

# **ICF STRATEGY REPORT 2009-2013**

**by the ICF Senior Vice-president**

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**presented to**

**the Founder President, President, Executive Committee,  
and Council of the International Congress on Fracture  
(ICF)**

**at the**

**12<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Fracture (ICF12),  
Ottawa, Canada, July 13-17, 2009**

- (1) The present **Executive Summary** was solicited by the Meetings Secretary in order to open the discussion on the next four years at the ICF Executive Meeting on July 13, 2009, and the ICF Council Meeting on July 14, 2009, during the 12<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Fracture, to be held in Ottawa, Canada, at the Westin Ottawa Hotel.
- (2) One of the main issues regards the sub-structuring and further development of ICF in the **different**

**Continents or Geographical Areas**, besides Europe, where ESIS has been already active for more than 30 years. These areas of spontaneous aggregation could include North America, Latin America, Asia, Pacific, Africa, but we could also consider the national organizations of particularly extended and populated Countries, like US (ASTM), Russia, Japan, China, India, etc.

- (3) Analogous relevant issue is that of the **extension of topicalities, competencies, and expertises of the society**. Areas of knowledge where Fracture Mechanics could have a stronger impact in a near future are: Geophysics, Seismology, Tectonics, Biology, Medicine, and even others. A positive policy for ICF will be that of attracting specialists from those fields.
- (4) Direct consequence of the preceding two issues is the development of **partnerships and reciprocal conference sponsorships** with other territorial fracture societies or with topically correlated scientific societies: ESIS, ASTM, IUTAM, MRS, SEM, ICM, etc.
- (5) Another important purpose would be that of increasing and regularizing **Interquadrennial ICF Conferences**, an activity already undertaken by the present Presidency (Alexandroupolis 2006, Vienna 2007, Catania 2007, Moscow 2007, Algiers 2008, Bangalore 2008, Brno 2008). During the next four years we will have: Dresden 2010, Brisbane 2010,

Beijing 2012, Kazan 2012. We should observe that just the year 2011, exactly at mid-term between the Quadrennial ICFs, would result to be vacant. In the future, on the contrary, we could give particular emphasis to this **Mid-term ICF**, scheduling an ordinary ICF Executive Committee Meeting and awarding some of the ICF Gold Medals.

- (6) As regards the **new prizes initiated at ICF12**, and considering the number of outstanding scientists regularly attending ICF, coming from all the parts of the World, and specialized in so many different topics, a positive proposal would be that of awarding one of them per each year and not only one per each quadrennium. In this way, we could have an Irwin Gold Medal Winner in each year, and so the same for Yokobori Gold Medal, and Cottrell Gold Medal. At the same time, or alternatively, we could also honour great names of the past, like Muskhelishvili and Westergaard.
- (7) The websites of ICF11 and ICF12 are a legacy for future ICFs, with all the data and the publication of the proceedings. On the other hand, a **website of the society itself** could be very positive, although some financial support would be necessary for its development and maintenance.