



World Federation of Public Health Associations

Fédération Mondiale des Associations de Santé Publique

Federación Mundial de las Asociaciones de Salud Pública

Всемирная Федерация Ассоциаций Общественного Здравоохранения

世界公共卫生联盟

الاتحاد العالمي لجمعية الصحة العامة

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL (GC) held on 17 May 2019, at 3:30 pm

(CET – Geneva Time) Via Webex

Campus Biotech

Chemin des Mines 9, 1202 Genève

PLEASE LET THE INTERNATIONAL OFFICE KNOW IF YOU WANT ANY ADDITIONS/AMENDMENTS BEFORE 30 JUNE 2019. ONCE PUBLISHED ONLINE THE DOCUMENT WILL BE CONSIDERED FINAL AND REVISED.

Attendance

Governing Council Members	In Attendance	Apologies	Absent without Apologies
G. Amofah G. Benjamin (via Webex) S. Gosh M. Moore I. Nicoulet H. Nieto W. Ricciardi L. Rispel A. Te Patu	B. Borisch L.E. De Souza E. De Cata S. Ghahraman V. Hu Lamm N. Kalantari M. Lee M. Lomazzi P. Orris S. Papalia D. Walker Y. Weizhong Y. Heya G. Mendonça	S. Perdes T. Piggott	D. Kondji Kondji M. Lombera G. Sverre Braut B. Regmi

Main Points

Welcome Delegates (B. Borisch)

Session Opening (L. Rispel)

- B. Borisch welcomed everyone to Geneva and wished all participants a very productive meeting.
- L. Rispel also welcomed everyone. She explained the role of observers as listeners to the GC meeting but mentioned that these attendees would also have an opportunity to make comments and ask questions as part of the democratic process. However, GC members would have the first opportunity to make inputs.

Adoption of the Agenda (L. Rispel)

- L. Rispel suggested adding 30 minutes at the end of the meeting to finish the GC on the same day instead of meeting on Saturday morning.



- L. Rispel proposed that any conflict of interest should be addressed in the meeting because it is part of good governance practice.
- **The agenda was approved as amended.**
- Under conflict of interest, H. Nieto indicated that Colombia plans to bid for the 2020 conference, should that item be discussed. No other members declared any conflict of interest.

Approval of Minutes Feb 2019 GC (L. Rispel)

- **Minutes were accepted.**

President's Report & Reflection on the Strategic Plan (L. Rispel)

- Numerous WFPHA activities were reported in the annual report.
- L. Rispel emphasized that by-laws are dynamic documents that can be changed based on changing circumstances.
 - Last year, members were asked for a flexible membership so high-income countries paid more to support low income countries' membership (e. g. UK, China).
- Acknowledgements:
 - **L. Rispel acknowledged the influence of Cuba in Latin America and their public health efforts.**
 - L. Rispel acknowledged B. Borisch for overseeing the activities of the WFPHA, especially of the Geneva Headquarters.
 - B. Borisch thanked the University of Geneva for hosting the WFPHA offices and for the support of all members.
 - L. Rispel also acknowledged and thanked all the member organizations of the WFPHA. Her highlights during 2018 were the conference on Global Charter in Cameroon, going to Cuba, and experiencing the achievements in the country, despite numerous difficulties, and attending the historic Astana conference, which celebrated the 40th anniversary of the primary health care declaration of Alma Ata. .

Finance Committee, 2018 Budget and Fundraising (E. De Cata)

- E. De Cata provided an overview of closing 2018 and the budget 2019 in terms of revenues and expenditures.
 - Revenues: Along with extra donations, workshops, and webinars the WFPHA saw a 24.8% increase in membership fees. Overall, the revenues increased during the period of the review.
 - Expenditures: certain costs have increased namely salaries, publishing the annual report (more copies), and travel.
- There was a positive profit in 2018 due to hard work of the WFPHA community, fundraising successes, an increased membership fee, and the reduction in costs -as the WFPHA officers paid for certain expenses.
- World Congress of Public Health (WCPH) 2020 will have in 2019 a -51.4% revenues decrease vs. 2018 because the costs and revenues linked to the WCPH are cyclical (as the WCPH is held every



2-3 years).

- The 2019 Budget has estimated revenues lower than the total expenditures, so there will be a loss of around 69K. The reserve of money in the bank is around 110K and can be used to cover the deficit. However, this is not desirable. It was proposed to use a maximum 40K of the reserves.
- Comments from GC Members and attendees:
 - WCPH 2020 will lead to an estimated cash flow of 50K.
 - Financial stability of the WFPHA is crucial for its long-term survival.
 - Suggested strategies include: fundraising, long-term relationships, a multiple portfolio of donors, events in between WCPH, balance the mix between unrestricted/restricted funds, and develop a clear communication strategy.
 - D. Walker asked how the WFPHA can take money out of the reserves that has been protected for a long time.
 - M. Moore noted that the budget has to be approved by the GA.
- L. Rispel summarized and closed this item by noting the estimated budget and expenditures of the WFPHA and the potential deficit of 68K as the GC requested:
 - Approval of budget by GA, on condition that every effort will be made to overcome the deficit, so that we do not draw on reserves.
 - In the event of the WFPHA inability to fund the deficit, GC requests the approval of the GA to draw down an amount of 40K USD maximum from the reserves.
 - **The GC approved the amendments to the 2019 Budget Proposal, subject to formal approval from the GA.**
- In-kind contribution in terms of hours as well as in USD for different parties was explained during the meeting, resulting in a significant contribution from Governance bodies (Executive Directors, President, Vice President, GC, International Office)
- In addition to the discussion around the budget, H. Nieto commented that the membership fees have to be based not only on the numbers of members that each association has, but also the average income of their profession based on their country.
 - L. Rispel, M. Moore, and B. Borisch responded that a few years ago, this was taken into account, but was changed so to be more equitable as it added an extra administrative burden to verify membership for member countries. Thus, it was changed to high-income vs. low-income countries so membership would be accessible to more people.
 - However, it might be prudent to review the membership again in order to take an informed decision.

Nominations Committee Recommendations (M. Moore)

- M. Moore presented the names and photos of nominations for voting at GA.
 - APR GC members:
 - A. Bachtiar, Indonesia Public Health Association



- Y. Weizhong, Chinese Preventative Medicine Association
- And Young Professional GC members:
 - L. Portes, From Brazilian Association of Collective Health
 - S. Buttigieg, Maltese Association of Public Health Medicine
 - A. Faloye, Society for Public Health Professional of Nigeria
 - K. Escobar, Public Health Society of Panama
 - D. Martins, Portuguese Association for Public Health Promotion

New Members Overview (M. Lomazzi)

- New Members: This year we have two kinds of members applying, Partners and Sustaining members.
 - World Association of Disaster and Emergency Medicine (Partner)
 - Global Law Enforcement and Public Health Association (Partner)
 - International Veterinary Students' Association (Sustaining)
 - International Association of Dentist Students (Sustaining)
- Membership Status Modification: upgrade from Associate to Full Member. Each country can only have one full member from each respective country due to bylaws.
 - German Society of Public Health
 - Central Asian Public Health Association (Kazakhstan)
 - Bulgarian Public Health Association
- NCD Alliance Network Member: proposed by Indigenous working group due to their work in NCD.
 - It was discussed that although this is not an official membership for the NCD Alliance Network into the WFPHA, the WFPHA will be joining the NCD Alliance Network to engage the collaboration of these two strong networks for similar goals and missions.

All GC members approved to present the proposals to the GA Policy Committee (M. Moore, M. Lomazzi, & P. Orris)

- Roadmap for Launching the Initiative and Casebook on Advocacy in Public Health: M. Moore presented the idea of a casebook as a series of studies to present examples of advocacy methods and a toolkit of ways to improve health by outlining how to approach public health and scientific studies with the goal of sending out to members in the WFPHA.
 - D. Walker and P. Orris announced they would collaborate to make sure the casebook will be published and sent out to other associations. L. Rispel makes reference to the importance of this initiative, referring to many advocacy "failures" and lessons that need to be shared to learn and improve in each public health association.
She encourages the involvement of all countries, especially low and income countries, and a set of interviews to be sent out. An interview with H. Nieto to collect examples of case studies

on advocacy would be a very good idea. The GC agrees that there should be a deadline to make the document public and to spread it along all associations (and possibly they would spread even more to their own members), as per the policy committee's Chair indication. The deadline was set for the end of June in the endeavour to collect inputs from members on the Initiative to the policy committee.

- Front of Pack Nutrition Labels (FoPL): M. Lomazzi discussed the webinar of FoPL, which was held in October 2018 and talked about many countries that have limited or no nutrition labeling system.
 - The WFPHA's work on FoPL was the result of a large consultation amongst many countries (different examples of the use of labelling) and is motivated through three goals: guiding consumers in understanding nutritional content of food by making food labelling more comprehensible, using FoPL to positively affect consumers' dietary and consumption choices, and contributing to a movement directed towards changing the way food industries work. L. Rispel suggests the change of the order of the points on page 3. In particular, the point "Promoting awareness of the role of FOPNL as only one component of the necessary comprehensive strategies to promote healthier diets, and the need for FOPNL to be aligned with existing measures including food-based dietary guidelines" should be put as the first point.
 - **The FoPL policy with above amendment, was approved by the GC to be presented at GA meeting.**

- Policy Paper "Transitioning at Safe Substitutes for Ethylene Oxide as a Medical Sterilant of Devices and Supplies in Healthcare": Ethylene oxide is a medical sterilant. It is a known carcinogen that increases the risk of cancer in surrounding areas where it has been used. No regulation with respect to communities has been developed (only for workers). Key component in industry is to see whether use of certain chemical is profitable or not. We want to introduce the health question. We do not know if substitutes can replace all use of the ethylene oxide but we should look for safer alternatives.
 - L. Rispel proposed that the Policy Committee works on the editorial changes of the title (Transitioning instead of Ending as alternatives are still under study) overnight and prepare the resolution for GA the next day.

- Policy Paper "Reducing Anaesthetic Gases Climate Footprint": Anaesthetics gases contribute the greenhouse gas effect more than carbon dioxide. We want to make sure that the medical professionals are aware of this
 - L. Rispel also proposed that the Policy Committee works on the editorial changes overnight and prepare the resolution for GA the next day.

NCDs Prevention Working Group (M. Lomazzi)

- M. Lomazzi noted that there is a WFPHA working group proposal for a focus on non-communicable diseases (NCDs). This working group would also focus on the nutrition labelling approach. M. Lomazzi suggested that further focuses could be given to this working group depending on what would be appropriate.
- It was remarked that the working group title may be misleading and it is better to add “Health Promotion and NCDs” in the title.
- L. Rispel emphasized the need for collaboration across working groups. She added that tobacco use is a risk factor for an increased NCDs prevalence. L. Rispel noted that there is the possibility to draw from other working groups such as the Indigenous working group and look at people who represent those most affected by NCDs are involved directly in the NCDs group.
 - L.E. De Souza noted that the new working group could be very interesting and explained that NCDs are also heavily related to diet. He suggested the possibility of the NCDs working group to broaden its focus.
 - L. Rispel concluded that that overlaps exists in various working groups and to look toward finding situations where several working groups can collaborate. She stressed the importance of synergies across the working groups and active sourcing of people from different regions to ensure representativity and to enrich the discussions.

W CPH Rome 2020 Update (W. Ricciardi & M. Lomazzi)

- Plenaries & World Leadership Dialogues
 - W CPH approved idea of having short pre-conference courses by different institutions in Rome to take direct advantage of the expertise of professionals gathering for the W CPH in Rome.
 - The International Congress Committee (ICC) is discussing Plenaries: organizers, themes and titles.
 - All efforts will be implemented to help students with low budgets and to accommodate young professionals as the W CPH provides opportunities for young people from around the world to deepen their knowledge on public health.
 - Low-income country participation was discussed. W. Ricciardi explained that he was aware of past participation problems and a result has budgeted appropriately to make sure people from lower income countries can attend.
 - G. Amofah urged need to consider the difficulty of the participation from countries in Africa including challenges with obtaining Visas. He stated that it would be a repeat of the 2017 Australian W CPH, where there was very little African attendance and that every effort should be made to increase participation, especially from low and middle-income countries.
 - H. Nieto supported G. Amofah’s statement by saying that participation of people from all countries is a challenge for the ICC.
 - W. Ricciardi closed this discussion by further emphasizing and agreeing with the need to



strengthen the commitment towards equal representation from all countries (including obtaining visas).

- Website <https://wcp2020.com/>
- Advertisements: luggage tags as promotional material have been prepared, W. Ricciardi reported that overall planning is going well and the WCPH has generated a strong interest from many national and international organizations.
- Comments from GC members:
 - M. Moore spoke about the 2017 Australia WCPH where more people from the Pacific came but that this was not the case when the WCPH was held in Ethiopia.
 - B. Borisch reminded the GC that the region chosen for the congress attracts most attendees from that region.
 - L. Rispel noted the Kazakhstan incident whereby the minister of health for Zambia could not attend the conference due visa restrictions and stated that this was not fair. Hence, there must be enhanced efforts to ensure geographic representation

Governance Review (L. Rispel)

- L. Rispel brought up a discussion held at previous GC meetings about the need for the WFPHA to have an external governance review. It would be very important to find someone who can do the review for free or at a reasonable cost. More discussion will follow at the next GC meeting.

Standard Congress Logo (L. Rispel)

- In response to the question of having the right to use the logo developed by the Cuban Public Health Society (SOCUSAP) who stated they could not re-make a new Congress logo but approved the use of the logo if proper acknowledgement was given to them.
- There are some editing proposals, such as adding slight modifications (regions appearing) to the logo but the overall style of the logo itself should remain unchanged as much as possible.

AOB & Reminder of the Upcoming Events (L. Rispel)

- Transformational Leadership and Governance Round Table Discussion – May 19 @ Maison de la Paix
- International Vaccination & Capacity Workshop 2019 – May 22 @ Campus Biotech
 - W. Ricciardi commented that a global vaccination summit will be planned for the second half of the year in Brussels in which politicians, researchers, and the WFPHA are invited. He has requested to invite L. Rispel as President to officially be present and represent the Federation at this meeting.
 - D. Walker commented on the Call to Action as the phrasing was not consistent throughout the paper. This brought up a discussion to implement a procedure to ensure that one person



World Federation of Public Health Associations

Fédération Mondiale des Associations de Santé Publique

Federación Mundial de las Asociaciones de Salud Pública

Всемирная Федерация Ассоциаций Общественного Здравоохранения

世界公共卫生联盟

الاتحاد العالمي لجمعيات الصحة العامة

should be dedicated to finalizing W FPHA online publications to ensure that the writing style is consistent.

- Indigenous Working Group Side Event – May 23 @ Campus Biotech
- International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War & W FPHA Side Event: "Nuclear Weapons Today: An Update of the Humanitarian Consequences of Nuclear War and the Medical Role in Preventing it" – May 27 @ Palais des Nations Room IX
- L. Rispel paid tribute to P. Freeman and T. Robbins who have been the editors of the Journal of Public Health Policy. She noted that they dedicated five pages to the W FPHA with the purpose of profiling the W FPHA in the Journal with advocacy pieces and short articles. L. Rispel and B. Borisch spoke about organizing a special event to acknowledge them , maybe next May in Geneva. L. Rispel indicated that she would like to nominate them for a lifetime achievement award , while recognising that this would be part of an overall process of nominations .
- The meeting closes at RRR , with a reminder of the GC meeting starting at 11am