



Minutes of the 2nd Board Meeting

February 4, 2011
Milan, Italy

Time: Friday, 4 February 2011, 9.00- 13.40

Venue: University of Milan – Hall of Graduation

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. Giovanni Costa (Italy) - ICOH Board Member
Dr. Marilyn Fingerhut (USA) - ICOH Board Member
Prof. Michel Guillemin (Switzerland) - ICOH Board Member
Dr. John Harrison (United Kingdom) - ICOH Board Member
Dr. Seong-Kyu Kang (Republic of Korea) - ICOH Board Member
Dr. Norito Kawakami (Japan) - ICOH Board Member
Dr. Timo Leino (Finland) - ICOH Board Member
Dr. Jorge A. Morales (Mexico) - ICOH Board Member
Prof. Antonio Mutti (Italy) - ICOH Board Member
Mrs. Uche Ojomo (Nigeria) - ICOH Board Member
Prof. Mary Ross (South Africa) - ICOH Board Member
Dr. Shrinivas Shanbhag (India) - ICOH Board Member
Dr. Claudio Taboada (Argentina) - ICOH Board Member
Prof. Frank Van Dijk (The Netherlands) - ICOH Board Member
Prof. Sheng Wang (P.R. of China) - ICOH Board Member
Prof. Peter Westerholm (Sweden) - ICOH Board Member

Dr. Max Lum (USA) – Chair of the International Communication and Information Technology Network for OSH

Ms. Valeria Boccuni (Italy) - ICOH Staff
Mr. Pierluca Dionisi (Italy) - ICOH Staff
Mr. Carlo Petyx (Italy) - ICOH Staff
Mr. Pasquale Fruscella (Italy) - ICOH Staff

1. Working Group on Professional Curricula

Prof. Frank Van Dijk reported on the WG on Professional Curricula. He highlighted that the access to quality knowledge and knowledge of products is a prerequisite for the professional quality and forms a bridge between research and practice.



However, many good materials are available but they are not used; therefore, there is a need for selection on relevance and quality, for updating and sometimes for translation. Prof. Van Dijk presented some projects on which they are working. He also concluded that an online website platform providing easy access to up-to-date quality materials and databases and facilitating communities of practice is needed. Dr. Kang from Korea remarked that there is a problem with the translation of such materials. ICOH President pointed out that the organization has to develop specific guides on quality materials.

Decisions:

The Report was approved.

2. WG on Participatory Approach in OH

Dr. Kogi briefly reported, on behalf of Dr. Khai, on activities of the WG on Participatory Approach in OH, whose background documents are included in the meeting papers.

Decision:

The Report of the WG on Participatory Approach in OH was approved.

3. Report of Network

Dr. Lum briefed on the ICOH Communication Network. After a general review of the state of art of global mass media communication, he analyzed and presented the core goals of the network:

- Stimulate the exchange of information;
- Encourage the networking and the collaboration;
- Disseminate the relevant scientific information;
- Develop partnerships.

Furthermore, he also gave information on ICOH Twitter and on the enormous possibilities provided by this social media. In conclusion, Dr. Lum formulated recommendation to the Board:

- To Initiate a campaign to get ICOH members to join and contribute to TwitterBuzz;
- Make the linkage to membership
- Consider a Facebook page.

Dr. Harrison asked if twitter can be used also using other languages. Dr. Lum invited everybody to post in Spanish in view of the 2012 Congress. Secretary General took the floor and prized the Chair of the Network for the excellent work done. However, he also expressed his concerns on the internal communication, which has still to be improved.

Decision:

The Report of the International Communication and Information Technology Networking was approved.



4. Constitution, Bye Laws and Guidelines

Dr. Kogi clarified that no specific changes were discussed before the meeting. However, during the current meeting discussion came out the idea of regulating the emergency powers in case of extraordinary events. Sergio Iavicoli added some comments on the case of the change of the Congress venue regulated by the art.10 of the Constitution. A proposal should be formulated and brought at the ICOH 2012 General Assembly for approval in order to fill this gap.

5. Report of the Task Group on Ethics and Transparency

Prof. Peter Westerholm reported once again on the ICOH Code of Ethics review by showing the terms of reference, the strategy followed and time schedule for the final approval. Secretary General clarified that the Code will be approved and adopted by the Board and then it will be presented to the General Assembly. Prof. Westerholm reminded that this first review round is very important for the implementation. Dr. Taboadela proposed to include Prof. Werner in the Task Group. ICOH President asked to produce comments by 15th March. Dr. Kogi also remarked that the wording "Occupational Health Professionals" might cause confusion and it would be better to change it with "Occupational Health Practice". Finally, Secretary General made some comments on the Declaration of Interest process with reference to Tobacco and Asbestos. ICOH – according to Dr. Iavicoli - must have clear rules when SC officers are unable to fulfil the required obligations.

Decision:

The Report was approved and TG will review the process by ICOH Congress 2012.

6. WHO-ILO relationship and NGO's

Dr. Kogi reported to the ICOH Board that the collaboration with ILO is developing steadily as most of the priority topics for this collaboration have been based on the decisions of the Joint ILO/WHO Committee on Occupational Health and ILO Global Strategy on Occupational Safety and Health. A number of special ILO collaboration activities have been undertaken. Among the main collaboration activities there were:

- ICOH was represented at the Meeting of Experts on the Revision of the List of Occupational Diseases (Recommendation NO. 194), held in Geneva from 27-30 October 2009 as one of observers;
- ICOH supported the promotion of ILO Framework Convention No. 187 (2006) and the application of the ILO Global Strategy on Occupational Safety and Health (2003);
- ICOH participated in production of guidelines and training materials for implementation of Basic Occupational Health Services (BOHS) together with ILO and WHO.



At the WHO Executive Board meeting in May 2010, a joint ICOH/IEA/IOHA statement on child injury prevention was presented. This was followed up in the WHO Executive Board meeting in January 2011 and led to the resolution on child injury prevention with insertions on young workers and child labour, for its adoption at the 2011 World Health Assembly. ICOH continued its active cooperation within the Network of WHO Collaborating Centres in OH and invited the next meeting of the Network to be held in conjunction with the ICOH 2012 Congress.

ICOH President also reminded that ICOH keeps close scientific and professional collaboration with IEA and IOHA through the Memorandum of Understanding. Furthermore, ICOH established collaborative relationships through the Memorandum of understanding with International Social Security Association (ISSA) and some other international organizations. The collaboration with the NGOs is expanding as important facets of ICOH activities.

Decision:

The Report was approved.

7. Proposal for Honorary Members Appointment

Dr. Kogi, ICOH President, informed the Board that at the moment no concrete proposals were put forward. Dr. Iavicoli reminded the criteria to be ICOH Honorary Member. ICOH President invited all the Board members to formulate proposals.

8. ICOH 2015

Dr. Iavicoli updated the Board that the contract on ICOH Congress 2015 was signed after the formal acceptance by the Congress organizers. In the contract was already included the commitment by the local organizers to grant 60,000 CHF for developing countries. Dr. Seong-Kyu Kang added that booths in the exhibition free of charges will be provided to the next bidding countries.

9. ICOH 2018

Dr. Iavicoli reported that the only expression of interest received for the organization of ICOH Congress 2018 is from India. He reminded that the bids have to be formally presented 60 days before the beginning of ICOH Congress 2012. Dr. Shrinivas Shanbhag confirmed the interest of India for the bid. ICOH President invited ICOH Board to look for potential organizers.

10. ICOH Budget

ICOH Secretary General presented the budget 2009-2011 as updated in November 2010. He showed the good results reached in terms of incomes and expenses. ICOH Newsletter will be financed with the resources available in the budget and partly with the KOSHA support in case of excess of expenditures over the budgeted amount. Dr. Iavicoli put forward a proposal approved by the Finance Committee, which will reduce some expenditures in order to allocate resources to support ICOH 2012 developing country participation. A new budget line of 50,000 CHF, called "Support to developing countries" will be created through this budget modification.



Dr. Sergio Iavicoli reminded that the account will be closed on October 31, 2011 and the interim period budget will begin starting from the 1st of November 2011 until the 18th of March 2012. To this end, it will be allocated 91,000 CHF. ICOH Board will also allocate 1,000 CHF for the Student Prize in the Interim Budget. Prof. Westerholm asked for budget resources to be devoted to the ICOH Code of Ethics translation and language review. Secretary General granted the request and asked for a quotation to be covered with the current budget, even though no specific budget lines were previously allocated to this aim. President Kogi congratulated Dr. Iavicoli for the status of ICOH finances.

Decision:

- The Report on the Budget 2009-2011 and the new budget line “Support to developing countries” were approved;
- The Interim Budget – from November 1, 2011 till March 18, 2012 – was approved. To this end, a total of 91,000 CHF will be allocated.

10. Election procedure

Sergio Iavicoli took the floor again by drawing attention to the deadlines set for the elections, on the rules to be followed for the candidatures and on the eligibility for the current positions, as stated in the Bye-Laws 6 and 7. Furthermore, he reminded that the ballot papers must reach the Secretariat within the scheduled deadline. Secretary General clarified that the electronic vote cannot be used yet due to the limited use of the ICOH website and the lack of accessibility in the developing countries. Finally, he showed the eligibility situation for Officers and Board Members.

Decision:

The election procedure was agreed upon and the deadlines fixed:

- **By March 18, 2011** – The Call for election - published on the Newsletter 1-2011 and on the Website – and the Eligibility of candidates and electors;
- **By June 18, 2011** - The candidatures have to be submitted to the ICOH Secretariat;
- **By September 18, 2011** - The candidates curricula will be published on the ICOH Newsletter 2-2011 and on the Website;
- **By February 18, 2012** - The ballots shall be returned 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 (March 18-24, 2012)** – The Counting of the ballots.

11. Future Perspectives of ICOH

The future perspectives were also included in the President Report. Dr. Kogi will prepare a draft including the ICOH strategic goals to be shared before ICOH 2012 by email and approved during the next meeting.

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