

**Minutes of the 8th AOASO Council Meeting
held on the occasion of the 3rd Asia-Oceania Conference on Obesity
Feb. 27, 2005 at Taipei, Taiwan.**

Present:

Prof. Ian Caterson (AASO), President AOASO
Prof. Mohd Ismail Noor (MASO), Vice-President, AOASO
Dr. Rosa Allyn G. Sy (PASOO) – for Prof. Augusto D. Litonjua, Secretary, AOASO
Prof. Rachmad Soegih, Indonesian Society for the Study of Obesity (ISSO)
Dr. Ken Lee (Kyu Rae Lee), representing Korea Society for the Study of Obesity (KSSO)
Dr. Hwa-Yen Liu, President, CTASO
Prof. Surat Komindr, representing Thai Society for the Study of Obesity (TSSO)
Dr. Tim Gill, Regional Coordinator IOTF

Absent:

Prof. Augusto D Litonjua (PASOO) , Secretary, AOASO
Prof. Ruey-Shing Lin (CTASO) , Treasurer, AOASO
Council member representing Singapore Association for the Study of Obesity (SASO)

Others Present:

Prof. Chang Chih Jen, President, Taiwan Association for the Study of Obesity
Prof. Chih-Hsing Wu, General Secretary, TMASO, Taiwan
Prof. Nain-Feng Chu, General Secretary, 3rd AOASO Conference

The meeting was called to order by the President at approximately 1345 Hrs.

The agenda was approved as presented.

I. Apologies

- a. Prof. Shuji Inoue left for Tokyo on morning of Feb. 27, hence could not attend the council meeting
- b. Prof. Augusto D. Litonjua, Secretary - AOASO could not attend the 3rd AOCO conference hence asked Dr. Rosa Allyn Sy to represent PASOO and also act as the secretary during the council meeting.
- c. Prof. Woo left the conference early and requested Ken Lee (Kyu Rae Lee) MD to represent KSSO on his behalf.

II. Approval of the Minutes of the 7th AOASO Council Meeting:

Prof. Ismail commented that attendance of Council members to AOASO meetings be recorded to reflect it's composition and suggested to include "Present/Absent/Others Present.-Council members who could not attend the meeting, should inform the AOASO Secretariat "person" representing them and their Association/Society for record purposes.

The minutes of the meeting were approved Prof. Ismail with the above correction and duly seconded by Prof. Caterson..

III. Matters Arising from the Minutes:

1. AOASO Obesity Journal

Prof. Shuji Inoue wasn't able to pursue the establishment of a regional journal during his term. As per suggestion of Prof. Augusto Litonjua in the last meeting, Elsevier publication can help in the publication of its regional journal. Prof. Caterson has started communicating with Elsevier, and they are keen in publishing it. Prof. Caterson will continue negotiation with them and will circulate the communication for discussion by email before final decision.. Prof. Caterson suggested a quarterly issue instead of monthly journal publication. AOASO members are requested to submit 2 nominees for the editorial position. Nominated candidates will be elected accordingly.

2. Newsletter

Only Philippines and Australia submitted their articles for the newsletter. Prof. Caterson requested Taiwan to write an article of the recently concluded 3rd AOASO Conference. Dr. Tim Gill of the IOTF will write the new guidelines in the Asia Pacific region to be submitted for the newsletter

Prof. Ismail suggested that the newsletter should include the information and addresses of all Principle officers of AOASO member countries (to be updated before the ECO conference).

IV. Definition of Obesity for the Asian region

The BMI cut-off points for Asian region was discussed at a Consensus meeting held on Feb. 27, 2005 and was accepted by all the members present. Prof. Litonjua will send/circulate the result of the consensus meeting to all other members unable to attend the council meeting and to other key members for suggestions and comments.

Consensus Meeting – Final Conclusion

- 1) The region will adopt the WHO classification of overweight and obesity for international reporting. If possible, the practice of reporting should follow the recommendation of 2002 WHO expert consultation meeting on obesity in Asian population where reporting of BMI be extended across the distribution range.
- 2) Each member country of AOASO may recommend the best action cut-off points for use in their own country for the purpose of:
 - a. Prevention
 - b. Screening
 - c. Aggressive treatment
- 3) Each country will submit data regarding BMI best action cut-off point
- 4) For the meantime waist circumference cut-off point that will be adopted is the existing recommendation of around 80 to 90 cm. in Asia-Pacific countries. Currently the cut-off points recommended for male is 90 cm and for female is 80 cm.(IOTF, 2000)
- 5) Asia-Pacific guideline recommendations (IOTF, 2000) are to be updated. A formal statement will be issued by AOASO on the current status of guideline.

- 6) IASO / AOASO will revisit this issue when there are more recent data available from countries of the region.

V. AOASO Obesity Course

The regional obesity course was difficult to organize due to time constraints. Asian cut-off points may be an important topic in this meeting. Prof. Caterson cited that the Philippines postgraduate course done last Sept. 2004 may be a good skeleton that we can build on for our region. Indonesia suggested that course topics should be how to manage overweight and obesity and should be a more practical course rather than a theoretical course. Malaysia suggested having a preventive curriculum targeting a different level. A committee will be set up to prepare the draft of the curriculum appropriate to the Asia-pacific region. IASO will be approached to run this course. Tim Gill commented that if IASO will run the course it will be more a case of raising funds rather than addressing the main regional issues. Currently AOASO has no resources to conduct the course. Prof. Litonjua is requested to write each country member for suggestions of individual who are interested to work on the curriculum. Dr. Tim Gill has been nominated as the Coordinator of the Certification on Obesity Professional Education in Asia (COPEA). The course will be similar to SCOPE.

VI. ICO 2006

The 2nd announcement of the ICO 2006 on Sept. 3-8, 2006 in Sydney Australia is already available at the website www.ico2006.com. About 2,250 registrants are expected. Registration fee is at AU\$1,000, discount for AOASO members. The Prime Minister of Australia has been invited to open the conference. Regional issues that we may want to include and if there are language requirements for specific sessions e.g. Korean, Mandarin, etc. in ICO may be submitted to Dr. Tim Gill.

VII. AOASO 2007

Korea presented their bid to hold the 4th AOCO Conference tentatively in May 2007. Suggested venue is Seoul, but date will have to be adjusted because of ECO meeting falls at the same time. KSSO – Korea Society for the Study of Obesity started in 1991 with initial 100 members, currently there are 3,500 society members. Dr. Ken Lee reported that about 1,000 to 2,000-2,500 society members are expected to attend the next conference.

Indonesia wrote a letter of inquiry to Prof. Litonjua by email, unfortunately a reply was not received and so they assumed that it was okay. Organizing committee has been set up already as of this date Indonesia presented their plans for the 4th AOCO.

Prof. Caterson commented that unlike previous years, more member countries have expressed interest in organizing this biennial conference. He proposed that there should be a formal bidding process to allow interested countries to host the conference and this process should be followed in the call for hosting future AOCO conferences.

At the 8th Council meeting it was also agreed that the set of criteria be sent to KSSO and ISSO for further action. Information received from these Societies will then be circulated to member countries by Prof. Litonjua, Secretary AOASO and the Societies that obtain the highest number of votes will be eligible to organize the 4th AOCO in 2007.

VIII. Other business

Prof. Ismail proposed that the constitution be amended to enable Past President of AOASO to serve as an Honorary Council member. All members of council meeting present agreed to this proposal. Prof. Caterson will write a letter to Prof. Inoue.

IX. Next Council Meeting:

The 9th Council meeting of AOASO will be in ECO, Greece on June 1-4, 2005. Venue of the 4th.AOCO conference will also be announced during this meeting. Prof. Caterson have also requested Taiwan for a report on the 3rd AOASO Conference.

A call for nomination for officers in 2006-2010 was announced. It will be done during the 10th Council meeting at the ICO in Sydney).

The meeting was adjourned at about 1535 hours.

Minutes prepared by:

Rosa Allyn G. Sy, MD

Treasurer, Philippine Association for the Study of Overweight & Obesity (PASOO)
(on behalf of Prof. Augusto D. Litonjua - Secretary, AOASO & Pres. PASOO)

To : Prof. Ian Caterson - President, Asia-Oceania Association for the Study of Obesity (AOASO)
- Regional Vice-President IASO

Prof. Mohd Ismail Noor, DVM, Phd
- Vice-President, AOASO
- President, Malaysian Association on for the Study of Obesity MASO)

Prof. Askandor Tjokropawiro - President, Indonesian Society for the Study of Obesity (ISSO)

Prof. Hyung Joon Yoo, President, KSSO

Dr. Apichati Vichayanrat, President, Thai Society for the Study of Obesity (TSSO)

Dr. Hwa-Yen Liu, President, CTASO (representing both Association in Taiwan)

Prof. Cheah Gin Seng - President. Singapore Association for the Study of Obesity (SASO)

Dr. Tim Gill, Regional Coordinator IOTF

Cc : Professor Shuji Inoue, (Past President-AOASO)

Prof. Rachmad Soegih, ISSO

Cheol Young Park, KSSO

Prof. Surat Komindr, TASO

Prof. Chih-Hsing Wu, General Secretary, TMASO, Taiwan

Prof. Nain-Feng Chu, General Secretary, 3rd AOASO Conference

Dr. Yifan Shi, President – Chinese Society of Endocrinology

Professor Tess Van Der Merwe (South Africa)

From : Dr. Rosa Allyn G. Sy
Treasurer, Philippine Association for the Study of Overweight & Obesity (PASOO)
(on behalf of Prof. Augusto D. Litonjua - Secretary, AOASO & Pres. PASOO)

Subject: Minutes of the Meeting
8th AOASO Meeting, held at the Swan Room
Grand Hyatt Hotel, 27 February 2005

Date : 12 April 2005