International Actuarial Association (IAA) Mortality Working Group Update #5 — Zurich, Switzerland, 2015

The Mortality Working Group (MWG) meets twice a year as part of a 5 day period of meetings of the IAA committees and working groups. The first meeting of 2015 took place in Zurich, Switzerland in April 2015 and this summarises the discussions.

The MWG exists to study mortality and monitor studies completed by other organizations worldwide, to make this information available to actuaries and others worldwide, and to contribute to and organize other opportunities for communication where appropriate.

A few of the topics in this meeting were:

- Country reports from Germany, Norway and USA. These reports provide a general profile of various aspects of the country’s demographics and population mortality experience. New insurance studies and tables are also highlighted.
- New mortality tables:
  - Brazil - “BR-EMS 2015”, is under review for likely general use for insurance mortality and survivorship products
  - Norway - “K2013”, was approved for general use for collective pension insurance
  - USA - RP-2014 Mortality Tables and the accompanying MP-2014 mortality improvement scale for the uninsured private retirement market. Also, additional information was provided for a prior group life study.
- A presentation was given to the MWG, on a “Multi-disciplinary approach to managing longevity risk” by Joseph Lu, Director of Longevity Risk at Legal & General. He described the work being conducted by the “Multidisciplinary Longevity Science Panel”, coordinated by University College – London.
- Comparisons of mortality rates for the general population, insurance and annuity markets were discussed for South Africa and Canada. This is an ongoing project featuring similar comparisons for additional countries at future meetings.
- The UK has prepared a Mortality Data Directory for researchers, which lists free and commercial datasets available internationally in the area of mortality.
- A new subject for study was agreed: Long-term influences on future mortality.
- A number of new articles and papers on mortality and longevity from a variety of markets around the world have been added to the MWG Information Base.

This is a summary of the MWG’s discussions in Zurich. The full minutes, presentations and papers from this meeting (and previous meetings) are available (without the need to register) at: www.actuaries.org/mortalityupdates

This Update has translated versions in English, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Mandarin, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish and Turkish.
On 9 April 2015, the MWG also ran a Seminar in Zurich on Latest developments in mortality research, hosted by Swiss Re. The presentations are here.

**Your response and suggestions**
The IAA Mortality Working Group welcomes your input and suggestions on our work. Please address any comments to the Mortality Working Group at iaamwg@actuaries.org

**References**

Mortality Working Group Information Base:  
http://www.actuaries.org/mortalityinfo

Mortality Data Directory:  
http://www.actuaries.org.uk/research-and-resources/pages/mortality-data-directory

IAA Mortality Working Group Updates:  
www.actuaries.org/mortalityupdates

IAA MWG Seminar in Zurich - Latest developments in mortality research:  
http://www.actuaries.org/index.cfm?lang=EN&DSP=CTTEES_TFM&ACT=EVENTS