

April 1999

## Minutes of the 7th Biennial General Meeting

Held on 19th April 1999 - at 6.00 p.m. in the Keppel Club, Singapore

1. **Call to Order** - The meeting was called to order at 6.10 p.m. by the President, Dr Paul Abbott who presided in the Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

**Roll Call** - An attendance registration form was signed by 25 members and representatives of national endodontic societies (see list attached to these Minutes). Participants were from Australia, The Philippines, Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, India and Bangladesh.

**Apologies** - Apologies had been received from Dr Seung-Jong Lee of Korea, Dr Teo Choo Kum of Malaysia, and Dr John Booth of Australia.

2. **Confirmation of the Minutes of the 6th Biennial General Meeting which was held in Seoul, Korea on Thursday 4th September 1997** - The President reported that the Minutes had been circulated to all members with the January 1998 APEC *Newsletter* and hence the Meeting accepted that they be considered as having been read.

**A Motion was moved to accept these Minutes as a true and accurate record of that Meeting - Proposed: Dr G. Cheung; Seconded: Dr S.F. Leung. Accepted unanimously.**

3. **Matters arising from the Minutes** -
  - a) **Membership:** The President reported that he had sent letters of invitation to join APEC to all national endodontic societies of countries in the Asian Pacific region that he was able to identify. Letters were also sent to national dental associations in countries where endodontic societies were not easily traced - in these cases, the national dental associations were asked to forward the material to any of their members that might be interested in joining the Confederation. Very positive feedback had been received from many countries and this resulted in new country members from Singapore and Malaysia. In addition, India re-joined after a period of absence. A number of Individual Members had also joined from Indonesia, India, Thailand and Australia. Correspondence had been received from Nepal and Sri Lanka with expressions of interest and it is hoped that these countries will continue to pursue membership in the future.
  - b) **Constitution:** The President reported that he had prepared several draft revisions of the Constitution and circulated them to Councillors for review. A final draft was to be discussed at this Meeting (see below).

4. **Presidents Report** - The President, Dr Paul Abbott, presented a written report which had been circulated by mail to members with the *Notice of Meeting and Agenda* - this report is attached as an Addendum to these Minutes. The President further reported that since writing this report, he had held discussions with the Indian Endodontic Society regarding a possible joint Scientific Meeting with APEC in January 2000 (in conjunction with the Commonwealth Dental Association Congress) in New Delhi - this matter was to be pursued further. The President had also met with representatives of the Asian Pacific Dental Federation in order to formalise our relationship with them and their regular Congresses - see below for further details.

Dr Abbott emphasised the benefits of continued and regular communication amongst Confederation members and this had been achieved through the re-introduction of the

*APEC Newsletter* - on a twice yearly basis at least. In order to contain costs, this was a simple newsletter and it is hoped that this will continue in the future. The President thanked the contributors of news items for their help in compiling the *Newsletter*. Other features included a history of the Confederation, lists of previous Officer Bearers, aims of APEC, lists of previous meetings, and some photographs and *Curriculum Vitae* of current Officers and Councillors.

The President concluded his report by thanking all of his fellow Officers and Councillors for their assistance during his term of office.

***A Motion was moved to accept the Presidents Report - Proposed: Dr P. Zimet; Seconded: Dr G. Cheung. Accepted unanimously.***

5. **Secretarys Report** - The Secretary, Dr S.F. Leung, reported that there had been little activity in the Secretarys office as most of the correspondence had been done through the President and the membership details had been maintained by the Treasurer.
6. **Treasurers Report** - The Treasurer, Dr. Phillippe Zimet, presented the Treasurers Report which had been circulated by mail to members with the *Notice of Meeting and Agenda* - this report is attached as an Addendum to these Minutes. A detailed list of income and expenditure was presented together with a summary which indicated that there was **\$AUD 6,173.06** in the Confederations bank account. The main income had been subscriptions (\$AUD 1,760.00) and a donation of \$AUD 3,158.05 from Analytic Endodontics for the Singapore meeting. Expenses of approximately \$AUD 2,000 - 2,500 were expected to be paid to the conference venue and organisers in Singapore. This leaves the Confederation in a healthy position but subscriptions and further donations will be required to maintain this.

***A Motion was moved to accept the Treasurers Report - Proposed: Dr S.F. Leung; Seconded: Dr E. Vizcarra. Accepted unanimously.***

7. **Membership Subscriptions for 1999-2001** - The Treasurer commented that as long as more sponsorship money for lectures/meetings could be obtained in the future, then there is no need to raise the subscription levels at present. Sponsorship money has been received for our last few scientific meetings and it is hoped that the dental industry will continue to

support APEC in this way. Therefore, Dr Zimet proposed that the subscription rates for the two year period of 1999-2001 remain unchanged - that is (*in Australian dollars*):

**Individual members: \$ 30.00**

**Country Members:** A) Societies with <100 members: **\$ 115.00**

B) Societies with 101-200 members: **\$ 220.00**

C) Societies with >200 members: **\$ 335.00**

A Motion was moved to maintain the same subscription fees for the next two year period - Proposed: Dr E. Vizcarra; Seconded: Dr G. Cheung. Accepted unanimously.

8. **Revision of Constitution** - The President reported that he and the Councillors had revised the existing Constitution as a result of a recommendation at the last Biennial

General Meeting. The Constitution needing revising as it had been in existence for over 15 years without any alterations. Council believed that a major revision/rewriting of the Constitution was necessary to reflect the way the Confederations business was being conducted. A number of By-Laws needed to be incorporated into the new Constitution, particularly to recognise the membership categories of Ócountry membersÓ and honorary members. The draft revised Constitution was presented to the Meeting and had been circulated by mail to all members with the *Notice of Meeting and Agenda*. The President opened the Meeting for discussion and comments about the revised Constitution.

A member asked why the APEC was registered in Hong Kong and what effect this would have for proposed changes to the Constitution. Dr Cheung replied that the registration was done in Hong Kong about 10 years ago in order to formalise the structure of the Confederation. Prior to registration, there had been difficulties establishing bank accounts in other countries. The Registrars office in Hong Kong is really only interested in the financial status in Hong Kong and there is no need to get permission to effect changes in office bearers.

Some members noted that the voting rights of individual members and country members were the same and this implied that individuals held more ÓpowerÓ than country member societies who may be representing many members from within their own national society. A more equitable voting system was recommended.

Some members indicated that Individual membership should be kept because some countries do not have national endodontic societies and this category of membership would be the only way for people from such countries to be involved. The President also stated that it was important from a historical point of view to keep the Individual Membership category, since APEC initially commenced existence with only this type of membership that is, there were no Ócountry members for the first few years.

It was suggested that individual members be allowed to join if they are from a country that does not have a national endodontic society but individuals should not be able to join as individual members if their country does have a national endodontic society.

As this matter is a complex issue, the Meeting resolved to instruct the incoming Council to discuss it in more detail and to provide a further draft Constitution at the next Biennial General Meeting. The President then proposed that the Meeting should vote on the remainder of the revised Constitution that had been circulated Æ the Meeting agreed to this proposal.

***A Motion was moved to accept the revised Constitution, as circulated in April 1999, but excluding Article IV Clause 2 sub-clause (ii) and Article IV Clause 3 sub-clause (iv) - Proposed: Dr G. Cheung; Seconded: Dr E. Jimena. Accepted unanimously.***

A vote of thanks to Dr Abbott was given by Dr P. Zimet for his untiring efforts to redraft the constitution.

9. ***Election of Office Bearers for 1999-2001*** - The following had been duly proposed for the listed positions. All nominations were unopposed and hence the President declared the nominees as being elected:

<i>President:</i>	<b>Dr Edna Jimena</b>	(The Philippines)
<i>Vice President:</i>	<b>Dr Seung-Jong Lee</b>	(Korea)
<i>Secretary / Treasurer:</i>	<b>Dr Phillippe Zimet</b>	(Australia)

According to the revised Constitution, the Meeting agreed that the new Council should attempt to have one representative from each of the national country member societies. Hence, the following were elected as Councillors for the period 1999-2001:

<b>Dr Lim Kian Chong</b>	Singapore
<b>Dr Rajiv Chugh</b>	India
<b>Dr Ernesto Vizcarra</b>	The Philippines
<b>Dr Saw Lip Hean</b>	Malaysia
<b>Dr Gary Cheung</b>	Hong Kong
<b>Dr Paul Abbott</b>	Australia (Immediate Past President)

The members present from Indonesia indicated that they would elect a representative after discussing the matter within their own society.

Dr Abbott reported that he had written to the Japanese Endodontic Association prior to this Meeting and requested that they nominate a representative for Council. However, he had

not yet received a reply. It was agreed that the incoming President should contact Japan again and request that they elect a representative for Council.

10. ***Life Members and Honorary Life Members*** - The President outlined that the new Constitution provided two categories of honorary membership. These had been devised in order to allow Council and the Confederation to recognise and honour any individual people on the basis of their significant contributions to the field of endodontics and/or to the Confederation. The award can be given for Life or until the next Biennial General Meeting, at which time it can be renewed. The award of Honorary Life Membership will be the highest honour that can be given by APEC.

The President announced that Council had considered two nominations for the award of Honorary Life Membership, in anticipation of the Meeting voting to accept the revised Constitutions Article 4 Clause 6. Since this Clause had been accepted at this Meeting, the President announced the names of these two nominations and outlined that they were being rewarded for their outstanding efforts to establish and maintain the growth of APEC over many years. The nominees were:

Dr Ernesto Vizcarra	(The Philippines)
Dr John Booth	(Australia)

Dr Vizcarra was the Founding President of APEC and had been instrumental in establishing the Confederation. He had written the first Constitution and had served as a Councillor ever since the Confederation began. He still maintains an active interest as Councillor for The Philippines. Dr Booth had served as President for over three years after having been a Councillor and Vice President. Dr Booth stepped in to the Presidents position when it was vacated prior to the term being finished and he was then responsible for a period of significant growth and development of APEC.

***A Motion was moved to elect Dr Ernesto Vizcarra and Dr John Booth as Honorary Life Members of APEC in recognition of their outstanding contributions over many years to both the endodontic profession and to APEC - Proposed: Dr P. Abbott; Seconded: Dr E. Jimena. Accepted unanimously.***

11. ***Any Other Business*** -

- a) ***Asian Pacific Dental Federation (APDF)*** - The President reported that he had met with the President-elect and the Secretary-General of the APDF to discuss various issues and to try and formalise an association between the two organisations. The discussions had been very fruitful and the APDF were pleased to have APECs interest and presence in the region.

The timing of future scientific congresses was discussed and the APDF indicated that it would encourage local APDC organising societies to include the APEC scientific congresses in the programme. There are many benefits to both organisations when the meetings are held in conjunction with each other. Dr Abbott had advised the APDF that it would consider having a smaller scale scientific meeting in Japan in 2000 and then the next Biennial General Meeting and scientific congress in Taipei in 2001 with the APDCs.

The APDF proposed that APEC should apply to become an affiliated society with them. They would discuss this in more detail at their next Council meeting and it was likely that a small fee may be required - possibly US\$ 50.00 - 100.00

The APDF is currently establishing the International College of Continuing Dental Education (ICCDE) Æ as its educational arm. As the objectives of this College are similar to those of APEC, and since ASPEC has considerable endodontic amongst its members, Dr Abbott had offered APEC's assistance to the College. This was accepted in principle although the details as to how this assistance will be utilised in the future is yet to be decided. The College is in a very embryonic state at present and hopes to conduct examinations for Fellowship at some stage Æ this may be a way that APEC can be involved by supplying names and details of examiners and lecturers.

As an initial step towards the formalisation of relationships with the APDF and the ICCDE, Dr Abbott offered to ask APEC members to assist with the establishment of a panel of speakers in endodontics. The APDF supported this idea and the Meeting agreed to assist in this way. Dr Abbott undertook to establish this panel and will contact all APEC country member societies to ask for names and details of possible speakers for this panel.

- b) **Future scientific meetings:** The Meeting discussed possible timing and venues for future meetings. It was agreed that APEC should endeavour to meet at each APDF whenever this was practical but it was recognised that every year may be too often. Hence, the Biennial General Meeting and Scientific Congresses would still be considered as the major APEC events every second year, with smaller scientific meetings being held during the intervening years if possible and if members were available to lecture.

India asked the Meeting to consider having a joint scientific meeting with the Indian Endodontic Society during the forthcoming Commonwealth Dental Association/Indian Dental Association Dental Congress in New Delhi in January 2000. The Meeting agreed that APEC should support this meeting by recommending a lecturer and advertising it throughout the region. Dr Chugh from the Indian Endodontic Society agreed that they would proceed with this meeting.

The 2000 APDC is scheduled for May in Tokyo. The new President, Dr Jimena, will contact the organising committee and the APDF to see if an endodontic session could be included in this Congress. If so, APEC will invite speakers in conjunction with the Japanese Endodontic Association if they wish to be involved.

The next Biennial General Meeting and Scientific Congress of APEC should be held in 2001 Æ this could be in conjunction with the APDC in Taipei, Taiwan. Dr Jimena will investigate this also.

- c) **Vote of Thanks:** Dr Ernesto Vizcarra gave a vote of thanks to Drs Cheung, Abbott and Zimet for all their work during the last few years. He stated that the Confederation was continuing to grow and fulfil the needs of endodontists and dentists in the Asian Pacific region. He was particularly pleased to see the Confederation develop to be a truly international body of enthusiastic participants and he was very proud and humbled to have been honoured as an Honorary Life Member.

12. **Next Meeting** - The 8<sup>th</sup> *Biennial General Meeting of APEC* will be held in 2001 in Taipei, Taiwan in conjunction with the Asian Pacific Dental Congress that is scheduled to be held there that year. The exact dates are not available yet and all members will be advised of the date, time and venue as soon as they have been determined.
13. **Closure of Meeting** - The President thanked all those in attendance for their time and interest in attending. The President declared the Meeting closed at 7:30 p.m.

Signed and accepted at the 8<sup>th</sup> APEC Biennial General Meeting as a true record of the proceedings at this Meeting:

**Dr Edna Jimena**  
President: 1999-2001  
Asian Pacific Endodontic Confederation

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

***Attachments to the Minutes:***

- 1) **Attendance Register**
- 2) **Presidents Report**
- 3) **Treasurers Report**

**Asian Pacific Endodontic Confederation**

**Attachment to the Minutes of the 7th Biennial General Meeting**

**Held on 19th April 1999 - at 6.00 p.m. in the Keppel Club, Singapore**

**ATTENDANCE REGISTER**

<b><i>NAME</i></b>	<b><i>COUNTRY</i></b>
Paul Abbott	Australia <b>(President)</b>
Phillippe Zimet	Australia <b>(Treasurer)</b>
Siu-Fai Leung	Hong Kong <b>(Secretary)</b>
Gary Cheung	Hong Kong <b>(Imm. Past President)</b>
Ma. Edna M. Jimena	Philippines <b>(Vice President)</b>
Ernesto R. Vizcarra	Philippines <b>(Councillor)</b>
<u>Saw</u> Lip Hean	Malaysia
Rajiv K. Chugh	India
<u>Lim</u> Kian Chong	Singapore
Edi. H. Sundoro	Indonesia
S. Mardewi Soenno Ahlers	Indonesia
Dewi A. Margom	Indonesia
Abdul Malek Bheriyan	Bangladesh
Timothy Sim	Singapore
<u>Seah</u> Yang Howe	Singapore
<u>Chng</u> Huey Shin	Singapore
Richard Lee	Singapore
Angelina a. Vizcarra	Philippines
Benjamin <u>Long</u>	Singapore
Anil Kishen	Singapore
Kusumastuty	Indonesia

Winiati Sidharta	Indonesia
Esti Setiawan	Indonesia
Laksmi W. Basicoro	Indonesia
Endang Suprastini	Indonesia