

**I A M R A**



**INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION  
IN MEDICAL REGULATION**

## **IAMRA NEWS UPDATE AUGUST 2002**

### 5<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Medical Regulation

The 5<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Medical Regulation, a joint meeting of the International Association of Medical Regulatory Authorities (IAMRA) and the Federation of Medical Licensing Authorities of Canada (FMLAC), was held in Toronto, Canada on June 15-18, 2002. IAMRA's first Members General Meeting took place on the morning of Saturday, June 15. The conference was open to physicians as well as non-physicians working in the field of medical licensure and regulation or having a particular interest in this area. Program highlights included an international regulatory authority "roundabout" session on current regional issues; an educational forum focusing on public access to physician information and the exchange of appropriate information between medical regulatory authorities; a poster exhibit and demonstration; and satellite visits to Canadian licensing authorities.

### IAMRA Members General Meeting

The first meeting of IAMRA membership convened on Saturday morning, June 15, 2002 in conjunction with the 5<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Medical Regulation. Member organizations represented at the meeting by voting and/or participating delegates included:

#### Albania

- Order of Physicians of Albania

#### Australia

- Australian Medical Council
- Medical Board of the Australian Capital Territory
- Medical Board of Queensland
- Medical Board of South Australia

#### Belgium

- Conseil National de l'Ordre des Médecins de Belgique

#### Canada

- College des Médecins du Québec
- College of Physicians and Surgeons of Manitoba

- College of Physicians and Surgeons of Nova Scotia
  - College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan
  - Federation of Medical Licensing Authorities of Canada
  - Medical Council of Canada
  - Newfoundland Medical Board
- Denmark
- Danish National Board of Health
- Dominica
- Dominica Medical Board
- Egypt
- Egyptian Medical Syndicate
- India
- Maharashtra Medical Council
- Ireland
- Medical Council of Ireland
- Namibia
- Medical Board of Namibia
- New Zealand
- Medical Council of New Zealand
- Pakistan
- Pakistan Medical and Dental Council
- South Africa
- Medical and Dental Professions Board of the Health Professions Council of South Africa
- Sweden
- National Board of Health and Welfare
- United Kingdom
- General Medical Council
- United States
- Federation of State Medical Boards of the United States
  - Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision

Member organizations not represented at the meeting were:

- Australia
- Medical Board of Western Australia
  - New South Wales Medical Board
  - Medical Council of Tasmania
  - Medical Practitioners Board of Victoria
- Croatia
- Croatian Medical Chamber
- Libya
- Libyan Medical Council
- Mauritius
- Medical Council of Mauritius
- Nigeria
- Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria

Switzerland

- Swiss Medical Association

United States

- Medical Board of California
- Michigan Department of Consumer and Industry Services, Bureau of Health Services
- Oregon Board of Medical Examiners

In accordance with IAMRA's bylaws, the voting delegates elected a Management Committee, consisting of a Chair, Deputy Chair and five (5) members. The individuals elected for these positions include:

Chair: Dr. Lloyd Toft, FRACS, President, Australian Medical Council and Medical Board of Queensland

Deputy Chair: Dale L. Austin, MA, Deputy Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, Federation of State Medical Boards of the United States

Members: Prof. Gerard Bury, President, Medical Council of Ireland

Sue Ineson, Chief Executive Officer and Registrar, Medical Council of New Zealand

André Jacques, MD, Past President, Federation of Medical Licensing Authorities of Canada

Prof. Ossama Rasslan, Secretary General, Egyptian Medical Syndicate

Finlay Scott, Chief Executive and Registrar, General Medical Council, United Kingdom

The newly elected Management Committee met the following afternoon to begin discussions about its work for the upcoming year.

Three Working Groups to be Organized

The Management Committee identified three projects of particular importance needing attention and assigned members of the Committee to chair Working Groups to assist the Committee in the completion of these projects. Any individual from a member organization of IAMRA interested in participating on one of the following Working Groups should contact the IAMRA Secretariat, Pat McCarty. Ms. McCarty's contact information is listed on the final page of this newsletter. All Working Groups will meet via teleconference and expenses associated with those calls will be paid for by IAMRA.

### *Working Group for the Planning of the 6<sup>th</sup> International Conference*

The 6<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Medical Regulation and IAMRA's next Members General Meeting are scheduled for 2004. Prof. Gerard Bury will lead the Working Group in charge of planning these events (location to be determined) and confirming which countries will host the 2006 and 2008 conferences.

### *Working Group on the International Exchange of Information on Physicians (IEIP)*

The Working Group on IEIP will continue its work this year under the leadership of Finlay Scott, who was instrumental last year in commissioning an international market research company based in England, NOP Healthcare Solutions, to assist the Working Group in developing a confidential survey used to gather important information on IEIP. Upon completion, the survey was sent to all known medical regulatory authorities, and twenty-four percent of those contacted responded. NOP tabulated the results and Mark Paulson of the General Medical Council presented to the IAMRA membership the report that the company produced outlining the data collected. This data will be used by the Working Group to identify deficiencies, obstacles and problems on IEIP and, ultimately, to submit recommendations for a coordinated system on IEIP.

### *Working Group on Medical Passports*

Sue Ineson will chair the Working Group on Medical Passports. The Working Group will further investigate work that was carried out during the early developmental stages of IAMRA regarding the concept of an "international medical passport," a system by which the migration of medical practitioners between participating jurisdictions of different countries could be facilitated through international cooperation.

### IAMRA Membership Dues Structure

A draft annual budget and dues structure, as recommended by the Interim Governing Committee, was approved by the delegates at the Members General Meeting. In an effort to assess membership dues for IAMRA using an equitable foundation, the dues has been divided into four (4) levels based upon each country's Gross National Income (GNI) per capita, as grouped and determined by the World Bank, and ranges from \$200-\$1,000 (US dollars). Associate Member dues is \$100-\$500 (US dollars). A support fund has been approved to assist with the participation of some new members. Organizations interested in becoming a member of IAMRA should contact the IAMRA Secretariat. A membership application and copy of the dues structure can also be found on IAMRA's new Web site (a link off of the Web site of the Federation of State Medical Boards of the United States) at [www.fsmb.org](http://www.fsmb.org).

### IAMRA Web Site and International Directory

An IAMRA Web site has been recently developed and can currently be accessed through a link located on the home page of FSMB's Web site at [www.fsmb.org](http://www.fsmb.org). Users will be directed to IAMRA's home page and can then link to other information relating to IAMRA including the organization's constitution and bylaws, membership application

and dues structure, Secretariat's contact information, and the International Directory of Medical Regulatory Authorities. A separate domain will be provided for the IAMRA Web site as soon as it has been thoroughly checked for errors and tested for user friendliness. Your suggestions are welcome.

Information from a variety of sources has been compiled into the International Directory of Medical Regulatory Authorities. The directory is intended as a public service and will ultimately include core contact information and other useful data from all known medical regulatory authorities around the world. Presently, this project is considered a work in progress, due to the possible inclusion of outdated information and the need for additional data. Organizations are encouraged to check the directory for accuracy, which can be located on the Web site, and notify the IAMRA Secretariat of any changes or additions that should be made. Ms. McCarty will also be forwarding a copy of individual directory listings to those organizations without Internet access for their review. It is her intention to keep the directory as current and accurate as possible. Therefore, your feedback will be greatly appreciated.

PLEASE COPY AND SHARE THIS AND FUTURE UPDATES WITH OTHERS IN YOUR ORGANIZATION AND JURISDICTION.

PLEASE FORWARD ANY COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS RELATING TO THIS NEWSLETTER OR TO MATTERS ABOUT IAMRA TO:

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