

## **Minutes of General Assembly (IFTM)**

Atlanta, 4 November 2010

**Time and Date:** 12:30-15:30 (4 November 2010)

**Place:** Room A707 (Atlanta Marriott Marquis Hotel, Atlanta, Georgia, USA)

**Participants:** Pierre Ambroise-Thomas (President IFTM, France), Claudio Tadeu Daniel-Ribeiro (Vice-President, President Elect IFTM, Brazil), Jong-Yil Chai (Secretary-General IFTM, Korea), Santiago Mas-Coma (Treasurer IFTM, Spain), Eduardo Gotuzzo (Past-President IFTM, Peru), Gerd Burchard (Germany), Gerri McHugh (UK), Harald Noedl (Austria), Sant Muangnoicharoen (SEAMEO), Shigeyuki Kano (Japan), Srivicha Krudsood (Thailand), Thomas Junghanss (FESTMIH).

**Bid for 2016 ICTM:** by Malcolm Jones (Australia) and Rajendra Maharaj (South Africa)

1. Pierre Ambroise-Thomas greeted and thanked all participants of the General Assembly, explaining the current situation of IFTM and stressing the importance of active participation and cooperation of each Federated Society and future perspectives for IFTM (attached document).
2. Claudio Tadeu Daniel-Ribeiro presented briefly the origins, history and goals of IFTM which are: to guarantee continuing active infrastructure for the organization of the periodic International Congresses; and, in the period between Congresses: a) to define methods for coordinating and promoting exchange of information among National Tropical Medicine Societies, b) to facilitate transfer of research knowledge and its applications to practitioners in the tropics, c) to disseminate information about opportunities for education and training, d) to advise on funding opportunities and, e) to support and/or co-sponsor interim regional meetings and scientific sessions on specific subjects of national or regional importance.
3. He also presented the International Congresses of Tropical Medicine and Malaria (ICTMM), previous venues, host countries, and past presidents.
4. Jong-Yil Chai introduced the new IFTM website (<http://iftm-hp.org>) and demonstrated web linkages between IFTM and some Federated National Society home pages. He asked each society and neighbor societies to inform any change related to the president, contact address, e-mail, homepage, and so on.
5. Claudio Tadeu Daniel-Ribeiro presented some information on the forthcoming XVIII ICTM Congress which is scheduled to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil during 23-27 September, 2012. He introduced the Executive Local Committee members, which are presided by Professor José Rodrigues Coura and the members of the International and National Scientific Committees, presided by himself, as well as the homepage of XVIIIth ICTM Congress (<http://ictmm2012.ioc.fiocruz.br>) and a general overview of the venue (Rio de Janeiro).
6. Malcolm Jones presented a bid for hosting the 2016 ICTM Congress in Brisbane, Australia. He also mentioned that Santiago Mas-Coma and Jong-Yil Chai visited Brisbane for a sight visit to

Brisbane in last August 2010 just after ICOPA Meeting in Melbourne. A question was raised whether this Brisbane team had a communication and agreement with the national federated society of tropical medicine in holding the 2016 ICTM Congress in Brisbane. He answered that the Australian College of Tropical Medicine is a small society composed mostly of clinical physicians and they need help of the Australian Society of Parasitology and Australian Society of Infectious Diseases which are much bigger and having larger capacities. Another question was posed to him on how could they encourage participation of young tropical medicine scientists from developing countries, including Africa and Asia. Malcolm Jones answered that they will do their best using local resources to invite as many young scientists as possible from the developing countries.

7. Rajendra Maharaj also presented a bid for hosting the 2016 ICTM Congress proposing Durban, South Africa as the venue. Whether this Durban team had a communication and agreement with the national federated society was questioned. He answered yes. Asked how they plan to encourage participation of young tropical medicine scientists from developing countries, including Africa and Asia, he answered that they will do their best to invite as many young scientists as possible from developing countries, and that they have the advantage to invite more people from African countries.
8. Pierre Ambroise-Thomas remembered, once more, that the final decision on the host Country to the XIX ICTMM will be taken at Rio de Janeiro, during the realization of the forthcoming (XVIII) ICTMM, thanked all participants for their active participation and discussion and closed the meeting.

#### **INFORMATION GIVEN BY THE TREASURER, PROFESSOR SANTIAGO MAS-COMA**

9. Account statement: There are US\$ 3,500.00 in cash at the IFTM kept by the Secretary General J.Y. Chai, which represents the remaining of the US\$ 6,000 from the ICTM-17 in Jeju, Korea 2008 minus US\$ 1,000 for the construction and management of the IFTM website in 2009 and US\$ 1,500 for its management in years 2010-2012 (US\$ 500/year). These US\$ 3,500.00 are temporarily kept by the Secretary General due to the lack of an IFTM bank account. The IFTM appears to have been working thanks to an inner bank subaccount of the ASTMH, as notified by the previous IFTM Treasurer G.V. Hillyer, who acted simultaneously as ASTMH Secretary-Treasurer. The ASTMH took the decision of not prolonging such a situation from 2008 on. The IFTM Board decided, therefore, to open a bank account in order to be able to face the costs of the IFTM website and other activities in the future (scholarships for young researchers from developing countries to attend the ICTMMs, potential initial needs by ICTMM local organizing committees...). Funds

of the IFTM can not be and are not used by IFTM Board members, who cover the costs of trips, stays, etc., with their own funds.

10. New IFTM "Foundation Act": When launching the process of opening a current bank account for the IFTM, many IFTM documents were requested by the bank according to international/national laws. All documents were found and available except the "Foundation Act", that was most probably never made. In view of this, there is no other solution than making a new IFTM "Foundation Act". Consequently, a one-sheet document was written with the following content:

<<RE-FOUNDATIONAL ACT OF THE "INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF TROPICAL MEDICINE"  
(IFTM)

On the occasion of the 59th Annual Meeting of the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, held in the Atlanta Marriot Marquis Hotel in Atlanta, GA, USA, during the IFTM General Assembly held on Thursday November 4th, the attendees agreed to launch the Re-Foundation Act of the Federation, given the necessity to dispose of such a document and the impossibility to find the original one, if there was any.

The attached document was signed during the Assembly by the attendees (Re-Founding Members) and becomes the Foundational Act of the Federation.

On this occasion, the following IFTM Board Members were present:

Pierre Ambroise-Thomas (France), President

Claudio Tadeu Daniel-Ribeiro (Brazil): Vice-President and President Elect

Jong-Yil Chai (Korea): Secretary General

Santiago Mas-Coma (Spain): Treasurer

It was stated that the mission and all other characteristics of the IFTM are already appropriately noted in the last version of the IFTM Constitution.

Atlanta, GA, USA, November 4th, 2010>>

The original document was read and appropriately signed by two attendees from Europe, two attendees from the Americas, four attendees from Asia, one attendee from Africa, and one attendee from Australia.

11. IFTM national member society fees: The IFTM had never requested fee payment to the national member societies before, but it is now expected to actively contribute to activities on tropical medicine and malaria in any way, mainly in the numerous developing countries where IFTM could become useful in the absence of national societies. The IFTM Board has, therefore, concluded on the advisability to start annual fees request to the national

member societies. This proposal was analyzed by the attendees and finally approved unanimously.

12. Annual IFTM membership fee charge: Once the aforementioned decision taken, and after a long debate in which the present global economic crisis was taken in account, the decision was taken to apply the annual fee of US\$ 1.00 per society individual member per year from 2011.

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Secretary-General: Jong-Yil Chai ([cjy@snu.ac.kr](mailto:cjy@snu.ac.kr))

Treasurer: Santiago Mas-Coma ([S.Mas.Coma@uv.es](mailto:S.Mas.Coma@uv.es))

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