



## INTERNATIONAL ACTUARIAL ASSOCIATION

### Mortality Working Group November 16-17, 2012 – 14:00 Sheraton Nassau Beach Resort – Nassau, Bahamas Arawak A Room

#### Minutes

#### Members Present

Martin Stevenson – Chairperson  
Henk van Broekhoven – Co Vice Chairperson  
William R Horbatt – Co Vice Chairperson  
Erik T Alm  
Michael Eves  
Séverine Gaille  
Dieter Gaubatz  
Al Klein  
Paul Lewis  
Mika Mäkinen  
Thierry Poincelin  
Lars Pralle  
Brian Ridsdale  
Marc Tardif

#### Conference Call Participant

Bridget Browne

#### Apologies

John Stephen Armstrong  
Chresten Dengsøe  
Darko Medved  
Taisuke Nishimura  
Ksenia Novikova  
Ermanno Pitacco  
Dov Raphael  
Luis Maria Sáez de Jáuregui Sanz  
Paul Sweeting  
Thomas Terry  
Benoit Yerna  
Peter Ying  
Zhaolan Zhan

**Observers Present**

Hillevi Mannonen, Suomen Aktuaariyhdistys  
Michael Pommery, Institute and Faculty of Actuaries  
Joseph Applebaum, Society of Actuaries  
Ricardo Frischtak, Instituto Brasileiro de Atuária (IBA)  
Abraham Hernández Pacheco, Colegio Nacional de Actuarios A. C.  
Karen Tan, Swiss Actuarial Association  
Jean-Claude Ménard, Canadian Institute of Actuaries  
Avi Bar-Or, Israel Ass. Of Actuaries  
Adam Reese, Conference of Consulting Actuaries  
Gary Hibbard, Institute & Faculty of Actuaries, UK  
Barbara Lautzenheiser, Conference of Consulting Actuaries

1. The Chairman welcomed all members and observers present.
2. Minutes of the previous meeting

The [minutes of the previous meetings in Los Angeles, USA](#) were accepted.

3. New members / retiring members

The most important criterion for membership of the Mortality Working Group is that members contribute actively in some form on behalf of the Group.

Erik Alm and Martin Stevenson had reviewed the membership and considered that two members had not been sufficiently active to meet the membership criteria.

It was agreed that the Chairperson would contact the two members to determine if their preference was to become more active or to cease being a member (and possibly become an interested person).

Where the member had been nominated by his/her local association, then the association would be advised of the position.

4. Template for country reports

Paul Lewis described the template for country reports that he had developed. Some suggested modifications were made. It was agreed that future country reports should use the template as a guide – there is no requirement that every country report must include every item in the template.

The latest version of the [template](#) is here.

5. Country reports

Country reports were received in respect of:

<a href="#">Canada</a>	Marc Tardif
<a href="#">Israel</a>	Avi Bar-Or
<a href="#">Sweden</a>	Erik Alm
<a href="#">UK</a>	Brian Ridsdale
<a href="#">USA</a>	Dieter Gaubatz

In the discussion on the USA report, the Group agreed on a policy that items of a commercial nature are not to be included in the proceedings of the Group.

6. International Experience Study (IES)

Bill Horbatt outlined current progress with the IES in the Caribbean, Vietnam, Croatia and Estonia. Progress in the Philippines had halted for the time being due to contractual difficulties.

7. **Report from Underwriting Committee**

Al Klein updated the Group on progress with the work of the Underwriting Committee. The Committee remains on track to produce a paper for ICA 2014.

Al will contact the Secretariat to obtain contacts in countries, beyond those already represented on his Committee.

8. SoA research project on new Medical Markers

Al Klein presented on research into [Medical Markers](#).

9. Presentation on work on comparative life expectancy

At the last meeting it was agreed that a worthwhile project was to compare life expectancy and improvements in mortality using the Human Mortality Database.

An [update](#) on the work carried out to date was provided by Bridget Browne (by 'phone) and Henk van Broekhoven.

An [MS Excel utility](#) has been developed to enable user friendly manipulation of the data. Examples of its use was included in the presentation. Members of the MWG are encouraged to experiment with the utility and provide feedback to Bridget.

Also, a [research note](#) by Bridget Browne and Aimee Yijing Su had been prepared, on "A Utility for Examining the Differences between Male and Female Period Life Expectancies : over time, age and countries".

Some initial work (not checked) was presented showing [changes in mortality](#), with the output consisting of heat maps.

The Group agreed that this work should be put forward for inclusion in the ICA 2014 program. It was also agreed that the HMD should be advised of our use of their data base.

10. Terms of reference / operational plan / expansion of knowledge throughout actuarial community

The latest version of the [Terms of reference and the operational plan](#) were tabled. The meeting approved of the wording.

There was discussion about publicity of the MWG to local associations, and whilst there had been some progress in some countries, all members were encouraged to ensure that the MWG was well known in their respective geographies.

In respect of future seminars near MWG meetings:

The Hague	H1 2013	The program was already crowded and no opportunity existed.
Singapore	H2 2013	Bill Horbatt to investigate the possibility of an IES seminar. Paul Lewis to investigate the possibility of a mortality seminar, similar to the one in LA.
Washington	H1 2014	This coincides with ICA 2014, at which members will be presenting papers.
London	H2 2014	Brian Ridsdale to investigate the possibility of a mortality seminar.

#### 11. Website Information Base

Brian Ridsdale presented on an [Information Base Update](#). The website is now alive and publicity has been included in an IAA Newsletter.

Brian outlined some areas where further work needed to be done.

#### 12. EU unisex developments

Erik Alm reported that progress had been slow in the past six months. It had been clarified that corporate pension plans were excluded from the Unisex requirements. It was expected that there would be more to report at our next meeting when the directive would have been in place for nearly six months.

#### 13. Presentations

Presentations to the Group included:

<a href="#">Cause of death and use in projections</a>	S�verine Gaille
<a href="#">Longevity in South Africa</a>	Paul Lewis
<a href="#">Mortality of Australian Public Sector Pensioners</a>	Martin Stevenson
A preview of new life mortality research in Finland	Mika M�kinen

#### 14. Topics for next meeting

Al Klein led a discussion on possible topics for the next meetings of the Group and then a vote was taken. There were two clear winners in the vote:

1. Continuation of the work of using the Human Mortality Database to derive comparative country life expectancy and comparative country trends in mortality. (Membership of this sub group is Bridget Browne (Chair) Henk van Broekhoven, Darko Medved, Mika Mäkinen and Taisuke Nishimura.)
2. What is a 1 in 200 year event for mortality? The sub group to consider this topic includes Henk van Broekhoven (Chair), Mika Mäkinen, Lars Pralle and Erik Alm.

15. ICA 2014

Papers will be presented by members of the Group including: Bridget Browne, Séverine Gaille, Al Klein and Ermanno Pitacco. Other possible authors are Erik Alm and Bill Horbatt.

16. Next meeting

The next meeting of the Mortality Working Group will be held in The Hague, Netherlands from 23 - 26 May 2013.