

REPORT TO THE IOMP COUNCIL JUNE 2021 TO JUNE 2022 ON ACTIVITIES OF THE LATIN-AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL PHYSICS (ALFIM)

The Latin American Association of Medical Physics is made up of the following 15 countries: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela.

On September 2021, the position of secretary of ALFIM is assumed by the representative of Costa Rica, leaving the composition of the board of directors as follows:

- President: Sandra GUZMAN (Peru)
- Vice President: Graciela R. VELEZ (Argentina)
- Secretary: Patricia MORA (Costa Rica)
- Treasurer: vacant

ALFIM's statutes date back to 1994, they were extremely outdated and many of ALFIM's ways of acting did not correspond to what was documented in the statutes. For this reason, one of the working groups established in this administration circulated among all the national societies a draft for its analysis. Many work meetings were held to debug and correct them until a suitable and improved version was finally obtained. Through a virtual assembly with the members of the ALFIM Directive Council, the statutes are voted and approved in November 2021.

The most important points that changed in the new regulation are the following:

- the figure of the treasurer is eliminated, since ALFIM does not receive economic funds, there is no need for this position
- the elected vice president will be the acting president for the next period, this will allow for better continuity in the work and activities of ALFIM.
- the composition and responsibilities of the ALFIM authorities, which are the Executive Council and the Directive Council, are better defined
- the procedure in case of resignation, incapacity or death of a member of the Executive Council is clarified
- the procedure for electing the Executive Council is clarified, only the representatives of the national societies that belong to the Directive Council will be able to opt for the positions, preventing individuals who do not have the support of their societies from being elected (as happened in the past)
- in order to facilitate the voting processes, it was approved to vote by means of electronic correspondence organized by the Secretary

The elections of the members of the executive council are held electronically in February 2022, 4 months before the congress, as established by the new regulations. The new executive council will take office during the congress in June 2022. The new leadership of ALFIM will be:

- President: Patricia MORA (Costa Rica)
- Vice President: Erick Hernández (Guatemala)
- Secretary: Adlin López (Cuba)

Regarding the activities for the celebration of the IDMP for 2021, it was decided to celebrate it through the production of a video that summarizes the history of ALFIM, its origins and a journey through time of the most important achievements and activities carried out in all our countries, as well as, a look at the regional congresses held. This date is also used to announce the venue for the next ALFIM congress. The congress will take place in the city of Fortaleza, Brazil, from June 8 to 11, 2022. The IX ALFIM Medical Physics Congress will be held in conjunction with the XXVI Brazilian Congress of Medical Physics. Informative brochures are generated giving information about registration dates, scientific works and local details.

Throughout the year, ALFIM continues in its role in the strengthening of medical physicists in the region, through webinars, training, seminars and support for local congresses.

Special attention and disclosure are given to the ***Academic Training Guides and Clinical Training for Medical Physicists in Latin America*** developed within the framework of the Regional Cooperation Agreement for the Promotion of Nuclear Science and Technology in Latin America and the Caribbean (ARCAL) Project RLA6082: “Strengthening Regional Capabilities in the Provision of Quality Services in Radiotherapy (ARCAL CLXVIII) of the IAEA. These guidelines were endorsed by ALFIM and are expected to serve as a basis for the development of clinical residencies in our region. They cover the 3 main areas of medical physics: radiotherapy, nuclear medicine and radiodiagnosis, and are adapted to the realities found in Latin American countries.

https://humanhealth.iaea.org/HHW/MedicalPhysics/TheMedicalPhysicist/IDMP/2021/Guias_LA_Region_E&T_MedicalPhysics_ARCAL_ALFIM.pdf

Regarding the link between ALFIM and IOMP, we continue to support the different awards, the dissemination of the IOMP webinars, participation in the elections of the councils and concrete actions for the recognition of the professional as well as the certification processes.

The website of the association is being renovated because there have been problems with its domain and its hosting, as well as the raising of economic funds for its maintenance over time.

Finally, through social networks (FB and YouTube channel) the work developed by ALFIM is also socialized.