

Application from the Global Diagnostic Imaging, Healthcare IT and Radiation Therapy Trade Association for admission into official relations with WHO

1. **Year of establishment of the organization:** 2012

2.(a) **Address of the headquarters of the organization.**

80 Boulevard Reyers
1030 Brussels
Belgium

Website: <http://globalditta.org>

(b) **Contact information, name(s) and titles of officer(s) who may speak and correspond authoritatively on behalf of the organization.**

Ms Nicole Denjoy
DITTA Chair

Mr Riccardo Corridori
DITTA Secretariat

80 Boulevard Reyers
1030 Brussels
Belgium

3. **Aims (or purposes, objectives) of the organization as they appear in its constitution, by-laws or equivalent document.** The main purposes of the Global Diagnostic Imaging, Healthcare IT and Radiation Therapy Trade Association are to promote innovation, improve market access and enhance global competitiveness in the diagnostics imaging, radiation therapy, health care information technology (IT), electromedical and radiopharmaceutical industries; to promote sensible regulation, globally harmonized regulatory frameworks and the use of international standards relative to diagnostic imaging, radiation therapy, health care IT and electromedical products and services; and to improve the global regulatory environment for these industries to ensure that they remain at the forefront of technological innovation and are successful in the global marketplace as they continue to develop more advanced, life-saving products that improve quality, safety and patient access around the globe while promoting cost efficiency. The Association enables participating associations and their member companies to better communicate, coordinate and collaborate on matters of common interest to work more effectively with international policy-makers, organizations, professional associations and stakeholders.

4. Main fields of work of the organization. Medical technology, radiation medicine/safety, medical informatics, ageing and health, noncommunicable diseases (diabetes, pulmonary diseases, heart failure and cancer).

5. Main types of activities of the organization.¹ Advisory, advocacy, education/training, research and standard-setting.

The organization has activities in the following countries: Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Japan, Russian Federation, Thailand, United States of America.

6. Membership information.

Type of member	Total number	Voting status
Business associations	10	10

Members in the following countries and areas: Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Japan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Thailand, United States of America.

Regional offices/representatives in the following countries: Republic of Korea.

7. Name, composition, function and frequency of meetings of the main, or if applicable, the two main decision-making bodies.

Name:	Members' meeting
Composition:	All regular members.
Function:	Elect directors of the Association, and deal with any other business that may be properly brought before the meeting.
Frequency of meetings:	At least annually during the fourth quarter of the fiscal year.
Name:	Board of Directors
Composition:	There are minimum of six and a maximum of 12 directors, the specific number determined by a resolution adopted unanimously by directors elected by the Founding Members. Directors must be directors, officers or employees of its regular members.
Function:	Review main activities and strategic priorities having been set up the year before. Confirm creation of the various task forces and monitor progress made by those.
Frequency of meetings:	At least annually during the fourth quarter of the fiscal year, usually two meetings per year and additional teleconferences when required.

¹ For an explanation of the types of activities, please see the Annex to the application.

Name:	Steering Committee
Composition:	One representative of each regular member.
Function:	Acts in an advisory capacity to the Board of Directors for the purpose of conducting research, drafting recommendations on the priorities and the work plan of the Association, as well as policy statements issued by the Association, overseeing task forces, and preparing for regular and special meetings of the Board of Directors, including the drafting of the agenda and the development of the proposed budget.
Frequency of meetings:	Teleconference once a month.

8. Human resources of the organization.

Number of paid staff at headquarters/secretariat:	0
Number of volunteer staff at headquarters/secretariat:	2
Number of paid staff worldwide (including staff at headquarters/secretariat):	0
Number of volunteers worldwide (including staff at headquarters/secretariat)	2

9. Financial information on the organization.¹

Annual income and expenditure in the range: US\$ 1 000 to US\$ 50 000

10. Formal relations with organizations and bodies in the United Nations system and nongovernmental organizations.

The Association is in a general consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council and in relations with IAEA, UNEP, WTO and the World Bank.

11. Collaboration with WHO.

(a) Activities carried out jointly with WHO during the working relations period.

The collaboration started in October 2011 at a meeting between WHO and medical technology industry associations, coordinated by the Secretariat, at which concrete ideas to improve patients' access to advanced medical imaging, radiation therapy and health IT technology in collaboration with WHO were discussed. A planning meeting between WHO and the medical technology industry was held in March 2012.

In June 2012, the Association participated as an active member in a WHO meeting on barriers and opportunities for improved access to medical devices by technology transfer and local production, in the context of implementation of WHO's global strategy and plan of action on public health,

¹ In order to facilitate comparison, nongovernmental organizations are requested to express their annual income and expenditure in United States dollar equivalents, and to provide estimates of these annual figures in cases where their accounts cover different periods.

innovation and intellectual property. Later in 2012, a meeting between the Secretariat and medical technology industry associations was organized to discuss progress on collaboration.

The Association contributed to the proceedings of the first Consultation on Advancing Technological Innovation for Older Populations in Asia (Kobe, Japan, 20 and 21 February 2013) by presenting the global industry trends and perspectives and proposing recommendations for medical technology for ageing populations. It also gave presentations at the Second WHO Global Forum on Medical Devices (Geneva, 22–24 November 2013) and participated in WHO's Global Forum on Innovation for Ageing Populations (Kobe, Japan, 10–12 December 2013).

In 2014 the collaboration has continued through the submission of comments by the Association and one of its member associations, at WHO's request, to the WHO pre-pilot consultation on technical specifications for medical devices in low-income countries. It also provided technical expertise in a panel session at the Joint Inter-Ministerial Policy Dialogue on eHealth Standardization and the Second WHO Forum on eHealth Standardization and Interoperability (Geneva, 10 and 11 February 2014).

(b) Planned collaborative activities with WHO for the coming three-year period.

As a global association of health technology organizations with technical, regulatory, standards, trade and policy expertise in its field, the Association's collaboration with WHO contributes to enabling WHO's Member States, especially developing economies, to meet better their needs in improving access to essential medical devices. In particular, the collaboration will comprise the following areas:

- improving identification by Member States of potential health technologies to improve their populations' access to safe, quality and affordable medical devices, specifically diagnostic imaging, health care IT, radiation therapy and radiopharmaceuticals in the context of achieving universal health coverage;
- supporting the Secretariat's work to strengthen regulatory systems through identifying opportunities for countries, and to build regulatory capacity through international regulatory convergence;
- supporting the identification of the appropriate international standards for affordability, quality and safe use of health technologies which can be used for procurement, support of regulations and best use of equipment in the field;
- selecting health technologies that are potentially best suited to support ageing populations and the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases;
- increasing the development of innovative affordable health technologies and their more extensive adoption;
- raising awareness of the importance of health technologies for better clinical outcomes and the value of health technology assessment in the process;
- introducing requirements to train users in the safe operation and better maintenance of medical equipment;
- supporting the Secretariat's work in assisting developing economies in public procurement by creating guidelines for evidence-driven tendering and coverage decisions;

- providing guidance for optimizing the safe and effective use of health technology products during their lifespan, including their refurbishment;
- identifying opportunities for international best practices and categorizing them to support evidence-based selection and coverage decisions for health technologies that will support health care system strengthening for universal health coverage; and
- developing, in partnership with the Secretariat and other nongovernmental organizations, programmes to improve health outcomes.

ANNEX

EXPLANATION OF TYPES OF ACTIVITIES

Advisory – the organization regularly advises governments, nongovernmental organizations and institutions, intergovernmental bodies, or the media on matters within its competence.

Advocacy – the organization regularly undertakes campaigns, or its main purpose is, to influence decision- or policy-makers, or individual or societal behaviours or attitudes.

Conferences – the organization regularly holds scientific conferences, or other forums, excluding governing body meetings.

Data collection/surveillance – the organization, for example, maintains a register of specific diseases, up-to-date data about the number of people in a particular profession, etc.

Education/training – the organization, or its members, regularly provides educational or training courses for individuals or organizations (governmental and nongovernmental), is an examining or licensing body, or develops curricula.

Funding/donations – the organization funds the work of others and/or donates goods to others, for example, hospital equipment and pharmaceuticals.

Journals/publications/media – the organization regularly publishes a peer-reviewed professional or scientific journal and/or regularly produces and revises books and other media, e.g. CDs and videos, and maintains a publications/resources catalogue.

Research – the organization undertakes commissions or funds research as a regular activity.

Service delivery – the organization provides, commissions or is contracted on a long-term basis to provide services to non-members, for example, child counselling/protection, hospital care, suicide prevention services and delivery of food aid.

Sponsoring – the organization maintains a sponsorship programme, for example, for children, the elderly or young scientists.

Standard-setting – the organization formulates standards, ranging from professional conduct to goods and services.

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