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## Global Emergency Care Committee (GECCo)

*A Committee of the Council of Advocacy, Practice and Partnerships*

### 1. Introduction

These terms of reference are established under, and are subordinate to, the *Policy on College Entities* (the Policy). Committee members should ensure they are familiar with the provisions and requirements of the Policy. The terms of reference include details of the following:

1. membership specifications including any variation from the policy permitted by the Council of Advocacy, Practice and Partnerships (CAPP);
2. matters specific to GECCo (for example responsibilities);
3. operational matters where these have been varied by CAPP pursuant to the policy (e.g. the number of meetings to be held each year).

Otherwise, reference should be made to the Policy for details of all matters pertaining to the operation of the Committee.

### 2. Purpose

The purpose of the Committee is to steer the work of ACEM in global emergency care, as delivered through the Global Emergency Care (GEC) Desk and Network. It is to ensure emergency care is recognised as an essential part of universal health care and is available and accessible to all, and to provide leadership and expertise in sustainable and ethical GEC capacity development and voluntary work.

GECCo will collaborate with in-country partners, international organisations and local governments to support locally led capacity development in delivering safe and effective emergency care globally, including the Indo-Pacific region. It will advocate for emergency care as a core component for the attainment of health equity in universal health coverage (UHC) and for increased investment in emergency care system development, preparedness and resilience. GECCo will contribute to the body of accessible GEC research and build the capacity of Low and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs) to lead GEC research.

GECCo will enable the College to deploy Fellows as advisors, educators, trainers, researchers, and knowledge transfer partners in GEC and as advocates for universal access to safe and timely emergency care.

### 3. Membership

- (a) Ex-officio members:  
One (1) delegate from the FACEM membership of CAPP.
- (b) Up to twelve (12) 'ordinary' FACEM members (inclusive of the Chair and the Deputy Chair).
- (c) Up to one (1) member of the College in the category of Certificant, Diplomate, Advanced Diplomate or Associate.
- (d) One (1) FACEM Training Program trainee nominated by the Trainee Committee.
- (e) One (1) external community member appointed by CAPP.

GECCo members (with the exception of the delegate from the FACEM membership of CAPP) must meet at least one of the following criteria:

- identifies as diaspora from an LMIC and/or;
- has previously worked in any LMIC for a cumulative period of at least one (1) year and/or;
- has demonstrated expertise or experience in global health.

### 3.1 Supernumerary Members

The Committee shall have the ability to co-opt up to five (5) additional FACEM or International Affiliate supernumerary members with specific expertise or knowledge of a particular country or international region, not otherwise possessed by the membership. Such individuals will be nominated following discussion between the Chair of GECCo and the Chair of CAPP. Co-opted supernumerary members will have voting rights. Supernumerary members must meet at least one of the following criteria:

- identifies as diaspora from an LMIC and/or;
- is resident in and/or has previously worked in any LMIC for a cumulative period of at least one (1) year and/or;
- has demonstrated connections and commitment and/or expertise in global health.

### 3.2 Office Holders

The Chair shall be the ex-officio delegate from the CAPP Committee. If the delegate is unable to undertake that role, the Chair shall be nominated from among the ordinary FACEM membership for appointment by CAPP. The Deputy Chair shall be nominated from among the ordinary FACEM membership. An appointed nominee will also be required to represent the Committee as an ex-officio member of the ACEM Foundation Committee.

## 4. Responsibilities and Authority

### 4.1 Responsibilities

The Committee, in conjunction with the GEC Desk, be responsible for:

- (a) being the expert liaison and resource for ACEM and other relevant institutions regarding GEC issues.
- (b) encouraging and promoting international engagement by ACEM and oversee the GEC working groups, Country and Regional Liaison Representatives, GEC Network and the GEC Community of Practice (GECCoP) including:
  - i. building and promoting opportunities for FACEM members, trainees and international affiliate members to engage in GEC, and share information about GEC through strategic communications and the GEC Network.
  - ii. advocating for, advising upon and facilitating the creation of accredited training posts for ACEM advanced trainees in global emergency care (see *AC472 Accreditation Guidelines. Special Skills Placement - Global Emergency Care*).
  - iii. building awareness of and advocate for GEC issues and investment across ACEM, other relevant institutions and the wider community through presentations, publications and events on GEC.
- (c) with CAPP approval (and ACEM Board approval when required), overseeing collaboration and strategic partnerships between ACEM and international organisations including specialist medical colleges, specialty societies, medical and research institutions.
- (d) developing and recommending the GEC activities strategy in relevant College plans for review and approval by CAPP, including but not limited to the GEC Strategic Plan and GECCo Work Plan, and ensure alignment with the ACEM Strategic Plan and ACEM Business Plan.
- (e) approving new GEC projects, initiatives, and activities for subsequent endorsement by CAPP (and the ACEM Board where required), in accordance with the GEC strategies.
- (f) endorsing GEC and other related policies to GEC activities (e.g., child safeguarding).
- (g) approving the principles of agreements, for subsequent endorsement by CAPP (and the ACEM Board where required), with partners and collaborating organisations in Australian, Aotearoa New Zealand, and globally that cover GEC activities.
- (h) monitoring and reporting on the effectiveness and impact of the ACEM GEC strategy and GEC projects and activities.

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- (i) providing guidance, as requested on issues relevant to GEC on behalf of ACEM.
  - (j) supporting the development of GEC and improved capacity for emergency care in LMICs through facilitating:
    - i. relevant educational, peer-support, mentoring, research, governance and policy, assessment, and any other emergency care capacity development activities in LMICs.
    - ii. support for emergency care clinicians based in LMICs to enhance their skills, knowledge, and professional development in-country and abroad.
  - (k) overseeing applications for funding through the ACEM Foundation regarding GEC projects, scholarships and grants including:
    - i. establishing the criteria by which projects, grants and scholarships via the Foundation will be assessed. These criteria will be aligned to the goals of the ACEM Foundation with regard to building emergency care capacity in LMICs.
    - ii. participating in adjudication processes for the ACEM Foundation to ensure alignment with GECCo strategic objectives, and any Donor requirements of the College.
    - iii. promoting and supporting the GEC fund-raising activities of the ACEM Foundation.

## 4.2 Extent of Authority

The Committee shall have delegated authority to make decisions where a routine process/procedure is present regarding the above matters. Where there is none, the Committee shall make recommendations to CAPP; the authority to approve or not to approve such recommendations rests solely with CAPP.

CAPP will approve a work plan that documents the objectives and deliverables for the term of the Committee. The work plan is aligned with the strategic priorities for the College and provides direction regarding the targeted use of resources within the College administration.

Other than in relation to strategic matters, business requiring decisions outside of scheduled meetings may, at the discretion of the Chair, be determined by the Chair or by the whole Committee as required. Matters dealt with by the Chair will be tabled at the next meeting of the Committee.

GECCo shall provide recommendations to the ACEM Foundation regarding funding for awards, grants and scholarships relating to the GEC Pillar.

## 4.3 Reporting

The Committee shall supply a written report to CAPP following each of its meetings, together with any recommendations that require consideration and approval by CAPP.

## 5. Meeting Requirements

The Policy allows for variation of some of the meeting requirements, where this has been approved by CAPP. CAPP has approved such variations to the extent shown below only. Otherwise, see Clause 8 of the Policy.

### 5.1 Meeting Attendance

The requirements of the Policy are varied to the following extent only:

- Supernumerary members are not required to meet minimum attendance requirements and need to participate in meetings only when circumstances permit.
- Supernumerary members are welcome to physically attend the annual face-to-face meeting but are not required to do so and are not funded to do so.

## 5. Other Requirements

The College is committed to the participation and contribution of primary stakeholders in development activities. This commitment is to be enacted by the Committee via the process of membership selection, the inclusion of International Affiliates, and the prioritisation of diaspora from LMICs.

## 6. Document Review

<b>Timeframe for review:</b>	Every two (2) years, or earlier if required.
<b>Document Authorisation:</b>	Council of Advocacy, Practice and Partnerships
<b>Document Implementation:</b>	Policy, Research and Partnerships Department
<b>Document maintenance:</b>	Policy, Research and Partnerships Department

## 7. Revision History

Version	Date of Version	Pages revised / Brief Explanation of Revision
v1	Oct-2014	Approved
v2	Mar-2015	Clause 2(d) inserted: provision made for up to 5 supernumerary members Clause 2 (office holders) amended: supernumerary members excluded from officeholder positions. Clause 4(b) inserted: meeting attendance requirements varied for supernumerary members. Clause 5 inserted: specific requirements re supernumerary members
v3	Jul-2016	Clause 3.1: responsibilities amended to align with ACEM 2015-2018 Strategic Plan
v4	May-2019	Clause 2(d) revised to clarify the circumstances under which extra members may be co-opted, 3.1 to align with Work Plan, 4, 6
v5	Jul-2019	Clause 2, 4(b), 5
v6	May-2020	Minor amendments to reflect name change from International Emergency Medicine Committee to Global Emergency Care Committee
v7	July-2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Compositional change to enable one Certificant, Diplomate or Advanced Diplomate.</li> <li>Substantial changes to responsibilities to align with ACEM Strategic Plan 2022-2024, GECCo 2022-2024 Work Plan and ACFID Code of Conduct</li> <li>Extent of authority amended to reflect change in governance with regard to ACEM Foundation</li> <li>Reporting line to ACEM Foundation removed</li> <li>Specific requirements for appointment of members, including supernumerary members.</li> </ul>
v8	Aug-2024	Inclusion of 'Associate' to 'Certificant, Diplomate or Advanced Diplomate' to reflect membership category changes; removal of reference to GEC New Business Development Fund; removal of compliance with ACFID; inclusion of ex-officio requirements on other College entities. Inclusion of International Affiliates as eligible for supernumerary membership.
V8.1	Apr-2025	Reinstatement of community member position