MINUTES

1. OPENING

1. Welcome by the President of IMIA

The President, Dr Lincoln de Assis Moura Jr (LM), welcomed all participants and thanked them for being present, noting that many had travelled long distances to reach the meeting and that some had not been able to obtain visas in time to participate.

2. Introductions

All present introduced themselves, and indicated their affiliations in order to facilitate networking.

3. Approval of the Agenda

There were no changes to the agenda.

That the agenda be approved.

Moved: LA Hanmer (LAH)
Seconded: CP Wong (CPW)
Approved

4. Minutes of GA Meeting, 20 August 2013; Copenhagen, Denmark

There were no comments on the minutes.

That the minutes of the GA meeting held in Copenhagen, Denmark on 20 August 2013 be approved.

Moved: T Wetter (TW)
Seconded: C Lehmann (CL)
Approved with one abstention.
2. APPROVAL AND INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS & REPRESENTATIVES

1] Introduction of New Member Societies
   None notified.

2] New Member Society Representatives
   **COACH: Canada’s Health Informatics Association:**
   Dr Jeremy Theal replacing Dr Elizabeth Borycki
   **Slovenian Medical Informatics Association (SIMIA):**
   Mr Ivan Erzen replacing Mr Andrej Orel.

3] New Corporate Institutional Members and Representatives
   None notified

4] New Academic Institutional Members
   University of Kuwait, Health Informatics department.

5] New Academic Institution Representatives
   **University of Seville:** Dr Jose Luis Sevillano replacing Prof. Jesus Torres

6] New Affiliate Representatives
   None notified.

7] New Corresponding Members
   - Mr. Rezwan-ul-Haquw – Research Scholar, Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Dhaka; Centre for Internet & Society (CIS), Bangladesh
   - Mr. Mahbubul Haque – IT Officer, Solidaridad Network Asia, German Development Cooperation (GIZ), Dhaka, Bangladesh
   - Mr. Mohd Affendy Hasim - Director of Operations, Viamed Sdn Bhd, Selangor, Malaysia
   - Dr. Michele E. A. Roofe - Director, Health Information & Technologies, Ministry of Health, Kingston, Jamaica.

   Applicants met all requirements for corresponding membership.

8] New Regional Representatives
   Dr S B Gogia replacing Prof. Ying Wu (APAMI) – with effect from end of APAMI2014
   Mr Patrick Weber replacing Prof. John Mantas (EFMI).
   Dr Ramin Moghaddam, MEAHI.

9] Deletions from IMIA Membership
   Danish Society for Medical Informatics (DSMI), Denmark.
   Italian Medical Informatics Society (AIIM), Italy.
   Siemens Medical Solutions.

*That the listed changes in membership be approved.*

Moved: A Margolis (AM)
Seconded: J Theal (JT)
Approved.
3. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT – Lincoln de Assis Moura Jr (LM)

The report had been made available prior to the meeting.

MEAHI
The President reported that it had been possible to overcome challenges experienced in the region. New SOPs for regions were being proposed, in order to facilitate IMIA work in all regions.

Collaboration with AHIMA
AHIMA is engaged in a project towards developing standards for HIM (health information management) curricula and other activities related to education in HIM. It was envisaged that IMIA, IFHIMA and WHO could work together with AHIMA in a proposed Global Health Workforce project. An immediate decision was not required from the GA. There could be interest from HISA in participation in this project.

Strategic Planning Activity and Sustainability Taskforce
The President gave a presentation on the strategic plan proposal, which aimed to update the previous IMIA strategic plan.

- Each member of IMIA had received the strategic plan proposal ‘Towards IMIA 2022’, and it had been broadcast in the IMIA newsletter. An updated version of the report had been circulated just prior to the Board meeting.
  - Significant comments had been received from the German Society and from Rada Hussein (RH), among other IMIA stakeholders.
  - The SPTF requested further comments.
  - The updated document, with comments indicated, would be loaded on the IMIA website.
- The SPTF had identified two ‘mega challenges’ to be addressed: The Digital Divide; and Why eHealth often does not achieve its intended goals.
  - There is room for research, discussion and implementation in these two domains.
  - All strategic actions should address these mega challenges.
- Three questions arising from the mega challenges had been identified:
  - Where do we want the world (of eHealth) to be in 2020?
  - What role will IMIA play in that world?
  - How are we going to do it?
- IMIA aimed to address these challenges by supporting projects, proposed by members, which address the identified challenges.
  - Joint work between organisations and agencies would be encouraged.
  - Ideally, such projects should also generate some income, in order to contribute to IMIA sustainability.
  - Funding of between $10K and $50K per project was being envisaged; ideally to be matched with funding from other sources.

The following issues were raised in the discussion of the strategic plan proposal:

- One of the IMIA WGs would table a proposal to the GA for a strategic initiative in line with the proposal.
- There is a need to address governance, legal and related issues in the changing eHealth landscape. IMIA could have an important role in guiding consumer choices.
- There are major social aspects of promoting eHealth. IMIA needs to ensure collaboration with others in addressing these issues.
- Resources are not the major problem, but can contribute to barriers.
- The role and interests of patients always need to be taken into account.
• The Treasurer noted that, given the current state of IMIA finances, IMIA could contribute a maximum of $40K per year towards projects, which should be at least revenue neutral.

*That the report of the SPTF be accepted, noting the comments received.*
Moved: LAH
Seconded: TY Leong (TYL)
Approved.

*That the report of the President be accepted*
Moved: CP Wong (CPW)
Seconded: HA Park (HAP)
Approved with one abstention.

4. REPORT OF THE CEO – Peter Murray (PM)

The report had been made available prior to the meeting.

The following issues were raised from the report:
• Medinfo 2013
  o Medinfo 2013 had been a very successful event. However, the PCO went bankrupt one month after the event, and there had been no income from Medinfo 2013 received. As a result, the Danish society had also gone into liquidation.
  o There would definitely be an effect on the IMIA budget.
  o The IMIA Board and Medinfo Steering Committee had made recommendations on financial processes for Medinfo 2015 in response.
• The potential for IMIA to undertake its own PCO functions was discussed.
  o LM indicated that he would recommend an investigation of this possibility as one of the strategic projects.
• The necessity for building organisational memory about conference organising, and consolidating relevant resources, such as lists of conference participants, was highlighted.

*That the report of the CEO be approved*
Moved: J Holmes (JH)
Seconded: TW
Approved.

CEO transition
• PJM wished to step down as CEO on 31 March 2015. Transition to a new CEO would therefore be required. PJM had made a proposal to the Board about transition planning.
• The Board proposed that an interim CEO be appointed,

*That the CEO be thanked for his contributions to IMIA.*
Approved with acclamation.

*That an interim CEO be appointed as soon as possible and until September 2015, in order to ensure a smooth transition, especially in respect of Medinfo 2015.* AND

4
That an open call be made for the appointment of the IMIA CEO:

- That the following task force be established to carry out the process of the appointment of the IMIA CEO: C Lehmann, A Geissbuhler, HA Park, supported by the IMIA executive committee.
- That the task force be responsible for compiling the job description and terms of appointment, for approval by the IMIA Executive Committee.
- That an open call be made for applications no later than January 2015.
- That an appointment be made no later than September 2015.

Moved: TYL
Seconded: MK
Approved.

5. REPORTS OF THE REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS TO IMIA

The reports of the regional VPs had been made available prior to the meeting.

1. APAMI – Ying Wu (YW) (Presented by MK, since YW was unable to be present.)
   - It was expected that the APAMI 2014 conference would be successful.
   - The APAMI GA would take place on 1 November 2014; the host for APAMI 2016 would be decided.
   - APAMI 2014 was being used as an opportunity to recruit new members.

2. EFMI – Patrick Weber (PW)
   - The report had been prepared by JM. His contributions to IMIA were acknowledged.
   - Collaboration with IMIA at working group level was being addressed.
   - 2015 would be the first year in which both MIE and Medinfo would be held. There would be no EFMI STC conference in 2015.
   - EFMI is willing to collaborate with any of the other regions.

3. HELINA - Ghislain Kouematchoua Tchuitcheu (GK) (Unable to attend)
   - No report for HELINA had been received.
   - The HELINA 2014 conference had to be postponed due to Ebola.

4. IMIA-LAC – Amado Espinosa (AE) (Unable to attend)
   - No report for IMIA-LAC had been received.
   - A successful IMIA-LAC conference had been held during 2014.

5. MEAHI - Ramin Moghaddam (RM)
   - There had been activities of the elected MEAHI board in order to fulfil the MEAHI strategy.
   - A planned STC conference in Kuwait had to be postponed, hopefully to a date in the first quarter of 2015.
   - The MEAHI GA was planned for Kuwait.
   - Most of the issues previously experienced had been resolved; MEAHI looked forward to better understanding in future.

6. NORTH AMERICA – John Holmes
   - Events in the USA and Canada were reflected in the report.
   - Board examinations and registration of specialists in Clinical Informatics had commenced through AMIA.
   - COACH would celebrate its 40th anniversary in 2015.
Discussion arising from the report: Registration of specialists in Medical Informatics:

- There were multiple contributions related to the registration of sub-specialties in Medical Informatics in USA, Germany, and Belgium. In Sri Lanka, HI was being developed as a separate specialty.
- In India, the process of registration had begun. Discussions with AHIMA and other organisations were planned.
- There is much knowledge to be shared between countries and regions.

*That the tabled reports of the regional VPs to IMIA be approved*

Moved: HAP  
Seconded: TW  
Approved.

6. REPORT OF THE SECRETARY – Lyn Hanmer (LAH)

*The report had been made available prior to the meeting.*

*That the report of the secretary be approved*

Moved: TYL  
Seconded: A Margolis (AM)  
Approved with one abstention.

7. REPORT OF THE TREASURER – Sabine Koch (SK)

*The Treasurer’s report, IMIA financial report and the 5-year budget had been made available prior to the meeting. A summarised budget report was presented to the meeting.*

Comments on the report by the Treasurer:

- Reports had been reviewed by the same accountants as before
- It was expected that the tax exemption renewal for IMIA would proceed successfully
- Medinfo 2013 had had a major impact on the finances; and on the budget.
  - The deficit could be greatly reduced by income generating projects.
  - Without the income from the summits, the financial situation would have been much worse.
- Budget:
  - Projections for income took account of expected income and expenses related to Medinfo 2015.
  - It cannot be expected that there will be income from any strategic projects in the first year of such projects.
  - There will not be revenue from the Yearbook now that it has been made open access. This is an intended loss by IMIA, on balance (approximately $20K per year).
- Future planning:
  - There had been proposals related to conferences in the current GA.
  - Proposals related to the strategic plan were expected.
  - There was potential for income from academic members, who may be encouraged to join to take advantage of preferential pricing.
  - A balance of income and expenses by 2017 was being aimed for.
  - We should not let the surplus go below approximately $250K.
- Financial Review Committee: two new members had been appointed.
Discussion on the report:

- Appointment of auditors
  - The current auditors had been appointed annually for approximately 6 years.
  - Consideration should be given to going out to tender for this service every few years. This is a requirement in some jurisdictions.
- Yearbook:
  - Yearbook contributions were done by invitation. There was no payment to authors.
  - The principle of equality was being applied by IMIA in terms of both contribution and access; This had been considered a reasonable expenditure by the 2013 GA. This experiment had been successful to date.
  - There might be other potential sources of income for he Yearbook.
- Interim CEO appointment decision:
  - There had been a major adjustment to the budget to take account of financial requirements.
- Strategic plan:
  - The GA needs to take a view on the lower limit for the accumulated surplus.
  - SK recommended that accumulated surplus not be reduced below $250K. This should also be reflected in the budget.
  - PJM indicated that it had been policy historically to maintain the surplus so as to take account of potential loss of income for two successive Medinfos.

*That the report of the Treasurer be approved*

Moved: A Geissbuhler (AG)
Seconded: P Weber (PW)
Approved with one abstention.

*That the IMIA Budget be approved as presented*

Moved: LAH
Seconded: J Theal (JT)
Approved.

8. REPORT OF THE FINANCIAL REVIEW COMMITTEE (Presented by CP Wong)

*The report, prepared by the FRC chair, L Westbrooke (LW), had been made available prior to the meeting.*

The following issues from the report were highlighted:

- The report included recommendations related to multiple issues, including Medinfo finances and foreign exchange transactions.
- The terms used across the reports need to be standardised to facilitate review.
- On the whole, the reports accurately reflect the IMIA finances.

Responses to comments:

- There is a policy of low risk investment in place.
- Foreign exchange: Reporting is done in different currencies; there is no speculation in relation to forex transactions.
- Recommendations are being worked on very specifically; some take time from a statutory viewpoint.
- The treasurer is specifically addressing the issue of terminology.
That the report of the FRC be accepted:
Moved: LAH
Seconded: JT
Approved with one abstention.

The President thanked the members of the FRC for their work,

9. REPORT OF THE VP MEMBERSHIP – Michio Kimura (MK)

The report had been made available prior to the meeting.

There had been few changes in membership since the Budapest Board meeting. An application from Bangladesh in the APAMI region was expected.

That the report of the VP Membership be accepted:
Moved: C Lehmann (CL)
Seconded: AG
Approved with one abstention.

10. REPORT OF THE VP WORKING GROUPS & SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS
    – Tze Yun Leong (TYL)

The reports on the work of WGs and SIGs had been made available prior to the meeting.

The following issues from the reports were highlighted:

- There had been a specific focus on collaborative projects between working groups and between WGs and groups from other organisations, e.g. IFIP.

- **WG of the year award:**
  - The selection of three working groups for the reward was a very good reflection on work that had been done by the WGs, and by the previous and current VPs.

- **New working groups:**
  - For health record banking, there needs to be an assurance that there will not be a focus on a specific commercial model of health record banking.
  - CL indicated that there was no focus on a specific commercial product, but there was an understanding of HIE (health information exchange) as an appropriate model for communication.
  - There is an approved SOP for monitoring and approval of WGs. Any concerns related to WGs should be brought to the attention of the VP for WGs and SIGs.

**WG/SIG Recommendation Motions (from report):**

1. **WG Name Change**
   Moved IMIA accept the request of Medical Concept Representation WG to change WG name and scope to Language and Meaning in Biomedicine.

2. **Approval of new WG formation and nominations of WG Chairs and Vice Chairs**
   - Moved IMIA accept the establishment of the Health Record Banking WG
- Moved IMIA accept the nomination of Amnon Shabo as Chair of Health Record Banking WG
- Moved IMIA accept the nomination of William Yasnoff as Vice-Chair of Health Record Banking WG
- Moved IMIA accept the establishment of the History of Biomedical and Health Informatics WG
- Moved IMIA accept the nomination of Casimir Kulikowski as Chair of History of Biomedical and Health Informatics WG
- Moved IMIA accept the nomination of Robert Greenes as Vice-Chair of History of Biomedical and Health Informatics WG
- Moved IMIA accept the nomination of George Mihalas as Vice-Chair of History of Biomedical and Health Informatics WG
- Moved IMIA accept the change of Anthony Maeder to be Chair of Telehealth WG
- Moved IMIA accept the change of Shashi Gogia to be Vice-Chair of Telehealth WG
- Moved IMIA accept the nomination of Carlos Otero as Chair of Informatics for Development WG
- Moved IMIA accept the nomination of Fernando Martin-Sanchez as Chair of Data Mining and Big Data Analytics WG
- Moved IMIA accept the nomination of Lucia Sacchi as Vice-Chair of Data Mining and Big Data Analytics WG
- Moved IMIA accept the nomination of Thomas Karopka as Chair of Open Source Health Informatics WG
- Moved IMIA accept the nomination of Shinji Kobayashi as Vice-Chair of Open Source Health Informatics WG
- Moved IMIA accept the nomination of Stephen Redmond as Vice-Chair of Wearable Sensors WG.

3. 2013 WG of the Year Award
Moved IMIA accept the nominations of Nursing Informatics SIG, Social Media WG, and Technology Assessment and Quality Development WG as the joint recipients of the 2013 WG of the Year Award.

*That the WG/SIG recommendations and motions on chairs and co-chairs be accepted; and the proposed WG name change be approved.*
*That thanks be recorded to retiring chairs and co-chairs.*

Moved: SK
Seconded: TW
Approved.

*That the proposed new working groups: Health Record Banking and History be approved.*
Moved: JH
Seconded: FRF
Approved.
That the joint recipients of the WG of the year award for 2013 be the Nursing Informatics SIG, the Social Media WG, and the Technology Assessment and Quality Development WG.

Moved: JT
Seconded: PW
Approved.

That the report of the VP Working Groups and Special Interest Groups be approved.

Moved: LAH
Seconded: HAP
Approved with 1 abstention.

11. REPORT OF THE VP SPECIAL AFFAIRS – Monique Jaspers (MJ) (presented by PJM)

The report had been made available prior to the meeting.

- The report was presented by PJM, since MJ was unable to be present.
- The Board had queried the fees for administration (too low) and for report writing (too high).

That the report of the VP Special Affairs be approved pending clarification of the fee schedule for accreditations.

Moved: LAH
Seconded: MK
Approved.

12. REPORT OF THE LIAISON OFFICER TO WHO – Antoine Geissbuhler (AG)

The report had been made available prior to the meeting.

Comments on report:
- We are an NGO in official relations with WHO, terms of specific 3-year agreements.
- The activities in terms of the current agreement have been successful.
- Activities have included participation in the discussion about domain names, and eHealth impact evaluation toolbox.
- AG meets with the team in Geneva monthly to ensure progress of the agreement.
- AG requests input on the next draft of the agreement starting Q1 2015.
  - In order to facilitate comment, terms of the current agreement could be made available.

That the report of the liaison officer to WHO be accepted:

Moved: LAH
Seconded: TW
Approved
13. REPORT OF THE LIAISON OFFICER TO IFIP – Hiroshi Takeda (HT)

The following issues from the report were highlighted:
- HT had presented proposals at the IFIP GA in September 2014 for joint WG activity for example. The aim is for a win-win situation for both sides.
- There is a proposal for joint activities in the form of symposia at both Medinfo 2015 and WCC 2015 of IFIP.
- LM noted that IMIA needed to be prepared for requests for collaboration through Medinfos.

That the report of the liaison officer to IFIP be accepted:
Moved: TYL
Seconded: MK
Approved with one abstention.

14. REPORT OF THE LIAISON OFFICER TO ISO – Michio Kimura

A report, including information about the ISO/TC 215, had been made available prior to the meeting.

- A request for participation again in the JIC (Joint Initiatives Council) could be made. This kind of participation relates to harmonisation between SDOs involved in this process.
- IMIA is already in type D liaison with ISO/TC 215.

That the report of the liaison officer to ISO be accepted:
Moved: HAP
Seconded: TYL
Approved with one abstention.

That Michio Kimura be the IMIA Liaison Officer to ISO.
Moved: LM
Seconded: TYL
Approved with one abstention.

15. REPORT OF THE VP SERVICES – Christoph Lehmann (CL)

The report had been made available prior to the meeting.

The following issues from the report were highlighted:
- Medinfo 2013 proceedings:
  - Open access for Medinfo 2013 had been successfully negotiated through a payment to IOS press, as mandated at the Budapest Board meeting.
- Yearbook:
  - The Yearbook would be open access for the first time this year (2014).
  - Feedback from authors for two-stage publication had been favourable.
• Options for conversion to a quarterly publication were being explored, to enable the allocation of an impact factor.
• Indirect evaluation of the impact of the Yearbook indicated success.
• A revised agreement with publisher has been successfully concluded.
• 2016 would be the 25th anniversary of the Yearbook. Something special was being planned, including a series of ‘silver reviews’. Suggestions for potential writers of these reviews were requested.
• Thanks to the editors and the editorial assistant were recorded.
• The number of page recalls for the yearbook had increased by a factor of between 5 and 10 compared to previous years.
• CL would follow up on how to acknowledge Yearbook sponsors, also for previous Yearbooks, which had not been open access.

That the report of the VP Services be accepted:
Moved: HAP
Seconded: TW
Approved with one abstention.

16. REPORT OF THE VP MEDINFO – Alvaro Margolis (AM)

The report had been made available prior to the meeting.

Update on Medinfo 2015 and Medinfo2017
• There was a focus on inclusiveness by those preparing Medinfo 2015. This was being done for example through inviting thought leaders in the region to make recommendations for content of the programme.
  o Efforts were being made for some material to be made available in English, Spanish and Portuguese.
  o There would be reduced registration fees for people from the IMIA-LAC region also to facilitate/encourage participation from within the region.
  o Very early and early bird rates are being made available to participants.
    ▪ A request was made for other regions or countries (West Africa, India) to be included in the reduced fees scheme. AM would be willing to consider requests.
• The SPC co-chairs had indicated that there would be no extension of the published deadlines for Medinfo 2015, due to other required processes.
• Medinfo 2017: There was a need to start this cycle, including nomination of the next VP Medinfo.

Medinfo2019 bids
• Timelines for the bid were indicated in the report.
• Rotation of locations for Medinfos is an important expectation of IMIA, although there is not a specific requirement in this respect.
• The final decision on hosting of Medinfos is made by the GA.
• AM and PJM would follow up on the fact that the bid invitation did not specifically include explicit indication of the benefits of hosting Medinfo.

That the report of the VP Medinfo be accepted:
Moved: CL
Seconded: JH
Approved with one abstention.
New SOP on VP Medinfo Term of Office (presented by PJM)

- The current term of office was three years, which no longer coincided with the Medinfo cycle.
- A proposed SOP had been made available prior to the meeting.
- A proposed amendment to the proposal for term of office had been made by the Board:
  - That the term of the VP Medinfo be two years, starting immediately following each Medinfo.
  - That the person be nominated one year in advance and that once the person has accepted nomination, that person become a member of the Medinfo steering committee as the VP Medinfo-elect.

In discussion of the proposal, it was noted that stability in the position was important, due to the importance of Medinfos for IMIA.

That the new SOP for VP Medinfo be approved as amended
Moved: CL
Seconded: AM
Approved.

That the next proposed VP Medinfo be identified by the NC and approved by the Board as soon as possible, subject to confirmation by the GA 2015. That this person participate in the Medinfo processes following nomination, with no voting rights.
Moved: JH
Seconded: KC Lun (KC)
Approved.

17. BUSINESS ARISING & OTHER BUSINESS

1. Nominating Committee - Antoine Geissbuhler

Proposals from the Nominating Committee:

[a] IMIA Secretary, 2015-18 Nominee: Petter Hurlen
[c] IMIA VP Services, 2015-18 CL for a second term.
[d] IMIA Nominating Committee members, 2015-18: Alvin Marcelo and Amado Spinosa

- An open call had been made for all the positions to be filled. This had helped the NC indirectly to identify appropriate people.
- Thanks were recorded to Ken Toyoda and Elizabeth Borycki as previous members of the NC, including through AG transition as NC chair.
- Open calls for nominations would continue to be made. GA members were encouraged to consider nominations, and encourage identification and nomination of candidates for IMIA vacancies.

That the nomination of Petter Hurlun as IMIA Secretary for 2015-2018 be accepted
Moved: AG
Seconded: LM
Approved unanimously.
That the nomination of Sabine Koch as IMIA Treasurer for 2015-2018 be accepted.
Moved: AG
Seconded: LM
Approved unanimously

That the nomination of Michio Kimura as IMIA VP Members for 2015-2018 be accepted.
Moved: AG
Seconded: KCL
Approved unanimously

That the nomination of Christoph Lehmann as IMIA VP Services for 2015-2018 be accepted.
Moved: AG
Seconded: HAP
Approved unanimously.

That the nominations of Amado Spinosa and Alvin Marcelo as members of the NC for 2015-2018 be accepted.
Moved: LM
Seconded: TW
Approved unanimously.

2. IMIA Award of Excellence 2015 – renaming proposal

A proposal for the renaming of this award to ‘The IMIA Francois Grémy Award of Excellence’ had been made available prior to the meeting.

The following issues from this proposal were highlighted:
• There would be nominations for the 2015 award.
• The name change would not change the awarding process.
• There are technical issues to be finalised.
• The French society had confirmed commitment to contribute to funding the award for five years. There could also be support from other member societies. The bulk of the funding for this award would continue to come from general IMIA funds.
• The Board felt that there should not be any changes in the award committee structure
• The French society will do a short presentation in the award function to indicate the role of Francois Grémy in relation to this named award.
• An in principle agreement was being sought from the GA to the broad changes proposed.

That the revised SOP for the IMIA Award of Excellence be accepted
Moved: LM
Seconded: CL
Approved.

• A call for nominations would be made in terms of the SOP on 2 January 2015.
• GA members were asked to advertise and select candidates, so that a very strong field could be identified.
Proposal from the WG Security for a special initiative on patient privacy
(Presented by Peter Croll (PC))
This proposal was tabled for information of the GA;
• There were paper copies of the proposal available to those interested.
• There was a great opportunity for a global approach.
• We have a moral right to protect the citizens of the world, especially; there is also a
  moral duty to support HI as a discipline.
• There was also the possibility of funding for future research.

SOP on the regions

The proposed SOP, as updated following the Board meeting, had been made available prior
to the meeting.

Presented by PJM:
- Note amendments proposed to the document distributed.
- There are now six functional regions, and limited reference to regions in the statutes.
- There had been extensive discussion in the Board meeting; not all regions had been
  represented in the meeting.
- Note maximum terms of office proposed in the SOP. There is already quicker turnover of
  representation in some regions, e.g. EFMI, IMIA-LAC.
- The recommendations in the policy are consistent with the terms of appointment and
  termination for other members.

That the SOP on regions, as amended, be accepted
Moved: LM
Seconded: JH
Approved

3. IMIA Academy proposal update (presented by HAP)

A proposal had been made available prior to the meeting

That the idea of creating an international academy for medical informatics be pursued
through the creation of a task force as proposed, to investigate the idea and report to
the Board
Moved: LAH
Seconded: LM
Approved.

18. FORTHCOMING GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETINGS

(a) GA 2015 – Medinfo2015, Sao Paulo, Brazil
(b) GA 2016 – to be determined

19. ADJOURNMENT

The President thanked all participants for the commitment to the success of IMIA
demonstrated in the meeting discussions.