International Federation of Surgical Colleges

Minutes of the AGM
10.00 – 12.00, Thursday, 05 December 2019
in
Board Room, 1st Floor, Business Suite
Kampala Serena Hotel
Uganda

Present

Seke Kazuma Zambia
Paul Rowe UK
Bruce Steffes USA/PAACS
Steve Mannion UK, Malawi, DRC, Sierra Leone
Dan Deckelbaum COSECSA/WACS
Kier Thelander PAACS
Kent Jönsson Botswana
Krikor Erzingatsian Zambia
Ronald Mbiine Uganda
Paul Gartell UK
Bob Lane UK

Apologies

SWA Gunn Switzerland
Graham Layer UK
Chris Lavy UK
Herve Yangni-Angate Côte d’Ivoire
James Garden UK
Mike McKirdy UK
Eric Borgstein Malawi
Sherry Wren USA
Dennis Robson UK
Welcome

The meeting began at 10.15am. The Chairman welcomed the delegates with each attendee introducing themselves. There were a number of apologies (tabled) due to conflicting activities.

Minutes of last meeting

Minutes were not presented as the meeting in December 2018 had to be cancelled in Kigali, Rwanda due to an overrun on the COSECSA meeting schedule.

Matters arising

None

Chairman’s Report

The Chairman reported on developments and activities over the past year which mainly centred on surgical education and training in sub-Saharan Africa.

In 2019 IFSC was represented by the President at the following events/meetings:

January 21 – 24: West African College of Surgeons Annual meeting in Dakar where a paper was presented on “Supporting Surgical Training in West Africa”.

May 6 – 9: WHO 8th Biannual Global Initiative for Emergency and Surgical Care (GIEESC) in Bangkok.

May 18-19: G4, Permanent Council meeting and the President presented a paper on “Advocacy Country Update for the UK”.

May 20 – 24: WHA in Geneva and a paper was presented at a WHO Technical Workshop entitled “Update of IFSC Activities”.

August 11 – 15: ISS World Congress in Krakow. Good networking opportunity.

September 26 – 27: Tropical Health and Education Trust (THET), UK – Annual Conference in London. Theme: the four transformational themes that THET believes will shape the UK’s contribution to Universal Health Coverage in the years to come: Responsibility, Collaboration, Innovation and Equity. The President chaired a session entitled “Dismantling Hierarchies”.

During the THET meeting the President also attended a meeting of the recently established UK Global Surgical Alliance whose aims are to advise and support UK Government on Global Surgical issues.

October 28 – 31: American College of Surgeons (ACS) Clinical Congress in San Francisco where the President contributed to the International Leaders meeting.

November 12 – 17: President was invited to visit the North West School of Medicine in Peshawar, Pakistan in order to discuss and review exchanges of trainees and Consultants
with European and US institutions. This was a very positive meeting and the President was impressed by the standard of surgery.

During 2019 IFSC sponsored Laparoscopic Workshops in Zambia and the President mentored a Management of Surgical Emergencies Course in Zambia.

IFSC remains in Special Relations with the WHO and in Consultative Status with the UN in New York.

Our reps in the US have attended various meetings throughout the year and in particular the UN General Assembly in New York and the 70th WHO Regional Committee meeting in Manilla.

IFSC works in partnership with:

The College of Surgeons of East, Central and Southern Africa (COSECSA)
The West African College of Surgeons (WACS)
The Association of Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland (ASGBI)
The G4 Alliance
The UK Global Surgical Alliance

In summary, IFSC continues to advocate for scaling up surgical, obstetric and anaesthesia care to strengthen health systems in order to achieve universal health coverage.

Treasurer’s Report

Report delivered by Paul Gartell.

Any other business

Venue for the next AGM was discussed briefly. Geneva had been suggested during the World Health Assembly. It was duly noted that many people across Africa would attend the COSECSA meeting but perhaps not the WHA due to cost of travel and accommodation.

Date of next AGM:

To be confirmed.