



International Federation for the Surgery of Obesity and metabolic disorders

European Chapter

IFSO-EC General Council meeting
Lyon, May 3rd 2019

MINUTES

Voting: G. Prager, M. Suter, M. Fried, J.M. Chevallier, M. De Luca, J. Dargent, N. Di Lorenzo + 1 delegate from each society

Non-voting: R. Peterli, K. Dolezalova, J. Pujol, T. Mala + 1 delegate from each society

In attendance: M. Mazzarella (IFSO)

1. Approval Minutes from last EC meeting in Athens

The minutes that have been circulated after the Athens meeting are approved as they are.

2. Report from negotiations with EAC-BS

Reported – GP met Prof. Melissas and found an agreement on the following topics:

-The shares of Prof. Scopinaro and Dr. Fried will go to IFSO-EC immediately. This is a pre-requisite by the Exec. Council. They will offer in writing their shares. Prof. Melissas will send them immediately the documents to start the procedure.

Action: to check with the lawyer if IFSO-EC eV is legally allowed to receive shares.

-The next five onsite inspections, a person, nominated by the Exec. Council, will do the inspection together with the auditor of EAC-BS. Initially the cost will be covered by IFSO-EC; later it should be covered by the surgeon or by the hospital/centre. The inspector should be notified 3 months in advance.

Dr. Fried will do the site inspections in the Middle East.

-Prof. Melissas will provide an additional financial report including: names of all shareholders, percentage of shares, income, expenses, profit, distribution of the profit.

-the number of operations per year will be elevated from 50 to 100.

-The national societies should be involved in the process: before accepting an application, the society will be contacted to check about reliability and trust of the center/surgeon. The final decision however will be upon the Scientific Committee of EAC-BS.

-Participating Surgeons, members of the Scientific Committee and of the Review Committee of EAC-BS are entitled to ask for cumulated data from IBAR for scientific purposes. Surgeons who are not participating at the CoE program can ask for access to database but the Executive Council of IFSO-EC has the right to deny it.

-The request of the Dutch Society (DSMBS) to accredit all its centres as a whole because they all meet the criteria is accepted in principle by IFSO-EC and EAC-BS and the application will be reviewed.

-The contract between IFSO-EC and EAC-BS will expire in 2025. After this date, IFSO-EC intends to run the EAC-BS under its own leadership. IFSO-EC agree to purchase the rest of the shares at a reasonable price to be agreed during 2023.

Noted – from 2025 IFSO-EC will run the EAC-BS.

Action: a) to decide whether we want to continue with that organization or we want to create our own.

b) to create new scoring guidelines for the site inspection, taking into consideration the current guidelines used by EAC-BS.

3. Future collaboration with EASO (joint congress)

Reported – GP: Among the last 4 cities: Copenhagen, Maastricht, Venice, Nice EASO and IFSO-EC finally chose Maastricht as venue of the next joint meeting in 2022. EASO is available to do another joint meeting maybe in 2024.

4. IFSO-EC Symposium 2020 Prague

Reported – MF: we are still deciding the venue: if we have up to 700 participants we can stay in the hotel, if we will have more participants we'll have to move to a congress center. The feedback from the sponsors was very positive. We will start planning using the same scheme used in Athens.

Action: to have a first meeting to start the organization in Madrid or a conference call in July.

5. IFSO-EC Symposium 2021 – tbd

Sylvia Weiner had agreed to do the Frankfurter meeting in 2021 as IFSO-EC Symposium, but then, few weeks ago, she told us that she won't be able to do any meeting in 2021.

We could take into consideration the cities that bid for 2022. Not Nice because two congresses in 3 years in France is not fair. Not Venice because the world congress in 2021 will be in Italy.

Zurich has applied for 2022; it could be a good candidate. It should adapt its bid.

RP: In Zurich I will invite many physicians on one day.

Action: to receive bids by early June. Guarant to prepare a preliminary budget. A final decision to be taken by the Executive Council before Madrid.

8. Joint Guidelines EAES/EASO/IFSO-EC progress report

Reported - NDL: the juniors did a very good job. We're now working on the recommendations. Delphi process ended on May 15th. We met in Sevilla in February then in May in Rome and then we'll meet again in Sevilla on June 14th. The final text should be ready in summer and published after summer. 11 topics medical and surgical. For new techniques we don't have any evidence so there won't be any guidelines on this.

9. Committees' reports

a) Scientific Committee

RP: the SC helped with the scientific program of the congress. Literature review was not done by Alberic Fiennes. Rachel and I don't have time to do it. We could have "hot topics" in the Newsletter.

GP: we should involve more members in the committee and there should be a rotation.

Action: GP to send some names of members to be appointed.

b) Communication & Development Committee

JP: the C&D created the "Digital Campus" made of: video gallery, webinars, training programs. The -----

-Video gallery is made of material from congresses, interviews, etc. Edo Aarts and Ahmed Ahmed will help us with the video gallery.

-Training programs can be online or face to face courses, free of charge or with special discounted fees. Rui Ribeiro and Kamal Mahawar will help us with the courses.

Action: to identify already existing courses

-Webinars: any IFSO member can propose a webinar and provide the facilities

The first webinar was done in November 2018 in Romania. The second one will be done here in Lyon during this congress. Catalin Copaescu will help us with the webinars.

The website has been redesigned.

Action: to enrich our database, to raise funds from the sponsors, to do promotional campaigns

c) MNAG report

NDL: I am stepping down as Chair of this Group. Tadeja Pintar is the new Chair. R. Villalonga and M. Schiesser will remain as members. New members will be added: H. Pappis, J. Dargent, F. Langer, R. Liem, N. Sakran and P. Salminen.

Action: Manuela to inform them and to ask Guarant to update the website accordingly.

d) Young IFSO report

KD: there will be a YOUNG IFSO session in Madrid. Reduced fees for young members. We have 200 members in our database, but the number of active members is low. The new President is now Alexandr Neimark. We are now receiving nominations for the next President.

10. Report from our PCO Guarant – further collaboration

Reported – P. Brincil (Guarant): the contract will end in 2021. In this first 4 years we did 4 congresses: Goteborg in 2016 joint meeting with EASO, Naples in 2017 Symposium, Athens in 2018 and Lyon in 2019 Symposium.

11. Financial report – will be circulated by email

12. AOB

Noted – GP proposes the creation of the **Senior Advisory Council**

Chair: Past presidents of IFSO-EC

Membership: Former IFSO EC ExCo Members. Appointed by ExCo (do not have to be in active service in the ExCo at the time when they are appointed). MAXIMUM 5 (five) Members at a time (appointment period).

Term of Office: 3 years

Re-electability: Renewable for MAXIMUM one additional 3 year period (so in total max. 6 years)

Purpose:

- To support continuity of IFSO EC and its policy
- To act as an advisory resource for policy decisions to me made by ExCo / GenCo.
- To advise on Probity and Patient Safety issues
- To advise on meetings
- To advise on Guidelines/ endorsement / proscription of new procedures

Process:

- Chair reports to ExCo
- No voting rights

Benefits: Free registration for the IFSO EC Congresses/Symposia, travel up to 300 EUR, 3 nights accommodation, social events during the congresses

Set-up:

Action of Exco but may need ratification by GenCo.

Bylaw to be written (MS is ex-officio Bylaws person)

Never change the entire composition of the advisory board

MF nominated Dr. Alberic Fiennes (UK) as the first member of the Senior Advisory Council.

Votation: all in favour.

Votation: all in favor. The change to the Bylaws is approved.

Action: Manuela to modify the file of the Bylaws accordingly.

13. Date and time of the next General Council meeting

Noted - The next meeting will be in Prague in 2020.

Action – Manuela to send official notice and circulate the agenda.