Minutes of Meeting of the Executive Committee of the International Association of Labour Inspection (IALI) held on Tues 14 Jun 2011

Time: 2.30pm to 6.00pm  
Venue: Hotel Ambassador, 21 Quai des Bergues, 1201 Geneva Switzerland

Present:
- Ms Michele Patterson – President
- Mr. Paul Weber – Secretary General and Vice President
- Mr. Michel Gisler – Treasurer and Vice President
- Mr. Ho Siong Hin – Vice President
- Mr. Kevin Myers – Vice President
- Ms Shi Yan Ping – Vice President
- Mr. Sahli Chaker – Vice President
- Mr. Gerd Albracht – Technical Advisor
- Mr. Nils-Petter Wedege – Technical Advisor
- Mr. Wolfgang von Richthofen – Technical Advisor

In attendance:
- Mr. Alvian Tan – Ministry of Manpower, Singapore (meeting note-taker)
- Mr. Seiji Machida – Director, ILO Safework
- Mr. Jose-Luis Daza Perez – Senior Adviser, LAB/ADMIN (ILO)

Absent with apologies:
- Mr. Bernhard Brückner – Vice President
Agenda

1) Adoption of the draft agenda

2) Formal agenda (EC members and technical advisers)

3) Open discussion (EC members + technical advisers + ILO representative)

3.1. Final preparation of the tri-annual Congress – last minute changes

3.2. Activities report by the Secretary General (PW):
   Events over the last 3 years:
   - Korea (MP), Beijing (SY), Singapore (HSH), Vietnam (MP)
   - Geneva (MP + MG + PW)
   - Riga (MP + PW)
   - Russia, Azerbaijan (MP)
   - Dubai (CS)
   - Russia June 2011 (MP)

3.3. Forthcoming events 2011
   - Turkey – request for IALI involvement in World Congress, on Safety and Health at work, Istanbul, 2011 (HSH)
   - Germany - Dusseldorf 2011 (GA + ILO)

3.4. The new IALI action plan 2011-2014 (MP)

4. Collaboration IALI – ILO

5. Any other business

1 Adoption of draft agenda

1.1 The Agenda of the meeting was adopted without any amendments.

2 Formal agenda (Note: Item 2 was deliberated in the presence of IALI Executive Committee members and technical advisors.)

3 Open discussion

3.1 Final preparation of the tri-annual Congress

Mr Michel Gisler updated the meeting on organization of the Congress. He commended Ms Nadine Schneider and Valentine Hertig and Francois Xavier Belottini for the excellent organization of the event.

The main items of the Congress would be held in Room 9 of the ILO Building in the morning of 14 and 15 June 2011 while the General Assembly would be held in Room 11. A total of 28 countries and 72 participants had registered for
the event so far. At the end of the first day, the State Canton of Geneva would host a reception for Congress attendees. The Congress would commence at 0830hrs on both days.

On the voting procedures, nominations would be open until 1800hs on 15 June 2011 and voting cards would be distributed from 0830hrs on 16 June 2011. These procedures would be explained to members in the form of slide presentations.

3.2 Activities report

(i) Riga, Latvia; Moscow, Russia; Baku, Azerbaijan and Yerevan, Armenia, November 2010 (MP) – Ms Michele Patterson reported on her attendance at these highly successful events at the end of last year. Reports on the joint IALI conferences in Riga and Baku feature in the Minutes of the last EC meeting in Lausanne. In Moscow, discussion was held with the Deputy Labour Minister who indicated Russia’s interest in leading a regional organization of inspectors across the CIS countries. A preliminary discussion on the running of an IALI conference in 2013 and the formation of a regional association i.e. RALI - CIS and Mongolia involving, Russian Federation, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Armenia, Ukraine, Moldova and Mongolia took place. Ms Patterson had also spent a day visiting the labour inspectorate in the region of Reyzsan, Russia, and had a good first hand experience with the inspectors.

(ii) After the 3rd Regional Alliance of Labour Inspectorates (RALI) Conference “The role of Labour Inspectorates in the National OSH system”, 18-19 November 2010 in Baku, Azerbaijan, Ms Patterson reported on her visit to Yerevan, Armenia, to conduct a rapid assessment of the Armenian Labour Inspection systems, in conjunction with the ILO, Moscow Office. The Report from this rapid assessment was well-received by the Deputy Minister of Labour, Armenia; and the local employer and union organisations as well as the inspectorates all gave a strong endorsement of the Report. Mr Wolfgang von Ricthofen indicated that he was impressed with the potential of this role (ie conducting rapid assessments) for IALI and the EC should discuss this further.

(iii) Dubai – Mr Sahli Chaker updated EC members on developments in Dubai including a seminar in collaboration with the Arab centre for the development of labour inspection. The seminar was mainly about developing practical procedures and manuals such as Oman, Jordon, Morocco etc. This was a sterling opportunity to introduce the IALI Code of Integrity in these countries.

Forthcoming events 2011
Turkey – request for IALI involvement in World Congress, on Safety and Health at work, Istanbul, 2011
Mr Ho Siong Hin updated the meeting on IALI's symposium at the World Congress. The symposium would be held on 12 Sep from 1400hrs to 1600hrs. A total of 13 papers were received. Mr Ho had worked with Wolfgang von Richthofen for comments and six papers were finally selected. These are listed as follows:

(i) Optimizing Labour Inspection’s impact on enterprise prevention culture through integration
Wolfgang F. von Richthofen, International Consultant on Labour Inspection/Protection, IALI, France

(ii) Better Health and Safety for Suppliers – the Role of Labour Inspection
Gerd ALBRACHT, International Consultant on Labour Inspection/Protection, IALI, France

(iii) The effect of the Act on OSH Enforcement on official enforcement carried by inspectorate authorities
Jorma Lappalainen, Senior Adviser, Finnish Institute of Occupational Health, Finland

(iv) Lessons learned from the finance crisis for OSH risk assessment
Paul Weber, Secretary General IALI and Director, ITM, Luxembourg

(v) Measuring the Performance of OSH Inspectorates
Nils Petter and Helen Toisine, International Consultants

(vi) The Importance of Empathy in Labour Inspection System
Ugur KOÇ, Çalışma ve Sosyal Güvenlik Bakanlığı İş Teftis Kurulu Baskanlığı, Turkey

Mr Seiji Machida informed the meeting that the venues of the symposium have not been fixed at the moment. This would be largely dependent on the registration process where participants would indicate their preferences for the symposium.

Ms Patterson reported that at the ILO’s request she will be Chairing Technical Session II at the World Congress on behalf of IALI.

Ms Patterson said that it would be the prerogative of the new Executive Committee to decide on whether the next EC meeting will be in Istanbul. In addition, Mr Wolfgang von Richthofen suggested that the IALI Secretariat should make hotel reservations for the three technical advisors of IALI, Ms Patterson, Mr Paul Weber and Mr Ho Siong Hin. (It was noted that Mr Ho and Ms Patterson both understand that the organisers will have reserved hotel accommodation for them in their official capacities at the World Congress).
Ms Michele Patterson informed the meeting that she had provisionally accepted the invitation from the ILO SafeWork to speak at the Dusseldorf ILO conference later in 2011, subject to the new IALI EC’s agreement. The A+A conference would be held as usual in conjunction with the conference, from 18 to 21 October 2011. Mr Machida added that the organization of the conference was in progress and would be smaller than usual this year due to the World congress also being on in the second half of 2011. Topics covered would likely revolve around the sharing of national strategic approaches and good practices at the sectoral level.

3.4 The new IALI action plan 2011-2014

Ms Michele Patterson updated the report on progress in implementing IALI’s Action Plan for 2008-2011 and tabled a revised Action Plan for the Future: 2011-2014. These 2 documents will be circulated at the General Assembly and form attachments to the President’s Report. She proposed that the revised Action Plan for the Future would continue to serve as the central document to capture IALI’s key activities. In addition, Ms Patterson proposed that an annual review be done by the new EC, and a 3-yearly report at the end of each 3-year term be presented to members.

Mr Wolfgang von Richtofen highlighted that the ILO had recently introduced a global plan of action for OSH from 2011 to 2016. There would be a need for IALI’s action plans to be aligned with the work of ILO.

4. Collaboration IALI – ILO

Mr Paul Weber reported on the collaboration efforts between IALI and ILO. He said that the introduction of an ILO roadmap for the next few years consisted of several items related to networking, training and technical collaboration. After the conclusion of the International Labour Conference, IALI and ILO would have to work together to identify the items which would require greater attention over the next few years.

Mr Weber asked if it was necessary for ILO/LABADMIN to focus on the issues discussed at the ILC. In response, Mr Machida said that the issues were largely related to LABADMIN. He also mentioned that it was not clear at this juncture on which representatives from ILO would be present at the World Congress in Istanbul.

The meeting learnt about the resignation of Mr George Dragnich at the end of July and conveyed IALI’s thanks and best wishes to Mr Dragnich through the ILO representatives present at the meeting. It was agreed that Mr Weber
should send the next draft of the IALI-ILO MoU to the ILO. It would be helpful to arrange for a discussion with the ILO on the MoU in Istanbul so as to aim to finalise the MOU by the end of the year at the latest.

5. Any other business

Ms Michele Patterson shared that there had been no discussion on IALI’s involvement with the Taiwanese following requests from Vincent Lin of Taiwan. For Taiwan to become a member of the IALI, there would be a need for Taiwan to ratify the ILO Convention 81. In the interest of time, this matter would be deferred for discussion at the meeting of the new Executive Committee.

Ms Patterson informed the EC that she had received an invitation for IALI to be involved with an event in Ghana, a involving an International Conference on Occupational Health in conjunction with ICOH. The dates of the conference are the same as the Dusseldorf’s event so it will no doubt be difficult for either IALI or ILO members to attend. As there is no time left now, the matter will need to be discussed informally this week so that Ms Patterson can reply concerning IALI’s involvement. Mr Machida agreed to follow up whether the ILO would be involved with the conference and let IALI's new EC know.

Mr Paul Weber updated that he had met up with Dr Jorma Rantanen the week before and had expressed the need to put the ICOH-IALI MoU into actions. As Mr Seiji Machida would be meeting the President of ICOH the following week, he would assist to check on the progress.

With no other matters, the meeting ended at 1810hrs. Ms Patterson expressed her sincerest thanks to members of the EC for their contributions over the last 3 years and conveyed her best wishes to the incoming new Executive Committee.