



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

Founded in 1906 as Permanent Commission



Meeting of ICOH SCs Officers Meeting

May 30, 2015
Seoul, Republic of Korea

Time: Saturday, 30 May 2015, 9.00 – 13.00

Venue: Room 203, COEX Convention Center, Seoul, Korea

Participants: see Annex 1

1. Opening and review of Scientific Committee' activities

The President of ICOH, Dr. Kazutaka Kogi, opened the meeting welcoming all the participants and sharing with them the agenda items. Dr. Kogi asked to the participants to briefly introduce themselves.

2. President's report

(Reference: Triennial Report 2012-2014, pp. 10-26)

ICOH President, Dr. Kogi, briefly reported on the activities carried out during the 2012-2014 triennium. In particular, Dr. Kogi acknowledged the work of the Scientific Committees (SCs): one of the major achievements of ICOH was the Global Asbestos Ban, developed in cooperation with the SC on Respiratory Disorders. A number of SCs were very active also in developing guidelines or guidance materials for supporting risk assessment and control process at the workplace. He also stressed the importance of the ICOH Newsletter as a means of divulgation of information from SCs.

Another good result is the high number of SCs conferences and meetings organized during the triennium aiming at discussing the recent developments in managing work-related health and safety risks.

Dr. Kogi then anticipated the possible creation of two new SCs from the existing WGs on Mining in Occupational Safety and Health and on Emergency Care in OH. This possibility was to be discussed at the ICOH Board meeting later.

Dr. Kogi concluded his report by thanking the SCs Officers for their close collaboration with ICOH.

3. Report on Scientific Committees for the triennium 2012-2014

(Reference: ICOH Triennial Report 2012-2014, pp. 32-50)

As ICOH Vice-President in charge of the Scientific Committees, Prof. Rogers welcomed all the SCs Officers attending the meeting and gave an overview on the work done by ICOH SCs during the triennium 2012-2014. Prof. Rogers remarked that during the triennium ICOH had 35 very active Scientific Committees, each of them having its own Chair and Secretary appointed. The final reports were received and reviewed and will be available on the website.

Prof. Rogers also remarked on the enormous contributions given by the Scientific Committees to the scientific programme of the ICOH Congress 2015: with their support, the Policy Forum, 10 plenary sessions, 33 semi-plenary sessions, 112 special sessions and 88 oral sessions were organized, and 559 posters in total were displayed. They also helped in identifying Keynote and Semi-plenary speakers.



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All SCs have organized at least one conference resulting in nearly 110 conferences globally during this period. Many SCs have jointly co-sponsored conferences and other activities with other SCs. SCs have been very active working to develop partnerships, collaboration, and products with other entities and organizations. The number of publications including scientific proceedings for SCs exceeded 150.

Publications and other materials of interest are being developed for occupational safety and health professionals to support needs of developing basic occupational health services.

As final comment Prof. Rogers expressed her positive evaluation on the work done by the SCs in terms of productivity and collaboration, and thanked the SCs officers for their precious contribution.

4. ICOH Membership campaign and SCs role

(Reference: ICOH Triennial Report 2012-2014, pp. 27-31)

ICOH Secretary General, Prof. Sergio Iavicoli briefly reported on the main issues on membership. He stressed the continuous growth of membership and the wider enrollment of young members.

He showed some data on geographical distribution, that is now wider even though Europe is still the most represented continent. Also a wider professional distribution facilitates a multidisciplinary approach within ICOH.

Another good result was the further increase of developing countries affiliation due not only to the differentiated system of ICOH fees but also to many activities incentivated in these countries (organization of meetings, events, educational and training activities).

With reference to SCs role, Prof. Iavicoli acknowledged the precious work done by the SCs for the organization and coorganization of ICOH events, thus creating important opportunities to promote ICOH activities and recruit membership. Prof. Iavicoli also reminded another important tool available for the SCs Officers to get updated information and materials, i.e. the Virtual Office of the ICOH website where SCs Officers can look into their SC's members, find packages of promoting materials as well as application forms to be used during their meetings or events. Therefore he strongly encouraged the participants to benefit from this tool, which is indeed widely used.

5. National Secretaries and Scientific Committees cooperation

Ms. Suvi Lehtinen, Vice-President in charge of National Secretaries, reported on the activities of National/Area Secretaries in consideration of the extreme importance to increase the collaboration and the cooperation between NSs and Scientific Committees in particular when meetings or symposia are organized.

Ms. Lehtinen emphasized the value of ICOH as a global association with members in over 100 countries worldwide. 58 ICOH National Secretaries were appointed in the triennium 2012-2014. In addition to this, she remarked the importance of having ICOH NSs also in countries with very low membership as a strategic action to increase the ICOH members and information on ICOH in these countries.

Finally, Ms. Lehtinen briefly reported on proposals about how to increase the information exchange and the collaboration between SCs and NSs. Sharing information on symposia organized within the countries would be very fruitful in terms of membership involvement and recruiting.

6. Breakout sessions A-B

Prof. Iavicoli presented the breakout sessions by listing them:

- A. Interaction and Integration among Scientific Committees
- B. SCs Outputs and dissemination

1 hour was allocated for the breakout sessions.



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7. Report from the breakout sessions

The two groups reported on the outputs produced.

A. Interaction and Integration among Scientific Committees (Rapporteur: Dr. Su Wang)

Some proposals were offered to improve the work and the interaction of the SCs. The possibility to merge SCs with similar goals and field of action was discussed in order to enhance their activities. A better integration will avoid too much fracturing and will preserve, at the same time, the SCs' specificity with a transversal and multidisciplinary approach.

Another important issue was the participation in SCs, that is now limited to 3 SCs for each ICOH member. It was discussed how this can be made more flexible also in consideration of the possibility of active, concrete participation in many SCs. It should also be clarified what benefits of membership are in belonging to a SC.

The importance of communication of information and outputs from SCs to communities and to the world was also stressed.

B. SCs Outputs and dissemination (Rapporteur: Prof. Malcolm Sim)

During the discussion it was acknowledged the important role played by the personal contact in the recruitment activity: ICOH members should give their support to this activity by profiting from any SCs event and from the International Congress to spread information on ICOH work and benefits among the participants and to invite people joining ICOH association. As for the strategy to attract young members, a key tool remains the internet and more specifically the information and devices provided by the ICOH website and private area. Social media should be taken into consideration for the enrolment of young members. Internet is also important in terms of dissemination of materials from SCs available on ICOH website.

A good success of the triennium was the number of conferences and SCs joint meetings following the Guidelines and also the fruitful use of the SCs virtual office.

8. Closing remarks

Dr. Kogi concluded this productive meeting by thanking all the participants for their attendance, their active participation in ICOH and useful comments to implement the future work of Scientific Committees, that are the real core of ICOH activities.



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Annex 1: List of Participants

Name	Office
Kazutaka Kogi	ICOH President
Sergio Iavicoli	ICOH Secretary General
Bonnie Rogers	ICOH Vice-President
Suvi Lehtinen	ICOH Vice-President
Jorma Rantanen	ICOH Past President
Jukka Takala	ICOH President Elect

SC	
Akizumi Tsutsumi	Cardiology in OH
Bill Shaw	Work Disability Prevention and Integration
Claudia de Hoyos	Women Health and Work
Claudina Nogueira	Board Member
Diana Gagliardi	OH and Development
Dongmug Kang	Musculoskeletal Disorders
Frida Marina Fischer	Shiftwork and Working Time
Giovanni Costa	Board Member
Hannu Rintamaki	Thermal Factors
Eun-A Kim (representing Kent Anger)	Neurotoxicology and Psychophysiology
Louwna Pretorius	OH Nursing
Mahinda Seneviratne	Small-scale enterprises and informal sector
Malcolm Sim	Occupational Medicine, Board Member
Maren Beth-Huebner	OH in Chemical Industry (MEDICHEM)
Michele Riva	History
Murray Coombs	OH in Chemical Industry (MEDICHEM)
Nicolas Santoro	Women Health and Work
Nils Plato	Industrial Hygiene
Pau-Chung Chen	Reproductive Hazards in the Workplace
Paul A. Schulte	Nanomaterials Workers' Health
Stefano Mattioli	Health Services Research and Evaluation in OH
Su Wang	Accident Prevention
William Buchta	OH for Health Care Workers

Pierluca Dionisi	ICOH Staff
Carlo Petyx	ICOH Staff
Erika Cannone	ICOH Staff



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