Dear Colleagues,

only three months ago in Vienna at our XX World Congress I had the honor and privilege to become the President of the IFSO and I am going to serve as Your President with my highest enthusiasm.

I am proud of what this organization has become, of its 60 adhering societies, I am proud of its more than 8000 members and their dedication, and finally I am proud of the work we have done together.

I am confident that we will do great things together to improve the quality care of our patients, to increase the knowledge on the surgery of obesity at all the levels of our society, and to assure a higher level of information for the professionals of this field, providing the best quality of science at our congresses.

The best is yet to come. I have many projects and goals to achieve this year and I know that with the help of all of you, the year 2016 will bring new progress and success for all our members, their patients and the general public.

One of the important project I have on my “to do” list is to create an Ethics Committee that will help us to deal with the delicate issues that sometime arise in the daily life of our Federation.

IFSO will produce a Video Atlas on the Surgery of Obesity that will be a great source of knowledge for all the surgeons of the field. The videos of the different operations will be periodically uploaded on our website and will be available for our registered members in the Members’ Area.

In Vienna I have appointed two Task Forces – the Financial Task Force and the Statute Task Force – that are working on two very important sectors of our Federation: the best possible ways to use IFSO’s funds and the modifications that could improve our Statute to make IFSO an Organization always up to date.

I will also try to increase IFSO’s presence at the National congresses of our Societies all around the world, and, at the same time, I will encourage more and more the link among our four Chapters, to make sure the international interaction worldwide is guaranteed from Hong Kong to Madrid, from New York to Buenos Aires.

Last but not least my friend Ricardo Cohen and I, together with the Scientific Committee, are working hard to build up an outstanding scientific program for the next World Congress that will be held in Rio de Janeiro, that I think will be one of the best you have ever attended.

I encourage all of you to communicate with us -through our Secretariat not later than by the end of this year - to give us your suggestions on what you would like to find in the program of the Congress, so that we can customize it to your preferences and your needs. Also if you have any ideas or suggestions or even critics, that could help our Federation.

IFSO is Your organization, so I urge you to get involved in the various activities of our several committees and to tell us your ideas on how we can improve our Federation.

Natan Zundel
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IFSOF’S NUMBERS

- **60 NATIONAL SOCIETIES**
- **8,200 MEMBERS**
- **2,832 OBESITY SURGERY SUBSCRIBERS**

**European Chapter (EC)**

**Latin American Chapter (LAC)**

**Asian Pacific Chapter (APC)**

**North American Chapter (NAC)**
NEWS FROM THE EUROPEAN CHAPTER

The Chapter has had a busy year working for structural improvement in the areas of Democracy & Participation, Transparency&Governance and Sound Finance. New initiatives and collaborative developments could only partly proceed without this work: they both support it and benefit from it.

Finance & Development

It is an "Important Positive" that our Chapter comprises a large number of national societies of quite different size and from quite different cultures. So far, the Chapter has been limited in its ability to support and nurture smaller societies by its own precarious resources: income from our biennial Chapter Congresses has been highly variable and annual outgoings have amounted to a substantial proportion of our total wealth. Accordingly, we have continued on a path of financial "austerity" in terms of Executive Council expenses, but financial re-building has needed a wider strategy:

Earlier this year we signed a 5 year agreement with a Professional Congress Organiser, Guarant International of Prague, who will run all our biennial and inter-current congresses through a single team and with a joined up approach to sponsorship and finance. We believe strongly that this partnership will provide the stable income stream we need before we think of development work.

Transparency

Future Executive Council minutes will be made visible to our membership. A motion, proposed by the Executive Council and passed by our General Council in Vienna on August 27th, provides that future Executive Council business will be divided into “Unreserved” and "Reserved” areas. The Unreserved Minutes will be published on the Chapter’s website (http://www.ifso-ec.com). Reserved Minutes will be available for individual inspection by National Society presidents, but will remain confidential. This measure will take effect from the next formal or informal meeting of Executive Council.

Participation

Executive Council recognises a pressing need to invigorate and encourage participation by Member Societies and their members in the business of the Chapter. Several steps have been taken:

- At our meetings in Vienna we agreed the formation of a new grouping, a Multi-National Advisory Group, representing a rolling sample of 8 societies. This is intended as a forum through which our members can discuss, develop and feed-forward to Executive Council measures and initiatives desired by their members. The MNAG has now been formed of delegates put forward by member societies and currently represents France, Italy, Spain, Switzerland, Iceland, Slovenia, Jordan and Kazakhstan. Its internally elected representative will report to the Executive Director and can be invited to meetings as required.

- In order to broaden the peer-review base at our 2016 Congress, National Society presidents have been asked to nominate abstract reviewers: there has already been an encouraging response.

- The Chapter has further asked for participation in programme development: there remain opportunities for National Societies to propose and run pre-congress courses on Wednesday June 1st. Proposals can still be sent to our PCO (brejchova@guarant.cz) or to myself (alberic@agtwf.co.uk)
• General Council meetings will in future be yearly: previously Ordinary Meetings were only at the time of our biennial congresses.

**Collaborative Development: The Future**

IFSO-EC has partnered in several successful Medical-Surgical Symposia (Liverpool 2013, Brussels 2014, Prague 2015) and we believe strongly that our collaboration with the European Association for the Study of Obesity (EASO) should be strengthened and developed. The Chapter’s 2016 Congress will accordingly be held in the context of a European Obesity Summit (EOS), in Gothenburg, Sweden June 1st-4th 2016.

IFSO-EC and EASO have partnered to twin our congresses in this exciting new initiative and we hope the new “brand” will prove a great success. The IFSO-EC congress will hosted by the Swedish Association for Bariatric Surgery and a joint Scientific Committee has been working hard on a program comprising both surgical sessions and joint sessions that will interdigitate in agreed topic areas with the EASO program. Save the date: “Two Congresses for the Price of One”!

(for further information visit [http://www.obesity-summit.eu](http://www.obesity-summit.eu))

**Working together**

Finally, I am grateful for this opportunity to invite all National Societies to come forward with proposals for future events that will benefit from a joint Society / Chapter structure.

With my best wishes for a successful 2016

Alberic Fiennes
European Obesity Summit
1 - 4 June 2016
Gothenburg, Sweden

In 2016 EASO and IFSO-EC will link their annual congresses to form the first European Obesity Summit – EOS 2016

Parallel programmes and joint sessions will bring together colleagues from every area of obesity research, prevention and management

‘2 Congresses for the price of 1’

- A very cost effective registration fee. You really do get 2 congresses for the price of 1.
- Increase your knowledge: the scientific programme will feature the leading European and global experts in obesity, combining the best science from EASO and IFSO-EC.
- Debate controversial topics with Key Opinion Leaders in interactive sessions.
- Increase your connections: the European Obesity Summit brings together colleagues from every field of obesity.
- Plenary lectures delivered by leading European and Global obesity Experts!

Incorporating EASO’s ECO 2016 and the 2016 IFSO-EC Annual Congress

For further information visit www.obesity-summit.eu
Abstract Submission is now OPEN!

In 2016 the congresses of EASO (ECO2016) and the IFSO European Chapter (2016 IFSO-EC Annual Congress) will merge to create the inaugural European Obesity Summit (EOS2016). This exciting congress will take place in Gothenburg, Sweden from 1 to 4 June 2016 and we are delighted to announce that we are now accepting abstracts.

Be a part of the official congress programme and submit your abstract before the submission deadline of Friday 15th January 2016. Abstract submission is free and we encourage all colleagues with an interest in obesity to submit. View the main programme topics to see where your work will best fit.

The main scientific programme is regularly updated on the congress website.
The IFSO North American Chapter (NAC) welcomed the Canadian Association of Physicians and Bariatric Surgeons (CAPBS) as an official member during its June meeting held in conjunction with the ASMBS Obesity Week-End and NAC Meeting in Las Vegas. Dr. Mehran Anvari, Immediate Past President of CAPBS, was unanimously approved to serve in the NAC Member-at-Large position. The board also approved the addition of a non-voting Integrated Health Member-at-Large position to the NAC Board. This position will rotate between an ASMBS member and CAPBS member.

Second Annual National Obesity Summit

In September the ASMBS hosted the Second Annual National Obesity Summit on the Provision of Care for the Obese Patient. The Summit provides a unique opportunity for thought leaders from a range of disciplines, perspectives and organizations to exchange ideas and formulate action plans on how to provide optimal, coordinated, and effective care for patients with obesity. Representatives from more than 30 medical organizations and insurers including the American Diabetes Association (ADA), American Medical Association (AMA), American Heart Association (AHA), American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons (AAOS), the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO), and Blue Cross Blue Shield participated. Work in progress from the Summit includes guidelines, needs assessments and best practices for coordination of care.

ObesityWeek 2015

We had the ASMBS 32nd Annual Meeting at ObesityWeek (November 2–6) in conjunction with The Obesity Society in the vibrant and iconic city of Los Angeles California.

This year’s meeting highlights over 33 live surgeries from all over the world, 55 oral abstracts, 273 posters, and a multitude of sessions and courses on a wide variety of topics including sleeve gastrectomy, revisions, emerging technology, low BMI and much, much more. See the full schedule at http://obesityweek.com/schedule/.

ASMBS at ObesityWeek included many International Highlights.
**North American Chapter NEWS**

**Wednesday, November 4**

**Top Papers Session Including Three International Papers**

Proximal Versus Distal Gastric Bypass in Patients with Body Mass Index 50 to 60: A double-blind, randomized clinical trial - Hilde Risstad, MD

Single Center Experience with Laparoscopic Adjustable Gastric Banding (LAGB): banding lifespan and weight loss at ten years of follow-up - Sergio Carandina, MD

Intragastric Balloon: A Brazilian multicentric study of 3,545 cases - Bruno Sander, MD

**International Reception on November 4**th at 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

**Thursday, November 5,**

IFSO Level 2 Partner Session: The current leading procedures in metabolic surgery: Sleeve gastrectomy – Roux-en-Y – Omega-loop: Advantages and disadvantages

Led by Dr. Rudolf A. Weiner

**Friday, November 6**

From the Patient Point of View: Novel procedures and proposals
Led by Drs. Natan Zundel, Pablo Omelanczuk, Miguel Herrera, and Almino Ramos

Bariatric Surgery in the Low BMI Asian Patient Population – IFSO Asia Pacific
Led by Drs. Ninh Nguyen, Peng Zhang, and Kazunori Kasama

Panel Session IFSO – Optimization of Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery
Led by Drs. Ninh Nguyen, Rudolf Weiner, and Luigi Angrisani

In addition to the outstanding education, included in your registration is time for some fun and networking. Tuesday night we had the Welcome Reception held at the California Science Center. Wednesday night we hosted a special reception in honor of all our international friends and colleagues at the JW Marriott. And, the grand finale party, AfterDark Party, on Thursday night at the historic Belasco Theater.

We look forward to a great meeting together in the next Obesity Week!

Ninh Nguyen
On behalf of the Board of the Latin American Chapter of IFSO, it is my pleasure to report you what are the main achievements of our chapter, in the last four months, from July 2015 to October 2015.

1) We have had 7 communications with our member societies, the last report was the last one of Dr. Zundel’s administration. Exactly 2 days before our last IFSO LAC Congress in Los Cabos.

2) As you know Mr. President, our last IFSO LAC Congress was from July 8th. To July 11th. 2015. It was organized together with the Colegio Mexicano para la Cirugía de la Obesidad y Enfermedades Metabólicas (CMCOEM), the complete name of it was: VI Congreso de Cirugía Bariátrica y Metabólica IFSO LAC in conjunction with the XVII Congreso Nacional de Cirugía para la Obesidad y Enfermedades Metabólicas (CMCOEM). The Latin-American society members respond with a great participation and assistance, 15 member societies were represented, we have had International Faculty from Europe, North America, Central America and South America.

3) The information of the meeting was contained on our web page, www.ifsolac.com and it was developed another website for the purposes of the Congress, this was www.congresolac2015.com it worked nicely, and the certificates were downloaded from the participants online. This same website worked during the congress, and it contained all the information regarding the meeting, this is: The daily program, the Faculty, The Video Sessions, the Pre-congress courses, the Trans-congress courses, The social program, etc.

4) The VI Congreso de Cirugía Bariátrica y Metabólica IFSO LAC has been a real success, this was in The Hotel Sheraton Hacienda del Mar, with 1018 participants, 96 talks, 36 International Speakers, and as it was mentioned before 15 member societies were represented, the Presidents of the Society Members of IFSO LAC participated actively in the Scientific Program. Los Cabos, Baja California, México is a beautiful and paradisiacal place, the Organizing Committee guided by Dr. Zundel and you did a great work, the Scientific Program was highly academic and the social program was enjoyed by all the participants. Thank you. It is important to mention that without the help of our sponsor friends from the Allied Health Companies this kind of meetings couldn’t be a reality.

5) We have had the General Assembly of IFSO LAC in Los Cabos, on July 9th. 2015 in Salón Hacienda II, with the participation of the 15 member societies. Important to mention is that in this Assembly it was elected the site for the VII IFSO LAC Congress on 2017, the country candidates in this opportunity were: Argentina, Bolivia and Ecuador. Each country had 5 minutes to present a Video and to do a presentation of the country, same they must give the financial aids, hotel accommodations and all the details for a success meeting. Bolivia was elected for the VII IFSO LAC Congress on 2017. Congratulations to Bolivia. The exact dates will be discussed in the next IFSO LAC meeting in Vienna, Austria.

6) Other important issue mentioned by Dr. Zundel was the importance for the certification of Bariatric Surgeon in Latin America, he is involved in looking how to certificate the Latin American Bariatric Surgeons that do not have the country facilities to do it.

Other business was to modify some of the bylaws of IFSO LAC, Dr. Behrens and Dr. Camilo Boza did a hard work in this matter, but there was not enough time to discuss them. They will be discussed in Vienna, Austria, during the IFSO WORLD CONGRESS. The IFSO LAC meeting ended two hours after.
7) We will have the II Intermediate IFSO LAC Congress in conjunction with The Brazilian Society of Obesity Surgery (SBCBM) on October 2015, in the beautiful city of Belem, Dr. Josemberg Campos and Dr. Almino Ramos are organizing this event. A good number of the Presidents of our member societies will be in Belem. We will have an extraordinary assembly in Belem to discuss the modification of the IFSO LAC Bylaws and other business.

8) In Vienna, Austria on August 27th, 2015 in the Salon Radetzky 2 we have had the General Assembly of IFSO LAC, 8 member societies were represented. We discussed the dates for the IFSO LAC Congress 2017 in Bolivia, and agreed that the dates are April 26th to 29th, 2017. It was discussed too that all the member societies will give their complete support to Bolivia, for having a great meeting with the same quality as the ones we have already done in Cusco and Los Cabos. Dr. Josemberg Campos from Brazil reaffirmed the support of the Brazilian Society for Bariatric Surgery (SBCBM) to all the Presidents of the member societies of IFSO LAC to be present in Belem on October 2015. We will have another Extraordinary Assembly in Belem. It has already sent the formal invitation to all the Presidents. Dr. López-Corvalá has commissioned several members of the IFSO LAC board to do several tasks that will be discussed in Belem. The Bylaws were modified and corrected during this meeting in Vienna, Dr. Camilo Boza from Chile will bring them in paper to reconfirm them. It was discussed too in Vienna the disposition of Bariatric Surgery Training Centers in Latin-America for surgeons interested in applying to a fellowship, this matter will be discussed deeply in Belem. The assembly lasts 2 hours.

9) In Vienna, Dr. Natan Zundel assumed the Presidency of IFSO, for us the Latinamerican Bariatric Surgeons, it is an honor to have him as our main representative. Dr. Estuardo Behrens was elected as LAC Member at Large of IFSO.

By now, Mr. President this is what already happened in our Chapter. Please if you need any additional information, please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely yours,

Estuardo J. Behrens
ebehrens@comnetsa.com
2016 IFSO World Annual Meeting

Ricardo Cohen
President of the XXI IFSO Congress

21st WORLD CONGRESS OF INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION FOR THE SURGERY OF OBESITY & METABOLIC DISORDERS
Rio de Janeiro | Brazil

ifso2016.com

Call for abstracts:
Starts on 07th, December, 2015
Submission deadline:
April, 7th, 2016

- Update in outcomes
- What’s new
- Metabolic surgery and the new guidelines
- Integration between metabolic surgery and drug therapy
- Education in diabetes and obesity

September, 28th POST – GRADUATE COURSES

- Metabolic surgery: new insights in mechanisms, policy making and outcomes
- Bariatric Endoscopy
- Complex Hernia on obese patientes
- Plastic Surgery
- More to come...
We look forward to meeting you in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil!
Welcome, Bienvenidos, Bem-vindos...

Dr. Ricardo Cohen
President of the 21st World Congress of IFSO 2016

Dr. Natan Zundel
President of IFSO
2017 IFSO World Annual Meeting

Richard Welbourn
President of the XXII IFSO Congress

22nd WORLD CONGRESS
29 August to 2 September 2017
QEI Centre, London

Organised by:
The British Obesity & Metabolic Surgery Society
International Federation for the Surgery of Obesity and Metabolic Disorders
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INTEGRATED HEALTH COMMITTEE

Activities 2014-2015:

1) Integrated Health meeting in 19th World Congress in Montreal, Canada, on August 2014, with the participation from India, México and USA.

2) Elaboration of electronic book about Integrated Health and Bariatric Surgery with IH committee members. Soon coming in amazon.com


4) On line Courses in bariatric since 2010, over 250 students from Iberoamerica in Bariatric Psychology, Pshysical Training and Nutrition.

5) Organizer of multidisciplinary program with IFSO members in IFSO LAC Congress in Los Cabos, BC, México in July 2015.

6) Creation of social media network of Integrated Health (Facebook).

7) 1er IH network meeting together with Karen Schultz (USA/ASMBS) in Vienna, Austria.

8) Advice and support for the design of scientific programs in multidisciplinary teams in regional and local conferences of bariatric surgery.

Goals 2015-2016:

1) Creation of online course multidisciplinary in English for IH members of the world, with the participation of health professionals integrated the different chapters IFSO.

2) Promote more communication and integration with the different chapters of IFSO.

3) Organize an event with the participation of the 5 regions in the next World IFSO 2016.

4) Soon coming E-book about Bariatric Psychology with IFSO members of Latin America.

5) Participation in some bariatric course with IFSO LAC.
COMMITTEES’ REPORTS

COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE

Members of the communication Committee:


• IFSO Website new look launched in 2014:

  • Hits in 2014 (34,000 hits).
  • Hits in 2015 (50,056 hits) 47% increase.
  • Website statistics:
    ▪ Visits by visitor type: (33.4% new visitor).
    ▪ Visit and page visit by country 2014 compared to 2015:
      2014—2015
      1. USA 2501 - USA 6397.
      2. India 1455 - India 4094.
      3. Brazil 1385 - Brazil 3573.
      4. UK 1226 - UK 2954.
      5. Italy 885 - Italy 2219.
      7. France 595 - France 1492.
      8. Spain 576 - Spain 1381.
      9. Australia 443 - Germany 1145.


Meetings endorsed by IFSO:

• 2014 (11 meetings).
• 2015 (30 meetings).
Committees’ Reports

• Please join the IFSO Facebook Group: https://www.facebook.com/groups/396874800435861/. This is a closed professional social networking group to discuss complex cases and receive updates about important events in the IFSO calendar, it was started in 2013:
  • Members 2015 (539). 18.7% increase.
  • Members 2014 (454).

• Please Join the IFSO Linked In group: 846 members https://www.linkedin.com/groups/IFSO-International-Federation-Surgery-Obesity-4941421/about

• Educational obesity public lecture English version will be released soon on the IFSO website. Versions in Spanish, French, Portuguese to follow.

• Dr Kamal Mahawar has joined the communication committee.

• Integration with the World Obesity Federation: Joint Satellite symposia, communication of important meeting and links between the two websites and more to come.

• Top 10 topics you would like to know about: Please look out for a survey that will come to you to ask you about what topics in bariatric surgery you would like to see on the IFSO website (e.g. VTE prophylaxis in bariatric surgery, OSA and the STOP BANG questionnaire, preoperative anemia, etc…) IFSO wants to hear your voice.
NEWS FROM THE YOUNG-IFSO

In 2015 Young-IFSO was very active in co-organising and officially participating in several, important scientific meetings. During the meetings dedicated Young-IFSO Sessions were held, and the sessions program was created by, and coordinated with Young-IFSO Board in alignment with the local Scientific Committees.

Young IFSO closely co-operated with Young Investigators United from EASO (European Association for the Study of Obesity). This co-operation resulted in creation of a joint meeting which took place during the ECO 2015 in Prague, Czech Republic. ECO (European Congress on Obesity) is the annual Congress of EASO (usually attended by more than one thousand participants). Presence of Young-IFSO at the EASO Congress was an excellent break through event. That was for the first time in history of Young IFSO as well as the ECO when Young-IFSO worked together with their counterparts, the EASO Young Investigators United in order to set up a dedicated scientific Session. A decision was taken to award the best presentations both, from Young IFSO as well as from Young Investigators part during the joint Session. The winning lecture was chosen from two finalists, and the winner was Dr. Marco Bueter. Success of the joint Session led to a decision to continue with this co-operation with Young Investigators United and to organise combined session at the next European Obesity Summit (EOS) in 2016. The EOS is the first of its kind joint and fully merged Congress of the IFSO-European Chapter and EASO and is going to be organised in Gothenburg, Sweden June 1-4, 2016.

Young IFSO succeeded to secure Travel Grant for two of its members to attend the EOS 2016 in Sweden.

Young IFSO was active in another important event. at the World IFSO Congress in Vienna in August 2015. Successful, dedicated Young-IFSO Session was excellently attended at the IFSO World Congress. Several, talks were delivered at this Session by Young IFSO members from around the world, covering bariatric and metabolic topics, as well as psychological and nutritional ones.

Young-IFSO plays active role in the life of IFSO and IFSO Chapters, i.e. it is represented through affiliation of Alexander Newmark (Russian Federation) on the IFSO-EC Executive Council.

There are further, ambitious development plans of the Young-IFSO for the next years.

Next voting for the president elect as well as for other positions within the Young IFSO will be held during the IFSO World Congress in London in 2017.

Respectfully submitted by Karin Dolezalova

Young-IFSO President
The Role of Industry Relations

IFSO is proud to partner with some of the medical industry’s premier companies, and aims to better facilitate communications and feedback between the Federation, our members and industry professionals.

Support from industry professionals helps IFSO further our goal of providing continuing education resources to our members and other bariatric professionals. IFSO provides appropriate opportunities for communication and exchange of ideas with our members through our conferences, member communications, and other collaborative ventures.

Corporate Committee

The IFSO Corporate Committee is organized to develop and enhance the joint strategies and efforts of bariatric surgeons, healthcare professionals and industry professionals. The Corporate Council offers opportunities to work with industry peers in appropriately influencing the healthcare of the morbidly obese.

IFSO does not endorse any specific commercial product or service. This website has links to private organizations. The inclusion of external hyperlinks does not constitute endorsement or recommendation by IFSO of the linked Web resources or the information, products, or services contained therein. IFSO does not exercise any control over the content on these sites.

Efforts supported by the Corporate Committee

- IFSO Booth at related medical meetings
- Press Room at the IFSO Annual Meeting
- Support the IFSO Annual Meeting
- IFSO/Bariatric Surgery Public Relations efforts

Benefits of Corporate Committee Membership

- Free advertising and Company link to the IFSO website in the IFSO Corporate Committee section
- Recognition and Free advertising in the IFSO online E-Newsletter
- Access to the IFSO membership
- Listing in the online Bariatric Products and Services Guide
- Access to updates from the field and communications from IFSO Leadership
- Opportunity to exhibit at IFSO ancillary meetings
- IFSO Corporate Committee lapel pins for special recognition as a Corporate Committee member
Member registration rates for the IFSO Annual Meeting

Discounted annual meeting booth exhibit fee – 10%

Membership annual fees

Platinum level: 15,000$
Gold level: 8,000$
Silver level: 5,000$

If your Company is interested in being a member of IFSO Corporate Committee, please visit http://www.ifso.com/about-ifso/ifso-corporate-committee/

Our Platinum Corporate Partners

www.apolloendo.com

www.covidien.com

www.ethicon.com
Endorsement requests must be sent to IFSO Secretariat (info@ifso.com) together with the scientific program of the Course. IFSO-Communication Committee will carefully review the concepts and objectives of the course as well as the faculty, the structure and content of the course, in deciding about the endorsement. “Endorsement” does not in any way offer credentialing of grant approval to the participant regarding future skills and outcomes.

**Single Endorsement**

- Single Endorsement is only available for one event.
- The event must be directed or coordinated by an IFSO member, or have as its primary faculty, at least one IFSO member
- Endorsed events should offer CME credits (if not, an explanation must be provided)
- The Director must ensure that disclosure of conflict of interest are enforced
- Reduced registration fees must be granted to IFSO Members

The fee for single endorsement is $400,00

**Multiple Endorsement**

- Multiple endorsement is meant for two or more events held per year at the same institution
- The events must be directed or coordinated by an IFSO member, or have as its primary faculty, at least one IFSO member
- All brochures and faculty lists must be submitted to the IFSO-Communication Committee for annual review
- The institution/centre must be equipped with adequate facilities
- Endorsed events should offer CME credits (if not, an explanation must be provided).
- The Director must ensure that disclosure of conflict of interest are enforced
- Reduced registration fees must be granted to IFSO Members

The fee for multiple endorsement is $1,200,00/year

**Benefits:**

Endorsed events will be:

- listed on IFSO’s Website on the “Endorsed meetings” page, with a link to the congress website
- included on IFSO’s E-newsletter
- mailed twice to IFSO Members
- advertised once on IFSO Facebook page
- the Director may include IFSO’s Endorsement statement and IFSO Logo on promotional materials among the endorsing institutions, exclusively with the following text: “Endorsed by” before the logo of IFSO.

If you think your event fulfils the above mentioned requirements, please send your request to info@ifso.com by filling the following form together with a PDF file of the scientific program. After the approval of the Communication Committee and of the President of the Chapter where the event will be held, you will receive further instructions about the payment of the endorsement fee.
2015 Endorsed Congresses

Advanced Coursed Laparoscopic Bariatric and Metabolic Surgery
Lukang, Taiwan
10-12 September 2015

Third World Congress on Interventional Therapies for Type 2 Diabetes and 2nd Diabetes Surgery Summit
London, Uk
28-30 September 2015

1st Mediterranean Congress for the Surgery of Obesity and Metabolic
Antalya, Turkey
1-4 October 2015

10th Annual Obesity Summit
Cleveland OH, USA
2-3 October 2015

ANZGOSA-OSSANZ 2015 Conference
Hamilton Island, Austalia
7-9 October 2015
2015 Endorsed Congresses

11th annual conference of the Egyptian Society for bariatric surgery
Cairo, Egypt
13-15 October 2015

International Symposium: Prevention and Management of Complication in Bariatric Surgery
Cleveland, OH, USA
16-17 October 2015

WCAS 2015
Tel Aviv, Israel
20-21 October 2015

LAPAROFIT 2015
Coimbatore, India
20-21 November 2015

12th International B.E.S.T. Congress 2015
Madrid, Spain
November 30th – December 1st, 2015
Continuous Progress in Bariatric Surgery
Bucharest, Romania
5 December 2015

2nd Keele Bariatric and Metabolic Symposium
Keele, UK
7 December 2015

Gulf Obesity and Metabolic Surgery Society 2015
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
12-15 December 2015
2015 Endorsed Congresses

Type 1 and Type 2 Diabetes Surgery in All BMI

Malaga, Spain

4-5 February 2016

Minimally Invasive Surgery Symposium 20-16

Las Vegas, USA

February 23-26, 2016
**2016 FEES**

**IFSO Regular Membership** (complimentary subscription to *Obesity Surgery*): **100,00$**

**IFSO Integrated Health Membership** only for non surgeons: **20,00$**

If you are a non ASMBS member and you want to subscribe to SOARD please visit: [asmbs.org/professional-education/soard/ifso](http://asmbs.org/professional-education/soard/ifso)

- **Individual Membership**

  Only members who live in Countries where there is no National Society for the Surgery of Obesity can apply to become "Individual affiliated members", writing to the Secretariat and asking for the application form.

  Payment can be made either by bank transfer or credit card/Paypal on [www.ifso.com/join-ifso](http://www.ifso.com/join-ifso)

- **Membership through the National Society**

  For details on how your National Society for the Surgery of Obesity can become a member of IFSO, for Individual membership requests and for any other information feel free to contact our Executive Secretariat’s office at: secretariat@ifso.com or info@ifso.com

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**It’s time to renew for 2016. Ask your national Society how to renew your IFSO membership!**

**WHY RENEW OR JOIN IFSO?**

- Big discounts to all our Congresses or endorsed meetings all over the world
- Free subscription to our official journal: *Obesity Surgery*
- E-blast with info about the endorsed meetings
- Regular E-Newsletters
- An official Certificate of Membership
- Use of IFSO website to advertise the activities of the national societies
- Eligibility to IFSO endorsement for meeting/workshop/course
- Membership in a professional global network
- Listing in the online registry on the IFSO website
- Eligibility to IFSO Scholarships

**2016 Fees**

- **IFSO Membership**: **100,00$** (including *Obesity Surgery* for free)
- **IFSO Integrated Health** reduced fee (only for non surgeons): **20,00$**

*Even attending only one meeting a year, being an IFSO member, you will get a discount that writes off your annual membership fee!*

Meetings, pictures, comments? Follow us on Facebook and LinkedIn! info@ifso.com secretariat@ifso.com