











# Memorandum of Understanding

# Indoor Environment Quality Global Alliance (IEQ-GA)

The undersigned organizations agree by this Memorandum of Understanding to the formation of the "Indoor Environmental Quality-Global Alliance, IEQ-GA" to be the global source for information, guidance and knowledge on environmental quality in indoor environments.

### INDOOR ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY GLOBAL ALLIANCE

IEQ-GA will provide guidance on the definition of acceptable indoor environmental quality, with an emphasis on thermal conditions and indoor air pollution, to ensure that the knowledge gathered from Indoor Environmental Quality (IEQ) research is promulgated to, and implemented by, IEQ practitioners and regulatory bodies worldwide.

The organizations will work together to create a common understanding and messaging of research gaps, what results of research can be transferred to practice in the form of standards and codes that support a health and performance based definition of IEQ, and a legislative agenda and advocacy position.

The organizations agree:

- To set up procedures for operation of the IEQ-GA
- To establish a web-page for distribution of information and contacts
- To become a broad resource on IEQ issues
- To meet (preferably in person or optional virtual) at least two times per year during the first two years of the Alliance's existence to follow up on agreed actions and planning future actions.

Besides the founding organizations the alliance will seek cooperation with other organizations (e.g. WHO, EPA etc.) The Alliance will also seek new members or collaborations with other organizations that work directly with the impact of the indoor environment on people's well-being and health.

The signatories to this MOU will explore the following potential activities and goals:

#### **ADVOCACY**

Where mutually beneficial and to the extent allowed by laws and corporate policies, the organizations will work together on common public affairs goals and initiatives. During the semi-annual meetings of IEQ-GA, public affairs strategies will be discussed and common goals identified. Collaborative opportunities to be considered include:

- Advocating IEQ issues (or creating an advocacy agenda and arguments.
- Promoting awareness of the importance of IEQ among regulatory and legislative bodies.
- Joint promotion of codes and standards at the local, state, national and international levels.
- Promoting mutually beneficial positions during the development and passage of state, national and international legislation.
- Education of legislators on issues important to indoor environmental quality.

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

Recognizing that electronic and print publications are a primary means of disseminating new technologies, trends and practices, the member organizations will, where appropriate:

- Explore opportunities to jointly produce and publish publications of mutual benefit.
- Cross-market each organization's publications.
- Under the IEQ-GA umbrella, use periodicals to promote the other organization's events, publications and other activities.

## **EDUCATION**

As leading providers of conventional and online educational services and in recognition of the vital role professional development has for our respective members, the organizations will:

- Cross-market educational offerings at the regional, national and international levels.
- Under the IEQ-GA umbrella explore opportunities to co-develop new courses or other training programs that take advantage of shared and complimentary expertise among the organizations.

# **TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES COORDINATION**

The organizations will foster technical cooperation in areas of common interest as appropriate by:

 Encouraging members in each organization to participate on technical committees and task forces of other organizations.

- Providing opportunities to participate in and comment on proposed standards, guidelines, policies, and position statements developed on technical subjects related to indoor environmental quality,
- Establishing liaison representatives to key technical committees where mutually beneficial to do so.
- Under the IEQ-GA umbrella, developing common technical activities that may result in common guidelines, policies and position statements.

#### RESEARCH

Recognizing the importance research plays in accelerating the transformation to better indoor environments, the organizations will work to:

- Promote research in areas that will add to the body of knowledge in indoor environmental quality.
- Disseminate research results quickly, focusing on high-impact findings.
- Identify opportunities for research funding from other sources.

#### **CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS**

Recognizing that each organization may address different aspects and areas of IEQ subject matter expertise, the organizations will foster the exchange of expertise, where appropriate, by:

- Publicizing each member's meetings and promote attendance.
- Promoting access to speakers at the other organization's meetings to help provide
  information and perspectives on technologies and trends related to indoor environmental
  quality. Agreement as to who pays these costs should be done on a case by case basis
  between organizations or between a speaker and the meeting organizer.
- Actively look for more synergies in the setting up of conferences.

#### LOCAL COLLABORATION

Recognizing that each society has members and activities that are geographically local or regional in nature and that collaboration at the local and regional level can benefit all, the organizations will work to:

 Promote joint grassroots meetings of their respective members, such as exchange of grassroots leader contact information.

#### FOUNDING MEMBERS

As the founding organizations begin to explore the opportunities for collaboration, any projects or activities for which there may be the need for additional resources may require a specific agreement. The founding organizations are:

- AIHA- American Industrial Hygiene Association
- AIVC-Air Infiltration and Ventilation Centre
- ASHRAE- American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers
- AWMA- Air and Waste Management Association
- IAQA-Indoor Air Quality Association
- REHVA- Federation of European Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning Associations

#### ADMINISTRATIVE CONTACTS

The administrative contacts for actions tied to this MOU shall be:

FOR AIHA:

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AIHA

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FOR ASHRAE:

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**ASHRAE** 

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#### **TERMINATION**

Any party may terminate this MOU and participation in the alliance, with or without stated cause, upon providing the other parties with 3 months written notice of intent to terminate.

#### TERM

The term of this Memorandum of Understanding shall begin when signed and shall terminate at the end of two (2) years unless extended at that time by written agreement.

## LEGAL STANDING

This MOU reflects a commitment by the organizations to continue and enhance their working relationship and individual efforts toward achieving mutual objectives described above. It does not create a binding obligation or agreement between the organizations, and none of the organizations have an obligation to negotiate toward or enter into a binding written agreement. In addition, this MOU does not create a partnership, joint venture, fiduciary relationship or similar relationship between the

organizations. Furthermore, it is understood that this Memorandum of Understanding is conceived as a dynamic document, meant to change as circumstances and priorities warrant. It may be modified or amended by written agreement between all organizations.

FOR AIHA	FOR AIVC
Chris Lorenzo /President Printed Name/Title	Max Sherman/ Board Member Printed Name/Title
Signature	Signature Signature
<u>2014-06-29</u> Date	2014-06-29 Date
FOR ASHRAE	FOR AWMA
William Bahnfleth / President Printed Name/Title  Of Canada	Jim Powell / Executive Director Printed Name/Title
Signature	Signature
2014-06-29 Date	<u>2014-06-29</u> Date
FOR IAQA	FOR REHVA
<u>Donald Weekes / Immediate Past President</u> Printed Name/Title	Karel Kabele / President Printed Name/Title
M-	
Signature	Signature
2014-06-29	2014-06-29

Date

Date