

127th Meeting Executive Board Quito (EC), September 26th-28th, 2015

Minutes

SUMMARY

Participants:

EB Members

| | | |
|-------------------|-------|----------------------------------|
| Maurizio Ferrari | (MF) | President |
| Graham Beasall | (GB) | Past President |
| Sergio Bernardini | (SB) | Secretary |
| Tomris Ozben | (TO) | Treasurer |
| Daniel Mazziotta | (DM) | Member |
| Rosa Sierra-Amor | (RSA) | Member |
| Vanessa Steenkamp | (VS) | Member |
| Rolf Hinzmann | (RH) | Corporate Representative (Roche) |

Invited guest:

| | | |
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| David Kinniburgh | (DK) | Representative NAFCC (North American Federation of Clinical Chemistry) |
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Attending:

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| Paola Bramati | (PB) | (IFCC Office) |
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The 127th Meeting of the IFCC Executive Board has been held in Quito (EC) at JW Marriott Hotel Quito, Orellana & Amazonas Avenue.

1. Preliminaries

1.0 DM apologizes for the absence for health reasons.

MF welcomes all the attendants and points out the good work done by all the EB members and the progresses of the strategic plan. Thanks to DK for his participation.

Guidelines for the Election of Regional Federation representatives to the IFCC EB 2018-2020

The document written by GB to support the Regional Federations in electing their representatives to serve on the IFCC EB for the three year period 2018-2020, has been sent to the Presidents of the Regional Federations on August 6th, 2015.

EB agree that the Regional Federation Representative in the IFCC EB has to serve three years and cannot be changed during this term. How to do this will be matter and responsibility of each Regional Federation, moreover a good knowledge of English by the nominee is mandatory.

The deadline to receive comments from the Presidents of the Regional Federations has been fixed at the end of October.

1.1.126 Minutes of 126th EB Meeting, Paris (FR)

EB approve the Full Minutes and the Summary Minutes from the 126th Meeting in Paris.

2. Full Member Societies

Belarus application is still ongoing.

3 Affiliate Members

EB confirmed the “Iranian Association of Clinical Laboratory Doctors” as Affiliate Member.

4. Corporate Members, Presentation from the Corporate Representative (RH).

a) General Conference in Madrid:

The CMs appreciate the opportunity to conduct an own session, however, they request to move this session from the last day in one of the first three days of the GC. EB reconsidered the program upon receiving this new proposal from CMs and decided that the CMs session will be anticipated on Sunday. Corporate feedback revealed that there is little interest to sponsor the General Conference.

b) New Corporate Members:

EB noted confirmation of “Helena Biosciences Europe” and “Ningbo MedicalSystem Biotechnology Co., Ltd” as new Corporate Members.

c) SWOT analysis:

RH had already suggested earlier to perform a SWOT analysis in order to be able to re-define and pursue IFCC's strategic direction. He provided three topics that, among others, most likely would be identified during the SWOT analysis:

- How to re-define & enhance the value of IFCC for corporate members to increase corporate membership and avoid membership termination to guarantee the important financial contribution of the IVD industry?
- How to better (1) enable and (2) monitor the efficacy and effectiveness (= output) of Cs, WGs and TFs?
- How to better link IFCC to clinical societies?

PB will start the organization of the SWOT analysis meeting expected in January 2016.

e) CMs concerns about EuroMedLab and WorldLab:

CMs discussed their position regarding EuroMedLab 2017 in Athens (Greece) and its proximity to WorldLab in Durban (South Africa). Some companies are considering to either split their budget or to decide for the single conference they consider more important.

CMs provided a list of “Recommended deadlines from the Industries” to be shared with MZ to improve the cooperation between MZ and CMs for upcoming exhibitions.

The Corporate Representatives on the respective COCs are Angelos Evangelopoulos (Roche, Greece) for EuroMedlab in Athens and Beth Slavic (Ortho Clinical Diagnostics, USA) for IFCC WorldLab in Durban.

CMs recommend to avoid cultural side programs (like the luxurious opening ceremony in Paris) or touristic activities associated with future conferences since sponsoring events that contain these elements pose a compliance problem for the companies.

f) New MedTech compliance codex:

RH reported that MedTech Europe (an organization comprising Eucomed and EDMA) has revised its Code of Ethical Business Practices. RH explained that companies are already working on translating this into internal codices which might become effective even earlier.

EB discussed the consequences of changes in international regulations and codices of the Medical Device and IVD and Industry on the organization of IFCC conferences. MF: Scientific societies (such as IFCC, EFLM) and CMs have a common goal in supporting education and research. New rules are needed for the decision process inside the scientific societies regarding the indirect sponsorship from CMs. IFCC would like to support EFLM in the discussion with MedTech Europe, if needed and /or requested. GB: considering EuroMedLab as an example, EFLM and IFCC should make a document including suggestions and questions about the ongoing changes in the medical education sponsorship system and submit it to CMs. MF and GB will send an invitation for a meeting on this item to EFLM and MZ. It was also discussed that the National Societies need to become legal entities because the new code allows only sponsorship of legal entities.

5. Regional Organisations

5.01 Asia-Pacific Federation of Clinical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine

EB received comments on behalf of SB. The APFCB has agreed to sponsor a symposium with four speakers EFLM-UEMS congress in Warsaw, September next year. EB has some concern about the regularity of sponsorships between different Regional Federation without EB permission. SB will check the IFCC-EFLM MoU, the IFCC-APFCB and the IFCC rules to see if it is possible for APFCB to sponsor a symposium in an EFLM Congress or if and IFCC permission is needed.

WASPALM and APFCB will be conducting an accreditation pre-congress workshop at the APFCB congress in Taipei next year.

Apart from APFCB member societies sponsoring symposia at the APFCB congress next year the following organizations have also agreed to sponsor symposia at the APFCB Congress: IFCC 2 symposia, EFLM 1 symposium, AACC 1 symposium, NACCCA 1 symposium, WASPALM 3 speakers in the joint accreditation workshop together with APFCB.

5.02 Latin-American Confederation of Clinical Biochemistry

Meeting with the COLABIOCLI Executive Board; attending MF, SB, DK, VS, RSA, GB, RH, SB, TO, Graciela Queiruga, and Graciela Borthagaray (Uruguay), Carlos Navarro (Argentina, President COLABIOCLI), Alejandra Arias (Argentina, President CUBRA).

The Meeting was very constructive. A new COLABIOCLI EB will coming in three months: the elected Country that will manage COLABIOCLI in the next two years is Uruguay; in one month the Uruguay EB will nominate the President, the Vice President, the Treasurer and the Secretary of COLABIOCLI; other three members were elected: Bolivia, Mexico and Republica Dominicana. respectively. MF showed the changes of the Statute of IFCC and in particular the item related to the election of the Regional representative in the IFCC EB 2018-2021; MF invited COLABIOCLI members to participate more in the IFCC WGs and Committees as well as to participate to the GC in Madrid-March 2016. IFCC EB was also confident that many NRs of Latin America will participate to the WorldLab in Durban and in particular to the Council Meeting. VS is working to facilitate the participation of YS from all the world to the WorldLab, CN really appreciated this opportunity from YSs from Latin America.

MF thanks COLABIOCLI for the hospitality and complimented for the organization and the scientific contents of the Congress.

Alejandra Arias thanks the IFCC Office and in particular PB for her great collaboration with IFCC Members from Latin America.

Carlos Navarro asked for a collaboration for projects on traceability in Latin America. GB outlined that IFCC does not have traceability experts able to speak Spanish, IFCC can support the project improving communications and giving a financial support.

The IFCC EB confirm that a good knowledge of English will be mandatory for the Regional Representative of the Latin America Federation in the EB 2018-2020; the COLABIOCLI representatives agree.

5.04 European Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine

EB received comments from MF on the signed MoU between EFLM and IFCC.

EB noted the letter sent by Mauro Panteghini (EFLM President) and Ian Watson (EFLM Past president) to Serge Bernasconi (CEO MedTech Europe) on the risk to EFLM of “MedTech Code of Conduct on Direct Sponsorship at Meeting” as well as the reply by Clarisse Aillet (MedTech Europe Medical Education Manager).

5.05 Arab Federation of Clinical Biology

EB received comments from MF. The Khartoum Congress organization is still ongoing, the final version of the scientific program will coming soon.

5.06 African Federation of Clinical Chemistry

EB received comments from AFCC Past President VS: EQA and accreditation processes need a stepwise approach and IFCC support, in particular IFCC is seeing where they could assist with implementing an EQA scheme (similar to Zambia).

The organization of the WorldLab in Durban is ongoing. All young scientists who received Roche awards to attend the AFCC congress in Zimbabwe have submitted their reports to the electronic newsletter. Two young scientists were sponsored by the AFCC to attend conferences: Ms Longe Morenike Taiwo from Nigeria (IFCC Paris congress), Mr Alfred Makura from Zimbabwe (Molecular Biology congress in Germany). Malawi has being accepted as member of IFCC. Contact is being made with the new president of ASLM, Prof Sagie Pillay. The MOU between ASLM and IFCC is to be revisited and signed. The term of officers expires at the end of 2015. A call for nominations has been sent out for election of new Board who will serve 2016-2017.

5.07 North American Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine

EB received comments from DK. A good communication has been establish between AACC and CSCC about the North American Regional Federation activities. The last meeting was held in Atlanta. The second IFCC EB 2016 will be held in Philadelphia before the AACC Congress, July 30th-31th, 2016. DK will ask AACC and CSCC Presidents date and time for the joint meeting with the IFCC EB.

6.0 International and Professional Organisations

6.1 World Health Organisation (WHO)

6.2

EB noted the collaboration plan 2016-2018 submitted to WHO:

| Objective of Collaboration | | Activities |
|----------------------------|---|---|
| 1 | Information material available for all the developing countries | a) maintain support materials and web-based tools to demonstrate the benefits of IFCC membership to all countries b) Use and evaluate effectiveness of new support materials c) Deliver e-Academy as the platform to support IFCC educational materials d) develop and present a series of webinars to meet the needs of Members |
| 2 | To offer an extend list of laboratorians experts that could be utilized also by WHO | Extend to all countries the Register of expertise amongst individuals in IFCC |
| 3 | To develop at least a new project in each region | a) Improve collaboration and communication with COLABIOCLI and with Members in Latin America b) Improve communication with the AFCB and with Members in Arab countries c) Improve collaboration and communication with AFCC and with Members in African countries |
| 4 | To offer a list of Mentors available also for WHO regional programs | To increase the number of Mentors for specific Regions (EMD) |

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| 5 | To open a new project in laboratory medicine area | The SD will identify and deliver a new project |
| 6 | To collaborate to develop a new program on effectiveness of laboratory medicine | To start the work program |
| 8 | To prepare a laboratory accreditation program for countries with limited resources | To set up a route for Laboratory accreditation |

EB is waiting for the approval by WHO. MF will be the new liaison with WHO and will try to improve communication with IFCC.

6.3 Clinical Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI) – liaison Larry Kricka

Project ongoing: Analysis of Body Fluids in Clinical Chemistry (Andrea Griesmacher), Toxicology and Drug Testing in the Clinical Laboratory (Ian D. Watson), Reporting critical, life-threatening or life-altering laboratory results (GB). RH outlined the opportunity for CLSI to have a more global dimension, indeed its guidelines seem to be too much US oriented.

6.4 International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) - liaison GB

C-NPU website.

EB received an update by GB. The 'Silver Book' entitled '*Compendium of Terminology and Nomenclature of Properties in Clinical Laboratory Sciences: Recommendations 2014*' has been published in both electronic and hard copy format. No cost are involved for IFCC.

There are two major developments from the NPU Steering Committee: 1) the Norwegian Directorate of Health has been accepted as a National Release Centre for NPU terminology in Norway. This means that NPU terminology will be recommended for use across the country. As a result a User Representative from Norway has joined the Steering Committee and the Face to Face meeting was held in Trondheim to aid implementation; 2) The NPU website has been developed by InSoft and funded by IFCC. The IFCC Office (Silvia Colli-Lanzi) is acting as website administrator.

6.13 World Association of Societies of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine (WASPaLM)

IFCC Contribution to WASPaLM XXVIII World Congress of Pathology 18-21 November, Cancun, Mexico: a) IFCC Symposium in November 21th: "*The 'Liquid biopsy', recent advances in the development of nucleic acids and circulating tumour cell assays for diagnosis and monitoring of cancer*", the two IFCC speakers will be Dana Tsui and Helen Parkes.

IFCC Young Scientist Session, November 18th: "*Young Specialists in Lab Medicine of the Future – Preparing Together*", this session has been held to start YS in WASPaLM as part of the IFCC YS network. The IFCC speakers will be Pradeep Dabla and Damian Gruson.

6.23 International Standards Organization (ISO) - liaison GB

The ISO TC 212 WG2 on Reference Systems, chaired by Neil Greenberg, continues to progress the revision of ISO 15195 and ISO 17511. In addition the WG has discussed publishing standards for method harmonization.

6.50 International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC)-liaison GB

GB has co-authored an article with Regina Robertson of ILAC on 'What is laboratory accreditation and why is it important?' This article will be published in IFCC News and also in ILAC News. In line with the joint Memorandum of Understanding IFCC has been invited to the meeting in Milan of the "IAF-ILAC Development Supporting Committee" that is charged to: a) identify specific needs of emerging accreditation bodies and those from emerging and developing economies and develop strategies in line with IAF and ILAC policies; b) develop, implement and promote mechanisms to improve the exchange of information amongst developing accreditation bodies and with those of more experienced accreditation bodies; c) promote the understanding and the adoption of IAF/ILAC Guidelines; to promote workshops and courses in the Accreditation field. EB agree that IFCC should actively collaborate with this Committee.

7 Committee on Congresses and Conferences (C-CC)

7.2 IFCC WorldLab Congresses

7.2.23 IFCC WorldLab Durban 2017 (ZA), October 22nd-25th

Financial expectations: the attendance can be improved inviting to join other Scientific Societies, laboratory and clinical. IFCC should also find the way to facilitate the attendance of African laboratory professionals.

7.2.24 IFCC WorldLab 2020, Seoul (KR), May 24th-28th

EB received update from MF on congress planning, the organization is ongoing.

7.3 IFCC Regional Congresses of Clinical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine

7.3.1.14 APFCB 2016 Taipei, November 26th-29th

Not items to discuss.

7.3.1.15 APFCB 2019 Jaipur – Rajasthan (India), 17-20 November (tentative dates)

Not items to discuss.

7.3.2.21 EuroMedLab 2015vParis (FR), June 21st-25th

Finalized.

7.3.2.22 EuroMedLab 2017, Athens (Greece), June 11th-17th

See 4e

7.3.2.23 EuroMedLab 2019

Three EFLM Members sent the application to host the EuroMedLab Congress in 2019: Spain (Barcelona), Czech Republic (Prague), Turkey (Istanbul). C-CC of IFCC and the C-CC of EFLM both suggested Barcelona after a careful evaluation done by an *ad hoc* scoring system included in the new EuroMedLab rules. EB ratified the C-CC decision and approved Barcelona.

7.3.4.22 COLABIOCLI 2015 Quito (EC), September 24th - 26th

EB noted the positive attendance to the XXII Latin American Confederation of Clinical Biochemistry (COLABIOCLI) Congress, the scientific program was carried out simultaneously in five rooms where conferences, symposia, round tables, and plenary sessions covered all the topics of the Sciences of Laboratory Medicine. Emphasis was given to quality in the clinical laboratory. In addition, eight courses took place during the congress. The entire scientific program was carried out thanks to the support of 70 international lecturers - from the Americas, Europe, Turkey, and South Africa - and 30 from Ecuador. During the congress two workshops on Hematology and a workshop on Traceability supported by the Physikalisch Technische Bundesanstalt (PTB) of Germany - with the collaboration of the Committee of Traceability on Laboratory Medicine of the IFCC - were conducted.

This event provided an appropriate framework for the meeting of the Executive Board of the IFCC IFCC-CPD Committee, and WG-IANT / CPD / IFCC. Twenty commercial stands were visited by domestic and foreign visitors from 22 countries.

7.3.4.23 COLABIOCLI 2017 Punta del Este (Uruguay)

EB noted that this congress will be held in October 2017 (date to be confirmed).

7.3.6.14 AFCCB 2015 Khartoum (Sudan), December 4-6

The Khartoum Congress organization is still ongoing, the final version of the scientific program will be ready soon.

7.3.7.4 AFCC 2015 Harare (Zimbabwe), April 28th - 30th

Finalized.

7.4 IFCC Specialised Conferences

7.4.1 Roche Bergmeyer Conference (7-9 March 2016, Eibsee, Germany)

Title: “Biomarkers in the Diagnosis and Monitoring of Cancer”. EB noted the excellence of the Scientific Program made with the collaboration of the IFCC SD (Ian Young).

7.4.7 “IFCC-Siemens Specialized Conference “Biomarkers in Neuropsychiatric Disorders” held in Toronto, October 2015. EB noted that the special issue has been published on CCA, September 24th, vol. 449.

7.4.8 2nd ed. “IFCC-Roche Conference on Biomarkers in Alzheimer Disease”
Roche Diagnostics confirmed the support to the 2nd Edition of the IFCC-Roche Symposium that will be held in Mexico City, May 20th, 2016, Scientific Committee: SB and RSA.

7.8 Congress with IFCC Auspices
EB noted that the logo of IFCC has been utilized, without a specific request to C-CC, on the “Congreso Nacional De Quimicos Clinicos” 2015 organized by the “Federacion Nacional De Quimicos Clinicos Conaquic” (IFCC Affiliate Member). The logo is not open to anyone, the Members (Full, Affiliate and Corporates) can utilize the IFCC a logo showing below the sentence “Member”. Anyone wishing to obtain IFCC Auspices must make a specific application for auspices to the IFCC EB following the specific guidelines showed on the IFCC website. The Office will send to all Members a letter of clarification.

8.0 Scientific Division (SD)

8.13. Joint Committee for Traceability in Laboratory medicine (JCTLM)

EB noted the Report of the 14th meeting of the JCTLM-EC held in Sèvres (FR) in June 25th, 2015 and received update on behalf of GB: the revision of the JCTLM structure has been agreed and will be presented for discussion at the December meeting of Members and Stakeholders. The revised structure should: improve the efficiency and consistency with which applications for database entry are processed, increase JCTLM activity in producing education materials on traceability, open up membership of JCTLM to interested organisations including diagnostics companies.

JCTLM is establishing links with international organisations in areas of Laboratory Medicine that have an interest in method standardisation/harmonisation (International Committee for Standardisation in Haematology-ICSH, International Society for Thrombosis and Haemostasis-ISTH, Standardisation of Genome Amplification Techniques-SoGAT).

JCTLM has been asked by the National Metrology Institute of China to organise a two-day scientific meeting in Beijing in May/June 2016. This provides an opportunity for a ‘summer’ meeting of the JCTLM Executive. However, there are financial implications, which are being investigated.

8.16. AACC Harmonisation Project (International Consortium for Harmonization of Clinical Laboratory Results)

At the meeting with the AACC Officers held in Atlanta (which was attended by MF, RSA and PB), the AACC announced that they are looking to change the organisational and financial structure of the International Consortium for the Harmonization of Clinical Laboratory Results (ICHCLR) to make it more inclusive. Ian Young has been appointed member of the “Harmonization Oversight Group” and the two individuals driving ICHCLR for AACC are working closely with IFCC: Gary Myers is the new Chair of JCTLM (an IFCC appointment) and Greg Miller is the Chair of the SD WG on Commutability.

13.0 Task Forces: reports by the EB member liaison with TFs

13.01.01 Task Force on Ethics (TF-E)

The white paper on publications ethics has been updated. It will be sent to other editors such as Peter Kavsac, Mario Plebani, Gabor Kovacs, and Nader Rifai for feedback & suggestions for additional materials. The draft chapter on Ethics for the IFCC Handbook is nearly finished. The goal is to have this complete by January 2016. TF-ethics plans to submit proposals for a Symposium for the next IFCC General Conference meeting in Madrid in March 2016 and EuroMedLab meeting Greece 2017 and Worldlab Congress in Durban South Africa in Fall 2017. Ethics teaching modules

"Pearls" for *Clinical Chemistry* Training Council website are being created. The goal is to have these completed and submitted & accepted by January 2016.

13.01.02 Task Force on Paediatric Laboratory Medicine (TF-PLM)

EB received update on behalf of SB. The TFPLM met in June in Paris. Coordination and development of guidelines for the reporting of critical values continued with dissemination of the survey monkey throughout the world. The planning of the XVIth International Congress of Paediatric Laboratory Medicine to be held prior to the IFCC WorldLab 2017 in Durban (October 20th-22th) has begun. They await news from IFCC about venue selection and costs.

The TF-PLM will seek IFCC support for establishing a Reference Interval Consortium to include existing projects currently engaged in the development of Paediatric Reference values. By close interaction with this group and the IFCC SD, the Task Force will expand these activities to other regions of the world.

13.01.03 Task Force on Chronic Kidney Disease (TF-CKD)

EB received update from GB on TF activities and Chair position. GB suggested Flavio Alcantara (BR) as new Chair starting from January 2016. EB agree.

13.01.05 Task Force on Implementation of HbA1c Standardisation (TF-HbA1c)

This task force will be converted into a committee within the EMD. Garry John will be prioritising getting this committee up and working this month.

13.01.06 Task Force for Young Scientists (TF-YS)

EB received update from GB about the Project "A Guide to Conducting Research in Laboratory Medicine"; the target readership is young scientists who do not come from a strong research background. Each of the 10 expected chapters should also be summarised in a short PowerPoint presentation of 10-20 slides. The chapters will be published on the IFCC e-Academy, with both the written text and PowerPoint presentations available as downloadable pdfs. The Guide will be promoted on the IFCC website and through IFCC News, TF-Young Scientists and IFCC Members. GB will act as primary editor to collate Chapters in terms of style and presentation. The Core Group of TF-YS will be invited to comment on the document and presentation before it is published. First draft of Chapters by December 31th. The survey on the situation of YS all over the world has been done. The results are still not shown.

13.01.07 Task Force on Clinical Applications of Cardiac Biomarkers (TF-CB)

TO attended the TF meeting in Paris, projects for the next three years have been made regarding clinical applications of cardiac biomarkers. One paper is going to be published in CCLM.

13.01.07 Task Force on POCT (TF-POCT)

EB received an update from RSA. The focus of the TF has been around developing the program for the meeting scheduled in Cancun on November 16-17th, 2015. The area of the meeting will be: Cardiovascular Disease, Blood Gases, Diabetes, Molecular POCT, Acute Kidney Disease, QC and EQC. The conference proceedings will be published in the eJIFCC.

13.01.13 TF for Geriatrics lab. Medicine (TF -GLM)

EB received an update by GB. The Chair and 4 members will be selected seeking nominations from IFCC Members. PB will send the call for nominations to NSs. Each of the IFCC Divisions will be invited to nominate an individual to liaise with TF-GLM. The objectives are: to conduct a literature review of laboratory medicine in geriatric population, to publish a review article on the impact of ageing on laboratory medicine parameters, to undertake three projects on the relevance of laboratory medicine in geriatric subjects (reference intervals, the impact of drugs on metabolism and laboratory parameters, new biomarkers of ageing and /or specific disorders found in geriatric patients, clinical guidelines for the investigation of one or more disorders occurring in geriatric population).

The Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics (IAGG) has been approached to be partner for TF-GLM.

13.01.14 Task Force on “IFCC-CLMA Project on Leadership” (TF-IFCC CLMA)

EB received an update from GB: IFCC established a joint Task Force with CLMA to assess the need for and interest in leadership training in laboratory medicine. The Task Force (Chair Larry Kricka) had completed its preliminary work. IFCC EB has to decide whether it wishes to proceed with an implementation phase to the project in the three selected countries. If EB decides to proceed it should: identify an IFCC Project Lead for the next phase of the project, publish the results of the survey in IFCC News, contact the individuals from Australia, Turkey and Paraguay (the three countries selected as ‘beta sites’), communicate with CLMA to confirm that they wish to collaborate on the implementation phase and to ascertain arrangements by which the CLMA ‘Body of Knowledge’ may be made available, establish a WG or Committee that should be included on EMD also considering the DQCML project. The current Chair of C-CLM is Sedef Yenice from Turkey who has expressed interest in the project and who could either be IFCC Project Lead or the lead person from Turkey. A Chair (a senior expert in leadership) has to be found involving CLMA in the decision. EB in principle agree to proceed with the implementation phase of this TF; GB will contact LK to understand if he like to go forward.

13.02 Professional Exchange Programmes

EB noted an update on a) PSEP applications: Zineb Meski (Spain), Irena Ivanova (Bulgaria), Santiago Fares Taie (Argentina); b) PMEP applications : Mubanga Mutale (Zambia); Lucius Imoh Chiedeberere (Nigeria).

13.03 Roche Travel Scholarships

EB noted the agreement between IFCC and ROCHE for scholarships in 2015 (20.000 euro) Scholarships 2015. EuroMedLab Paris, June 21th-25th: Gálvez Sagastume Claudio Arafat (Guatemala), Shah Swarup A. V. (India), Mulyana (Indonesia), Dilanthi Waravitage (Sri Lanka), Dinh Thi Thanh Hoa (Vietnam); COLABIOCLI Congress-Quito, September 24th-26th: Claudia Viviana Almazan (Bolivia); 14th AFCB Congress-Khartoum, December 5th: Said M. S. Rawajbeh (Palestine). Total=12.509 CHF.

7.4.9 IFCC General Conference

The Spanish Society wish to support one social event. EB agree to move the CMs session on Sunday and approved the participation of Jürgen Schulz (EDMA President) as speaker in the CMs session. EB agree that the attendance of Developing Countries to GC has to be improved by IFCC Scholarships.

9.0 Education and Management Division (EMD)

Paolo Fortina and Christoph Ebert will complete their first term as EMD-EC members on December 31st, 2015. Both have done excellent work during their 1st term. EB endorsed the request of the EMD Chair Leslie Lai to confirm them for the 2nd term.

EB noted the Minutes of the meeting of the EMD-EC held in Paris June 20th, 2015.

9.3.10 Working Group on Cancer Genomics: Clinical Laboratory Guidance

EB received update from MF. The financial support for this WG will be included in the budget 2016.

9.4 Special Projects

9.4.1 Visiting Lecturer Programme

EB received a verbal report from MF regarding future funding for the VLP. Abbott did not support VLP in 2015, but probably in 2016 there will be an afterthought partially reviewing the structure of the programme, the discussion is ongoing. Otherwise, EB agree that VLP is a fundamental IFCC activity and that IFCC could find other funding also looking inside its own budget.

9.4.3 Developing Quality Competence in Medical Laboratories (DQCML)

GB: last meeting in Paris, there has been a positive feedback on DQCML by the Minister of Health of Malawi. There are new project that could be finalized with an adequate support. The results of DQCML should be shared with CMs to find a possible support, also making video reporting of some activities. RH will contact Kroskow Adeli to assess the feasibility.

10.40.0 'Labs Are Vital™'

EB noted that: Ellis Jacobs is the current IFCC representative on and Chair of the 'Labs Are Vital™' Board; funding from Abbott for 'Labs Are Vital™' is under active discussion; EJ reports to IFCC through CPD but he has no official status within CPD.

EB agreed that: MF contact Ellis Jacobs to clarify the status of discussions with Abbott about funding; the Chair of CPD be asked to prepare a report in time for the next EB meeting; Ellis Jacobs should be appointed as a Consultant to the CPD Executive Committee and CPD funding may be used to support his expenses J to attend one CPD meeting each year.

10. Communications and Publications Division (CPD)

RH suggested to videotape selective sessions from IFCC conferences or of IFCC officers speaking at conferences from regional societies such as COLABIOCLI, the Vising Lecture program, keynotes at the General Conference, etc... These lectures should be put on the IFCC website as educational materials. This procedure would be faster and cheaper than producing educational materials from scratch. RH provided links to the websites of EASD and ADA, showing examples. RH will provide this information also to the CPD.

15.0 Financial Matters

15.2 Budget for 2015

EB received updates on 2015 budget (TO)

- The budget 2015 updated at August 31th 2015 is the following: *total income*, actual 1.474.336 CHF (proposal 2015 1.388.000 CHF); *total expenses*, actual 1.207.873 CHF (proposal 2015 1.796.461 CHF); *profit (-loss) fo the year*, actual +266,463 CHF (2015 proposal -408.461 CHF). The expenses compared for allocated budget are lower than expected for almost all the IFCC operative units. The Full Members received dues 2015 are 100% of budget income; the Affiliate Members received dues 2015 are 92,6% of budget income; the CMs received dues 2015 are 89% of budget income.
- EB approved the revision of the budget 2015 to pay the surplus of the POCT meeting in Istanbul for the POCT meeting in Cancun, to increase the budget CMBC for the course it organized in 2015 and to pay for VLP activities if Abbott will not sponsor more the program.

16. Organizational Matter

16.1 IFCC Office

Not items to discuss. The work of the Office was very appreciated by the EB.

16.2 IFCC Awards

EB is aware that Developing Countries scientists and professionals often cannot have a curriculum vitae that can compete with other Countries with the present titles of awards. GB suggested to introduce new categories of awards. EB agree that it is necessary to promote more the awards and to introduce new categories.

EB discussed the proposal: "The IFCC Medal for Distinguished Service" (GB)

The first draft proposals for The Medal were circulated to EB in early July. EB agree with the following wording:

Purpose: The IFCC Medal for Outstanding Service (hereinafter 'The Medal') is awarded to an individual in recognition of sustained service to IFCC at the highest level in promoting the international practice of clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine.

Eligibility: Individuals who are eligible to receive The Medal will be members of an IFCC Full or Affiliate Member Society or an IFCC Corporate Member Company. To be eligible individuals will have worked in a voluntary capacity at a global or multi-national level over a period of at least ten years and will have served in a voluntary capacity for IFCC for a minimum of six years during which time he/she will have made an exceptional contribution to promoting the practice of clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine. Serving Members of the IFCC Executive Board are not eligible for nomination.

Nomination: Nominations for The Medal should be submitted by the IFCC Member to the IFCC Secretary 31 December each year. Nominations should comprise: a letter of nomination on headed notepaper, which explains the outstanding international contribution made by the nominee and a copy of the Curriculum Vitae of the nominee. Nominations may be accompanied by one or two letters of support that illustrate how the nominee meets the eligibility criteria.

Process: The Medal is awarded on the recommendation of the IFCC Executive Board and is ratified by the IFCC Council without appeal. The Medal is presented at an IFCC WorldLab congress, or an IFCC Regional Federation congress or the IFCC General Conference. There is no limit on the number of Medals presented but the eligibility criteria suggest that the number will be small. There is no requirement to award The Medal in any triennial period.

Recognition: A short article will be published in IFCC News to recognise each recipient of The Medal. The names of recipients of The Medal will be listed in the IFCC Handbook and in the IFCC website

The Medal: the Medal will comprise a medallion in a presentation box. The Medal will bear the IFCC logo, the name of the recipient and the year in which it was awarded. No honorarium is attached to the award.

16.4 Annual Report for 2015
Finalized.

16.5 IFCC Handbook 2015-2017
Finalized

16.7 Project Proposals

- Project proposal for a new WG on “Epygenetics” submitted by Monica Paula Spalvieri (Argentina);
- Proposal for a new WG: “Role of Laboratory Medicine in the emerging field of Regenerative Medicine” submitted by Maurizio Muraca (Italy);
- Project proposal for a new WG on “Neonatal Metabolomics” submitted by Michele Mussap (Italy).

EB agree to send to IY (Chair of the SD) for a scientific opinion (PB); the activation of the Project Proposals, eventually approved by IY, will be discussed in the next EB in Madrid.

Considering the need to making cuts at the expenses in 2016 and the occurrence of new applications for the activation of new WGs, EB will send a letter to the Division Chair asking for an accurate analysis of the performance of WGs and Committees in their own Division in order to suggest the WGs/Committees that are not effective and can be closed in 2016.