

VALUES OF THE EUROPEAN CHAPTER: STATEMENT ON CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The following statement was ratified by General Council on June 3rd 2016 as an addition to the Chapter Bylaws. It can be found among the updated Bylaws as Bylaw 12.

1 Principles

The European Chapter of IFSO is committed to Governance according to its Constitution, as documented by its standing Bylaws Subcommittee and as ratified by its General Council.

The Chapter is further committed to the principle that the needs of patients with patients suffering from obesity and from associated metabolic disease stand above the interests of its membership.

Patients are entitled to expect responsible bariatric and metabolic clinicians to behave honestly and openly as well as observing proper professional & clinical guidelines.

2 Values

Accordingly the Chapter

- Is committed to the principles of Transparency, Democracy and Inclusiveness. Hence the records of its business processes are accessible to its membership.
- Will treat its membership equally, whatever their professional background.
- Expects financial probity of its membership and of its Officers and allows inspection of its accounts by its membership.

3 Conflicts of Interests

The Chapter expects its Officers to declare all relevant financial interests. The Executive Director shall maintain a Register of Interests which shall be available for inspection by all.

Officers shall not engage in activities that conflict with or that may be seen to conflict with or be against the interests of the Chapter or with its ethical governance as set out above. If they wish to pursue such activities they shall tender their resignation.

4 The Chapter considers that its officers *will* have a Conflict of Interests if they

- Enjoy employment by/ directorship of / participation in a company or other commercial entity that provides services or goods to the Chapter or to the wider bariatric clinical community.

5 The Chapter considers its officers *will not* have a Conflict of Interests simply because they

- Enjoy unpaid consultancy (declared to the Executive Director)
- Enjoy a remunerated consultancy that has been fully declared to the Executive Director.
- Enjoy directorship of / participation in a company or other commercial entity directed only at their own professional activity.
- Are Officers of IFSO-EC eV, the Chapter's own legal entity.

6 The Chapter may at its discretion

Decline goods or services from, or decline to endorse the activities of, individuals or commercial entities that it reasonably believes may have similar conflicts of interests.

7 Cases of doubt

These shall be submitted by the Executive Director to the Executive Council for determination.