

Příloha č.1

PROPOSAL FOR AMENDMENT OF THE STATUTES OF THE EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF CLINICAL CHEMISTRY AND LABORATORY MEDICINE (EFCC)

EFCC is the Federation of European Societies for Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine, under the auspices of the IFCC (International Federation for Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine), connecting National societies of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine in Europe (defined according to WHO) and creating a platform for all specialists working in the field of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine in Europe. EFCC is the European branch of IFCC.

1. Vision and Mission

EFCC provides European leadership in clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine to national professional societies, to the diagnostic industry and to governmental and non-governmental organisations in order to serve the public interest in health care.

Clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine is at the heart of modern healthcare, and plays a vital role in screening for disease, diagnosis, risk assessment, treatment selection, monitoring of therapy, prognosis and other aspects of clinical decision-making. It is thus central to effective patient care. Patients throughout Europe have the right to expect high standards of laboratory medicine wherever they present to the health care system.

The mission of EFCC is to enhance patient care and improve outcome by promoting and improving the scientific, professional and clinical aspects of clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine in Europe and to ensure effective representation of laboratory medicine both at European Union level, to other pan-European and sub-regional bodies and internationally.

The main tasks of EFCC relate to education, research, development of the profession, requirements for competence and quality and accreditation of laboratories, organisation of congresses, and publications. EFCC deals with specific European issues of clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine, building bridges between European societies of laboratory and clinical medicine, and formal co-operation with IFCC and other regional federations of clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine..

2. Goals and Objectives

The goals of EFCC are:

1. To promote and improve science and education within the field of clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine.
2. To improve patient outcomes and the quality and safety of patient care through the highest standards of laboratory medicine.

3. To represent clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine at European level to political, professional, scientific and other bodies including patients' organizations.
4. To represent IFCC activities in Europe.
5. To represent the professional interests of European specialists in clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine..
6. To promote the profession of specialist in clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine
7. To certify and register professionals in clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine through the (EC4) Register of European Specialists in Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine.

EFCC will achieve these goals through the following specific objectives:

1. Developing initiatives to improve the quality of clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine as practised in Europe.
2. Preserving, promoting and developing the ethical standards of the profession.
3. Representing clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine to the European Commission and the European Parliament.
4. Representing clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine to other pan-European and sub-regional scientific or medical organizations.
5. Liaising with patients, carers and clinical service users to ensure that clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine services meet their needs.
6. Organize regional and sub-regional conferences in association with relevant National Societies of laboratory medicine and other European organizations. Determine the location of the European Congress of Laboratory Medicine and support the appropriate National Society in the organization of the Congress.
7. Promoting the profession of clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine to the general public.
8. Supporting the (EC4) Register of European Specialists in Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine and promotion of the Register.
9. Promoting IFCC activities in Europe.
10. Liaising and collaborating with IFCC and its constituent Divisions.
11. Organizing educational programmes, workshops and exchange programmes.

12. Achieving recognition of professional qualifications under European Union legislation based on the principles of free movement of professionals within Europe.
13. Certifying the training of professionals in clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine through the qualification European Specialist in Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (EurClinChem).
14. Co-operation to reach equivalence of standards in training in clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine, irrespective of the academic background.
15. Promoting co-operation between clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine societies in different European countries.
16. Promoting scientific co-operation in clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine between European institutions and other organizations within and outside Europe.
17. Co-operation in defining European guidelines for the investigation and laboratory management of disease.
18. Harmonising standards of practice through production of guidance documents stating best practice in areas of clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine
19. Supporting the establishment of effective accreditation schemes in all European countries, co-ordinating accreditation matters relating to clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine and liaising with ISO, CEN and European Accreditation on accreditation matters
20. Developing European initiatives on the standardization of laboratory data.
21. Liaising and collaborating with *in vitro* diagnostics manufacturers and their European organization(s) e.g. EDMA.
22. Applying for scientific, educational and other grants to support the objectives of the Federation.

3. Membership

EFCC has 4 types of membership: 1/ full; 2/ provisional; 3/ affiliate and 4/ co-opted membership. Specific details and procedures of application for the various memberships are described on the EFCC website.

All member societies of IFCC in Europe may become Full Members (referred to as Members) of EFCC. Members pay an annual registration fee; have voting rights at the EFCC General Assembly; can nominate full and corresponding members to any Committee or Working Group of EFCC; and have access to all official EFCC communications.

Non-IFCC societies may obtain a provisional membership for three years provided that they apply for IFCC membership in the meantime. Provisional members pay no fees; have no

voting rights or eligibility to delegate corresponding or full members into any EFCC Committee or Working Group. Provisional membership automatically turns to full EFCC membership upon acceptance as member of IFCC.

Affiliate Member is a national CCLM association of a European country or another organization active in the field of Laboratory Medicine which is not eligible for IFCC membership.. Affiliate Members pay 50% of the regular membership fee and have an observer status in EFCC. They have no voting rights at the EFCC General Assembly. They can also delegate corresponding members into EFCC Committees or Working Groups, but full membership in these is reserved to Members of EFCC only.

The General Assembly may co-opt other organisations to create or to improve links at the European level. Such co-opted members shall be non-voting.

4. General Assembly (Council)

All member societies may delegate their President/Chair and one national representative to form the General Assembly which convenes at least once every two years, preferably connected to an international congress. In the event of a vote in the General Assembly, each member society shall have ONE vote, and the name of the representative authorised to vote on behalf of the society in any General Assembly must be notified to the Secretary of EFCC in writing before the commencement of the Assembly. Decisions of the Council can only be made when the quorum is present. The quorum is defined as 50% plus one of eligible voting members.

The following decisions are reserved for the General Assembly:

1. Admission and exclusion of member associations and provisional, affiliate and co-opted members
2. Election of the Executive Board
3. Adoption of accounts and budgets, and appointment of auditors
4. Determining the level of financial contributions
5. Amendment of the statutes
6. Winding up of the association and allocation of its assets after settlement of debts

The General Assembly can exercise its duties by electronic voting, except for duties 2 and 6 above.

5. The EFCC-executive board (EFCC-EB)

The Executive Board consists of 7 persons, who should preferably be representative of the major regional groupings within Europe. The Board is appointed as follows: 6 officers are elected and the immediate past President remains on the Board as Past President.

The officers and terms of office are:

- President 2 years
- Past President 2 years
- President-elect 2 years
- Secretary 2 years
Maximum of two re-elections for two years
- Treasurer 2 years
Maximum of two re-elections for two years
- Member at large 2 years
Maximum of two re-elections for two years
- Member at large 2 years
Maximum of two re-elections for two years

At least two Board meetings shall be held each calendar year. The quorum for the Executive Board is four members.

The Executive Board shall be entitled to set up committees to achieve its goals, and will appoint the Chairs and all members of these committees.

The Executive Board may appoint to an Advisory Board nominated candidates from other European organizations or sub-regional groups, such as the Presidents of the Balkan, Baltic, Russian Federation, Nordic and EU countries. Additional regional groups may be formed by the Executive Board if required.

Nominations for the EFCC Executive Board should be made to the EFCC secretary by the National Societies six months before the election assembly convenes. The proposed candidates must indicate their willingness to serve as Executive Board members. The Secretary of EFCC will circulate to all members of the General Assembly a list of nominated candidates for election to the Executive Board, at least six weeks before the General Assembly at which the election will take place.

The procedure for election of Board members is as follows: The President-Elect will be elected first, followed by the Secretary, Treasurer and the two Members at Large. Every member society has one vote. Elected candidates must receive at least 50% of the votes cast. If no candidate receives more than 50% of the vote on the first ballot, the candidate receiving the smallest number of votes is eliminated and the election is repeated. This process continues until one candidate has received more than 50% of the votes cast. In the event of a tie between two candidates, the election is repeated between those candidates. Should this lead to a further tie, then the President has a casting vote.

The President-Elect becomes President on completion of his/her term as President-Elect. In the event an officer is unable to complete their term of office, a replacement will be elected at the next General Assembly or by postal ballot of General Assembly members entitled to vote.

6. Finances

The IFCC is prepared to reinvest in the European region the majority of the income it receives from symposia, conferences, educational and scientific activities held within the region under its sponsorship. EFCC prepares an annual plan of activities on which a budget is based. This plan is discussed with the Executive Board of IFCC, which will then vote an annual budget to EFCC.

The Finance Committee has responsibility for setting and appropriate handling of the overall EFCC budget. Funds will be raised from subscriptions from member societies and corporate members, educational activities, project grants and such other activities as the Board may determine.

7. Liaison with IFCC

EFCC will collaborate with IFCC divisions via nomination of EFCC officers as members, corresponding members or liaisons to the relevant IFCC divisions.

8. Committees and Working Groups

The Executive Board may appoint Committees as follows:

- Education and Training (C-ET)
- Finance (C-F)
- Profession (C-P)
- Quality Management (C-QM)
- Science (C-S)
- Public and Professional Relations (C-PPR)

Within the Committees, Working Groups may be established to work on specific projects. The Chairs of Committees and Working Groups are appointed by the Executive Board for a period of two years, with the possibility of two re-elections for a further period of two years.

EFCC will aim, as far as possible, for complementary working between its Committees and Working Groups and IFCC Divisions.

9. European Scientific Communications.

EFCC promotes scientific communication between member societies by Newsletters and articles in Journals as appropriate. The official Journal of EFCC is *Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine*, in which space is devoted to EFCC to report its activities.

10. European Congresses

EFCC is the forum in which the election of locations for European congresses will take place. Ballots for the Euromedlab congress will follow the rules of the Euromedlab guidelines that are agreed between IFCC and EFCC, and in co-operation with the IFCC Congress and Conference Division.

EFCC organises regional congresses, courses and scientific activities and seminars in close co-operation with the regional subgroups and other European societies of laboratory and clinical medicine.

Prof. Andrea Rita Horvath
EFCC President

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