

ANNEX 2

The Role of the President

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The Office of President was created by resolution of the International Conference on Chemical Safety held in Stockholm, Sweden in April 1994. The President is appointed by a government elected to hold Office at a session of the Forum and serves from the conclusion of the session in which elected until the conclusion of the session following.

The President represents all participants of the Forum when carrying out official functions, whether participating in IFCS events, addressing international conferences or meeting people in a wide range of informal settings. The President must strive to demonstrate impartiality and act in a fair and impartial manner to all participants. Duties and responsibilities of the President include the following:

- As the presiding officer in the Forum, the President acts as its chairman, directs discussions in plenary sessions, ensures observance with the IFCS Terms of Reference and rules of procedure, and provides guidance for the efficient conduct of business during and between sessions of the Forum;
- The President chairs the Forum Standing Committee and has the authority to convene meetings either at his or her initiative or in response to requests from members of the Forum Standing Committee. The President will assist the secretariat in developing the proposed agenda for meetings and teleconferences.
- The President ensures that election of Officers of the Forum and members of the Forum Standing Committee are conducted in accordance with the Terms of Reference and the practices of the Forum. The President shall not serve as the representative of his or her government at IFCS meetings.
- The President actively promotes the IFCS in all regions of the world, and communicates information relating to the work of the Forum to governments, relevant NGOs and others on a regular basis.
- The President advises and assists the Vice-Presidents in the organization of regional and sub-regional meetings.
- The President shall consult the World Health Organization (WHO) on arrangements for the facilities and services to be provided by WHO for the IFCS Executive Secretary and other IFCS staff.
- The President provides advice and support to the Executive Secretary as required to ensure the orderly conduct of day-to-day business, including promoting awareness of the IFCS and seeking funding for its activities.