



**SOCIETY OF  
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# Recap: International Actuarial Association Council and Committee Meeting

By Susan Mateja

The International Actuarial Association (IAA) Council and Committee meeting took place in Washington, D.C., from May 14 through May 19. The IAA Council is the governing body of the IAA and normally meets twice a year in different countries. It comprises the officers, one delegate per full member association (FMA) and one delegate per section:

- **Officers.** The officers are Gábor Hanák (Hungary), president; Masaaki Yoshimura (Japan), immediate past president; Tonya Manning (U.S.), president-elect; and Mathieu Langelier (Canada), executive director.

- **Associations.** The roughly 75 FMAs include the Society of Actuaries (SOA), the American Academy of Actuaries, the Casualty Actuarial Society, the Conference of Consulting Actuaries and the American Society of Pension Professionals & Actuaries (ASPPA).
- **Sections.** The seven sections are Financial Risks, Non-Life Insurance, Actuaries Without Borders® (AWB®), Pensions and Social Security, Health, Life Insurance and Consulting. Although the members of the IAA are other associations, the sections' membership consists of individual actuaries. Currently the total section membership is over 5,000. I attended as vice chairperson of the IAA Health Section. The SOA International Section donated \$2,000 to AWB®, and they thanked us for this generous donation during their section meeting.

With this structure, the IAA has both a top-down approach, with the FMAs, and a bottom-up approach, with the sections.

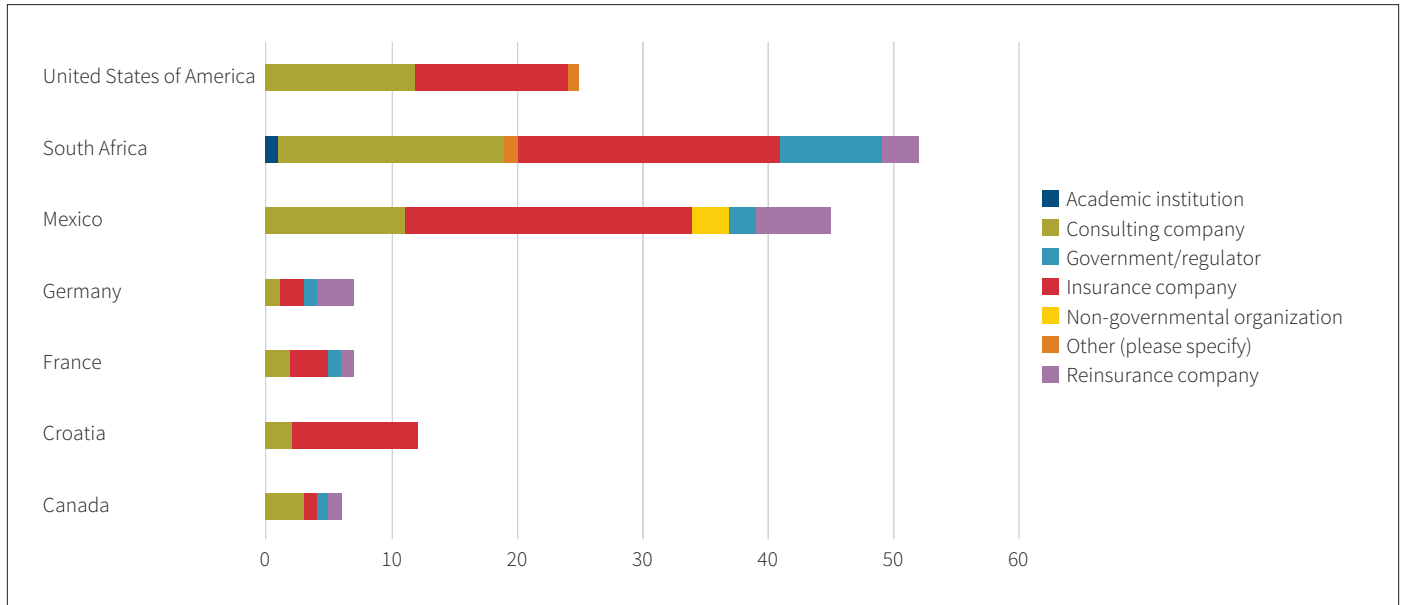
The May meeting took place in the Mayflower Hotel in downtown Washington, D.C. There were about 280 participants from 42 countries. While some of the discussions gave recommendations for an improved governance and organizational structure of the IAA, many other topics were presented:

- measurement of health care inflation;
- evolution of the role of the health actuary;



Some of our networking group in front of the White House as we walked to Ocean Prime

Figure 1  
Health Survey Respondents by Country



- big data and the health actuary, specifically how risk management, pricing and underwriting, and the profession will be impacted;
- Health Section membership survey;
- Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), which is working with the IAA to foster prosperity through economic growth and financial stability;
- proposed changes to IFRS 17, including transitional requirements, improving clarity and delaying the effective date to 2022; and
- climate change's impact on health insurance.

Breakout sessions featured various working groups and committees' sessions, including the mortality working group, the scientific committee, the health committee, the advice and assistance committee, the Own Risk & Solvency Assessment (ORSA) subcommittee, the actuarial standards committee, the pension and employee benefits group and the Africa subcommittee, to name a few.

I was particularly involved with the health care survey, through which we gathered demographic information to gain insights on

the future of the health actuarial profession and to develop ways of collaborating and communicating on a global scale. We had 183 responses from 22 countries, as seen in Figure 1.

No meeting would be complete without networking opportunities. The International Section Council hosted a lovely event, led by Bill Sayre and myself, on Thursday evening at the upscale Ocean Prime, which is a 15-minute walk from the Mayflower Hotel. This event, with an attendance of about 15 actuaries, sparked great conversation and connection within and outside of the SOA and the International Section. A sizable contingent consisted of AWB® members, and it was good to interact with them. I don't think you can measure the goodwill that was enhanced by this event, but it is safe to say more internationally minded people know our name and mission because of it.

The next IAA Council and Committee meeting will take place in Tokyo in November 2019. ■



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