Present

Bob Lane                  President (Chair)
Paul Gartell             Treasurer
Michael Hollands         Royal Australasian College of Surgeons
Graham Layer             Vice President, RCS Edinburgh
Serigne M. Gueye         President Elect, WACS

1) Welcome

The President welcomed the above.

2) Apologies

Bill Gunn                  Previous Past President
Fanus Dreyer              Chair, Education & Research Committee.
Annette Holian            RACS
Krikor Erzingatsian       Registrar, COSECSA

3) Minutes of the last AGM held in Mombasa, Kenya 8th December 2016 (previously circulated) were duly signed as being a correct record of what took place on that day.

4) Matters arising

None raised.
5) Chairman's Report

The Pan African Association of Surgeons Meeting in Addis, February 2017 was well supported. The President gave a lecture entitled “Training Surgical Providers in sub-Saharan Africa” and also chaired a panel discussion, entitled “Essential Surgical Care and Anaesthesia as part of Universal Health Coverage”.

WHA in May 2017:

The President attended the launch of the Zambia National Surgical Care Plan and was invited to make a statement at the Technical and Programme Working Meeting on Thursday 25 May 2017 with regard to the contribution made by the International Federation of Surgical Colleges to WHO.

A statement on behalf of IFSC was delivered at the official Side Event, 70th World Health Assembly in Geneva, Friday, 26 May 2017 and also attended the G4A Board meeting in Geneva prior to the start of the WHA.

ISS/ BASEL

President attended the International Society of Surgery (ISS/SIC), 47th World Congress of Surgery in Basel, Switzerland, 13 – 17 August 2017 which provided useful networking.

American College of Surgeons meeting in San Diego, USA.

IFSC is invited each year to attend the International Leaders meeting which takes place on the first day of the Conference. This was a very useful meeting to hear and discuss what the ACS was currently planning with regard to global surgery which is very positive but they need to define their exact role.

Our main aim remains surgical education and training in sub-Saharan Africa.

IFSC strongly supports the Association of Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland of which the President is the Programme Director for International Development.
In February 2017 IFSC completed an evaluation exercise of the Management of Surgical Emergencies in Zambia and Kenya. Trainers and Trainees were visited in a number of venues in both countries. Feedback was very positive.

IFSC also completed the 6th Anastomosis Workshop in Rwanda in February which was deemed a success by Trainers on the Train the Trainers Course and the trainees participating in the Workshop. It is hoped that this Workshop will become mandatory in the COSECSA Region. In 2018 we hope to complete two further Workshops.

The President report that IFSC has irons in the fire and hopes to develop an MSE “Lite” course for NCPs at District Hospital level in Zambia in conjunction with the MoH.

We have also been planning and are in the process of seeking funding for an innovative training course in Ifakara, Tanzania to provide a one year Course in Emergency Surgery for Assistant Medical Officers again in conjunction with the MoH.

We remain in Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and have been represented at the UN several times this year such as at a high level political forum to eradicate poverty and improve health and the 72nd General Assembly.

Data Collection:

IFSC has been developing a relationship with Imperial College, London and Cork University, Ireland to see if we can work together to offer assistance with regard to data collection in various countries who are developing their NSOAP for which sound data is essential.

IFSC as a founding member of G4 Alliance offers its Members, who may not wish or be able to join because of cost, the opportunity to become involved under the auspices of the IFSC.

6) Treasurer’s Report – accepted nem.con.

7) Education and Research Committee Report

The Chairman was not able to attend this meeting due to ill health. He provided a presentation which was shown during the meeting. Copy available.

8) Any other business:-

None

9) Date of next AGM:- 5th December, 1.00-2.00pm in Kigali, Rwanda during the COSECSA Annual Meeting.