



Informal Executive Council Meeting, London, May 14th 2106 at 14.15 hrs
(Tokyo Room, Sofitel, Heathrow Airport T5)

UNRESERVED MINUTES

1. **Present:** A Fiennes, M Fried, M. Suter, J. Himpens (all voting)
On Skype: N. Scopinaro, L. Angrisani (non-voting)
Guest H. Pappis (Greece) for items 4-6
Apologies: Y. Yashkov, K. Miller
Proxies: (none)

4/7 voting members were present: the meeting was declared quorate

2. **Minutes of Formal Executive Council Meeting** (Agenda Annex 2)

The minutes of the Formal Executive Committee Meeting, Vienna, 12.00-14.00 August 26th 2015 had been circulated and were accepted as a true record. ("140516-2")

3. **Matters arising**

3.a. Reserved & Unreserved minutes:

Noted that for the first time the Unreserved Minutes of this present meeting would be placed on the Chapter's website, once agreed by Executive Council.

3.b. Minute keeping:

Noted that accordingly the verbatim reporting of who said what is no longer a suitable minute-keeping format and in future all minutes should be kept in the present style (Noted, Moved; Seconded; Agreed).

3.c. Matters to be held over:

Moved (A. Fiennes) Subcommittee Reports would be heard in Gothenburg, where further discussion of EAC-BS could also take place. ("140516-3")

Seconded M. Fried. **Agreed** unopposed.

4. **Collaboration with EASO** (Agenda Annex 4.)

Noted That an e-mail from E Woodward (EASO Exec Director) was received on February 16th by M. Fried and M. Suter (but not by A. Fiennes) retracting support for continuing closer collaboration and calling a halt to any plans for an EOS in 2019 (and by implication at least for 2018 and probably for 2020 also). That this was deeply regrettable and flew in the face of all previous discussions around a mutual interest in progressing the collaboration.

Moved (A. Fiennes) That all efforts should be made to revive the process, but that this could not be expected to yield an early recovery. That a change of heart by EASO could occur, but that contingency plans had to be made for an IFSO-EC (only) Chapter Congress in 2018 and (see Item 6. below) conceivably for 2019 also. (“140516-4”)

Seconded (J. Himpens). **Agreed** unanimously.

5. Greek proposal for Athens 2019 (Agenda Annexes 5, etc)

Noted that a revised draft proposal (A5) for an IFSO-EC Congress or for the IFSO-EC component of EOS2019 Athens had been carefully prepared by Prof H Pappis and colleagues with the Chapter’s PCO, Guarant International.

Noted that a draft business plan from Guarant was appended (A5.1). That P Brincil (Guarant) had replied in the affirmative to enquiries by A. Fiennes (A5.2).

Moved (A. Fiennes) That the Committee express its full support in principle for implementation of this proposal, be it in 2019 or in 2018 (see item 6 below). (“140516-5”)

Seconded J. Himpens. **Agreed** unanimously.

6. Strategy for 2017-2020 (Annexes 6, 6.1, 6.2, 6.3)

Noted The Fiennes discussion paper “Life after EOS2016” had been circulated. Mr Fiennes had written to H. Toplak (EASO President) on March 1st (A6.2) in response to the EASO e-mail of February 16th, requesting a definitive decision of the future of the EOS concept by June 24th 2016. No acknowledgement or response of any kind had been received. The Chapter has to make an early decision on its strategy for its next Congresses, the first of which would ordinarily (had there been no EOS project) be in 2018.

2017:

No action was needed in respect of 2017, although A. Fiennes noted that R. Welbourn (Congress President IFSO 2017) had welcomed the proposal for an embedded IFSO-C / EASO symposium in London, but that there had been no further word on a reciprocal arrangement at EASO 2017 in Oporto.

2018/2019:

Noted that, faced by a choice between returning the Athens proposal to its original date of 2018 or sticking to the later proposal for 2019, Professor Pappis preferred the former, but he pointed out that this would have to be announced before Gothenburg and promoted in Gothenburg.

Noted that Athens 2018 was what General Council had originally voted for. That there were risks in either strategy, especially if EASO suddenly reverted their position and engaged a “forward gear”.

Moved (accordingly) that the Committee express its gratitude to Prof Pappis for the extreme patience shown by his Society **and** that P Brincil (Guarant) be requested with immediate effect to commence promotion of an IFSO-EC Congress 2018 in Athens. (“140516-6.1”)

Seconded M. Suter. **Agreed** unanimously.

Frequency of Future Congresses

Noted: The EC appears the only chapter of IFSO that does not hold an *annual* congress. This has an historical basis in the alternation of venues for the World Congress between New/Developing World and Old World (synonymized with “Europe”). This distinction has become blurred with allocation of Dubai (on the boundaries of the EC) and with bids from Capetown (technically EC) and the possibility of a future bid from Iran (who want to be in EC) etc.

Noted: The crystal-clear opinion of P Brincil (Guarant International, A6.3), that in a changing world the key to sponsorship is continuity of brand and that continuity means “annuality”.

Noted: The options include

- a) to stick with the current biennial model
- b) to establish de novo a full annual Chapter Congress for the “missing” years (i.e. the uneven years from 2017 onward).
- c) a developmental approach that tests the water by collaboration with or by “Chapterising up” existing fixed major non-Chapter independent Congresses already held annually in Europe (eg Naples, Homerton, Frankfurt, Lyon), best of all on a rotating basis.

Option b) would require skilful manipulation of venue to “avoid” World Congress venues the same year (in the EOS model Athens had the advantage for 2019 of being far removed from Madrid) and certainly IFSO would need to be appraised of such a move.

Option c) is the most attractive, subject to support from our PCO Guarant, who should be consulted, and subject to support from target venues (that of Homerton is tentatively positive and that of Naples was firmly expressed within the meeting).

Moved: (A. Fiennes) that the Chapter will pursue a policy in *principle* of **annual** scientific presence henceforth. That this be put to General Council for ratification in Gothenburg. (“140516-6.2”)

Seconded: (J. Himpens) **Agreed** unanimously.

Moved: (A. Fiennes) That option c) offers low risk and some flexibility. Discussion with Guarant and target independent congresses will be pursued. General Council to be informed that Exec Council is exploring this as the likely best option. That Natan Zundel will be informed forthwith.

(“140516-6.3”)

Seconded M. Suter. **Agreed** unanimously.

Action: Mr Fiennes to write to Natan Zundel.

(Prof Pappis leaves the meeting)

Addendum by President after meeting: It is inherent in this approach that as soon as EASO’s June 24th response is known, Executive Council & Guarant will need to issue a call for bids for 2020 no later than Spring 2017, so that these can be voted on at the Chapter General Council to be held in London at the 2017 World Congress (General Council now meets yearly).

7. Scholarship process and awards (annex 7)

Noted that the Committee thanked Prof Suter for running a careful application and evaluation process according to the Chapter’s revised guidelines. That Professor Suter had arranged with Manuela Mazzarella to present the scholarships during the Gala Dinner in Gothenburg.

Moved (A. Fiennes) that the Committee confirm the awards to Drs Tarasiuk, Felsenreich and Serralta de Colsa. ("140516-7")

Seconded M. Fried . **Agreed** unanimously.

Action A. Fiennes to recirculate the revised criteria to the whole Executive Council for information.

8. Draft Statement of Values and on Conflicts of Interest (Annex 8)

Noted That in an era of media and regulatory scrutiny the Chapter need to have a clear statement on its ethical values and on financial probity. A. Fiennes had drafted the document circulated as Annex 8. That this was a draft for editing and discussion. That the Committee accepted and supported the wording of this draft.

Moved (M. Suter) that the Committee put this statement forward as a new Bylaw 12 to be ratified at the General Council in Gothenburg. ("140516-8")

Seconded (A. Fiennes). **Agreed** unanimously.

Action: redraft A. Fiennes (attached to Agenda for Exec Council in Gothenburg)

9. Update on MNAG (Annex 9)

Noted that following a period of inactivity by the new Multinational Advisory Group (MNAG), A. Fiennes had invited Nicola Di Lorenzo (Italy) to take on the *ad-hoc* leadership of this group and that he had agreed.

Moved (A. Fiennes) that the Committee should invite the MNAG representative to attend Formal Executive Council Meetings alongside the other invited Sub-Committee leads. ("140516-9")

Seconded (M. Fried). **Agreed** unanimously

Action A. Fiennes would feed this decision back to Di Lorenzo to organise a first group meeting in Gothenburg.

10. Terms of Office of Treasurer and Executive Director (Annex 10, 10.1)

Noted that under the Bylaws the term of office of the Treasurer expires in April 2017 and that of the Exec. Director in April 2018. Both would be eligible to stand for a second term of 3 years and 4 years respectively.

Noted specifically that Prof Miller served the Chapter loyally and had managed its finances with great diligence. That any hand-over by him should be in a controlled way in association with the appointment by Executive Council of a Treasurer Designate.

Moved (A. Fiennes) That the Executive Committee formally express its deep gratitude to Prof Miller. That the Executive Council move to identify a suitable Treasurer Designate.

(“140516-10”)

Seconded (J. Himpens). **Agreed** unanimously

Action: Mr Fiennes as above

11. President Elect (PE) and Member at Large (MAL) (Annex 11, etc)

Noted The criteria for suitable candidates for PE, as set out in the Bylaws and MOPP. That A. Fiennes had, through the Naples Office, sent out a call for nominations to both positions in March with a fixed deadline. That the nominations received provide the information required by the MOPP.

Noted that the Slate for PE (A 11.3) comprised 4 individuals, M de Luca (Italy), A Lavrik (Ukraine), G Prager (Austria)(Executive Council internal Nominee), F del la Cruz Vigo (Spain). That the nomination of F de la Cruz Vigo had arrived late, was not signed by the President of the Spanish Society and did not document that he meets the criteria. That Prof Lavrik appeared not to meet the criteria. That Executive Council had to make a choice between G. Prager and M de Luca, both of whom do fully meet the criteria.

Noted that the Chapter was entitled to submit a list of up to 5 individuals, from which IFSO might choose one to be MAL. That the slate for MAL comprised 3 individuals: Prof Chevallier, Dr Foletto and Dr Dillemans. That the nomination of Dr Dillemans had arrived 2 months late and that it would be difficult for an outgoing Belgian MAL to be succeeded by another Belgian. That Executive Council would not ordinarily put forward individuals from the same country for two of three available vacancies. That Prof Chevalier was strongly supported by the French Society and that the French Society is currently under-represented in the operations of the Chapter.

Noted that Executive Council may appoint the Treasurer Designate without a prior vote in General Council

Moved (M. Fried) that Executive Council adopt G Prager as its official candidate for President Elect **and** that it adopt J-M Chevallier as its sole candidate for MAL **and** that it appoint M de Luca as Treasurer Designate.

(“140516-11”)

Seconded (A. Fiennes). **Affirmed** by all participants and **agreed** unanimously

12. Report on Moscow Congress (e-mail statement from Y. Yashkov)

Noted That the Moscow meeting had been extremely successful, scientifically. There had been 400 delegates from 33 countries and 33 guest speakers from 24 countries. There had been live transmissions as well as a meeting of the IBC. The meeting had been most successful, in its multi-professional dimension and in the drawing in of contributors from Azerbaijan, Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Georgia, Tajikistan. The Program and other information remain available at www.obesitymoscow2016.ru

Moved (J. Himpens) that Executive Council congratulate Yuri Yashkov on his determination and on his act of innovation in taking this Congress to its successful conclusion.

(“140516-12”)

Seconded (M. Suter). **Agreed** unanimously

13. Update on Gothenburg

Noted the report by M. Fried that there are already approximately 450 IFSO-EC registrants. Further that the full program is available online.

14. Any Other Business

None proposed.

15. Next Meeting and Close

Formal Executive Council Meeting, June 1st 2016 , 11.30 -13.30 Gothenburg. Room to be announced.

Mr Fiennes thanked the participants for their commitment and the Skype participants particularly for their patience.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at approximately 16.30