

Memorandum of Understanding on collaboration between the International Commission on Occupational Health, International Ergonomics Association and International Occupational Hygiene Association

1. On the basis of, and in accordance with, the discussions among the Presidents of the three Associations (hereafter Associations), The International Commission on Occupational Health, ICOH, the International Ergonomics Association, IEA and the International Occupational Hygiene Association, IOHA, have agreed on this Memorandum of Understanding on scientific and professional collaboration in the field of occupational health, safety, ergonomics, and occupational hygiene.
2. The Associations will collaborate for promotion and development of occupational health and safety at national, international and global levels within the limits of their missions, strategies, competences and resources.
3. Inter-Association collaboration may be carried out in any of the substantive topics represented by the Associations in the field of:
  - a) occupational health and occupational medicine
  - b) occupational safety
  - c) ergonomics and related topics
  - d) occupational hygiene and related topics
  - e) occupational psychology
  - f) any other topic related to the scopes and interests of the Associations.
4. The collaboration may consist of, but need not be limited to:
  - a) exchange of strategic documents of Associations
  - b) exchange of scientific information and publications
  - c) exchange of information on research programmes
  - e) mutual invitations of representatives to Congresses and other events of Associations.
5. The practical collaboration may take the form of, but need not be limited to:
  - a) organization of joint meetings and seminars
  - b) collaboration in the field of training and education
  - c) publishing joint publications, guidelines, position papers and related documents
  - d) publishing joint statements related to occupational health and safety
  - e) development of special methodologies and approaches relevant for Associations, such as risk assessment, evaluation research and practical intervention methods.

6. When appropriate and subject to invitation, the Associations may collaborate jointly with the Inter-Governmental Organizations, International Labour Organization, ILO and World Health Organization, WHO, to provide scientific and professional support for their strategies and programmes in the field of occupational health and safety.
7. The financing of activities under this Memorandum will be subject to the availability of funds and human resources available to the Associations. In principle, all forms of collaboration will be carried out on a self-sustaining basis, unless otherwise agreed upon.
8. The Presidents of the three Associations will confer annually to identify and organize specific collaboration activities and to evaluate the activities which have been implemented under this Memorandum.
9. In each activity carried out under this Memorandum the best principles of professional ethics will be respected as stipulated by the ICOH International Code of Ethics for Occupational Health Professionals, the IEA Code of Conduct and the IOHA Code of Ethics.
10. This Memorandum of Understanding enters into force upon signature of the Signatories of the three Associations and will remain in force for five years. It may be modified at any time by a written agreement of the Associations. Each Association may terminate this Memorandum of Understanding by providing a written notice to the other Associations ninety days prior to the effective date of such termination.

Helsinki 1 May 2008

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