PART I: Greetings

The International Federation for Medical and Biological Engineering (IFMBE) is primarily a federation of national medical and transnational societies. These professional organizations represent interests in and biological engineering. The IFMBE is also a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) for the United Nations and the World Health Organization (WHO), where we are uniquely positioned to influence the delivery of health care to the world through Biomedical and Clinical Engineering.

The IFMBE’s objectives are scientific and technological as well as educational and literary. Within the field of medical, biological and clinical engineering IFMBE’s aims are to encourage research and application of knowledge, and to disseminate information and promote collaboration. The ways in which we disseminate information include: organizing World Congresses and Regional Conferences, publishing our flagship journal *Medical & Biological Engineering & Computing* (MBEC), our web-based newsletter – *IFMBE News*, our Congress and Conference Proceedings, and books. The ways in which we promote collaborations is through networking programs, workshops and partnerships with other professional groups, e.g., Engineering World Health.

The IFMBE joins the International Organization for Medical Physicists (IOMP) in a Union called the International Union for Physical and Engineering Sciences in Medicine (IUPESM). These organizations coordinate the *World Congress on Medical Physics and Biomedical Engineering* every three years. The next World Congress will be held in Beijing, China in May, 2012.