

International Organization for Medical Physics

Brief History of IOMP

The concept of an international organization for medical physics was first discussed at the International Congress of Radiology, Munich, 1959, at which it was decided to set up an international committee which later met in Stockholm in 1961. At this meeting, attended by over fifty medical physicists from twelve countries, a steering committee was elected to prepare a constitution for the proposed International Organization. This committee met in Montreal in 1962 and formally agreed the setting up of the International Organization for Medical Physics (IOMP) as from January 1963. At this meeting the committee elected acting officers.

The First International Conference on Medical Physics was held in Harrogate, England, 8-10 September, 1965. Professor Mayneord was president of the conference. Officers were elected.

The Second International Conference on Medical Physics was held in Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.A., 10-14 August, 1969. L. S. Taylor was president of the conference. New officers were elected.

The Third International Conference on Medical Physics was held in Goteborg, Sweden, 30 July-4 August, 1972. I. Petersén was president of the conference. New officers were elected. The statutes were modified.

In 1962 there were four affiliated countries. In 1969 there were nine and by 1973 there were fifteen affiliated countries: Brazil, Canada, East Germany (DDR), Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, Israel, Mexico, Poland, South Africa, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States of America and West Germany (DFR).

Previous and Current Officers of IOMP

	1962-1965
Acting President	S. Benner, Sweden
Acting Vice-President	L. F. Lamerton, United Kingdom
Acting Secretary-General	J. Mallard, United Kingdom
	1965-1969
President	W. Mayneord, United Kingdom
Vice-President	J. S. Laughlin, United States
Secretary-General	B. Waldeskog, Sweden
	1969-1972
President	J. S. Laughlin, United States
Vice-President	R. I. Magnusson, Sweden
Secretary-General	J. R. Cameron, United States
	1972-1976
President	R. I. Magnusson, Sweden
Vice-President	R. Mathieu, Canada
Secretary-General	J. R. Cameron, United States

Statutes of the International Organization for Medical Physics

The following IOMP statutes were ratified at the General Meeting of the delegates of the IOMP on 3 August 1972, Goteborg, Sweden.

I. Aims and Functions of the Organization

1. The objectives of the International Organization for Medical Physics are:
 - (a) To organize international cooperation in medical physics and to promote communication between the various branches of medical physics and allied subjects.
 - (b) To contribute to the advancement of medical physics in all its aspects.
 - (c) To advise on the formation of national organizations of medical physics in those countries which lack such organization, and also the possible formation of national committees in those countries where there is more than one medical physics organization.
2. For these purposes it shall have the power:
 - (a) To set up bodies for specific purposes which will further the objectives of the organization.
 - (b) To organize and/or sponsor meetings and international conferences. The time interval between such international conferences (normally three years) shall be referred to in these statutes as the period.
 - (c) To collaborate or affiliate with other scientific organizations.
 - (d) To develop any activity deemed helpful to the forwarding of its declared objectives.

II. Membership

1. The membership of the International Organization shall consist of all individual members of national organizations associated with adhering national bodies. In each country the adhering body shall be an appropriate national organization of medical physics. In countries where more than one national organization wishes to adhere, the adhering body shall be a national committee representing all members of such national medical physics organizations.
2. Adherence to the Organization shall be ratified when a constitution submitted by the appropriate national group, as defined in (1) supra, has been accepted by the Council (see IV).
3. During intervals between Council Meetings adherence may be approved on an interim basis by the Officers of the Council.

III. Membership Fees

1. Any adhering body with less than 10 members shall not be required to pay an annual subscription.
2. An adhering body having 10 or more members shall pay an annual subscription proportional to the number of blocks of members, calculated as the quotient of its total membership by 25, rounded off to the next larger integer.

3. The annual subscription per block of 25 members, calculated as in III (2) above will be determined by Council from time to time.
4. Council shall have power to waive or reduce the subscription of any adhering body, for any year, if special circumstances make this desirable.

IV. *Administration*

1. The International Organization shall be administered by a Council which shall consist of:
 - (a) The delegates appointed by the adhering national bodies as defined in II (1) in accordance with the following schedule:
 - (i) Any adhering body with fewer than 10 members shall have the right to be represented on Council by one non-voting delegate.
 - (ii) An adhering body having 10 or more members shall have the right to appoint a number of delegates, with voting rights, in accordance with the following table:

No. of members	No. of delegates
10 to 100	1
101 to 400	2
More than 400	3

- (iii) If a delegate is unable to attend, his national body is expected to designate an alternate and the Secretary-General must be notified of such designation.
 - (b) The Officers of Council as defined in IV (2) following.
 - (c) The immediate past-president.
2. The Officers of Council shall be:
 - (a) The President, who shall hold office for one period only and not be eligible for immediate re-election to the same office.
 - (b) The Vice-President who shall be the President-elect.
 - (c) The Secretary-General, who shall hold office for one period and shall be eligible for re-election for one further period only.
3. The Officers of Council shall be elected by the Council, normally at a Council Meeting during an international conference and shall take office at the conclusion of the conference.
4. The Council Meetings are normally held during international conferences of the organization. However, additional special meetings of Council may be held if deemed necessary by the Officers of Council or by request from a majority of Council members.
5. A quorum at Council Meetings shall consist of a majority of Council members (or alternates).
6. Each Council member (or alternate) shall have one vote. The chairman shall have both a deliberative and a casting vote.

7. All issues, except those involving a change in the statutes, shall be decided by a simple majority vote among those Council members present. Matters not listed in the agenda may be discussed, but no final decision may be taken at the meeting; they must be decided by mail ballot or referred to the next Council Meeting.
8. The Council shall be guided in all its decisions by the tradition of free international scientific cooperation.
9. The office of the Secretary-General shall be the official centre of the Organization. It shall be the duty of the Secretary-General to maintain appropriate communication with all national bodies adhering to the Organization and with all other relevant organizations. He shall prepare, in consultation with the other Officers of Council, a preliminary budget and agenda and circulate them at least four months prior to each Council Meeting. He shall circulate the final agenda well in advance of the meeting.
10. Scientific and administrative problems requiring decision in the interim shall be dealt with by mail, the Secretary-General forwarding all pertinent information to all Council members. Postal ballots shall be employed where necessary, in which case the carrying of decisions shall be based on a majority vote of a quorum response to the ballots. The Secretary-General shall specify the date on which the ballots shall be counted.
11. The Officers of Council are empowered to act where prompt action is deemed necessary in their judgement. Such actions shall be reported by mail to all Council members.

V. General Meeting

1. A General Meeting of the Organization shall be held during each major international conference of the organization, preferably before the final Council Meeting.
2. Council shall be responsible for drawing up an agenda for the General Meeting.
3. All members may attend and speak at General Meetings.

VI. Modifications to the Statutes

1. A copy of any proposed modification must be transmitted to the presiding officer of each adhering national body as well as to Council Members.
2. A modification shall be deemed carried by a minimum vote in its favour of two thirds of the Council.

VII. Dissolution

1. If it is proposed to dissolve the IOMP, the presiding officer of each adhering national body must be informed in writing before a decisive vote is taken at a Council meeting of IOMP.

2. The Council shall have power to dissolve the IOMP provided that at least two thirds of all the members of Council who have voting rights, vote for dissolution in a written ballot, of which all Council members must be notified, by post if necessary.
3. If Council decides upon dissolution of the IOMP then all outstanding debts of the organization must be settled forthwith from the existing funds or from contributions from adhering bodies. Any remaining assets shall be distributed among the adhering bodies in proportion to the contributions these same bodies have subscribed to the IOMP during the two years prior to dissolution.

**Information Requested of Countries which wish to Affiliate with the
International Organization for Medical Physics**

1. Name or organization.
 2. List of present officers with addresses.
 3. Brief history of the organization, year founded, etc.
 4. Copy of statutes or constitution.
 5. List of all members with addresses.
 6. Approximate percentage of members who are working in medical physics.
 7. Names and addresses of other organizations in the country which have medical physicists as an important part of their membership.
 8. Affiliations of your organization with other national or international organizations. List names and addresses.
 9. Do you publish a bulletin or newsletter? Sample copies would be appreciated.
- For information on affiliation with the IOMP please contact:

Dr. John Cameron,
Secretary-General,
Department of Radiology,
University Hospitals,
Madison, Wisconsin 53706, U.S.A.
Phone: (608) 262-2170.

Physics in Medicine and Biology

In 1969 it was agreed that IOMP should use the journal *Physics in Medicine and Biology* as its official journal. This has been effected from 1970 and Dr. Rune Walstam of the Institute of Radiation Physics in Stockholm has served as editor for IOMP to PMB.

By this arrangement it is possible for individual members of the IOMP to subscribe at a reduced rate to *Physics in Medicine and Biology*. Copies of PMB obtained in this way are to be considered as personal copies and should not be circulated in departments or placed in general libraries.

In order to utilize these reduced subscription rates individual members should write directly to:

The Institute of Physics,
Netherton House,
23 Marsh Street,
Bristol BS1 4BT, United Kingdom.

With the letter there should be included the valid money order or its equivalent to the sum of £4.50 for the current year 1974. There should also be mentioned the name of the National Association of which the subscriber is a member, which must of course be an association affiliated to IOMP.

Members of the IOMP who wish to publish papers in PMB can send these publications either to the Honorary Editor, at the Bristol address, or the IOMP Editor at the address:

Dr. Rune Walstam,
Institute of Radiation Physics,
S-104 01 Stockholm 60, Sweden.

Dr. Walstam is also prepared to act in other relevant matters regarding the relations between IOMP members and the journal.