



Minutes of the 2nd Board Meeting

February 10, 2014
Espoo, Finland

Time: Monday, 10 February 2014, 9.00 – 13.00

Venue: Hanasaari Cultural Centre, Espoo, Finland

Participants:

Dr. Kazutaka Kogi (Japan) - ICOH President
Prof. Bonnie Rogers (USA) - ICOH Vice President
Ms. Suvi Lehtinen (Finland) - ICOH Vice President
Dr. Sergio Iavicoli (Italy) - ICOH Secretary General
Prof. Jorma Rantanen (Finland) - ICOH Past President
Prof. Giovanni Costa (Italy) - ICOH Board Member
Dr. Marilyn Fingerhut (USA) - ICOH Board Member
Dr. Patabendi Abeyunga (Canada) - ICOH Board Member
Prof. Andrew Curran (United Kingdom) - ICOH Board Member
Dr. Norito Kawakami (Japan) - ICOH Board Member
Dr. Elia Enriquez (Mexico) - ICOH Board Member
Dr. Timo Leino (Finland) - ICOH Board Member
Prof. Monique Frings-Dresen (The Netherlands) - ICOH Board Member
Ms. Claudina Nogueira (South Africa) - ICOH Board Member
Dr. Edoardo Santino (Brazil) - ICOH Board Member
Dr. Mary Ross (South Africa) - ICOH Board Member
Prof. Yves Roquelaure (France) - ICOH Board Member
Prof. Malcolm Sim (Australia) - ICOH Board Member
Prof. Peter Westerholm (Sweden) - ICOH Board Member

ICOH/FIOH Staff:

Mrs. Valeria Boccuni (Italy) - ICOH Staff
Mr. Pierluca Dionisi (Italy) - ICOH Staff
Mr. Carlo Petyx (Italy) - ICOH Staff
Ms. Inkeri Haataja (Finland) – FIOH Information Officer

Apologies:

Dr. Seong-Kyu Kang (Rep. of Korea) – ICOH Board Member
Prof. Harri Vainio (Finland) - ICOH Board Member

1. Report of Ethics and Transparency Committee

(See BD12 in Background documents ICOH Board Meeting)

Dr. Giovanni Costa summarized the activities carried out by the Committee according to its main tasks. He reported that the work of the Committee was mainly focused on the revision of the Code of Ethics within the Code Editing Group, including President Kazutaka Kogi, Secretary General Sergio Iavicoli, vice-Presidents Suvi Lehtinen and Bonnie Rogers, and Past President Jorma



Rantanen. Following the extensive review process carried out in the previous triennium by the Ethics and Transparency Committee, chaired by Peter Westerholm, the Code Review Group agreed to keep the current structure of the Code as much as possible close to the previous one minimizing the changes while incorporating new items and updating chapters. The whole Code Editing Group worked in full agreement to finalize the revision process by progressively amending the text. Several suggested drafts were submitted and discussed via post and business meetings with international experts. A business meeting of the Committee together with ICOH Officers was held in June 27-28, 2013 in Rome (at INAIL Headquarters). In this meeting, the latest revised version of the Code was further examined, discussed and refined. Dr. Costa thanked Prof. Westerholm for the enormous work made in the previous triennium and gave him the floor.

Prof. Westerholm reminded the Board of the terms of reference, the strategy followed for the revision and emphasized the involvement of the entire Committee and also of the regions and professional networks in Latin and South Americas, Africa and Asia. An important contribution was given by the subgroup "Africa", established in 2009 at the onset of the Code Review Group (L. London, G. Tangwa, R. Matchaba-Hove, N. Mkhize, R. Nwabueze, A. Nyika, and P. Westerholm), which identified issues of concern in an African context and generated comments on the Code providing input to the ongoing ICOH process.

Then Dr. Iavicoli quickly reminded the participants of the meeting of the final steps of the revision process: in September 2013 the final draft agreed by the Review Group was circulated to the Board for comments; from November 20 to December 20, 2013 the Table of suggested revisions was published on the ICOH website for comments from ICOH members. Dr. Iavicoli reported that ICOH Secretariat received only one comment extremely positive and with some general considerations from Dr. Santiago Maffia Bizzozero, an ICOH member from Argentina. Dr. Giovanni Costa also informed the Board about one comment he received by Prof. Maurizio Manno, Chair of the SC Occupational Toxicology.

Dr. Kogi took the floor and showed the Table of suggested revisions to the Board members. A lively and very active discussion took place and the revisions proposed were reviewed one by one. After a one-hour productive debate, the Board members agreed on the final revisions and finalized the revision process. Dr. Kogi declared the discussion about the ICOH Code of Ethics finally concluded and congratulated for the result achieved. Prof. Yves Roquelaure, Prof. Michel Guillemin and Prof. Jean-François Caillard will be asked to translate the new edition into French. The next steps will be the printing, the dissemination plan through the website, the Newsletter and future events and the presentation to the General Assembly at the ICOH 2015 Congress in Seoul.

Decision:

- The ICOH Code of Ethics final revision was approved and Dr. Kogi will prepare the final version of the Code (See Annex 3);

2. Election procedures for 2015-2017

Sergio Iavicoli took the floor by drawing attention to the deadlines set for the elections, to the rules to be followed for the candidatures and to the eligibility for the current positions, as stated in the Bye-Laws 6 and 7. He called the attention of the Board to the deadline for candidates submission occurring on August 31, 2014 (nine months before the first day of the International Congress according to Bye-Law 6). Due to the Summer break, the Board agreed to exceptionally extend the submission deadline of fifteen days. The submission deadline agreed was September 15, 2014 in order to allow all the potential candidates to be nominated. Finally, he showed the eligibility situation for Officers and Board Members.

Decision:



- The election procedure was agreed upon and the deadlines fixed:
 - **By April 30, 2014** – The Call for election - published in the Newsletter 1-2014 and on the Website – and the Eligibility of candidates and electors;
 - **By September 15, 2014** - The candidatures have to be submitted to the ICOH Secretariat;
 - **By November 30, 2014** - The candidates' curricula will be published in the ICOH Newsletter 3-2014 and on the Website;
 - **By April 30, 2015** - The ballots shall return to the ICOH Secretariat; For the election of the Board, each member, having the right to vote, can express from a minimum of 8 to a maximum of 16 preferences.
 - **During the Congress (May 31 – June 5, 2015)** – The Counting of the ballots.

3. WHO-ILO relationship and NGOs

(See BD9 in Background documents ICOH Board Meeting)

Dr. Kogi noted that ICOH relationship with ILO, WHO and NGO's was already reported during the Joint Meeting of February 9, 2014. In particular ICOH collaboration activities with WHO were extensively discussed during one of the breakout sessions. Ms. Suvi Lehtinen, as Liaison person for IALI activities, informed the Board that the renewal of ICOH/IALI Memorandum of Understanding is under process. As additional initiative, she informed the Board that ICOH and IALI are investigating the possibility of preparing a joint statement on need for occupational health services and she asked for the Board advice. The Board members agreed with this proposal.

Decision:

- The Report on WHO-ILO and NGO relationships was approved.

4. Future Perspectives of ICOH

The future perspectives of ICOH were already mentioned in the President Report as well as in the Joint Meeting with Scientific Committees. Dr. Kogi stressed the importance of further promoting ICOH joint activities towards achieving the priorities of action and for securing ICOH concerted efforts for organizational development. The achievement of these goals by Seoul Congress would be advisable with particular emphasis on the production of practical outputs (training guidance materials, statements, etc) especially coming from Working Groups, Task Groups and Scientific Committees in the second part of the triennium.

5. Any other matter presented by Board Members

Prof. Malcolm Sim informed the Board he had informal contacts with Prof. Marc Schenker who has a specific focus on the impact of immigration on injury and disease who queried how a working group could be established on this topic area and what the process would be for that. Dr. Kogi agreed this is an important area ICOH could commit itself to. Dr. Fingerhut shared what she experienced for the proposal of a new WG on Occupational Safety and Health in Mining; according to the ICOH Guidelines for SCs, a group of interested parties on a particular area can present a proposal to the Board to request the formation of a WG intended to work together which could be proposed to become a Scientific Committee in the next Board meeting

Dr. Iavicoli took the opportunity to inform the Board about recent contacts with the International Association of Physicians for the Overseas Services (IAPOS) asking for possible cooperation with ICOH. Dr. Mary Ross informed the Board of her being a member of IAPOS and provided some



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

Founded in 1906 as Permanent Commission



information about this association: IAPOS is a network of Chief Medical Officers and Tropical Disease Specialists who provide occupational and travel services to individuals travelling and working abroad. IAPOS organizes a meeting twice a year, normally in London and occasionally in Europe and its membership is restricted to 120 members paying an annual membership fee. Prof. Andrew Curran gave his availability to collect additional information on this association. ICOH Board members agreed to get more information to evaluate a possible joining of IAPOS with ICOH similarly to what was done with MEDICHEM.

ICOH President closed the session expressing his thanks for the successful meeting.