

ASIA-OCEANIA ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF OBESITY

AOASO Secretariat, c/o Dept. of Nutrition & Dietetics, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, 50300 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Minutes of the 5th. Council meeting of the Asia-Oceania Association for the study of Obesity, Teusday, 27 August 2002, (9th.ICO), Sao Paulo, Brazil

Present:

Prof. Shuji Inoue	(JASSO)	- President
Prof. Ian Caterson	(ASSO)	- Vice-President
Prof. Mohd Ismail Noor	(MASO)	- Secretary
Prof. Ruey-Shing, Lin	(CTASO)	
Dr. Roberto Mirasol	(Representative from PASOO)	
Dr. Pomthita Chai	(Representative from TSSO)	
Dr. Tim Gill	(IOTF, Asia)	

Absent (with apologies)

Prof. Kim Young Soel	(KASO)	- Treasurer
Prof. Litonjua	(PASOO)	
Assoc.Prof. Rachmad Soegih	(ISSO)	
Assoc.Prof. Preeya Leelahagul	(TSSO)	
Ms. Chew Pei Gee	(SNDA)	
Dr. Yifan Shi	(China)	

Observers

Prof. Matsuzawa	(Japan)
Dr. VR Reddy	(India)
Dr. Woong Hwan Choi	(Taiwan)
Dr. Nam-Feng Chu	(Taiwan)
Dr Hwa-Yen Liu	(Taiwan)
Mr. Benedict Lim	(Singapore)

The Council observed a minute silence in memory of Prof. Julian Critchley, AOASO representative from Hong Kong whose untimely death is a great loss to the Obesity fraternity and to those who knew him.

Agenda:

The Agenda was approved as submitted

Agenda I: Opening Remarks

The President, Prof. Inoue welcomed and thanked the Council members and representative from Korea, Taiwan, India, Thailand, Philippines and Singapore who were present at the meeting. He is honoured to be the founder President of AOASO and thanked the Council for their support during his term of office (1998-2002) and look forward to contribute to AOASO activities in his capacity as the Immediate-Past President.

Agenda II: Adoption of the minutes of the 4th.AOASO Council meeting held on October 12, 2001, Maebashi, Japan

The minutes of the 4th. Council meeting were adopted on the proposal of Prof. Lin and seconded by Prof. Inoue.

Agenda III: Matters arising therefrom

Issues raised at the 4th. Council meeting were discussed in the ensuing agenda, respectively.

Agenda IV: President Report

1. Prof. Inoue was pleased to note that some of the Council members of AOASO were invited to Chair or Co-Chair the scientific session at the 9th. ICO in Brazil.
2. Prof. Inoue introduced Prof. Matsuzawa to the Council. In recognition of his contribution to the field of obesity, Prof. Inoue proposed that Prof. Matsuzawa be the nominee of the AOASO to the proposed post of Vice-President, Scientific Affairs of IASO. The Council unanimously endorsed the proposal.
3. Prof. Inoue also acknowledged that in accordance to the AOASO statutes, all main office bearers may hold office for one term only, thus enabling these posts to be rotated among suitable candidates from member countries.

Agenda V: Secretary Report

1. The Secretary once again reminded members present to kindly provide an up-dated correspondence address of their respective association. This will enable the Secretariat to keep in touch of AOASO activities. Email addresses will be most useful if available.
2. In response to IASO's request for a nominee to hold the post of the Regional Vice-President, the Secretary has circulated nomination forms to 10 member countries. Prof. Ian Caterson received the most votes and was nominated to represent AOASO in the IASO Council for the period 2002-2006. In accordance to the AOASO statute, the candidate nominated to hold the post of Regional Vice-President IASO will automatically hold the post of the President AOASO.
3. The Secretary informed the members that several Asian countries has/will be establishing their National Obesity Association and some have applied to be members of IASO.
 - 1) Based on current record, Singapore Nutrition and Dietetics Association (SNDA) is a member of AOASO since the KL meeting in 1999. We now know that a new Association has been established, Singapore Association for the Study of Obesity (SASO) and their application into IASO has been accepted at the General Council meeting held on 24 August 2002 in Sao Paulo. The Secretary has been in contact with the President of SNDA who has expressed in principle that SASO is the appropriate Association to

represent Singapore. To formalize the change, it is anticipated that SASO will submit its application to the Secretary AOASO. Mr. Benedict Lim, Secretary SASO is present at the meeting as an observer.

- 2) The Secretary informed members that Indonesia will establish a new Association, called Indonesia Obesity Association (INOA). For the record, Indonesia is the founder member of IASO established in 1998 in Paris and is represented by Assoc. Prof. Dr Rachmad from the Indonesian Society for the study of Obesity (ISSO). We now have 2 countries (Taiwan and Singapore) that have sorted their “internal” differences and come out with one representative in the AOASO. We are hopeful that our Indonesian counterpart will do the same. The AOASO statute allows only one representative from each member country.. Formal application into AOASO should be addressed either to the President AOASO or the Secretary (see attachment)

Agenda VI: Election of AOASO Council 2002-2006

In accordance to the AOASO statute, the election of main office bearers and council members is carried out once every 4 years during the ICO.

President:	Prof. Ian Caterson (Australia) (see Secretary’s report item 2)
Immediate Past- President:	Prof. Shuji Inoue (Japan)
Vice- President:	Prof. Mohd Ismail Noor (Malaysia) Proposed by Prof. Lin and seconded by Prof. Ian.
Secretary:	Prof. Augusto D.Litonjua (Philippines) Proposed by Dr. Roberto and seconded by Prof. Ian.
Treasurer:	Prof. Ruey-Shiung Lin (Taiwan) Proposed by Prof. Inoue and seconded by Prof. Ismail.
Council members*:	Prof. Kim Young Soel (Korea) Assoc. Prof. Rachmad Soegih (Indonesia) Assoc. Prof. Preeya Leelahagul (Thailand) Dr. Tim Gill (IOTF Asia)

* Any changes made at National level **MUST** be immediately reported to the Secretary AOASO. Thank you.

Agenda VII: Other Matters

1. Adoption of the AOASO Statute and Logo

- a) The AOASO statute prepared by Prof. Ismail was unanimously accepted by the Council.
- b) The proposed logo circulated by Prof. Ismail was accepted with the following changes:
 - i) The “red” circle will be changed to “light blue”
 - ii) The alphabet “SO” at the base supporting the balance will now read “ AOASO”
 - iii) The name of AOASO in full at the bottom of the logo be deleted.

The changes once made will be circulated to members and an honorarium will be given to the designer of the logo.

2. Update on 2nd. Asia-Oceania Conference on Obesity

- a) Prof. Ismail circulated the initial announcement of the Conference to be held on 12-14 October 2003 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- b) It was also agreed that AOASO council members will act as advisors to the conference and the Organiser look forward to their input in the scientific programme.

3. AOASO activities

- a) The 2nd. Asia-Oceania Conference on Obesity.
ALL members are kindly requested to help promote the event in their respective countries.
- b) Asian BMI values update
AOASO will work closely with WHO/IOTF on this issue
- c) Research Collaboration
Member countries should make an effort to work together to help curb the growing obesity epidemic in this region
- d) Regional Newsletter
Dr. Tim Gill will continue to coordinate this effort and seek support from member countries for its success.

4. IOTF Asia update

Dr. Tim informed the council that IOTF is currently collating data on childhood obesity worldwide. He has also initiated a survey for the Asian region and will look into aspects of definition, prevention and management of childhood obesity.

5. Remarks from In-Coming President

Prof. Ian Caterson thanked the Council for the confidence they have in him and look forward to the support of member countries to steer AOASO to greater height during his term of office..

6. Handing over of AOASO files.

Prof. Ismail handed over the Secretary's file containing minutes of previous AOASO meetings to Dr. Roberto Mirasol. The new AOASO Secretariat for the period 2002 until 2006 will now move to the Philippines and the contact address is as follows:

Professor Augusto D. Litonjua MD
President PASOO
C/o Unit 25, Facilities Centre 548
Shaw Boulevard
Mandaluyong City
PHILIPPINES
Tel/Fax: 632 531 1278

7. Vote of Thanks

The AOASO Council put on record our gratitude to Professor Shuji Inoue, the Immediate Past President for his contribution as the founder President of AOASO.

Minutes prepared by,

Prof. Mohd Ismail Noor
Secretary AOASO (1998-2002)