

International Federation for the Surgery of Obesity and metabolic disorders
European Chapter

IFSO-EC General Council Meeting
Vienna, Friday May 5th, 18.00-19.00
Hotel Hilton Vienna Park Room: Main Hall (Klimt 2+3)

MINUTES

Voting members: Executive Council members (N. Di Lorenzo, J.M. Chevallier, P. Salminen, C. Copaescu, M. Felsenreich, C. Parmar, G. Prager) + one delegate from each Society

Non-voting: M. De Luca, E. Aarts, Anna Casajoana, J. Pujol, R. Zakeri, M. Fried, R. Peterli, R. Liem, T. Ben Porat + one delegate from each Societies

1. **Minutes from last GC meeting in Zurich (attached)** (N. Di Lorenzo)

Noted - the minutes are approved as they are.

2. **Delivery of IFSO EC Scholarships certificates** (N. Di Lorenzo)

Noted - The three winners are: Georgia Doulami, Greece, Natalia Dowgiałło-Gornowicz, Poland, Adisa Poljo, Switzerland

3. **IFSO EC Activities report 2023-2024** (N. Di Lorenzo)

- a. **Creation of the Corporate Committee** – This new committee will interact with the companies and establish with them a constant relationship. The Chair will be Gerhard Prager.
- b. **Creation of the UEMS Exam Task Force** – This task force will deal with the preparation of the UEMS examination for MBS. The Chair will be Marco Bueter.
- c. **Report from EAC-BS and future prospects** – The contract with EAC-BS will expire in 2025 so IFSO EC will take over this program. Martin Fried and Ronald Liem will lead the commission that will deal with this and will work at plans to manage this.

4. **Amendments to the Bylaws and MOPP (attached)** (N. Di Lorenzo, JM Chevallier) (See Appendix)

The IFSO-EC Bylaws Committee met many times to improve and modernize the Bylaws of the IFSO-EC and the Manual of Policies and Procedures (MOPP) of the IFSO European Chapter. The two revised versions with the changes highlighted in pink color are attached hereby.

5. **Financial report** (C. Copaescu) (See Appendix)

- Financial Results for 2023/2024
- Estimation of IFSO-EC Congress in Vienna

6. **IFSO-EC Meeting 2024, Vienna** (G. Prager and M. Felsenreich) (See Appendix)

Reported - The Congress has been very well attended and these are preliminary numbers:

Attendees: 978

775 registrations

Faculty: 146

IFSO-EC: 204

Non-IFSO-EC members: 200

Non medical doctors: 63

Students: 50

Residents: 67

One-day registrations: 46
Exhibitors 203
280 submitted abstracts

Congress venue: Hilton Park Vienna
3,000 m2 congress area
175 m2 exhibition area
3.5 day's / 4 parallel sessions

4 Pre Congress Courses:

IFSO-EC & YOUNG IFSO COURSE: ENDOSCOPIC METABOLIC/ BARIATRIC PROCEDURES
IFSO-EC & YOUNG IFSO COURSE: ROBOTIC METABOLIC/ BARIATRIC SURGERY
IFSO-EC & YOUNG IFSO LAPAROSCOPIC CADAVER COURSE
TREATMENT OF COMPLICATIONS AFTER METABOLIC/BARIATRIC SURGERY

Social events:

Young IFSO get together
Farewell Dinner: Night at the Museum

Further highlights:

- Best abstract competition
- Best video competition
- Young IFSO competition
- European Champion League session
- Presidency breakfast
- Faculty dinner / Salon Privés
- Joint sessions: EASO, EAES, IFSO-LAC, ÖAG, ÖGGH, Integrated health
- Pro/con sessions, fight of the titans session, medical tourism session, etc.

The next IFSO-EC will be held in Venice on 14-17 May 2025.

7. **IFSO-EC Meeting 2025, Venice** (M. De Luca) (See Appendix)

Noted - The IFSO-EC Congress will be held in Venice, Italy, on 13-16 May 2025 in conjunction with the National SICOB Congress. The Congress President will be Maurizio De Luca.
A detailed presentation of the city, the venue, the accommodation options, is available in the Appendix

8. **Collaboration with EASO and joint meeting 2027** (N. Di Lorenzo and R. Peterli)

Noted – The next joint meeting with EASO will be held in 2027. We are now in the process of selecting the city together with the EASO committee. A final decision should be taken in the month of July 2024.

9. **Committees' reports**

a. **Scientific Committee** (Maurizio De Luca) (See Appendix)

Noted – The committee has been working on these three main topics:

- Medium and long-term surgical, endoscopic, and pharmacological treatments for obesity: a comprehensive metanalysis and network metanalysis of randomized controlled trials.
- Journal Club
- Updates of the Scholarships regulations and assessment criteria

b. **C&D Committee** (Anna Casajoana) (See Appendix)

Noted - Chair : Anna Casajoana

Members : Ana Marta Pereira, Chandra Cheruvu , Tigran Poghosyan , Jose Balibrea , Lidia Castagneto , Tair Ben Porat , Shiri Sherf Dagan , Sjaak Pouwels , Juan Pujol Rafols , Moritz Felsenreich

The detailed presentation of all activities done by the Committee from IFSO-EC 2023 in Zurich to IFSO-EC 2024 Vienna is attached hereby

c. **MNAG report** (R. Liem) (See Appendix)

Mission statement

The Multi National Advisory Group has been conceived to improve involvement of individual member states in IFSO European Chapter. It is desirable and necessary to provide equity for upcoming/smaller countries and ensure that they are well represented in the Chapter

Planned themes for 2024:

1. Working groups:

- a. Medical Tourism
- b. IFSO Global Registry data; what can we learn in IFSO EC?
- c. Identify countries which perform MBS in Europe and do not have a Society
- d. Questionnaire to all National Societies in IFSO EC

2. Translation and dissemination of the Emergency Room Poster

- Translation supervised by National Society Board
- No alterations to the content allowed
- Distribution to all Hospitals with an Emergency Room by National Society with a covering letter to the hospital's board

Current composition

Felix Langer (Austria, 2019 2024)
Harry Pappis (Greece, 2019 2024)
Nasser Sakran Israel , 2019 2024)
Ramon Villalonga (Spain, 2018 2024)
Ronald Liem (Netherlands, 2019 2025), chair
Cynthia Borg (UK, 2023 2027), vice chair
Ellen Andersson (Sweden, 2023 2026)
Sylvia Weiner (Germany, 2023 2026)
Piotr Mysliwiec (Poland, 2024 2027)
Eren Taskin (Turkey, 2024 2027)
Matthias Lannoo (Belgium, 2024 2027)

We would like to thank the members who are leaving:

Felix Langer (Austria, 2019 2024)
Harry Pappis (Greece, 2019 2024)
Nasser Sakran Israel , 2019 2024)
Ramon Villalonga (Spain, 2018 2024)

Composition after IFSO EC2024

Cynthia Borg (UK, 2023 2027), chair
Ellen Andersson (Sweden, 2023 2026)
Sylvia Weiner (Germany, 2023 2026)
Piotr Mysliwiec (Poland, 2024 2027)
Eren Taskin (Turkey, 2024 2027)
Matthias Lannoo (Belgium, 2024 2027)
Ronald Liem (Netherlands, 2019 2025), immediate past chair
New vice chair tbd
New MNAG members tbd

d. **OBSU and Obesity Facts** (E. Aarts and M. Fried)

Noted – Edo Aarts: The *Obesity Surgery* Journal report will be ready by September 2024 and presented at the IFSO World Congress in Melbourne.

Martin Fried: The Impact factor of *Obesity Facts* is now 3.6. The journal is always looking for more reviewers so please submit your candidatures if you would like to be involved.

e. **Young IFSO report** (Roxanna Zakeri)

Currently Young IFSO counts 731 followers on LinkedIn and 1.200 members on Facebook, whereas it has 174 formally registered members belonging to the following countries:

| Country | No. members |
|----------------|-------------|
| Austria | 5 |
| Azerbaijan | 1 |
| Belgium | 6 |
| Czech Republic | 2 |
| France | 8 |
| Georgia | 4 |
| Germany | 8 |
| Greece | 3 |
| Israel | 2 |
| Italy | 20 |
| Kazakhstan | 1 |
| Luxembourg | 2 |
| Poland | 3 |
| Portugal | 6 |
| Romania | 4 |
| Russia | 6 |
| Spain | 42 |
| Switzerland | 5 |
| Netherlands | 19 |
| Turkey | 9 |
| UK | 13 |
| Ukraine | 1 |
| Uzbekistan | 4 |

The detailed list of all Young IFSO activities is attached hereby (See Appendix).

f. **I.H. Committee** (T. Ben Porat and V. Moize) (See Appendix)

New Chair of the Committee

Violeta Moize Arcone, Spain

Vision and Goals 2020-2024

To create an international European network that encompasses various crucial aspects in the development of a more holistic and efficient clinical non-surgical support system for individuals with severe obesity before and after MBS

Operating under the broader EC committee and general council and promoting collaboration among clinicians from diverse European countries with a wide range of expertise related to the IH fields.

Summary of activity 2020-2024

Establishment of the IH-IFSO-EC committee: 2020

[Nutrition and dietetics]- Dr. Tair Ben Porat, Dr. Shiri Sherf-Dagan – Israel; Dr. Laura Heusschen- Netherland, Dr. Violeta Moize- Spain; Laura Vaccarino- Switzerland

[Health sciences]- Prof. Yitka Graham – UK

[Pharmacists]- Lindes Callejas-Dias – UK

[Mental health/psychiatry]- Dr. Fausta Micanti- Italy

[Nursing]- Jenny Abraham- UK

Committee met 3/year from 2021 to 2024

IH committee activities summary

Knowledge translation and conferences activities

Webinars

• 2021

MBS and Skeletal Health

• 2022

Medication and Supplementation post MBS

IFSO EC annual conferences IH sessions

- 2021

Conducting research in IH MBS fields

- 2022

Improving postoperative outcomes: IH aspects

- 2023

Increasing adherence in MBS therapy: A multidisciplinary approach

- 2024

Three IH sessions with focus on mental health, nutrition therapy and pregnancy post MBS

IH committee activities summary

Prioritized in progress activities

EC-Pharmacists project

Creating an international EC group for this expertise

- Led by Dr. Carmil Azran [Israel] and Lindes Callejas Dias [UK]
- Starting with the creation of a social media group
- Currently: further discussions and meetings to promote actions and next steps

Increasing number of IH members

- Led by: Laura Vaccarino Switzerland]
- To promote actions to increase the number of IH members and attendance to EC venues
- In collaboration and involvement of the communication team [e.g., distribution through social media, national organizations, etc.]

Next steps and recommendations from the Chairs

Roles moving forward update

Continue running project 1: pharmacist initiative

Continue running project 2: increasing IH member's number

Adding new members from missing countries and expertise including PA and psychology and behavioral domains /disciplines

Continue committee meetings at least 3 times per year

Develop new initiatives based on the committee vision

g. **SAB** (M. Fried)

Noted – Martin Fried has finished his term. The new Chair of the SAB is Jacques Himpens.

The SAB will deal with the IFSO Scopinaro Foundation committee and the EAC-BS contract and program.

11. Next General Council meeting in Venice in May 2025

12. AOB – No other business