and Work led by Vice President, Marilyn Fingerhut, (USA), and the Scientific Committee on Occupational Medicine chaired by ICOH Board Member, Professor John Harrison (UK). A virtual office was established for Scientific Committees, and a new version for the SC Guidelines was drafted. The Vice President organized, steered and advised in the Committees' contribution to ICOH 2009 Congress. The Vice President has counted 59 conferences organized by the ICOH Scientific Committees during the triennium and at least twice as many conferences have enjoyed scientific committee members' contributions in various international and national meetings. The contribution of Scientific Committees to ICOH 2006 and 2009 Congresses has been extensive, and above all vital for the success of the scientific programmes of the ICOH Congresses. The Secretary General has allocated small grants for support of Scientific Committee Meetings and participation of members from developing countries.

2. Development of National Secretaries' activities

The Vice President assigned for co-ordination of National Secretaries, Dr. Kazutaka Kogi effectively mobilized the National Secretaries in ICOH activities. Simultaneously, ICOH links with National Associations on Occupational Health were activated and substantially strengthened.

- a) The feasibility of the Regional Secretary was studied and analysed. Some Regions have organized regional activities in close collaboration, sponsorship and participation by ICOH. This was particularly active in Asia, where the Asian Conference on Occupational Health has traditionally been organized in collaboration with ICOH and in Latin America where the ICOH National Secretaries Meeting in Buenos Aires, Argentina was organized (2007).
- b) Strengthening and organizing the National Secretaries' network. Vice President Kazutaka Kogi made a great effort in organizing the work of National Secretaries. He also finalized the guideline for National Secretaries. A virtual office for National Secretaries was also organized and ICOH information package was provided. Here a reference is made to the Vice President's special report.
- c) A number of amendments have been drawn up to ICOH Bye-Laws, including election practices, National/Area Secretaries, transparency issues and declaration of interest forms by officers and other assigned persons, the permanent Committee on Ethics and Transparency and ICOH publication practices and emergency situations in Board membership. Proposals for amendments on Constitution concerning disciplinary actions in cases of unethical conduct by members were prepared for acceptance by the Board and General Assembly in Cape Town.
- d) Operational Guidelines have been produced for various ICOH bodies and activities, including the finalization of guidelines for Scientific Committees, National Secretaries, a new Guideline for the organization of scientific programmes for ICOH Congresses and the Good Association Practice Guideline.

- e) Development of ICOH activities for developing countries
- Development of ICOH activities in developing and transitory countries was intensified. Already in the previous 2003–2006 triennium ICOH intensified its efforts in enhancing occupational health in the developing and transitory countries. This activity expanded in the 2006–2008 triennium, particularly through the organization of and participation in several types of professional and scientific meetings on occupational health in many developing countries, including in Brazil, China, East African Community, South-East European Sub-region, Turkey, Vietnam, and NIS Asian countries.
 - A special contribution for the development of occupational health services in developing countries has been ICOH's contribution to development and implementation for Basic Occupational Health Services, BOHS (see Paragraph 1 and 2).
 - The ICOH Scientific Committee on Occupational Health and Development was one of the most active Scientific Committees, organized Committee Scientific Sessions in connection with ICOH Congresses in Milan and in Cape Town, and it also organized or contributed to mid-term Scientific Seminars or Conferences, for example, in October 2007 in Vancouver, Canada and on 21 January 2008 in Mumbai, India. ICOH also contributed to the Congress on agricultural and rural health organized by the Scientific Committee on Occupational Health in Agriculture in June 2006 in Lodi, Italy. Several other national or sub-regional meetings have been organized in developing countries with the help of ICOH sponsorship and participation.
 - ICOH has put much effort into financially supporting the participation of members from developing countries in international congresses, particularly ICOH Congresses. About 60 members from developing countries were supported to participate in the Milan Congress with the help of the ICOH2006 Organizers by waiving the Congress fee and covering their travelling and accommodation costs. An equal number of Participants (close to 70) from developing and transitory countries were supported to participate in the Cape Town ICOH2009 Congress. Numerous members have also received support in order to participate in smaller congresses and meetings during the tenure.
 - For the recruitment of new members from developing and transitory countries, see below: Development of Membership.

3. Strengthening of information activities

ICOH Newsletter has been developed by enriching its content and adding scientific topics to each issue. The website development has been upgraded by adding substantive content. A virtual office service and web space was organized for Scientific Committees and a respective web-service for the National Secretaries.

A new ICOH leaflet and leaflets of some Scientific Committees have been produced. ICOH scientific meetings are a key mechanism for communication of scientific information among the ICOH membership and beyond. Some kind of ICOH organized or sponsored scientific meeting takes place somewhere in the world at least once a month. Communication of information from such events has substantially improved during the triennium. (For further information see special report on Task Group Information).

4. Development of Membership

Intensive membership campaigns have been carried out by the Secretary General and the Task Group Membership (see special Report of Secretary General on membership). The special age structure of ICOH membership increases the number of retired members in the next few years. Changes in the occupational health institutions and programmes at national and local levels, and structural changes in the employment of ICOH members with substantial changes in their affiliations, are likely to affect the membership in future.

The Secretary General and the Task Group Membership intensified their efforts in new recruitments and in organizing membership benefits in order to provide added value from participation in ICOH activities. As a result of these efforts the ICOH members were offered several concrete membership benefits and services.

A slight positive trend in the triennium can be seen. Increasing membership substantially, however, is difficult. The retirement of old members and, to a less extent, drop outs, have “consumed” most of the gains of new members. Efforts for re-recruiting the lost sheep were intensified by the Secretary General.

An effective method for recruiting new members was implemented by the Officers and the Scientific Committees by recruiting actions in connection with Scientific Conferences and Meetings. Often 10 to 30 new members have been recruited at once through announcements on ICOH membership in congress sessions and by approaching potential members personally on site.

The recruitment of new members from developing and transitory countries has succeeded well, as member fees were substantially reduced for them (See Secretary General’s Report). The Secretary General has put great effort into the recruitment of young members, but has only modestly succeeded. It is a future challenge for ICOH to attract more young members to the Association. One of the methods has been contact with professors of occupational health and occupational medicine in various Universities using them as a contact channel to younger members. New innovative actions in this field are needed.

As the structural changes in occupational health practices and changes of occupational health institutions in countries affect the numbers and positions of occupational health experts maintaining the level and even increasing membership has been and will be a great challenge in the further development of ICOH. While success has been relatively good in general, a number of opportunities still remain to be used; intensified efforts towards potential young members, active personal face to

face recruitments in connection with ICOH scientific and other events, the production of a recruitment information package, and the expansion of occupational health services for getting more experts in occupational health field in general, thus expanding the recruitment basis for ICOH.

5. Developing collaboration with allies

ICOH enjoys a status of recognized organization within ILO with access to ILO official meetings. ICOH is also an officially recognized NGO in WHO with official status in WHO meetings at all levels and the right to use the floor in the meetings.

- a) Collaboration with WHO. Close collaboration has continued at all relevant levels: global policy level (Global Plan of Action), regional level in most of the WHO Regions, country level, and technical level. ICOH has also participated in the WHO Collaborating Centres Network activities at global and regional levels and worked for country interventions for occupational health. As an officially recognized NGO, ICOH has been represented in the meetings of the World Health Organization Executive Board and used the floor for items related to occupational health, e.g. the Global Plan of Action on Workers' Health and Basic Occupational Health Services, Primary Health Care and Social Determinants of Health. ICOH has also worked intensively with WHO on training and the piloting of BOHS in various countries and drafted guidelines for BOHS implementation (see paragraph 1 C and paragraph 2 on international collaboration for education and training and for development of BOHS above). Collaboration on tobacco control and on occupational health in general at global and regional levels (EURO, PAHO, EMRO, AFRO, SEARO, WPRO), within the framework of Networks on WHO Collaborating Centres in Occupational Health has continued, and been both productive and beneficial for ICOH.
- b) Collaboration with ILO has similarly continued at all levels. The most important policy-level activities have been ICOH's contributions to the ILO Global Strategy on Occupational Safety and Health, Framework Convention 187, and for preparation of the national profiles for occupational safety and health. ICOH was invited to contribute to Committee work in connection with International Labour Conferences and ICOH's input regarding occupational health in general and occupational health services in particular were considered in the final outcomes of the ILO instruments and outputs. ICOH contributed to the renewal of the ILO List on Occupational Diseases. International and national level efforts for implementation of BOHS were made jointly at regional and country levels, particularly in China, with the Northern Dimension Partnership in Public Health and Social Well-being, joint collaboration with ILO in work with the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, ICFTU, on banning of asbestos and on development of occupational health.
- c) One of the high points for international collaboration during the tenure was ICOH's participation in the First Global Summit on Occupational Health and Safety, and its participation, contribution in drafting and signing of the Summit Declaration on 29 June 2008 in Seoul, Korea.
- d) ICOH worked closely together with its sister occupational health and

safety NGOs: a joint ergonomic guideline was produced together with the International Ergonomic Association, IEA, a special practical training programme was planned with the International Occupational Hygiene Association, IOHA. A triple Memorandum of Understanding was drafted and signed for collaboration between ICOH, IEA and IOHA. This was very positively received by the sister NGOs. ICOH prepared a Memorandum of Understanding on collaboration with the Leadership of the Collegium Ramazzini, but the proposal did not receive acceptance by the Ramazzini Council. ICOH has close links with the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection, ICNIRP, on the basis of personal unions in the leadership of the ICOH respective Scientific Committee on Non-ionizing Radiation and ICNIRP.

- e) Thanks to Vice President Marilyn Fingerhut, ICOH contributed to the 700-participant Fifth International Congress on Women, Work and Health in Zacatecas, Mexico on 28 November by organizing a special session on the occupational health of working women. The ICOH presidents, a Board Member and the National Secretary of Mexico delivered papers in the Congress and several new members were recruited.
- f) A Memorandum of Understanding was signed on collaboration with the International Social Security Association, ISSA, and negotiations are underway to draw up a Memorandum of Understanding with the International Association of Labour Inspectors, IALI.
- g) ICOH has strengthened its contacts and collaboration with National and Regional Associations on Occupational Health. Collaboration particularly in the form of congresses or other meetings was carried out with e.g. the American College on Occupational and Environmental Medicine, ACOEM, the Argentine Federation on Occupational Health, the Occupational Health Nursing Association, Japan, the Brazilian Association on Occupational Medicine, ANAMT, the Indian Association on Occupational Health, IAOH, the Vietnam Association of Occupational Health, the Italian Society of Industrial Medicine and Industrial Hygiene, S.I.M.L.I.I., the German Society of Occupational Medicine, DGAUM, the Society of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, SOEM, UK, the Finnish Association of Occupational Health Physicians, the Finnish Association on Occupational Hygiene, the Finnish Association of Occupational Health Nurses, the Province of Buenos Aires Occupational Health Society, Argentina, the Thailand Association of Occupational Health Nurses, the Federation of Occupational Health Nurses within the European Union, FOHNEU, and the South African Association of Occupational Medicine, SASOM. Discussions were held on the promotion of ICOH membership in collaboration with National Associations through various mechanisms. For example, possibly linking the position of the ICOH National Secretary with the office of National Association has been discussed as a model for such collaboration.

C. ICOH finances

ICOH has three main sources of income: member fees, which is the main source, the income drawn from ICOH Congresses, and external support from sponsors, which has mainly been received for supporting participation of members from developing and transitory countries. During the two consecutive trienniums the economic development of ICOH was positive and secure (see special Finance report by Secretary General). The main limitations in the further income generation were the drop-outs of the paying members and a relative factor has also been the reduced fee for young members and for members from developing countries. Some difficulty is also due to the delay of the member fee payments, which has limited the use of resources for the activities during the triennium.

The Congress' income is critically dependent on the number of non-member participants in ICOH Congresses, which may vary widely from Congress to Congress. ICOH is very selective in accepting sponsorship from external sources: absolute criteria are an ethically sound sponsor and non-conditioned sponsoring in view of ICOH's independent position as a professional association (although the use of support may be negotiated, e.g. for support of members from developing countries, the organization of a special meeting etc.).

Besides disciplined control of costs by the Secretary General, ICOH needs to work hard in the future to get additional external resources. The payment of member fees should take place at the beginning of the triennium, not during the second half-triennium or later, as such late contributions provide less resources for ICOH activities during the triennium. In this respect, ICOH membership could improve its practices. An e-payment system for ICOH membership fees has been developed by the Secretary General and will be taken into use at the end of the triennium. ICOH is grateful for the external sponsors which have enabled support for the participation of members from developing countries in ICOH Congresses (see Chapter ICOH Congresses), as well as for the waiver of the Congress fee for 50 members by the ICOH2009 Organizers.

ICOH finances permit only a modest financial support for Scientific Committees and other groups active in the ICOH framework. As the financial resources of Committees and individual members are expected to get tighter in the future, e.g., as a consequence of global financial crisis, the need for ICOH support is likely to increase. This calls for innovation of new financial sources for ICOH, which is a challenge of the near future.

D. ICOH Congresses

ICOH triennial International Congresses on Occupational Health have, as ICOH itself, a history of over a hundred years. The 29th Congress will take place in March 2009 in Cape Town, South Africa and the 30th ICOH Congress will be organized in Monterrey, Mexico in 2012. The ICOH Congresses constitute an inventory of world occupational health research taken place in the preceding triennium. Usually some 1200 to 1800 various kinds of research communications are delivered and the total number of participants varies from 1500 to 3000.

The ICOH Congress is also the venue of top ICOH association

events, such as Meetings of the Board, General Assemblies and the closure of elections of the Officers and the Board. The Congress also provides a forum for meetings of Scientific Committees and other special groups active within the ICOH framework. We also meet our closest Sister Organizations and have opportunities for discussion on further collaboration.

The Milan Centennial Congress in 2006 was one of the largest and most productive events in the history of ICOH. The 2009 Cape Town Congress is the first ever organized in Sub-Saharan Africa.

ICOH Congresses are a complicated long-term collaboration project between ICOH leadership, ICOH Scientific Committees and the national Organizers. It is an important global event and a high point of ICOH triennial activity. It is simultaneously an enormous effort for host country organizers and important for the image and visibility of occupational health and occupational health actors in the country. Usually these two different sets of objectives: the ICOH objectives and those of the national organizers, can be smoothly adjusted to each other, although some problems may sometimes be felt in smaller details.

The geographical rotation of the Congress venue between continents is a strong principle of ICOH. It makes ICOH and also the Congress a real global event. Such balanced rotation should continue in the future.

The participation of members from developing countries in the ICOH congresses has been a problem because of high travelling and accommodation costs (the congress fee has traditionally been waived). During the past few Congresses ICOH has been happy to receive financial support either from outside (as in the Milan Congress) or as combination of ICOH budget sources and external sponsorship (as in Cape Town Congress).

ICOH is sincerely grateful to sponsors supporting participation of experts from developing countries in ICOH Congresses. Let me use the opportunity to express our cordial thanks to the following sponsors supporting the participants of the ICOH2009 Congress who together with ICOH support enabled the participation of 69 experts from developing and transitory countries. The following Organizations have supported participation of members from Developing Countries in the ICOH2009 Congress:

- Arbor Occupational Medicine, HealthSpan International, USA
- Consorzio ISPESL - Clinica Del Lavoro, Italy
- Executive Committee of the ICOH2009 Congress
- Finnish Association of Occupational Health Nurses, Finland
- Finnish Association of Occupational Health Physicians, Finland
- Finnish Institute of Occupational Health, Finland
- Institute for Science of Labour, Japan
- International Commission on Occupational Health, ICOH
- Liberty Mutual Research Institute for Safety, USA
- Prevent Sweden
- US National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, NIOSH/The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USA.

ICOH is most grateful for this support, which has enabled participation of members who otherwise would not have been able to attend. The support contributes substantially to the development of occupational health expertise in the respective countries of the participants.

E. Summary of the achievement of the triennial objectives

ICOH activities are so numerous that their brief summary does not do justice to all the events and contributions of various groups and individuals. The special reports from various activities will therefore be referred to for further details. Occupational health is a never-ending agenda. Much has been achieved, but even more remains to be done.

The universal change in global work life also has an impact on ICOH voluntary activities. Members are fully occupied by their daily duties and have little time for extra activities. Similarly, many experts face growing challenges in finding sufficient resources for their principal activities, not to mention voluntary activities, such as participation in ICOH. The structural changes in various institutions which take place in all types of occupational health institutions, government, universities, research institutions and in services also cause discontinuities and even insecurity among occupational health experts. The international support, guidance and solidarity provided by ICOH may be a valuable asset for experts working in turbulent times. To provide support has been one of the main purposes of ICOH during its more than one hundred year history.

On the other hand, the competence and dedication of ICOH members enables us to achieve results although the world around us is continuously becoming more competitive. We have strengths in the competence and enthusiasm of our membership. We also see a growing understanding of our very mission and the value of occupational health as a resource for society, workplaces, workers and their families. ICOH governance has strengthened and our professional capacities and operational functions have improved substantially, thanks to active Officers, Secretariat and Members. On the other hand, the growing level of activity and increasing interaction require more work input, and time which is a limited resource for everyone in a voluntary association. In order to substantially increase the present activity level ICOH Officers and Secretariat need more resources.

An arbitrary end-of-the triennium self-evaluation of achievements in relation to the main objectives, set in the Milan General Assembly II three years ago, are presented in Table 1. According to my humble judgement, the results, as always, could have been better, but they may nevertheless be considered reasonable.

ICOH would like to support and serve its members more effectively in order to encourage their professional development and facilitate their daily activities. Similarly, the Scientific Committees and National Secretaries deserve more support. The limiting factor is ICOH finances and limited human resources. It is, however, a well justified objective to try to find more direct financial support for the activities of the Scientific Committees and other operative bodies of ICOH.

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank our Respected Organizational Partners, WHO and ILO, and the Sister Professional NGOs, IOHA, IEA, ISSA, Collegium Ramazzini and the numerous National and International Institutions and National Associations with which we have had the privilege to collaborate in the development of international and national occupational health.

We are highly obliged to the L'Istituto Superiore per la Prevenzione e la Sicurezza del Lavoro, ISPESL, and the President, Professor Antonio Moccaldi, Italy, for providing the ICOH office with most valuable institutional support. We also thank the Finnish Institute of Occupational Health, FIOH, and Director General, Professor Harri Vainio, Finland for providing office facilities for the President.

The Leadership of ICOH owes its sincere thanks to the Members of ICOH, including our Sustaining Members, for all activities during the triennium. Special thanks are addressed to the Board of ICOH for continuous support and a constructive working atmosphere during the triennium. Our thanks also belong to the Chairs and Secretaries of the Scientific Committees, Special Committees, Task Groups, Working Groups and Networks and the National Secretaries. We thank the Presidents of the ICOH2006 Congress, Professor Vito Foa, and ICOH2009 Congress, Professor Daan Kocks and their Organizing Committees for their invaluable services to ICOH.

Let me personally thank ICOH's past President Professor Bengt Knave for his full support of ICOH and my presidency at all stages of ICOH operations. I would also like to extend my special thanks to the exceptional input and support of the Vice Presidents, Dr. Marilyn *Table 1. An arbitrary self-evaluation of the implementation of the six major objective areas set by the General Assembly II in connection with the 2006 Milan Congress.*

Evaluation 2006-2008	
Substantive objectives	Results
Strengthening training and education in occupational health and safety	+++
Developing occupational health services throughout the world including development and dissemination of BOHS	+++
Responding to challenges from changing world of work & identifying and assessing new risks	++
Developing good occupational health practices, GOHP	++
Developing and strengthening induction, guidance and conduct in ethics.	+++
Organizational development	
Continuation of Organisational development, OD	+++
Developing collaboration with allies	+++
Strengthening Information activities	+++
Development of membership	+++

Code: 0 Not implemented + Started but not halfway
 ++ Well on the way, 50%–over 50% +++ Objectives achieved
 +++++ to ++++++ Objective exceeded.

Fingerhut in charge of Scientific Committees and Dr. Kazutaka Kogi in charge of National Secretaries and training and education. Our Secretary General, Professor Sergio Iavicoli and his team in Rome have made an incomparable impact on ICOH in the practical managerial, financial and logistics operations. Ms. Suvi Lehtinen, a Member of the Board, Chair of the TG Information and Editor of the ICOH Newsletter deserves our sincere thanks for her most effective and always timely services to ICOH. Finally, my thanks to the Management Secretary Kirsti Tuominen of FIOH for her most valuable support to the President.

I am convinced that ICOH will continue in the years and decades to come with new people with new energy, fresh ideas and, in part, new forms of activities. The challenges for occupational health are growing in today's globalizing work life. I am sure that ICOH as an independent, highly professional and ethically high-standard association is committed to make the best global, national and local impact on occupational health and safety with the support of ICOH membership and in collaboration with ICOH Allies.



Report of the Secretary General

Dr. Sergio Iavicoli

ICOH Secretariat – Triennium 2006–2008

The current triennium has mainly aimed at consolidating the restructuring process of the ICOH Secretariat carried out during the previous term. In this regard, an important step forward has been taken in membership development, and in the improvement of the internal and external communication and strengthening of the ICOH community. The latter was achieved mainly by improving the strategic role of the National Secretaries and Scientific Committees.

The Secretariat activities have focused on the members recruitment campaign, the development of the new ICOH website, and relationships with Scientific Committees and National Secretaries while assuring the daily management of an NGO with over 1,700 members from 96 countries, and which has an official relationship with ILO and WHO.

Membership

The activities of the Secretariat General for the membership campaign in the 2006-2008 triennium were developed according to the guidelines proposed by the ICOH governing bodies.

Main improvements achieved in the triennium:

- **New fee system.** Two different fees: 300 CHF for membership from industrialized countries and 60 CHF for membership from developing countries (GDP per capita < 15,000 USD) and young members (age < 36 years).
- **Members' retention.** 40 members of the 2000-2002 triennium have renewed their membership.
- **Development of new methods of payment.** Current modes of payment are: Direct Bank Transfer, Bank Draft, and VISA, AMEX and MASTERCARD. Furthermore, a new system, which allows ICOH Members to pay on-line, is currently being developed.

The new fee system increased membership from developing countries but not of young members.

Further benefits for ICOH Members are:

- reduced publication prices (WHO-ILO)
- information (Newsletter and Website)
- improvements to the Database.

Table 1 shows the membership figures as of 31 December 2008; the total number of members in good standing is **1,780** (with a **3%** increase in comparison with the membership at the end of the 2003-2005 triennium).

Table 1. ICOH membership as of 31 December 2008.

Membership Type	No. as of 31 December 2008
Individual members in good standing	
Active	1,615
Retired	6
Emeritus	103
Honorary	19
Collective members in good standing	
Affiliate	21
Sustaining	16
TOTAL	1,780

Table 2 shows the 12 leading countries in ICOH membership: increase is reported particularly in the USA, Italy, Brazil and South Africa.

Table 2. ICOH members in good standing per country.

Country	N. as of 31 December 2008	Country	N. as of 31 December 2008
Italy	181	United Kingdom	66
USA	150	Brazil	60
Japan	121	Germany	59
Finland	121	Norway	49
France	75	South Africa	49
Sweden	69	Mexico	48

Major results are:

- Members from developing countries (GDP per capita <15,000 USD) **3%** increase with respect to the end of the previous triennium (Table 3).
- **485** new members were recruited during the current triennium.
- Average age of ICOH members is **54.2**.

Table 3. ICOH members per age as of 31 December 2008.

Age	N.	Industrialized countries	Developing countries
< 30	20 (1.1%)	14	6
31-35	93 (5.2%)	66	27
> 35	1,512 (85.0%)	1,051	461
unspecified	155 (8.7%)	91	64
TOTAL	1,780	1,222 (72%)	558 (28%)

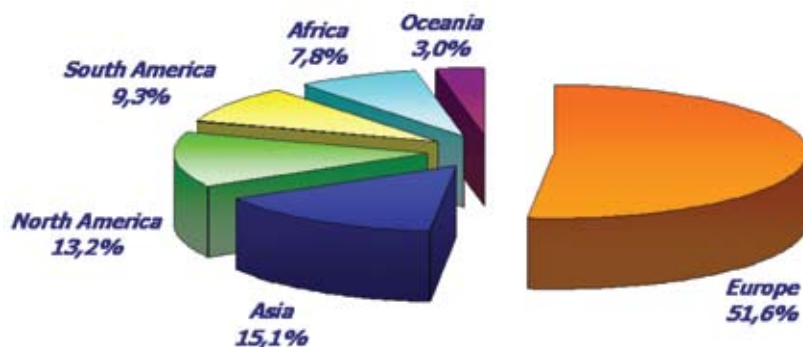


Figure 1. Geographical distribution of ICOH members.

External and internal communication

External and internal information activities are of paramount importance for any organization. Our internal information channels include the ICOH Newsletter, website and the information disseminated through the scientific publications of our members.

The layout of the ICOH **Website** is undergoing a complete renovation. In the meantime, the Secretariat General continues to keep the current “official” pages updated. A further enrichment of the website results from the publication of research and news on the activities carried out by the Scientific Committees. To this end, each Scientific Committee has been encouraged to set up its own website, which includes all the scientific contents and internal communications. One of the major results achieved is the setting of the **Virtual Office for National Secretaries and Scientific Committees**. They are turning out to be very important tools. Finally, the ICOH Bibliographic Database and the Centennial Heritage are also available on-line.

The **ICOH brochure** has been updated and new information material has been produced in order to target ICOH contents to larger audiences.

The strategic role of the National Secretaries has been improved by promoting ICOH membership both in Post-Graduate Schools and in Scientific Societies. In order to improve membership campaigns and awareness of ICOH activities, a **presentation** for National Secretaries has been developed. A new CD-Rom containing an ad-hoc presentation has been also produced, in order to foster ICOH Membership in Post-Graduate Schools.

A **National Secretaries Package** has been created in order to enable National Secretaries to promote ICOH Membership; the package includes the National Secretaries Presentation, Application Forms, brochures, core documents, calendar of meetings and other helpful tools.

Finally, the events organized by the **Scientific Committees** are highlighted on the website and have a dedicated section which includes an “event submission” form.





Vice President's Report

Report on Scientific Committees

Dr. Marilyn Fingerhut

Status of the Scientific Committees

During the Triennium, there were 31 active Scientific Committees (SC). The Scientific Committees on Accident Prevention and Fibres were not active. At the mid-term Hamburg Meeting, the ICOH Board and President approved the creation of two new SCs one on Women, Health and Work, and the other on Occupational Medicine, to be initiated in Cape Town at the ICOH2009 Congress.

Contributions of the Scientific Committees to the ICOH2009 Congress

The dynamism and the scientific quality of the ICOH2009 Congress sessions are due primarily to the ICOH SCs. All active SCs have organized Oral Paper and Special Sessions for the ICOH2009 Congress. Sixty-five of 90 Special Sessions (72%) were organized by the ICOH SCs, Working Groups and Officers, as were 71 of the 80 (89%) Oral Paper Sessions. The other sessions were organized by IOHA, IEA, WHO, and members and associates of the International and National Advisory Committees.

Activities of the Scientific Committees during the 2006-2008 Triennium

Most have organized at least one conference, published articles, or held meetings during this period. Many SCs have jointly co-sponsored conferences and other activities with other SCs and other scientific associations. The Vice President's Midterm Report, which illustrated examples of publications of the SCs, is posted on the SC Virtual Office. This Final Report emphasizes the breadth and depth of specialized scientific conferences held during the triennium by the SCs, showing in Attachment 3 the locations and numbers of attendees. Each SC was able to request funding of CHF 2000 from ICOH for inclusion of participants from developing nations in the conferences.

ICOH Webpace for Scientific Committees (<http://www.ichweb.org/committees/>)

Each Scientific Committee has its own webpace, which provides an introduction to the SC by showing the Mid-Term and Final Report for the 2006-2008 Triennium, a statement of the Aim and Focus of the Scientific Committee, and an Assessment of Success and Impact in the Triennium. Also, for 12 SCs, this webpace provides a direct link to the SC's own website.

Scientific Committee Virtual Office

The ICOH Secretariat and Web staff has also developed the Virtual Office for Scientific Committees at <http://www.ichweb.org/scvo/index.asp> that maintains communications of the ICOH Officers to the SC Chairs and Secretaries and provides forms for required activities.

Revision of the Guidelines for Scientific Committees

Draft Guidelines for Scientific Committees were reviewed at the Hamburg Midterm meeting and were posted for comments. The objective is to have clear guidance for the SCs and for newly appointed Chairs and Secretaries. The revised Guidelines are posted on the SC Virtual Office and will be brought to the ICOH Board in Cape Town for approval.

Conclusions of this Vice President

The ICOH Scientific Committees provide the major energy and scientific quality of the ICOH2009 Congress. They also advanced their different scientific specialties during the triennium by meetings, publications and conferences (see Attachment 3). Continuing efforts to increase memberships are encouraged, both for enrichment of the new members and for increased funds that will bring more colleagues from developing nations to participate in the conferences.

Attachment 1

ICOH2009 Special Sessions Organized by the ICOH Scientific Committees, Working Groups and Officers

- Accident Prevention Zero Harm with Zero Tolerance
- Acute and Chronic Neurotoxicity after Pesticide Exposure
- Advances in Health and Productivity
- Aging and Work
- Agriculture in Developing Countries
- Allergy and Asthma in the Fishing and Seafood Processing Industry
- Asthma and COPD in Organic Dust Exposed Settings
- Basic Occupational Health Services: New Approaches
- Biological Monitoring, Biomarkers of Susceptibility, and Human Risk Assessment of Metal Exposures
- Bridging General and Occupational Health Care: Coping with the Blind Spot

- Building the Business Case for Employers: Investment in Occupational Health and Safety
- Case-based E-Learning in Occupational Health-The International NetWoRM Project
- Chemicals New Occupational and Environmental Health Challenges and Solutions
- Classification of Musculoskeletal Disorders in Occupational Health Practice and Research
- Distance Education: Demonstration of Current Modalities and Planning for Global Courses
- E-Learning in Occupational Health: Academic and Continuing Education
- Emerging EMF Technologies and Health Risk Management
- Enterprise Restructuring and Health
- Ethical and Scientific Issues Related to Studies in Human Volunteers for Regulation of Pesticide Usage
- Evidence-based Occupational Health: Understanding Cochrane Systematic Reviews
- Evidence-based Occupational Health: How to conduct a Cochrane Systematic Review
- Globalization and Occupational Health: Current Trends and Future Directions
- Globally Harmonized Systems: Challenges, Implementation Issues, and the Role of the Occupational Health Professional
- Grantees and Students: Introductions and Networking
- Healthy Workplaces - An integrated, comprehensive approach to Total (Mental, Physical and Psychosocial) Health at Work
- HIV/AIDS in the Workplace
- ILO/WHO Global Program to Eliminate Silicosis
- Innovative Approaches for Small Scale Workplaces and the Informal Sector
- International Support to Professional Education for Basic Occupational Health Services
- Ionizing Radiation in the Workplace
- Leadership, Teamwork, and Organizational Impact on Health for Health Care Workers
- Mechanisms in Emerging Ill-health Symptoms in Occupational and Environmental Allergy and Immunotoxicity
- Neurotoxic Diseases by Chemicals in the Old and New Generations
- Neurotoxicity by Solvents: Chronic Toxic Encephalopathy
- New Approaches for Pesticide Risk Assessment and Health Surveillance
- New Challenges of Neurotoxic Agents: Metals
- New evidence of reproductive hazards of DDT and isomers
- New problems in Indoor Air Quality
- New Strategies on Health Surveillance in the 21st Century
- Occupational Health: A Common Goal in the Global Village
- Occupational Health and Safety in Africa
- Occupational Health and Safety in Africa - session in French

- Occupational Health and Safety in Africa - session in Portuguese
- Occupational Health and Safety in Asia
- Occupational Health and Safety in Latin America
- Occupational Health Nursing
- Occupational Health Risks for Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) in Construction
- Occupational Medicine: New Trends in Work-related Diseases
- Panel of Scientific Journal Editors: Future Perspectives of Scientific Publishing in Occupational Health
- Prediction and Prevention Strategy for Allergic and Immunotoxic Responses in Occupational and Living Environment
- Preventing Air and Blood-borne Occupational Exposure Among Health Care Workers
- Psychosocial Risk Management: A European Framework
- Revisiting Knowledge Translation: Moving Research to Practice
- Risks of the Rescuers
- Role of Biomonitoring in Occupational Health Risk Assessment
- Shiftwork, Working Hours and Health
- Silica, Silicosis and TB
- Sleep Problems in Shift Workers
- Solar Radiation and Health Risk in Exposed Workers
- Standardization of Chest Digital Images in the Screening and Education for Occupational Respiratory Disorders
- Strategies and Programmes of International Organizations: WHO, ILO, UNEP, ISSA, ICOH, IEA, IOHA, EU
- Strategies for Education and Training on Pesticide Use
- Women at Work and Women at Home: Is There a Difference?
- Work and Family: Keeping a Healthy Balance
- Work Organization and Psychosocial Factors: Policy, Standards and Surveillance

Attachment 2

ICOH 2009 Oral Paper Sessions Organized by the ICOH Scientific Committees, Working Groups and Officers

- Accident Prevention Zero Harm with Zero Tolerance
- Advances in Occupational Toxicology
- Africa: Occupational Health and Safety Issues
- Age Management
- Agricultural and Rural Health: Risks, Surveillance, and Solutions
- Allergy and Immunotoxicology
- Biological Monitoring and Biomarkers - Session 1 - New Methods and Applications
- Biological Monitoring and Biomarkers - Session 2 - Aromatic Hydrocarbon Methods and Applications
- Cardiovascular Disease and Work

- Construction Health and Safety Management
- Construction Industry Problems, Solutions and Better Practices
- Construction: contemporary issues
- Cost Effectiveness of Occupational Health Services
- Dermal Risk Assessment and Occupational Dermatoses
- Development and Application of Evidence-based Guidelines for Occupational Health Professionals
- Economic Dimensions of Occupational Health
- Evaluation and Impact of Education and Training in OH/SCETOH
- Interdisciplinary Communication in Education and Training in OH/SCETOH
- Training and Research Needs in OH/SCETOH
- Epidemiology in Occupational Health - Session 1 - Methods in Research and Surveillance
- Epidemiology in Occupational Health - Session 2 - Cancer, Cardiovascular and Respiratory Disease
- Epidemiology in Occupational Health - Session 3 - Injuries, MSDs and Other Outcomes
- Ergonomics at work - Part 1
- Ergonomics at work - Part 2
- Ergonomics at work - Part 3
- Ethics in Occupational Health
- Evidence Based Practice in Occupational Health
- Exposure Assessment, Modeling, and Control
- Functional and Clinical Aspects of Work and Vision
- Gene-Environment Interactions
- Global Plan of Action for Workers' Health: Implementation of WHO and ILO Agendas
- Health and Well-Being of Aging Workers
- Health for Health Care Workers - Part 1
- Health for Health Care Workers - Part 2
- Healthy Working, Healthy Living: Health Promotion and Protection
- Heat and Cold: Effects on Worker Health and Productivity
- History of Prevention of Occupational and Environmental Diseases
- Indoor Air Quality and Health
- Industrial Hygiene
- Infectious Diseases and Work
- Infectious Diseases Among Health Care Workers
- Informal Sector and Small Scale Enterprises
- Metals: Exposures, Risks, and Toxicology
- Mobbing, Bullying and Violence at Work
- Musculoskeletal Disorders Session 1 - Solutions and Treatments
- Musculoskeletal Disorders Session 2 - Psychosocial Correlates
- Musculoskeletal Disorders Session 3 - Risks and Diagnostics
- Nanoparticles: Challenges and Solutions

- Neurotoxicology and Psychophysiology
- Noise and Vibration Hazards at Work: Problems and New Solutions
- Occupational Asthma
- Occupational Cancer
- Occupational Health and Safety for Health Care Workers in Developing Countries - session 1
- Occupational Health and Safety for Health Care Workers in Developing Countries - session 2
- Occupational Health, Human Rights and Economic Development
- Occupational Health Services: Innovative Practices and Lessons Learned
- Participatory Approaches to Workplace Health and Safety
- Pneumoconioses: Prevention, Surveillance, and Diagnosis
- Psychosocial Factors in Various Occupations - Psychosocial session 1
- Social and biological basis of job stress - Psychosocial session 2
- Job stress and mental disorders - Psychosocial session 3
- Interventions for psychosocial factors at work - Psychosocial session 4
- Radiation Risks at Work: Electromagnetic Fields, Ionizing and Solar Radiation
- Reproductive Health
- Respiratory Diseases and Work
- Risk Assessment: Qualitative and Quantitative
- Shiftwork, Nightwork and Flexible Working Hours
- Unemployment, Job Insecurity and Health: Interventions and Their Impact
- Women, Work and Health
- Work Ability
- Work Disability Prevention and Return to Work - Session 1 - Work Disability
- Work Disability Prevention and Return to Work - Session 2 - Return to Work Interventions

Meetings organized by Scientific Committees

Accident Prevention

Aging and Work

International Symposium Satellite to ICOH 2006

Shiftwork and Ageing in Health Care and Community Services

8-10 June 2006, Venice, Italy

3rd International Symposium on Work Ability Promotion of Work Ability
Productive Aging

22-24 October 2007, Hanoi, Vietnam

Allergy and Immunotoxicology

2nd World Congress on Work-Related and Environmental Allergy
13-16 June 2007, Weimar, Germany

International Congress on “Environment, Immune-Mediated Disease and Cancer: lessons from developing and developed countries”
28 March-2 April 2008, Karthoum, Sudan

Reference cancer centers in Sudan: The challenge of upgrading INMO to international standards
3 April 2008, Wad Medani, Sudan

Cardiology in Occupational Health

Education and Training in Occupational Health

8th International Conference Healthy Working Lives for All: Crossing the OH multidisciplinary interface
10-12 April 2008, Glynhill Hotel, Glasgow, United Kingdom

Epidemiology in Occupational Health

19th International Conference on Epidemiology in Occupational Health (EPICOH2007)
9-12 October 2007, Banff, Alberta, Canada

EPICOH-NEUREOH 2008 (The 20th International Conference on Epidemiology in Occupational Health and the 10th International Symposium on Neurobehavioral Methods and Effects in Occupational and Environmental Health)
9-11 June 2008, San José, Costa Rica

10th International Symposium on Neurobehavioral Methods and Effects in Environmental and Occupational Health
11-13 June 2008, San José, Costa Rica

Fibres

Health Services Research & Evaluation in Occupational Health

Occupational Health Services in Transition
8-11 November 2007, Dubrovnik, Croatia

15th International Congress in Occupational Health Services
22-24 October 2008, Paris, France

History of Prevention of Occupational & Environmental Diseases

Third International Conference on the History of Occupational and Environmental Health

The History of Work, Environment and Health
18-21 April 2007, Merry Hill, Dudley, Birmingham, UK

Indoor Air Quality and Health

International Congress on “Environment, Immune-Mediated Disease and Cancer: lessons from developing and developed countries”

28 March-2 April 2008, Karthoum, Sudan

Forum on “Recent advances on interventions in non-industrial working environments”

21 August 2008, Copenhagen, Denmark

Industrial Hygiene

Musculoskeletal Disorders

PREMUS: Sixth International Scientific Conference on Prevention of Work-Related Musculoskeletal Disorders

26-30 August 2007, Boston, Massachusetts, United States

Neurotoxicology and Psychophysiology

EPICOH-NEUREOH 2008 (The 20th International Conference on Epidemiology in Occupational Health and the 10th International Symposium on Neurobehavioral Methods and Effects in Occupational and Environmental Health)

9-13 June 2008, San Jose, Costa Rica

The 10th International Symposium on Neurobehavioral Methods and Effects in Occupational and Environmental Health

10-12 June 2008, San Jose, Costa Rica

Occupational Health in 21 Century: The 18th World Congress on Safety and Health at Work

1 July 2008, COEX, Seoul, Korea

Occupational & Environmental Dermatoses

Occupational Health and Development

7th International Conference on Occupational Health for Health Care Workers

25 October 2007, Vancouver, Canada

Basic Occupational Health Services Current status and future challenges (Workshop)

21 January 2008, Mumbai, India

Occupational Health for Health Care Workers

National Workshop on ‘Developing a roadmap for Basic Occupational Health in India’

22 January 2008, Mumbai, India

58th National Conference on Occupational Health &
International Update
22nd to 25th January 2008, Mumbai, India

Third International Scientific Conference on Occupational and
Environmental Health
21-23rd October 2008, Hanoi, Vietnam

7th International Conference on Occupational Health for Health Care
Workers
25-28 October 2007, Vancouver, Canada

Occupational Health in the Chemical Industry

Seminar on Occupational Health and Safety in Chemical Industries
Identification and Control of Hazards
5 April 2008, Mumbai, India

MEDICHEM 2008: Innovation in Occupational Health
9-11 September 2008, Artis, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Occupational Health in Small-Scale Enterprises and the Informal Sector

Occupational Health in the Construction Industry

Mini-symposium
24-25 April 2008, Washington DC, USA

Occupational Health Nursing

International Conference on Occupational Health Nursing (ICOHN)
23-27 August 2007, Bangkok, Thailand

Occupational Toxicology

7th International Symposium on Biological Monitoring in Occupational
& Environmental Health
10-12 September 2007, Beijing, China

Radiation & Work

Reproductive Hazards in the Workplace

Reproductive Health in Relation to Pesticides and Agricultural Work
9 June 2008, S. Jose, Costa Rica

Respiratory Disorders

Workshop on Asian Standard Course Syllabus for Reader Training in the
ILO Classification of Pneumoconiosis Radiographs
June 2007; July 2008
The Chest Disease Institute, Nonthaburi province, Thailand

1st Air Pneumo Training Course of Physicians for Pneumoconioses
December 2008
The Chest Disease Institute, Nonthaburi province, Thailand

Rural Health: Agriculture, Pesticides and Organic Dusts

7th International Symposium on Biological Monitoring in Occupational
& Environmental Health
10-12 September 2007, Beijing, China

Shiftwork and Working time

International Symposium Satellite to ICOH 2006
Shiftwork and Ageing in Health Care and Community Services
8-10 June 2006, Venice, Italy

18th International Symposium on Shiftwork and Working Time: “Ageing
and working hours: creating safe environments”
28-31 August 2007, Yeppoon, Queensland, Australia

Thermal Factors

Toxicology of Metals

7th International Symposium on Biological Monitoring in Occupational
& Environmental Health
10-12 September 2007, Beijing, China

Trace Elements in Health: Essentiality and Toxicity
XIII Conference International Society for Trace Elements Research in
Humans (ISTERH)
IX Conference on Trace Elements in Humans (NTES)
21-26 October 2007, Crete, Greece

Unemployment, Job Insecurity and Health

Vibration and Noise

11th International Conference on Hand-arm vibration
37 June 2008, Bologna, Italy

Work Disability Prevention and Integration

Course: The Work Disability Prevention CIHR (Canadian Institutes for
Health Research) Strategic Training Program
2-12 June 2008, Université de Sherbrooke

Work and Vision

Light Ergonomics and Work
4 April 2008, Urbino, Italy

The ICOH SCWV position on work and vision relationships in the modern
world of work

6 May 2008, Istanbul University, Cerrahpasa Medical Faculty Department of Public Health, Turkey

Forum on Healthy Eyes in Offices

19 August 2008

As part of the 11th International Conference on Indoor Air 2008 in Copenhagen, 17-22nd August 2008

Occupational exposure to artificial optical radiation. A methodological approach according to the ICOH SCWV on work and vision

3 October 2008, Sao Paulo, Brazil

Work Organization and Psychosocial Factors

The Third ICOH-WOPS International Conference on Psychosocial Factors at Work: From Knowledge to Action

14 September 2008, Quebec, Canada

ICOH SC “Shiftwork and Working Time”, ICOH SC “Ageing at Work”, ICOH SC “Health Care Workers”

International Symposium Satellite to ICOH 2006

Shiftwork and Ageing in Health Care and Community Services

8-10 June 2006, Venice, Italy

Occupational Toxicology (SCOT), Toxicology of Metals (SCTM), and Rural Health (SCRH)

7th International Symposium on Biological Monitoring in Occupational & Environmental Health

10-12 September 2007, Beijing, China

SC on Health Care Worker Health, SC on Occupational Health and Development

7th International Conference on Occupational Health for Health Care Workers

25-28 October 2007, Vancouver, Canada

Neurotoxicology and Psychophysiology & Epidemiology in Occupational Health

EPICOH-NEUREOH 2008 (The 20th International Conference on Epidemiology in Occupational Health and the 10th International Symposium on Neurobehavioral Methods and Effects in Occupational and Environmental Health)

9-13 June 2008, San Jose, Costa Rica





Vice President's Report

Report on National/Area Secretaries

Dr. Kazutaka Kogi, Vice President

Promotion of the Membership Campaign and ICOH Activities by National/Area Secretaries

During the 2006–2008 triennium, the 55 National/Area Secretaries designated by the President actively promoted the membership campaign and ICOH activities. The Secretary General Professor Sergio Iavicoli and Vice President Dr. Kazutaka Kogi jointly communicated with the National/Area Secretaries through asking them to follow the guidance provided by the ICOH goals for the 2006–2008 triennium and the Guidelines for National Secretaries, and to report back on their activities at the end of each year. The package for National Secretaries that contained the ICOH key documents, the Guidelines for National Secretaries and materials and Powerpoint slides for the ICOH membership campaign was sent to them. The exchange of information with the National/Area Secretaries through mails was considered very important in the promotion of the membership campaigns and various other ICOH activities.

After the initial appointments of National/Area Secretaries by the President, new Secretaries were further appointed in the course of 2007, including Professor Se-Hoon Lee for Korea and Dr. Håkan Westberg for Sweden. As the National Secretary for Italy, Prof. Giuseppe Abbritti resigned from the post, Dr. Sergio Iavicoli was appointed as acting National Secretary for Italy. The list of the National/Area Secretaries is attached as Annex 1 to this report.

Launching of the National Secretaries Virtual Office

A new National Secretaries Virtual Office page was launched on ICOWEB in April 2007. The ICOH Secretariat designs and edits the page.

The Virtual Office <<http://www.icoweb.org/nsvo/>> contains the following:

- Letter to National Secretaries – ICOH goals for the 2006–2008 triennium
- NS obligation – Transparency Declaration Form and NS Report Model for 2006
- Membership tools – Powerpoint presentation, membership brochure, English, French, Spanish and Italian Application Forms and the Guidelines for National Secretaries
- List of National Secretaries.

The contents of this Virtual Office have been utilized as a means of supporting the roles of National/Area Secretaries, especially for promoting the membership campaign and related ICOH activities.

Meetings of National/Area Secretaries

A meeting with the ICOH National/Area Secretaries was held during the 2006 ICOH Congress to discuss their activities in the 2006–2008 triennium. The participants of the meeting agreed to strengthen the membership campaign and actively promote ICOH and its activities.

During the period of 2006–2008, the Officers held meetings with National/Area Secretaries at separate occasions to discuss the membership campaign and the promotion of ICOH activities, as well as the collaboration among National Secretaries: these meetings were very useful for examining the means of support for the activities of the Secretaries and reviewing the membership campaign. These separate meetings included those held in October 2006 during the 26th UOEH and the 7th IIES International Symposium in Kitakyushu, in July 2007 on the occasion of the ICOH Officers Meeting in Cape Town, in January 2008 on the occasion of the conference of the Indian Association of Occupational Health in Mumbai, in September 2008 in Buenos Aires and in Singapore on the occasion of the regional conferences on occupational health.

For reviewing the roles of National/Area Secretaries and the co-operation among them, regional meetings were held inviting National/Area Secretaries from respective regions. Four regional meetings of the National/Area Secretaries were held in 2007 and 2008 as follows:

- The North American regional meeting of National Secretaries was held on 26 October 2007 in Vancouver in conjunction with the ICOH International Conference on Health Care Workers. The National Secretaries of Canada, Mexico and the United States participated together with National Secretaries of Argentina, Belgium, Brazil and Colombia and the four ICOH Officers.
- The Latin American regional meeting of National Secretaries was held on 13 November 2007 in Buenos Aires on the occasion of the International Congress on Occupational Health. The National Secretaries of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia and Peru attended together with Vice President responsible for National Secretaries.
- The Asian regional meeting of National/Area Secretaries was held on 16 September 2008 in Singapore in conjunction with the Asian Conference on Occupational Health. The National/Area Secretaries of Australia, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, the Philippines, Taiwan and Thailand attended with Vice President responsible for National Secretaries.
- The European regional meeting of National Secretaries was held on 21 October 2008 on the occasion of the 15th International Congress in Occupational Health Services in Paris, France. The National Secretaries of Finland, Greece, Hungary, Ireland and Italy attended with President, Secretary General and Vice President responsible for National Secretaries.

These regional meetings discussed the membership campaign, ways in which to promote ICOH activities – including those of the Scientific Committees, the link with national and regional events and the preparatory

work for ICOH2009 and ICOH2012. The regional meetings were very useful for discussing the link between the National/Area Secretaries and the ICOH Secretariat and the Officers and their regional co-operation.

Support for the Activities of National/Area Secretaries

These meetings and correspondence with National/Area Secretaries revealed the need for supporting their activities through their active involvement in ICOH activities. Further improvement of the Virtual Office will be particularly necessary in order to include news and reports of National/Area Secretaries and provide practical means of action for all the Secretaries. This need was further discussed in the regional meetings of National/Area Secretaries.

Revision of the Guidelines for National Secretaries

The need for revising the Guidelines for National Secretaries was discussed at the meetings of the ICOH Officers held in July 2007 in Cape Town. The suggested revisions concerned the election of National Secretaries and their roles. A preliminary draft of the revised Guidelines has been prepared and discussed at the ICOH Mid-term Meeting held in March 2008 in Hamburg.

Reports of the National/Area Secretaries

The reports on the activities of National/Area Secretaries were presented at the end of 2007 and at the end of 2008. The reports for 2007 were discussed at the ICOH Board meeting in Hamburg in March 2008. These 26 reports outlined their active roles in the ICOH membership campaign and the support for various ICOH activities. Special efforts were made by a number of National/Area Secretaries to recruit new ICOH members in particular at conferences on occupational health. The National/Area Secretaries reported the active roles of ICOH members in promoting the activities of ICOH Scientific Committees and ICOH Congresses, with the Secretaries playing the key roles. This included the dissemination of information regarding ICOH activities, the networking of relevant activities of ICOH members, as well as the translation of key ICOH documents into local languages. The reports suggested the need to improve the links between National/Area Secretaries and the ICOH Secretariat and to strengthen the support for their activities. Many of the reports emphasized the need to strengthen occupational health in developing countries and targeted training activities. The summary of the reports for 2006–2008 will be presented to the Board and the General Assembly in March 2009.

Annex 1: List of ICOH National/Area Secretaries

COUNTRY/AREA	NATIONAL SECRETARY
North America	
Canada	Louis Patry
Mexico	Elia E. Enriquez
USA	Robert Raymond Orford
Latin America	
Argentina	Claudio Hernan Taboadela
Brazil	Edoardo Santino
Chile	Rodrigo Munita
Colombia	Julietta Rodríguez Guzmán
Ecuador	Raul Harari
Peru	Denis Barnaby
Uruguay	Raul Barañano
Europe	
Austria	Robert Winker
Belgium	Simon Bulterys
Croatia	Vlasta Deckovic-Vukres
Czech Republic	Daniela Peiclova
Denmark	David Sherson
Finland	Timo Leino
Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Elisaveta Stikova
France	Janine Cantineau
Germany	Gustav Schaecke
Greece	Theodore Bazas
Hungary	Eva Ruzsas
Ireland	Patrick Lee
Italy	Sergio Iavicoli (acting)
Netherlands	Monique Frings-Dresen
Norway	Helge Kjuus
Poland	Dariusz Kluszczynski
Portugal	António de Souza Uva
Serbia	Peter Bulat
Slovenia	Metka Terzan
Spain	Miguel Angel Vargas Diaz
Sweden	Håkan Westberg
Switzerland	Helmut Krueger
Turkey	Yucel Demiral
Ukraine	Natalia Bobko
United Kingdom	John Harrison
Middle East	
Israel	Mario Sculsky
Pakistan	Amanullah
Saudi Arabia	To be announced

COUNTRY/AREA**NATIONAL SECRETARY****Africa**

Kenya
Mauritius
Morocco
Nigeria
Senegal
South Africa
Tunisia
Zambia

Franklin K. Muchiri
Harry Phoolchund
Abdeljalil El Kholti
Petar Nmadu
Babacar Fall
Charles P. Roos
Rafik Gharbi
Anne Kamoto Puta

Asia

China
India S. Sivaramakrishnan
Indonesia
Japan
Korea
Philippines
Singapore
Sri Lanka
Taiwan
Thailand

Hua Fu

Sudjoko Kuswadji
Norito Kawakami
Se Hoon Lee
Benito Reverente Jr
Kee Seng Chia
Ranjit De Alwis
Jung-der Wang
Yothin Benjawung

Oceania

Australia
New Zealand
(As of December 2008)

Wai-On Phoon
David Black

Editor's Report

Suvi Lehtinen

Information is needed more than ever in the development of occupational health and safety; this applies to all levels of decision-making as there is a need to make as well-informed decisions as possible. All channels of information dissemination should be effectively utilized. The aim of the ICOH Newsletter has been to provide information regarding the on-going activities of the Scientific Committees, as well as to provide a channel for continuous information from Officers to members.

Newsletter

Three issues of the ICOH Newsletter a year were successfully published. The Task Group on Information acted as the Editorial Board of the Newsletter. The ICOH Officers and the Secretariat, as well as the Chairs and Secretaries of the Scientific Committees have learnt to utilize it as a channel for information dissemination.

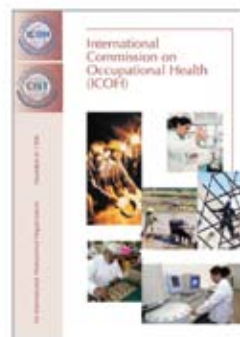
The three issues came out at the end of April, August, and December. The Newsletters were mailed to each ICOH member in good standing. The mailing costs are relatively high, but feedback has revealed that members expect an association such as ICOH to provide them with information material directly, rather than expect them to look up the information on the website. The vast majority of the membership preferred the paper newsletter to the electronic version. The electronic version of the ICOH Newsletter is also available at:

<http://www.icohweb.org/newsletter/index.asp>

Introductory articles

From issue 2/2006 onwards, a brief introductory article on a new research finding or a review of a topical issue was again activated. They were as follows:

- 2/2006 Goedhard WJA. Ageing and Work
- 3/2006 Kauppinen K. Gender, Health and Work a women's perspective
- 1/2007 Nordberg GF, Fowler PA, Nordberg M. New Challenges in Occupational and Environmental Toxicology
- 2/2007 Verbeek J. The Cochrane Occupational Health Field; first results
- 3/2007 Rantanen J. Challenges Posed by Globalization to Ethics in Occupational Health
- 2/2008 Bonde JP, Monge P, Sallmén M, Toft G, Figà-Talamanca I, Hanke W, Roeleveld N. Reproductive health is a matter of concern in relation to pesticides
- 3/2008 Kieselbach T, Mannila S, Vuori J. Unemployment, job in-



security and health European and global development
and how to update the research agenda.

Contributions from the Scientific Committees

Two-thirds of the Scientific Committees of ICOH have sent contributions to the Newsletter during the past triennium. As always, it has taken some time before the members and readers consider the Newsletter their own. During the last year or so the Scientific Committees have sent their news and reports more actively.

Website

For the past triennium, the Editor in Chief of the ICOH website has been Professor Sergio Iavicoli. He and his staff have successfully continued to make proposals for the improvement of the website. The number of visitors has increased notably since the upgrading of the ICOH website.

The development of the ICOH website was consolidated during the 2006-2008 Triennium by enhancing the internal and external communication. ICOH website figures show an increasing number of visitors with a sharp rise in terms of both overall visits and new visits, which are about 63% of the total. This means that the ICOH website is a most relevant tool of our communication system.

Of course, the website needs additional content and frequent updating, which is currently carried out by a Brazilian webmaster, Mr. Bruno Hannemann.

Scientific Committee Websites

The promotion of the Scientific Committee activities was implemented and some of them also established their own website, usually maintained by the Chair or the Secretary of the Committee.

Links have been made from the ICOH website to these websites. The ICOH Secretariat has provided the Scientific Committees with a template.

The following SCs have their own website:

- Fibres (www.icoh-sc-on-fibres.de/index.html)
- Health Services Research and Evaluation in OH (<http://www.ttl.fi/Internet/partner/tthosicoh/>)
- History of Prevention of Occupational and Environmental Diseases (<http://www.cdldevoto.it/icoh/>)
- OH and Development (<http://www.ttl.fi/Internet/partner/icoh>)
- OH for Health Care Workers (www.arbmed.uni-wuppertal.de/icoh-sc-hcw)
- OH in the Chemical Industry (www.medicem.org.au)
- Radiation and Work (<http://www.occmcd.co.nz/icoh/>)
- Reproductive Hazards in the Workplace (http://www.icohweb.org/committees/reproductive/icoh_com.htm)
- Shift Work and Working Times (http://www.workingtime.org/index.php/Main_Page)
- Work and Vision (http://users.unimi.it/workvis/icoh_sc.htm)

These pages are maintained by the background organizations of ICOH members. Each Scientific Committee is encouraged to establish

its own pages within the ICOH website. The Editor-in-Chief of the ICOH website (www.icohweb.org) is the Secretary General, who is in charge of the format and structure of the website.

ICOH Centennial Heritage and Bibliographic Database

The ICOH Secretariat particularly emphasized the importance of the the ICOH Centennial Heritage Project: the historical research “ICOH Centennial Heritage”, already distributed as a CD-ROM at the ICOH 2006 and now available on-line. The “ICOH Centennial Heritage” was a major project which aimed at reconstructing ICOH’s historical roots on the occasion of its centennial celebration.

The ICOH Bibliographic Database is also available on-line and includes Tables of Contents and cumulative Authors Index of the 27 ICOH International Congresses from 1906 to 2003 resulting from the official documents of the Conferences kept at the Library of the Clinica del Lavoro “Luigi Devoto” in Milan. The majority of the documents are converted into electronic format and are available as multi-page TIFF or PDF files.

Scientific Committee Virtual Office

The need for a further organization of the ICOH Scientific Committee activities was recognized by Dr. Fingerhut, ICOH Vice President in charge of the Scientific Committee co-ordination. During the ICOH Officers’ meeting, held in December 2006 in Rome, it was decided that a Scientific Committee Virtual Office would be developed, in which all the relevant documents for activities, actions, and scheduled outcomes will be posted. The virtual office was successfully developed and launched in January 2007 and is now available at www.icohweb.org/scvo.

The following list presents the available documents, all of them downloadable:

I Communications to Scientific Committee Chairs and Secretaries

- Letter of 8 January 2007

II Timetable and Form Templates for SC Deliverables

- Triennium Timetable of SC Deliverables

SC Officer Obligations

- Transparency Declaration Form
- Triennium Template SC Work Plan Form
- SC Template Business Meeting Report Form
- Triennium Template Midterm Report Form
- Triennium Template Final Report Form
- SC Template Officer Contact Information Form

ICOH 2009

- ICOH2009 Suggestion Form
- ICOH 2009 Meeting Reservation Form

Sponsorship Funding for SCs

- SC Sponsorship Funding Form

Membership tools

- Powerpoint presentation
- Membership brochure

- Application forms (English, French, Spanish, Italian).

National Secretaries Virtual Office

A National Secretaries' Virtual Office was also developed as a similar tool for the National Secretaries (NS) in order to provide a useful platform in which the relevant documents for ICOH promoting activities run by National Secretaries can be found.

The National Secretaries' virtual office was successfully developed and is now available at www.icohweb.org/nsvo.

Contents of National Secretaries Virtual Office:

Letter to National Secretaries

ICOH goals for the 20062008 triennium

- Letter of 8 January 2007

NS Obligation

- Transparency Declaration Form
- NS Report Model for 2006

Membership tools

- Powerpoint presentation
- Membership brochure
- Application forms (English, French, Spanish, Italian)
- Guidelines for National Secretaries.

New Layout for ICOH Website

The layout of the ICOH Website is undergoing complete renovation. The new layout will be launched in the first quarter of 2009. Thus, each ICOH member will have a Virtual Office at his/her disposal, in order to personally update data, and to pay membership fees directly on-line, by using the Pay Pal System.

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of International Commission on Occupational Health as at October 31, 2008 and the related statement of income and expenditure and summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes for the financial period from January 1, 2006 to October 31, 2008.

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards. This responsibility includes: designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in Italy. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of International Commission on Occupational Health as of October 31, 2008, and of its financial performance for the period then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards.

Naples January 15, 2009

MAZARS & GUÉRARD S.p.A.



Fabio Carlini

Partner - Certified Public Accountant

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UFFICI IN ITALIA: BOLOGNA - FIRENZE - MILANO - NAPOLI - PADOVA - PALERMO - ROMA - TORINO - UDINE



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INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

STATEMENT OF MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements are drawn up in accordance with the provisions of the International Statements of Accounting Standard and so as to give a true and fair view of the assets used in, and liabilities arising out of the organization's operation in Rome as at June 16, 2006, and of the results of the organization's operation in Rome for the financial period from January 1, 2006 to June 16, 2006 and at the date of this statement there are reasonable grounds to believe that the organization will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

.....
Professor Jorma Rantanen
President

.....
Professor Sergio Iavicoli
Secretary-General

Rome,
June 16, 2006



International Commission on Occupational Health - ICOH
Commission Internationale de la Santé au Travail - CIST

Founded in 1906 as Permanent Commission



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Prof. Frank Van Dijk (The Netherlands)
Dr. Martha Waters (USA)

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

STATEMENT OF MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

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.....
Professor Jorma Rantanen
President

.....
Professor Sergio Iavicoli
Secretary-General

Rome,
January 15, 2009

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON OCCUPATIONAL HEALT

BALANCE SHEET

October 31 2008

	Notes	October 2008 Chf	December 2005 Chf
<u>ASSETS</u>			
Current Assets:			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	617.623	550.403
Other receivables	5	45.828	5.958
Total Assets		663.451	556.360
<u>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES</u>			
Current liabilities:			
Other payables	6	140.443	44.502
Deffered revenue		271	352
Total currente liabilities		140.714	44.855
Fund balances:			
Accumulated Funds		522.737	511.506
Total fund balances	7	522.737	511.506
Total liabilities and fund balances		663.451	556.360

fondo iniziale		511.506
Perdita su titoli	-	1.088
Risultato periodo		12.319
		522.737

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

Period from January 1, 2006 to October 31, 2008

	January 1, 2006 to June 16, 2006 (CHF)	June 17, 2006 to October 31, 2008 (CHF)	January 1, 2006 to October 31, 2008 (CHF)	October 1, 2002 to December 31, 2005 (CHF)
INCOME				
Membership fees	32.732	369.796	402.529	398.497
Bank interest	-	-	-	740
Miscellaneous income	10	5.772	5.782	-
Contribution to ICOH	-	-	-	-
Bank interest on bond	1.027	19.031	20.058	23.176
Income from ICOH 2006	-	97.189	97.189	-
Income from ICOH 2003	-	-	-	76.128
Write off of over provision	-	-	-	35.509
Total income	33.769	491.788	525.557	534.051
EXPENDITURE				
Past President's expenses	-	-	-	1.035
Current President's expenses	6.828	29.471	36.299	28.396
1st Vice President's expenses	378	15.626	16.004	29.079
2nd Vice President's expenses	2.768	22.273	25.041	8.073
Past Secretary-General's expenses	-	-	-	-
Current Secretary-General's expenses	2.037	18.696	20.733	16.555
Secretariat office administration expenses	18.595	42.301	60.896	30.251
Secretariat admin. staff salary	13.527	66.620	80.147	90.190
Board meetings expenses	-	14.295	14.295	19.477
Officers' meeting	-	9.090	9.090	9.883
Scientific committees expenses	-	29.358	29.358	31.000
SCs Meetings of chairpersons/secretaries	-	10.421	10.421	17.425
ICOH Strategic Initiatives	7.439	71.145	78.584	117.521
Audit fees:				
current period	1.870	15.517	17.387	18.961
underprovision in prior period	-	-	-	-
Bank charges	2.914	11.122	14.036	18.187
ICOH 2006	14.668	-	14.668	-
ICOH 2009 Developing Countries Participations Support	-	60.000	60.000	-
ICOH Congress 2003 Expenses	-	-	-	13.892
Website account	4.195	17.343	21.538	11.701
Foreign exchanges loss	- 36	- 55	- 91	3.402
Loss on securities transaction	140	4.690	4.830	8.610
Total expenditure	75.323	437.914	513.236	473.638
OPERATING GAIN/(DEFICIT) TRANSFERRED TO ACCUMULATED FUNDS	- 41.554	53.874	12.320	60.413

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

International Commission on Occupational Health

**Notes to the financial statements
October 31, 2008**

1. GENERAL

The organization was founded in 1906 in Milan (Italy) as the Permanent Commission on Occupational Health. During prior period, the principal place of operation of the organization was at Department of Community, Occupational and Family Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, MD3 National University of Singapore, while since March 2003 the principal place of operation is at Ispesl research center, Istituto Superiore per la Prevenzione e Sicurezza del Lavoro, Via Fontana Candida 1, 00040 Monteporzio Catone, Rome-Italy.

The principal activity of the organization is to foster the scientific progress, knowledge and development of occupational health and related subjects on international basis.

The financial statements are expressed in Swiss Francs.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

BASIS OF ACCOUNTING-The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention and are drawn up in accordance with the provisions of the International Statements of Accounting Standard.

FINANCIAL ASSETS-Financial assets include cash and bank balances and other receivables. Other receivables are stated at their nominal values as reduced by appropriate allowances for estimated irrecoverable amounts.

FINANCIAL LIABILITIES-Financial liabilities are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. Financial liabilities include other creditors and are stated at their nominal values.

FOREIGN CURRENCY TRANSACTIONS-Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded in Swiss Francs at the rates ruling at the date of the transactions. At each balance sheet date, recorded foreign currency monetary balances are reported at the rates ruling at the balance sheet date. All realized and unrealized exchange adjustment gains and losses are dealt with in the profit and loss statement.

INTEREST ON FIXED DEPOSITS-Interest on fixed deposits is recognized on an accrual basis.

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS-Membership subscriptions are recognized on a cash basis.

RETIREMENT BENEFIT COSTS-Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit plans (including state-managed retirement benefit schemes) are charged as an expense when incurred.

3. FINANCIAL RISKS AND MANAGEMENT

i) Credit risk

The organization has minimal credit risk as most of the organization's income are on cash terms.

ii) Interest rate risk

The organization is not exposed to any interest risk except for certain cash balances, which are interest bearing.

iii) Foreign currency risk

The organization's foreign currency exposures arose mainly from the exchange rate movements of the United States dollar and Euros, and the Swiss Francs which is also the organization's reporting currency. The organization's management believes that their foreign exchange rate risk is minimal. Hence, the organization does not use any derivative financial instruments to mitigate this risk.

iv) Liquidity risk

The organization has sufficient liquidity at all times through efficient cash management. The organization's ability to meet its obligations is managed by maintaining appropriate level of cash balances.

v) Fair value of financial assets and financial liabilities

The carrying amounts of financial assets and financial liabilities reported in the balance sheet approximate their fair value.

4. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2005</u>
	Chf	Chf
Time deposits	224.152	222.840
Cash and bank	<u>393.471</u>	<u>327.563</u>
	<u>617.623</u>	<u>550.403</u>

5. OTHER RECEIVABLES

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2005</u>
	Chf	Chf
Accrued bank interest	-	-
Loan to ICOH 2009 Congress	40.000	-
Others	<u>5.828</u>	<u>5.958</u>
	<u>45.828</u>	<u>5.958</u>

6. OTHER PAYABLES

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2005</u>
	Chf	Chf
Accrued expenses	124.927	25.541
Audit fees payable	<u>15.517</u>	<u>18.961</u>
	<u>140.444</u>	<u>44.502</u>

7. ACCUMULATED FUNDS

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2005</u>
	Chf	Chf
Balance as at prior period ending	511.506	6.476
Period adjustment	-	4.787
Bond's depreciation	(1.088)	(10.170)
Transfer from statement of income and expenditure	<u>12.319</u>	<u>60.413</u>
Balance as at current period ending	<u>522.737</u>	<u>511.506</u>

8. STAFF COSTS

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2005</u>
	Chf	Chf
Staff costs	-	-
Costs of defined contribution plans included in staff costs	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Number of employees at end of year	-	-

9. RECLASSIFICATIONS AND COMPARATIVE FIGURES

The financial statements for 2008 cover the financial period from January 1st, 2006 to October 31st, 2008. The financial statements for 2005 cover the financial period from October 1st, 2002 to December 31st, 2005.

Prior period's financial statements classification has been kept for comparability with the current period's financial statements. The figures related to the period ending at October 31st, 2008 are split into the Statement of Income and Expenditure in two columns, referred to the period January 1st 2006-June 16th 2006 and to the period June 17th 2006-October 31st, 2008, to provide separate evidence of the incomes and expenditures pertaining to current management, for the period January 2006-October 2008 and to prior management for the period October 1st 2002-December 31st 2005.

10. MISCELLANEOUS

The membership fees provided by Noro Fund for period January 2006-October 2008 amount to CHF 1680. The Noro is a fund devoted to grant the ICOH membership for people coming from the developing countries as well as young students and practitioners. ICOH with the Noro Fund takes also aim at enforcing and guaranteeing representativeness on worldwide basis, according to the International nature of the Commission . For the current triennium, ICOH allocated a total amount of 2,000 CHF.



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