



**ASIA - PACIFIC FEDERATION FOR CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY  
AND LABORATORY MEDICINE**

**MINUTES OF THE 12<sup>th</sup> GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING OF THE ASIAN AND PACIFIC  
FEDERATION OF CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY (APFCB)**

9.00 am. Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2010  
COEX CONVENTION CENTRE  
Seoul, Korea

Attended By

**Executive Committee:**

Mr JB Lopez	President and Meeting Chairman
Professor CWK Lam	Immediate Past President
Prof Dr Leslie Lai	Vice-President
Dr. Elizabeth A Frank	Secretary
Prof Sunil Sethi	Treasurer
Mr. Brian Smith	Corporate Representative
Mr. Martin Fuhrer	Corporate Representative Elect

**Chairs of Standing Committees**

Dra Endang Hoyaranda	Chair Education Committee
Prof Samuel Vasikaran	Chair Lab management committee
Professor Kiyoshi Ichihara	Chair Scientific Committee
Prof T S Jap	Auditor

**Council Members/Representatives:**

Professor Leslie Burnett	Australasian Association of Clinical Biochemists (AACB)
Prof Howard Morris (observer)	AACB
Prof Sun Fei	Chinese Society of Laboratory Medicine (CSLM)
Professor CWK Lam	Hong Kong Society of Clinical Chemistry Limited (HKSCC, representing Dr Joseph S K Lee)
Prof MVR Reddy	Association of Clinical Biochemistry of India (ACBI)
Prof Praveen Sharma (Observer)	ACBI

Rajiv Sinha (Observer) Dra. Dewi Muliaty	ACBI Indonesian Association for Clinical Chemistry (IACC)
Dr. July Kumalawati	IACC
Mr Eric Martoyo	IACC
Mr. Johnson Wijaya	IACC
Professor Tsutomu Nobori	Japan Society of Clinical Chemistry (JSCC)
Professor Oh Hun Kwon	Korean Society of Clinical Chemistry (KSCC)
Prof Won Ki Min	KSCC
Prof Ki Sok Hong	KSCC
Raja Elina	Malaysian Association of Clinical Biochemists (MACB)
Tunku Marinah Ashraf	MACB
Dr Dilshad Ahmed Khan	Pakistan Society of Chemical Pathologists (PSCP)
A/Prof Sunil Sethi	Singapore Association of Clinical Biochemists (SACB)
Professor Shu-Chu Shiesh	Association for Clinical Biochemistry, Taipei, China (CACB)
Prof Phannee Pidetcha	Thailand Association of Clinical Biochemists (TACB)
Dr. Leila M Florento	Philippine Association of Medical Technologists (PAMET)
Luella Vertucio	PAMET

**The following national societies were not represented:**

Nepal Association of Medical Laboratory Sciences (NAMLS)  
Association for Clinical Chemistry, Sri Lanka (ACBSL)  
Vietnamese Association of Clinical Biochemists (VACB)

**1. Welcome address by the President**

The meeting commenced at 9.00 am with the President conveying his warm welcome to all present which was followed by a round of introductions by all present.

**2. Words of Appreciation from IFCC President.**

The IFCC President Dr. Graham Beastall to meet those present for a few minutes before the meeting began. He congratulated the APFCB for its excellent performance. He said that he was looking forward for working together with the APFCB.

**3. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Sri Lanka and Vietnam. The secretary informed that they expected Nepal and Pakistan representative to join as the meeting progressed as they had confirmed attendance. However the representative from Nepal eventually did not attend.

#### **4. Minutes of 11<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting**

There was no comment on these minutes which were previously approved by Council by electronic voting.

#### **5. President's Report**

The President addressed the Council saying that ours was the largest region where we find more than half the population of the world. He said that it was therefore important that our organization befits the size. He also pointed out that our membership was diverse and had both rich and poor countries

The President gave a detailed report on the activities of the APFCB from the last Council Meeting that was held in October 2007 to September 2010

The President's report was detailed covering membership activities and the progress APFCB has made both within the region and outside. The President highlighted some of the achievements of the education activity, with a special mention regarding the first APFCB Siemens Webinar. The activities of the Scientific and Laboratory Management Committees were listed. President expressed his appreciation of the efforts of the Scientific Committee, in particular, which had resulted in 3 publications and a Symposium at the 12<sup>th</sup> APCCB. A brief mention of the APFCB News was made. The Council was informed that future issues of the APFCB News would be in the soft format. The President mentioned the Philanthropic Fund and the scholarships that were awarded from it. The Regional meetings and the meeting held under the auspices of the APFCB were listed. The Finances of the APFCB was briefly reported. Annual budgeting was introduced and the Financial year end changed from 31<sup>st</sup> July to 31<sup>st</sup> Dec. The Council was informed that TFW Management Services Pte. Ltd of Singapore had been appointed to replace Solid Track Management

The President was pleased to announce that the **APFCB-IFCC Agreement** was signed in August 2010. In accordance with this agreement the IFCC would provide the annual grants, and Visiting Lectureships to the APFCB. The President informed the Council that the APFCB was the first regional body to sign such an agreement. The highlights of the President's report included:

- Growth in membership
- Strong regional educational activities
- Regional projects – scientific, laboratory management

- Scholarships
- Specialty meetings
- Signing of IFCC-APFCB Agreement
- APFCB Strategic Plan

## **6. Strategic Plan**

The recommendation of the APFCB Council at the Beijing Council meeting was to formulate a strategic plan which would serve as a road map for the functioning of the APFCB for the next few years. A task force was appointed. The task force met in Perth on the 30th January 2010. The recommendations of the task force were accepted by the EB and Committee Chairs. The President discussed the entire strategic plan in detail. The strategic plan was tabled for adoption at the Council meeting. The strategic plan addressed the functioning of the APFCB under four themes

- Governance
- APFCB activities
- APFCB congress (APCCB)
- Future directions

The recommendations listed in the strategic plan were tabled as constitution and non-constitutional resolutions for adoption by the meeting.

## **7. Report of the 12<sup>th</sup> Asian Pacific Congress of Clinical Biochemistry – Professor Min**

Prof Min reported that he was pleased with progress of the preparation of the 12<sup>th</sup> APCCB. The theme of the congress was “Challenges in Future Diagnostics”. The expected participation was over 1,000 and representing 50 countries.

The Congress has 5 plenary lectures, 26 symposia, 9 society-sponsored symposia, 3 pre-congress workshops, 11 Industry Symposia, 9 oral presentations. 50 travel awards and 21 Young Scientist awards were given. The industry presence at this congress was very good .It was reported that there were 42 sponsors and 116 booths were taken. Eight of them were diamond sponsors. Professor Min said that we was pleased at the level of science at the congress. The social programs were also well organized and planned giving the delegates a taste of the unique Korean culture and folklore

## **8. Report from the Honorary Treasurer**

The Treasurer reported on the finances of the APFCB. He noted that the APFCB EB had been very conservative and judicious in its spending and, hence, the finances of the APFCB remained healthy. The balance in the

current account is S\$ 166,711.27 while the remainder of the APFCB funds was in fixed deposits. The funding sources were mainly from Corporate membership, IFCC grants, and advertisements. SGD 14,953 was received as surplus from the 11<sup>th</sup> APCCB at Beijing and SGD 6,936 was received from the surplus of the AACC – APFCB Lab Automation meeting in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

**9. Report from the Chair of the Scientific Committee**

The report of the activities of the Scientific Committee was given by the Chair of the Committee, Prof Kiyoshi Ichihara for the period of 2007 - 2010. He reported on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Study on Reference Intervals. This was jointly conducted by the APFCB, IFCC and JSCC. 85 analytes were measured. The project has resulted in the establishment of RIs for more than 90 analytes and has also provided evidence regarding rationality and sources of variation in the test results. He acknowledged the support of BD. Prof Kiyoshi informed the Council that a new global study was being planned on reference values. The outcome of the work of the Scientific Committee was to be reported and discussed in the APFCB-sponsored symposium at the 12<sup>th</sup> APCCB congress. The symposium was titled "The Asian project for collaborative derivation of reference intervals and exploration of diagnostic evidence for laboratory medicine". A pre-congress education workshop titled "Multivariate analyses for laboratory scientist" was also conducted by the Scientific Committee.

**10. Report from the Chair of the Education Committee**

The Chair of the Education Committee gave a detailed report of the activities of the Education Committee during the period 2007 – 2010. The APFCB Travelling Lectureship was delivered by Prof Dr. Leslie Lai for the period 2007 – 2008 on Diabetes and Metabolic Syndrome. Dr Samuel Vasikaran was the APFCB Travelling Lecturer for 2008 - 2009 and he covered the topics of Osteoporosis, eGFR markers and Interpretative Comments of Laboratory Results. The IFCC-Abbott Visiting Lecturer was Prof. Dr Mauro Panteghini, M.D who lectured on (1) The basics of cardiac biomarker interpretation, and (2) Traceability, reference systems and result comparability. The APFCB-Beckman Coulter Education Symposium Lecturers were Prof Dr Sunil Sethi, MD (2007) and Prof Dr. Gunther Weiss(2009). Dr Sethi Spoke on the Application of Laboratory Processes in Enhancing Laboratory Deliverables, Making Automation, Informatics and Workflow Redesign Transform Patient Care, Process Improvements in the Clinical Laboratory Environment.

Dr. Gunther Weiss spoke on Diagnostic Challenges in Chronic Anemias. APFCB-Sekisui Travelling Lectureship was undertaken by Prof Dr Shinji Kihara from Osaka University, Japan. He spoke on the potential of adiponectin.

The Chair of the Education Committee reported that the APFCB Webinar was newly developed as an APFCB-Siemens joint activity, sponsored by Siemens. As a new educational activity, this webinar seems very promising for future activities. The first webinar was conducted on 23 July 2010, with Dr Ken Sikaris as lecturer, talking on Uncertainty of Measurements. The total intended participants for the webinar program was more than 600 members enrolled from 12 member associations. An outline of the future of the education committees was reported to the Council

**11. Report from the Chair of Laboratory Management Committee**

The Chair, Prof Samuel Vasikaran reported on the activity of the Laboratory Management Committee. The APFCB C-LM was involved in three major projects in this term.

1. HbA1c Proficiency Testing Program, which was supported by Bio-Rad. APFCB decided to discontinue the program after 2008 having concluded that its objectives had been achieved.

2. Interpretative Comments Educational Program

This program started in 2008 with 31 registered participants from Hong Kong, Malaysia, India, South Africa and Kenya. The results of the 2009 are currently being analyzed and will be used to plan the 2011 program when it is re-started after a year's gap.

3. Workshop on Laboratory Quality (IFCC-APFCB-ACBSL)

A two-day workshop on Laboratory Quality was held in Colombo, Sri Lanka (April 2009) jointly organised by the IFCC-EMD, the APFCB C-LM and the Association of Clinical Biochemists of Sri Lanka (ABCBSL). This was followed by a Seminar on Interpretative Skills in Clinical Chemistry Diagnosis. This program was also supported by Bio-Rad and BD Diagnostics, both of which are its corporate members. The event was considered to be a great success and a prototype for future workshops in emerging nations. The Chair of the Committee also informed the Council that the next workshop is planned to be held in Manila, Philippines 23-25 March 2011.

**12. Report from the Chair of the Communications Committee**

The Chair of the Communications Committee was not present. As such there was no report from this committee. However, the President noted that he had reported on the APFCB News.

**13. Report from the APFCB Election Committee.**

The Election Committee Chairman, Prof Chris Lam reported on the election process and the outcome. His committee members were Prof Howard Morris and Prof Tan It Koon.

Results of the nominations were as follows:



#### **14. The Election of the Executive Board.**

The election for the positions of Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer was officiated by the Election Committee Chair. The candidates were

Vice President: Dr Renze Bais and Professor Sunil Sethi

Secretary: Mr Peter Graham and Dr Endang Horayanda

Treasurer: Dr Elizabeth Frank and Prof T S Jap

The election process was conducted efficiently. Prof Chris Lam and Mr. Brain Smith served as scrutineers with the assistance of Mr Martin Fuhrer distributed the signed ballot forms. The ballot was then counted twice. The outcome of the election was

Vice president Prof Sunil Sethi

Secretary Dr. Endang Hoyaranda

Treasurer Dr. Elizabeth A Frank

The final list of the office bearers was announced by the Election Committee Chair. The EB for the next term are as follow

President Prof Leslie Lai

Immediate Past President Mr Joseph Lopez

Vice President Prof Sunil Sethi

Secretary Dra Endang Hoyaranda

Treasurer Dr Elizabeth A Frank

Corporate Representative Mr Martin Fuhrer

Auditors 1 Ki Sook Hong,

Auditor 2 Jeong Ho Kim

#### **15. Report from the Organizing Committee of the 13<sup>th</sup> APCCB Bali, Indonesia**

The IACC President, Ms Dewi Muliaty reported on the plans and preparation being done for the 13<sup>th</sup> APCCB . The dates of the conference would be from Nov 17<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> 2013 in Bali, Indonesia. She reported



that the organizing committee had been formed. The theme of the congress would be “Laboratory Diagnostics in P4 Medicine Era”. P4 medicine (Predictive, Personalize, Preventive and Participatory) would include topics like age and sex related testing , prenatal screening, pediatric /women laboratory medicine, molecular diagnostics, genetic testing, infectious diseases, lab management, metabolic and autoimmune diseases. She said that IACC was looking forward to a good congress

**16. Presentations of plans and selection of the host for the 14<sup>th</sup> APCCB in 2016**

The MACB and CACB had made bids to hold the APFCB Congress in 2016. Both of the associations were invited to make presentations on the venue and the advantages of having the congress in their countries. A very detailed presentation was made by the representatives of both MACB and CACB. After this the Council was called to vote by secret ballot as to which would be the preferred venue for the 14<sup>th</sup> APFCB congress. Prof Chris Lam officiated the selection process. The Council's choice of venue for the 14<sup>th</sup> APFCB Congress was Taiwan.

**17. Proposed Amendments and Resolutions Tabled for Adoption**

Five amendments to the APFCB constitution and ten resolutions were tabled for adoption

<b>Proposed Amendments to the Constitution for Adoption</b>	<b>Votes for adoption</b>	<b>Votes against adoption</b>	<b>Abstentions</b>	<b>Adopted/ Not Adopted</b>
<b>Amendment 1</b> This society shall be known as Asian-Pacific Federation for Clinical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine, abbreviated as APFCB	13	0	0	Adopted
<b>Amendment 2</b> 3. Objects :The Asian and Pacific Federation of Clinical Biochemistry herein after referred to as the Federation strives to contribute to the health and well-being	13	0	0	Adopted

of the communities it serves through advancing the development and practice of clinical biochemistry				
<b>Amendment 3</b> <b>6.3</b> The term of office of the EB consisting of President, Vice President, Immediate Past President, Secretary, Treasurer and Corporate Representative shall begin on the First of January following the election to serve for 3 calendar years.	13	0	0	Adopted
<b>Amendment 4</b> <b>6.6 C</b> The Immediate Past President shall provide assistance to the President and help with negotiations on behalf of the Federation.	13	0	0	Adopted
<b>Amendment 5</b> <b>7.1</b> The Federation's activities will be funded by annual dues from its members and the generosity of national and international industry, professional and health bodies concerned for the welfare of the region	10	3	0	Adopted
<b>Non Constitutional Resolutions (NCR)</b>				

<p><b>NCR1</b>  <b>Review of Subscriptions for Corporate Members</b>  It is proposed to have 2 categories:.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multinationals - SGD1500 per annum</li> <li>• All others – SGD 750 per annum</li> <li>• The billing date for the subscriptions will be 1<sup>st</sup> January.</li> <li>• Multinationals are defined as any company having operations, subsidiaries, or investments within and outside the APFCB region.</li> </ul>	13	0	0	Adopted
<p><b>NCR 2</b>  <b>Subscription Fee for Ordinary Members.</b> It is hereby proposed to collect subscription fees from all its Ordinary members. The subscription fees will be tiered based on considerations of the GDP per head and reported and perceived membership numbers. Based on the above consideration the fee structure for the Ordinary members per</p>	8	1	4	Adopted

<p>annum will be  Australia , Japan - SGD  800  Hong Kong, Singapore,  Korea, Taiwan - SGD  600  Malaysia ,Thailand,  China,  Indonesia, Philippines,  India  - SGD 400  Sri Lanka, Vietnam,  Pakistan - SGD 200  Nepal – SGD 100 or free</p>				
<p><b>NCR 3</b>  <b>Structure of the  Standing Committees</b>  Chairs of Committees  will be appointed by EB  The Committees should  comprise <b>at least</b> three  members, selected  from persons who have  been nominated by  member associations.  Members may also  nominate others to  serve as corresponding  members  The committees should  consist of a Chair, a  Secretary and at least  one other member.  Chairs of Committees  should be responsible  for proposing names of  committee members to  EB for approval. EB  approval is not required  for corresponding  members.</p>	13	0	0	Adopted

<p><b>NCR 4</b> It is proposed that the EB and Chairs of Standing Committees meet once between congresses.</p>	12	1	0	Adopted
<p><b>NCR 5</b> Application for Ordinary membership is accepted from the National Society for Clinical Chemistry and/or Laboratory Medicine. The application must include the following: 1) Application in the prescribed format 2) A brief profile of the organisation describing its activities, number of members and qualification of Members 3) A copy of the certificate of registration with the government 4) Evidence that the applicant is the sole or main representative of clinical chemistry in the country. 5) If the applicant is not a society of clinical chemistry, then evidence that it is actively involved in clinical chemistry must be provided. 6) Acceptance of the membership application will be based on a simple majority of the voting by the APFCB Council.</p>	13	0	0	Adopted
<p><b>NCR 6</b></p>	13	0	0	Adopted

It is proposed to change the name of the congress from APCCB to APFCB Congress.				
<b>NCR 7</b> All congress accounts will be audited by a registered external accountant	13	0	0	Adopted
<b>NCR 8</b> Remittance to APFCB from the surplus of the APFCB Congress will be increased from 20% to 23%.	13	0	0	Adopted
<b>NCR 9</b> The EB shall appoint a Co-Chair of the Scientific Committee of the APFCB Congress. The EB will need to approve the scientific programme of the APFCB Congress	13	0	0	Adopted
<b>NCR 10</b> The travel, registration and accommodation of the Chairs of the Standing Committees should be provided by the APFCB Congress	3	7	3	Not Adopted

Comment on NCR 4.

The EB had suggested that the APFCB should meet at least once a year. The Council suggest that the APFCB EB meets once in between congresses.

*Addendum to the amendments:*

*Following the adoption of the name Asian-Pacific Federation for Clinical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine, the Executive Board held a discussion after the Council Meeting and was of the opinion that the proper name of the federation should be **Asia-Pacific Federation for Clinical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine** rather than Asian-Pacific Federation for Clinical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine. An email vote of all Council members was then undertaken within three weeks after the council meeting. Nine responses were received from 16 members; all 9 agreed to the change of name to **Asia-Pacific Federation for Clinical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine;** there were no votes against. The change of name was then adopted as an amendment.*

#### 18. **Concluding Remarks**

The President thanked the EB and the Council members for their active participation in the Council meeting. As the outgoing President he thanked the EB for their support in the last six years. The meeting was adjourned.

Minutes of the Council meeting recorded by Dr Elizabeth A Frank, Secretary APFCB (2004 – 2010)

November 2010