

Dear Members

Last month, I wrote to inform you of the change of dates and location of the next IDF World Diabetes Congress. During its meeting in February, the Board agreed that the timing of the next congress would be moved to April 2025.

Background

The last ordinary General Assembly of IDF was held in Lisbon in December 2022. According to Article 13.1 of the Articles of Association, IDF must convene an ordinary meeting of the General Assembly at the end of a biennium: a period of approximately two years commencing from the end of the ordinary meeting of the General Assembly. The General Assembly has the power to elect members of the Board of Directors, approve the election of Regional Chairs and Regional Chairs-Elect and elect the Nominating Committee (article 10.1). The term of office for a Board Director and for a member of the Nominating Committee is a biennium as defined in articles 16.1 and 27.3. The next in-person ordinary meeting of the General Assembly, was scheduled to be held in December 2024 (to coincide with the World Diabetes Congress).

However, during its February Board meeting the Board discussed the dates of the next congress. IDF Congresses are traditionally held in the month of December (after ADA in June and EASD in September). Organising the Congress so late in the year may mean that IDF misses opportunities because, by the time the IDF Congress takes place, company budgets for exhibiting at congresses may well have been allocated elsewhere. Furthermore, December is a holiday period for many and could result in a lower participation rates.

Therefore, The Board agreed that the dates of the next congress would be moved to April 2025.

This has implications for the term of the IDF Board. Also, there is no possibility for IDF to sponsor participation for IDF members at two separate meetings – a General Assembly and the IDF World Diabetes Congress - if they are not held at the same time.

Considerations

The General Assembly has the power to decide in matters relating to the organisation of IDF, including postponing the next ordinary General Assembly. The Board proposes that the ordinary General Assembly scheduled for December 2024 be postponed to enable an in-person meeting to be held in connection to the next IDF World Diabetes Congress in Bangkok in April 2025.

One consequence of this is that a new biennium will start at the end of that General Assembly in 2025, so that the subsequent ordinary General Assembly will be held in 2027 and thereafter in 2029 etc. It should be noted that if the ordinary General Assembly is postponed, new elections for positions on the Board of Directors and the Nominating Committee will not take place at the end of the current biennium. Therefore, following article 16.3, the current members of the Board of Directors must continue to serve until their successors are elected. Such elections would take place at the ordinary General Assembly in April 2025. The same applies for the members of the Nominating Committee and for the Regional Boards.

At the General Assembly in Lisbon in December 2022, a new President-Elect was elected and Regional Chair-Elects were confirmed. If the ordinary General Assembly scheduled for this year is postponed, they will not formally take office as President/Regional Chair until April 2025.

Motion

Do you agree with the following motion regarding the IDF General Assembly:

The ordinary General Assembly of IDF, originally scheduled to be held in December 2024 prior to the next World Diabetes Congress, is postponed to April 25, with the consequent extension of the mandate of the current Board of Directors, Nominating Committee and Regional Boards until the end of the postponed General Assembly.

Sincerely



Prof. Akhtar Hussain
President