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**STATEMENT BY MR HWANG MOSES, REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL LABORATORY
TECHNOLOGISTS (IAMLT)**

IAMLT and Medical Laboratory Technologists

IAMLT is a worldwide organization which includes associations of medical laboratory technologists from over 37 different countries. Medical laboratory technology is the third largest profession of health care professionals in the world and the number of medical laboratory technologists affiliated with IAMLT through these member organizations is growing and exceeds 167 000.

Our members work in medical laboratories in all fields of medical laboratories: clinical chemistry, clinical microbiology, haematology, cellular pathology, transfusion medicine, immunology, molecular biology, cytotechnology, etc. Medical laboratory technologists are employed in primary health care, every kind of hospital laboratory, as well as research and industry laboratories.

IAMLT and WHO

IAMLT has limited financial resources to participate in WHO activities, but offers the expertise of medical laboratory technologists as a profession in dealing with technical problems, quality assessment and policy regarding laboratory work, education of medical laboratory technologists and preparation/evaluation of educational material.

WHO activities relevant to IAMLT are regularly reported in IAMLT's newsletter Med Tec International which is distributed to all member countries. We also endeavour to keep members

informed of IAMLT's affiliation and work with WHO by encouraging member societies to include information in their newsletters and publications.

IAMLT and Education

IAMLT acts as catalyst for information exchange at the international level. In this regard the IAMLT publishes an International Directory of Medical Laboratory Science Education which is constantly evaluated.

IAMLT provides members in developing countries with assistance through information and liaison with members in developing countries and has been developing a network to connect those who need to solve special problems with the ones willing and able to assist. IAMLT has evaluated its means in using the resources available and found more effective ways for distributing educational material through Book Donation Project and development plans.

Qualifications of Medical Laboratory Technologists

The IAMLT position statement on the qualification of workers in medical laboratories has been endorsed and promoted by a number of member countries. IAMLT and its member countries are very concerned with these issues as health care restraint has caused many providers to seek savings in ways which may be detrimental to patient care. IAMLT's statement on this issue is:

“To ensure the patient's life and health, we strongly recommend clinical laboratory service and the important diagnostic work both in private and public clinics to be done by fully qualified medical laboratory technologists”.