



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

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First Meeting of the ICOH Board

1st Part

March 21, 2009
Cape Town, South Africa

Time: Saturday, 21 March 2009, 14.00- 19.15

Venue: Cape Town International Convention Centre, 1 Lower Long Street, Cape Town – South Africa

Participants: **Prof. Jorma Rantanen (Finland)** - ICOH President
Dr. Sergio Iavicoli (Italy) -ICOH Secretary General
Dr. Marilyn Fingerhut (USA) - ICOH Vice President
Dr. Kazutaka Kogi (Japan) - ICOH Vice President
Mr. Ian Eddington (Australia) - ICOH Board Member
Dr. John Harrison (United Kingdom) - ICOH Board Member
Ms. Suvi Lehtinen (Finland) - ICOH Board Member
Prof. René Mendes (Brazil) - ICOH Board Member
Dr. Jorge Morales (Mexico) - ICOH Board Member
Dr. Franklin Kithinji Muchiri (Kenya) - ICOH Board Member
Prof. Antonio Mutti (Italy) - ICOH Board Member
Mrs. Jennifer Rose Serfontein (South Africa) - ICOH Board Member
Prof. Frank Van Dijk (The Netherlands) - ICOH Board Member

Mr. Carlo Petyx (Italy) – ICOH Staff
Mr. Pierluca Dionisi (Italy) - ICOH Staff

1. Opening of the Meeting

The President of ICOH, Professor Jorma Rantanen, opened the meeting welcoming all the participants and expressing, on behalf of ICOH Officers and Board Members, his thanks to ICOH 2009 Organizing Committee for hosting the 29th International Congress on Occupational Health. Prof. Rantanen thanked the attendees for taking part in the meeting and wished everybody successful and productive work.

Decision:

All the participants accepted items of the proposed agenda.



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2. Approval of the minutes of the ICOH Board Meetings held in Hamburg on March 13-15, 2008

The minutes are a short report on the activities and decisions taken at the last Mid Term Meeting held in Hamburg in 2008. The document was finalized and circulated among the ICOH Board Members just after the Hamburg meeting and then made available on the web for comments and amendments.

Decision:

- The Minutes were approved.

3. Approval of the minutes of the ICOH General Assembly held in Milan in 2006

Also the minutes of the ICOH 2006 General Assembly were circulated and published on the ICOH web (http://www.ichoweb.org/site_new/ico_general_assembly.asp) for comments and amendments.

Decision:

- The Minutes were approved.

4. President 's Report

ICOH President, Professor Jorma Rantanen reported on the activities carried out in the triennium 2006 - 2008. During the last tenure, ICOH leadership has focused on the implementation of the strategic objectives set at the Milan Centennial Congress:

- **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.
- **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.



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Most of the strategic objectives were achieved. Professor Rantanen pointed out that ICOH intensively contributed to the WHO Regional Programs with particular reference to the BOHS activities. Country-wide programmes for BOHS were supported through policy advice, guideline documents, training and education and support for implementation of pilot projects in China, Vietnam, Thailand and South-Eastern Europe; furthermore, workshops on BOHS were held in India, Northern Europe and North-West Russia, Turkey and 14 South-East Asian countries. ICOH President continued highlighting ICOH efforts in dealing with the impact of globalization on occupational health and safety. ICOH paid special attention to the identification and the assessment of new risks. To this end, ICOH worked in close collaboration with European Union Bilbao Agency Risk Observatory. Professor Rantanen also reminded that on behalf of ICOH, its Secretary General, Dr. Sergio Iavicoli was particularly active in the field of risks related to nanotechnologies and other new technologies. However, ICOH – continued ICOH President – was also very committed to the old global risks and it was active in the prevention of asbestos hazards.

Jorma Rantanen also pointed out that Ethics is for the organization a mainstream. As ICOH Bye-Laws on ethics were not effective in tackling with the violation of the ethical principle, amendments were needed. An important achievement was the publication of the ICOH Good Association Practice and the final release of the Guidelines for Scientific Committees and Guidelines for National Secretaries, in which ethical principles were specified more in details.

As for the organizational development, Prof. Rantanen welcomed the improvement made in the National Secretaries and Scientific Committees organization and activities. ICOH President also reported on the possibility of reshaping ICOH institutional structure. According to the ICOH President, ICOH might be built as federation of associations and the individual membership. This would improve ICOH membership and finances. Furthermore, Prof. Jorma Rantanen claimed that ICOH drew up Memoranda of Understanding with the sister organizations.

ICOH President reported also on external communication and membership development, stressing some of the good results achieved. Then, he focused on the ICOH finances which were balanced and improved. Prof. Rantanen thanked Prof. Antonio Moccaldi, President of the Italian Institute for Occupational Safety and Prevention for the economic support given to ICOH activities.

Jorma Rantanen offered his thanks to the ICOH Board for the work done during the triennium and opened the discussion. Dr. Kazutaka Kogi, ICOH Vice President, took the floor asking for concrete for the next triennium. In the end, ICOH President replied that ICOH needs to develop more scientific outputs.

Decision:

- The President's Report was approved.

5. Report on Scientific Committees

Dr. Marilyn Fingerhut, ICOH Vice President in charge of the Scientific Committees, reported on the 2006-2008 activities. Firstly, she pointed out the status of the Scientific Committees: 31 were active while two of them, the SC on Accident Prevention and Fibres, were not active. Furthermore, at the Hamburg Mid Term Meeting, she also reminded that the



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ICOH Board approved the creation of two new Scientific Committees: Women Health and Work and Occupational Medicine. Most of them organized conferences, published articles and held meetings during the tenure 2006-2008. These activities were mostly described in the Final Report.

Dr. Fingerhut remarked the enormous contributions of the Scientific Committees to the ICOH 2009 Congress. So, the Scientific Committees organized 72% of the Special Sessions and 89% of the Oral Paper Sessions. She believed that a weak point was the membership among young people and developing countries.

However – added ICOH Vice President – one of the major improvements is represented by ICOH Web space for Scientific Committees: each of them set up its own web space, providing Mid Term and Final Report 2006-2008 along with an Assessment of Success and Impact in the Triennium. She also reported on the development of the Virtual Office for Scientific Committees, which improves communications of the ICOH Officers to the Scientific Committees Chairs and Secretaries and provides form for required activities. Finally, Dr. Fingerhut presented the final draft of the Guidelines for Scientific Committees for approval to the Board members. This document aims at representing a clear guidance for Scientific Committees.

ICOH Vice President opened the discussion and asked for questions and suggestions. Prof. Antonio Mutti, ICOH Board Member from Italy, suggested to reduce the number of the Scientific Committees and to merge some of them. Dr. Fingerhut pointed out that at the Hamburg Meeting there was a specific session on merging of the Scientific Committee. However, as a result of this, they preferred to collaborate rather than merging in order to maintain a specific focus in their field of interest. In addition to this – she continued – in the last triennium there was also a merge of three Scientific Committees: the Scientific Committees on Agriculture, Organic Dusts and Pesticides merged in the new Committee on Rural Health. Prof. Rantanen appreciated Prof. Mutti intervention and proposed to be considered to merge the dormant Scientific Committees.

Decision:

- The Report on Scientific Committees was approved;
- The Guidelines for Scientific Committees were approved and came into force.

6. Reports of Task Groups

a) Report of the Finance Committee

Prof. Fank Van Dijk, in his capacity of Chair of the Finance Committee, reported on the ICOH Finances. He stressed the good shape of the ICOH finances and introduced the proposal of increasing the ICOH fees for the triennium 2009-2012. The new membership fees will bring about a 10% increase to be spread to all type of members both individual and collective.

Ms. Suvi Lehtinen, Chair of the SC on Occupational Health and Development, thanked ICOH President and Secretary General for having allocated 60,000 CHF of the ICOH funds to support the attendance of experts from developing countries to ICOH 2009. The Scientific Committee on Occupational Health and Development handled to allocate the grants. Furthermore, President Jorma Rantanen specified that further funds derived from the donations of Arbor Occupational Medicine (USA), Health Span International (USA), Consorzio ISPESL/Clinica Del Lavoro (Italy), Executive Committee of ICOH 2009 Congress, Finnish Association of Occupational Health Nurses (Finland), Finnish Association of Occupational Health Physician (Finland), FIOH (Finland), NIOSH/University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (USA), Institute for Science of Labour (Japan), Prevent (Sweden) and Liberty Mutual Research Institute for Safety (USA). Thanks to these resources ICOH funded 75 members from 31 different countries. Prof. René Mendes, ICOH Board Member



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from Brazil, proposed to postpone the discussion on registration fees after an analysis the ICOH Budget. Dr. Sergio Iavicoli accepted the proposal.

Decision:

- The Report of the Finance Committee was approved;

b) Report of the Task Group on Ethics and Transparency

ICOH President informed the ICOH Board that Prof. Petter Kristensen, Chair of the Task Group, due to personal reasons was not able to attend the meeting. Prof. Antonio Mutti reported on the Greek Translation of the ICOH Code of Ethics. After a brief discussion due to the limited time available, the TG itself decided to entrust the next appointed committee the study of the case. The Board accepted the proposal. Prof. Rantanen reported on the new Declaration of Interest Form implemented during the last Mid Term Meeting. The DOI – continued ICOH President – reflects some provisions of the ICOH GAP: *“WHO and ILO have made special provisions concerning asbestos and tobacco industries, ICOH as a NGO in official relations with them has committed to follow their principles in relation to those industries. This in practice implies that an ICOH Officer or Member cannot receive funding or be in any collaborative relation with such industries.”* Thus, the Declaration of Interest Form – affirmed ICOH President – was modified in order to consider Tobacco or Asbestos conflict of interest as special cases to be analyzed by the TG on Ethics and Transparency. Prof. Rantanen reminded the meeting participants that the ICOH mission is to be the leading guardian of ethics in the field of Occupational Health and Safety.

Decision:

- The Report of the Task Group on Ethics and Transparency was approved.

Ms. Jenny Serfontein left the meeting

c) Report of the Task Group on Membership

Dr. Sergio Iavicoli presented the report of the Task Group on Membership, showing the outcomes of the triennium 2006 – 2008. ICOH Secretary General pointed out a growth of the membership figures in comparison with the previous triennium and particularly focused on the 3% increase of the developing countries affiliation. In addition, he reminded of some actions undertaken: the strengthening of the National Secretaries role in the membership campaign, the specific actions carried out at Post Graduate Schools and the distribution of the National Secretaries Package as useful tool for the membership recruitment. However, the most important achievement was the improvement of the internal and external communication. As an example, - affirmed ICOH Secretary General – a new ICOH website was developed. The new website will have a private area to upload information as well as an area to pay ICOH membership fees on-line. Prof. Van Dijk took the floor asking for making scientific contents available on-line. Dr. Iavicoli replied by remarking that we already made a breakthrough: all the proceedings of the past congresses are available on the ICOH website; some Scientific Committees already made available contents on their own websites.

Decision:

- The Report of the Task Group on Membership was approved;



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d) Report of the Task Group on Information

Ms. Suvi Lehtinen reported on the Task Group on Information, presenting the triennial results. She emphasized that the newsletter was one of the major tasks carried out during the triennium 2006- 2008. The Chair of the Task Group as Editor in Chief took stock of the goals achieved: after two terms costs are increasing and it would be appropriate to distribute the newsletter by using electronic sources, thus also permitting a better consultation. Then, Dr. Iavicoli, Editor in Chief of the ICOH website, pointed out the huge improvements made on this area: the Virtual Office for National Secretaries and Scientific Committees were launched and made available on the ICOH web; in addition to this, many Scientific Committees published websites run under their own responsibility. Finally, Ms Lehtinen left the floor to Mr. Carlo Petyx who introduced the new ICOH website, developed thanks to his hard work and dedication. The new layout for the ICOH website represents the greatest innovation of the triennium 2006- 2008 and the major tool for information dissemination for the time being.

Decision:

- The Report of the Task Group on Information was approved;

7. Constitution and Bye-Laws and Guidelines

ICOH President started presenting the final release of the ICOH Good Association Practice a draft document of which was introduced at the Mid Term Meeting in March 2008. Prof. Rantanen pointed out that the GAP was also available on the web for comments and suggestions. The document spells out the role of ICOH as an association as well as the enormous importance of Ethics for our organization. After this, Prof. Rantanen went through the proposed amendments to the art. 2 section 7 of the ICOH Constitution. The proposal aimed at reorganizing the threshold for starting a disciplinary action. Dr. John Harrison proposed to slightly rephrase the proposal by replacing the wording "is alleged" with a more appropriate word. Finally, the Board agreed on using the wording "has acted", instead of "is alleged".

Then, the ICOH President moved to look through the amendments and changes to ICOH Bye-Laws. The article 2 section 7 of the ICOH Constitution entrusts the procedure for the disciplinary actions to the provision of the Bye-Law. Finally, Dr. Iavicoli also presented a minor constitution change: throughout the text, the wording "Chairman" will change into "Chairperson"; while the wording "He", wherever used, will be replaced with "He/She".

Decision:

- The ICOH Board agreed to make a formal proposal in order to amend the Art. 2 sect. 7 of the ICOH Constitution and to present the other constitution changes;
- The ICOH Board approved the Bye-Law (Examination of allegations on misconducts and disciplinary actions) under the condition of the final approval of the constitution changes (Art. 2 sect. 7) from the ICOH General Assembly.

8. Report on National Secretaries Activities

Dr. Kazutaka Kogi, ICOH Vice President, reported on the National Secretaries activities. He described all the main actions carried out during the triennium: the National Secretaries Meetings held in all continents,



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the membership recruitment campaign in Post Graduate Schools as well as the development of the National Secretaries Package. As general suggestions for the forthcoming triennium, Dr. Kogi proposed to improve communication between National Secretaries and ICOH Officers and to strengthen the role of the National Secretaries. This could be achieved by combining both a closer link to the National Associations and to the Regional Networking.

Decision:

- The Report on the National Secretaries activities was approved;

9. Proposal for Honorary Members appointment

Prof. Jorma Rantanen took the floor by presenting the list of Honorary Members to be presented to the ICOH General Assembly for appointment. The list was drafted taking into account two criteria: the geographical distribution and the high scientific level of members to be appointed. Furthermore, Dr. Franklin Kithinji Muchiri, ICOH Board Member from Kenya, proposed to add to the list Anne Kamoto Puta from Zambia.

Ruddy Cesar	FACCI	Brazil
Kyu Sang	CHO	Rep. of Korea
Pier Alberto	BERTAZZI	Italy
Benito	REVERENTE	Philippines
Willem J.A.	GOEDHARD	The Netherlands
Deogratias K.	SEKIMPI	Uganda
Michael	MARMOT	United Kingdom
Linda	ROSENSTOCK	USA
David H.	WEGMAN	USA
Anne K.	PUTA	Zambia

Decision:

- The Board decided to submit this list to the General Assembly for the election;

10. Issues related to the Elections of ICOH Officers and Board

Dr. Sergio Iavicoli pointed out the procedure related to the election of ICOH Officers and the Board. He highlighted that the procedure adopted was in line with the ICOH Rules: the Call for Election was published in the ICOH Newsletter by March 22, 2008, then the candidatures were submitted by June 22, 2008 and finally curricula were made available on the ICOH website starting from September 2008. In addition to this, at the end of September 2008, ballots were sent out and a deadline was fixed a deadline for the vote - as stated in the ICOH rules - which was one month before the beginning of the Congress. ICOH Secretary General reminded that the ballot counting will be made at the presence of the Scrutinizers Committee chaired by Prof. Jerry Jeyaratnam.



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Mr. Ian Eddington proposed the next Board to consider the possibility of developing the electronic vote to be used for future elections. Prof. Rantanen really appreciated the proposal but he also expressed concerns on the real efficacy of this innovation in consideration of differences in internet access worldwide.

Decision:

The Committee of Scrutinizers was appointed;



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First Meeting of the ICOH Board

2nd Part

March 22, 2009
Cape Town, South Africa

Time: Sunday, 22 March 2009, 9.00- 12.45

Venue: Cape Town International Convention Centre, 1 Lower Long Street, Cape Town – South Africa

Participants: **Prof. Jorma Rantanen (Finland)** - ICOH President
Dr. Sergio Iavicoli (Italy) -ICOH Secretary General
Dr. Marilyn Fingerhut (USA) - ICOH Vice President
Dr. Kazutaka Kogi (Japan) - ICOH Vice President
Mr. Ian Eddington (Australia) - ICOH Board Member
Mr. Kaj Elgstrand (Sweden) - ICOH Board Member
Dr. John Harrison (United Kingdom) - ICOH Board Member
Ms. Suvi Lehtinen (Finland) - ICOH Board Member
Prof. René Mendes (Brazil) - ICOH Board Member
Dr. Jorge Morales (Mexico) - ICOH Board Member
Dr. Franklin Kithinji Muchiri (Kenya) - ICOH Board Member
Prof. Antonio Mutti (Italy) - ICOH Board Member
Prof. Frank Van Dijk (The Netherlands) - ICOH Board Member

Mr. Carlo Petyx (Italy) – ICOH Staff
Mr. Pierluca Dionisi (Italy) - ICOH Staff

1. Voting on the Venue of ICOH 2015

The first agenda item was the Bid Committees presentation for the determination of ICOH 2015 venue. Dr. Sergio Iavicoli reminded that criteria for the bid presentation were included the new Guidelines for the organization of the ICOH Congresses.

The criteria for the selection of the venue for ICOH 2015 were:

- professional strength



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- occupational health situation in the country
- technical facilities, logistics, feasibility
- economic capacity
- geographical rotation.

The time allocated for each presentation was 10min for the presentation and 5min for the general discussion. Three committees put in for hosting ICOH 2015: (Melbourne) Australia, (Dublin) Ireland and (Seoul) Republic of Korea.

Dr. Mills presented the Bid for the Australian delegation and explained its strengths: the Australasian Faculty of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (AFOEM) guaranteed that a substantial proportion of any profit made would be used to set up an OH&S "Travelling Scholarship"; fund for regional OH&S practitioners from disadvantaged communities/countries; Substantial funding from the State Government of Victoria.

Ireland delegation proceeded with their bid presentation for hosting the 31st ICOH International Congress on Occupational Health. The conference proposed theme was: Global Challenges in a Changing Work Environment. The bid was jointly organized by the Convention Centre Dublin (CCD) and the Faculty of Occupational Medicine Royal College of Physicians. The key points of the bid were the great accessibility of the venue and the Congress and hotel facilities; Irish bidders were confident to attract much more delegates than other destinations and to propose an excellent Scientific Program thanks to the high level of the Scientific Committee.

Finally, Ms Colin Park presented the Korean Bid for hosting the ICOH 2015 International Congress. She started introducing the members of the Bidding Committee: Mr. Min-Ki Noh, President of KOSHA, Prof. Jaehoon Roh, President of the Korean Society of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, Prof. Se-Hoon Lee, ICOH National Secretary from Rep. of Korea and Dr. Seong-Kyu Kang, Director of Research Institute of Occupational Health (KOSHA). Ms. Park reminded that KOSHA successfully organized and hosted nationally and internationally renowned Congresses related to occupational health, including XVIII World Congress on Safety and Health at Work. Korean bidders proposed to maintain registration fee lower than the previous ICOH Congresses: USD 600~700.

Mr. Ian Eddington asked if the ICOH executive body had the quorum and could hold the vote. ICOH Secretary General replied by mentioning what is stated in the ICOH Constitution at the art 5. Section 7: "*A Board meeting is valid when out of its 21 members, the President or another Officer representing him and ten other Board Members are present*". Therefore, Dr. Sergio Iavicoli confirmed that the quorum was fully met. After hearing questions and observations, the Board carried out the ballot voting.

Result of the ballot voting:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------|
| ▪ Republic of Korea (Seoul) | 9 votes |
| ▪ Australia (Melbourne) | 3 votes |
| ▪ Ireland (Dublin) | 1 votes |

Decision:

- The Board decided to recommend Republic of Korea as the venue for ICOH2015 Congress;
- The Board was informed that the President appointed the Committee of Scrutineers for counting the votes for ICOH Congress venue in 2015. The members were Jerry Jeyaratnam, Chair, Ruddy Facci, Patabendi Abeytunga and they were assisted during the official count by the Secretary General, Sergio Iavicoli.



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2. Working Group Reports

a) Working Group on Biological Agents and Infectious Diseases

Ruddy Facci reported on the activities of the Working Group. The main topic was the definition of guidelines and rules for SARS/HIV – AIDS workers prevention as well as to physicians related to such diseases. During the last triennium – continued the Chair of the Working Group – the number of members was increased: 11 new experts joined the Group. The group held several meetings and published some valuable scientific outputs: the Guidelines for Travelers (Author: Robert Orford), the Report on Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome - SARS (Authors: Koji Wada, Toru Yoshikawa, Ken Takahashi), the Report on Avian Influenza - "BIRD FLU" (Authors: Toru Yoshikawa, Koji Wada, Ken Takahashi), the Report on Risk Assessment, Health Surveillance and Fitness for work in Health Care Workers Exposed to Infectious Agents (Author: Stefano Porru) and the translation into English of the Brazilian Legislation for Health Care Workers. Dr. Facci also focused on the future perspectives, wondering whether the Group shall continue its activities, what the new aims and challenges will be. ICOH Board Members highly recommended to continue the Working Group activities in close collaboration with WHO. ICOH President suggested a range of possible topics to be researched such as HIV, the risks for workers related to influenza and practical protections for Health Care Workers.

Decision:

- The Working Group will continue its activities;
- The Report of the Working Group on Biological Agents and Infectious Diseases was approved.

b) Working Group on Professional Curricula

Two Board Members: Dr. John Harrison and Prof. Frank Van Dijk reported for this Working Group. Dr. Harrison reported on the project of developing professional curricula for Basic Occupational Health Services. He emphasized the need for the BOHS to be implemented at local level. Dr. Harrison also focused on the fact that Occupational Health Services provided shall fit with local needs. Prof. Van Dijk claimed the needs of gathering funds to carry out the project.

Decision:

- The Report of the Working Group on Professional Curricula was approved.

c) Working Group on Occupational Medicine

Professor Jorma Rantanen reported on the activities of the group. ICOH President also pointed out that, during the last Mid Term Meeting, ICOH Board decided to turn the Working Group into a Scientific Committee. The members of the group met at ICOH 2009 in order to establish aims and future perspectives of the new Scientific Committee.

Decision:

- The Report of the Working Group on Occupational Medicine was approved.
- The Working Group on Occupational Medicine will become a Scientific Committee.



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d) Working Group on Child Labour

Prof. Jorma Rantanen reported on behalf of Brigitte Froneberg, Chair of the Working Group on Child Labour, who didn't attend the meeting. No activities were reported by the Working Group. However, ICOH President informed the ICOH Board that a special session on Child Labour was organized during ICOH 2009. ICOH Board agreed with the need for considering this topic as a priority for the future term.

e) Working Group on Communication Network

The Chair of the Working Group made the final report of the activities carried out during the triennium 2006-2008. He reported on the main goals: Stimulate Research to Practice, Encourage Networking Among Professionals, Expand Useful Technologies and Develop Partnerships. Dr. Lum particularly focused on the new opportunities offered by the social media such as YouTube, Facebook, etc. The use of these new tools has to be sped up. Max Lum announced to the Board that ICOH was on Twitter website at <http://twitter.com/ICOHbuzz>. ICOH President suggested to advertise these links on the ICOH Website.

Decision:

- The Report of the Working Group on Communication Network was approved.

3. Financial update and Budget 2006-2008 and Auditors Report

Dr. Sergio Iavicoli took the floor and reported on the Budget 2006 – 2008. ICOH Secretary General informed the Board on overall figures: the operating gain transferred to accumulated funds was 12,320 CHF. He also called the Board's attention on the Auditors Report which stated that *"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 and its cash flows for the period then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards."*

Incomes were pretty much in line to what ICOH Board budgeted in 2006. Then, Secretary General moved to the analysis of the expenses. Most of the costs were predicted and the money saved might be used in the next budget. The funding allocated for the Scientific Committees were almost totally used up. 60,000 CHF were also allocated for the ICOH 2009 Developing Country Participation Support. The ICOH Board brought in this new budget line during the last Mid Term Meeting. Dr. Iavicoli also showed the overall figures of the temporary period from November 1, 2008 to March 28, 2009. The reserves amounted at about 500,000 CHF. As for the Membership fees, ICOH Secretary General suggestion was to increase 10% for all categories. Prof. Jorma Rantanen clarified that the increase was due to the costs and to the compensation of the inflation rate.

Decision:

- The Report on the Financial update and Budget 2006 - 2008 was approved;
- The new membership fees for the Triennium 2009 - 2012



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4. Liaisons

a) WHO-ILO relationships

ICOH President briefly reported on the relations with WHO and ILO. He particularly reminded ICOH contribution to the implementation of the WHO Workplan 2006-2010 and to the WHO Global Programme

A number of special ILO collaboration activities were also mentioned: the List of occupational diseases, Drafting ILO Convention no. 187 (The Convention: Promotional Framework for Occupational Health and Safety), the Collaboration for World Safety 2008 Congress and World Occupational Safety Summit and the Collaboration on prevention of asbestos hazards.

b) Liaisons with NGO's

ICOH President continued pointing out that our organization recently signed Memoranda of Understanding with IEA, IOHA, ISSA, IALI. The task of the new leadership will be to follow up with this policy.

Decision:

- The Report on WHO-ILO relationships was approved;
- The Report on the Liaisons with NGOs was approved.

5. Other issues presented by the Board Members

Dr. Jorge Morales, President of ICOH 2012 Organizing Committee, announced registration fees for the next Congress: 600 \$ for Developing Country and 700\$ for the Developed Countries. The fees and ICOH 2012 budget will be discussed and agreed with the ICOH Secretariat.

ICOH President called the attention of the ICOH Board on another issue: the case of potential misconduct referred to Prof. Tee Lee Guidotti, an ICOH Member from the USA. On the basis of an article published on the Washington Post, Dr. Fingerhut reported on the case. She expressed concerns on the possibility that ICOH reputation would be affected if Prof. Guidotti was elected as ICOH Vice President. There were no rules for such a case. After a long discussion the Board took a decision.

Decision:

- In case of Prof. Guidotti's election as Vice President, the results will be declared during the General Assembly. However, the General Assembly will be required to conditionally accept his election. Meanwhile, the case will be sent to the Ethics Committee for an independent analysis and the work in the elected position will be pending until the resolution of the case.