

MACP AGM 2026

IFOMPT Annual Report

Report	IFOMPT
Committee Member	Dr Tim Noblet
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This report summarises IFOMPT's principal developments during 2026 and highlights MACP's contribution to international standards, advanced practice, professional engagement and preparations for Vancouver 2028.

IFOMPT President's Reflection 2025

Paolo Sanzo, IFOMPT President, described 2025 as a year of strategic growth, global connection and shared purpose. A major focus was development of IFOMPT's new strategic plan, alongside substantial work on policy, governance and strategic initiatives.

IFOMPT also expanded how it communicates and educates internationally through translated educational outputs and webinars, a new podcast initiative and development of a more accessible and contemporary website. Strengthening the global community through outreach, advocacy and support for existing and emerging organisations remained central, underpinned by accessibility, inclusivity and meaningful knowledge exchange across different cultural and healthcare contexts.

During 2026, several of these strategic priorities have moved into implementation.

1 Strategic Development and Governance

IFOMPT has continued to develop a more globally representative and participatory organisational structure. Its work is now organised around two principal committees - Standards and Business and Finance - two working groups for Marketing and Communication and Membership Development, and six task forces addressing Standards Review, Constitutional Review, Equity Diversity and Inclusion, Learning and Professional Development, Manual and Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy Advocacy, and Environmental Sustainability.

Regular Team Talks and Town Halls continue to enable Member Organisations (MOs) to contribute to strategic development, standards, governance and future organisational direction.

The significant constitutional reform undertaken during 2025 has also progressed to implementation. The Constitutional Review Task Force undertook extensive consultation, including two Town Hall meetings during 2026. Following this process, constitutional amendments were formally approved at the inaugural annual meeting of the Delegate Assembly in June 2026, alongside approval of IFOMPT's 2025 financial statements.

As part of IFOMPT's legal obligations as an incorporated society in New Zealand, an Annual General Meeting is now required. The General Meeting associated with the biennial conference will remain the principal opportunity for the international community to meet and conduct business in person, supplemented by an annual Delegate Assembly meeting.

2 Contemporary IFOMPT Standards

Development of the Contemporary IFOMPT Standards remains one of IFOMPT's most important areas of work.

The Standards Review Committee has continued developing the new standards, with substantial discussion during IFOMPT Africa in Cape Town regarding their structure, content and future implementation. A draft is anticipated to be circulated to Member Organisations for consultation later in 2026. Progress towards implementation has been slower than initially anticipated because associated governance, accreditation and quality-assurance arrangements also require development.

The Standards Committee has additionally developed policies to provide a more consistent and transparent approach to international standards monitoring, with the first reviews underway. Michael Boni (Canada) and Bert Mutsaers (the Netherlands) have joined the Committee during 2026.

This work is particularly important to MACP given its longstanding role in postgraduate MSK education and relationship with IFOMPT educational standards. MACP will need to engage fully with consultation once the Contemporary Standards are released.

3 IFOMPT Africa Cape Town 2026

A major development was the inaugural IFOMPT Africa event in Cape Town in April 2026 - IFOMPT's first regional event. It was organised with the South African Member Organisation and support of the South African Society of Physiotherapy.

The programme included pre- and post-seminar courses, an Africa Outreach Day involving representatives from several African countries, and a two-day scientific seminar. It provided an important platform for clinical and academic exchange while supporting IFOMPT's wider objective of strengthening engagement and collaboration across Africa.

Development of the Contemporary IFOMPT Standards featured prominently, with considerable interest from participating organisations regarding their future implementation. The scientific seminar was professionally recorded and subsequently made available through the IFOMPT Learning Zone.

MACP contribution

MACP had a visible presence at IFOMPT Africa. Laura Finucane and Tim Noblet delivered presentations on behalf of MACP, including presentation of MACP's portfolio approaches to advanced practice recognition.

The presentations generated positive discussion about the international application of portfolio-based advanced practice recognition, with several organisations expressing interest in the MACP and iMACP models.

This represents an important opportunity for MACP to contribute its experience in advanced MSK practice, education and professional recognition to international workforce development.

4 Equity Diversity and Inclusion

The IFOMPT Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Task Force completed its work during 2026, culminating in adoption of the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Position Statement - Guiding Principles for an Inclusive IFOMPT.

The framework establishes five interconnected principles:

- Promote justice-driven action
- Amplify under-represented voices
- Reflect and evolve practice
- Foster belonging
- Inclusive decision-making

The framework conceptualises equity as fairness, diversity as representation and inclusion as belonging.

Importantly, IFOMPT positions EDI not as a standalone initiative but as an organisational commitment integrated into leadership, embedded within decision-making and reflected throughout programmes and partnerships. This is increasingly relevant as IFOMPT expands across diverse cultural, professional and healthcare contexts.

5 Global Membership and Development

IFOMPT continues to expand its international community and support countries progressing towards formal involvement. The Advisory Group on Membership Development is working with countries seeking to progress towards Registered Interest Group (RIG) and ultimately Member Organisation status.

Two significant developments occurred in 2026:

- Türkiye was approved as a new RIG in May 2026.
- Singapore was approved as a new IFOMPT Member Organisation by the Delegate Assembly in June 2026.

These developments demonstrate continued expansion of IFOMPT's geographical reach and complement the increased focus on engagement across Africa.

6 Advanced Practice and International Recognition

International interest in Advanced Practice (AP) recognition continues to grow, providing an important area for MACP contribution.

MACP's portfolio routes to advanced practice recognition are increasingly being considered as a potential model for international workforce development and credentialling. MACP continues to contribute to global discussions concerning advanced practice, specialist recognition, educational standards and professional development pathways.

The response at IFOMPT Africa reinforced the potential for MACP and iMACP portfolio approaches to support recognition in countries where established postgraduate pathways or formal advanced MSK practice structures may be less developed.

This provides an opportunity for MACP to share its experience in standards, credentialling and advanced MSK practice while supporting approaches appropriately adapted to different international contexts.

7 IFOMPT 2028 Reach the Summit Vancouver

Planning continues for the IFOMPT 2028 Conference - Reach the Summit, which will take place in Vancouver, Canada, from 1 to 3 June 2028. Development of the scientific and professional programme is gathering momentum, informed by international consultation around themes, priorities, speakers and conference formats.

Of particular significance to MACP, Professor Lisa Roberts has been selected to represent the UK on the IFOMPT Vancouver 2028 Scientific Committee, following a competitive international recruitment and selection process. IFOMPT reports that 18 candidates applied, with five international members ultimately selected for the Scientific Committee. Professor Lisa Roberts' appointment provides important UK

representation in shaping the scientific programme and ensuring that UK expertise contributes directly to the development of this major international MSK physiotherapy conference.

The conference website is now live, and the MACP will continue to promote opportunities for members to contribute to the scientific programme, submit research and participate in Vancouver 2028.

8 Communication Education and Engagement

IFOMPT continues to broaden how members access education and engage with the organisation. Developments include translated educational materials and webinars, a new podcast initiative, continued development of the IFOMPT Learning Zone, and introduction of a new website.

Team Talks and Town Halls remain important mechanisms for dialogue between IFOMPT and Member Organisations, particularly around constitutional reform, standards and strategic direction.

9 MACP Contributions and Priorities

MACP remains an active contributor to IFOMPT. Key areas during 2026 include:

- UK representation within IFOMPT, Team Talks, Town Halls and Delegate Assembly activity.
- Contribution to development and discussion of the Contemporary IFOMPT Standards.
- Representation and presentations at the inaugural IFOMPT Africa event.
- Promotion of MACP and iMACP portfolio routes as potential models for international recognition of advanced MSK practice.
- Contribution to international discussions concerning advanced practice, specialist recognition, education and professional development.
- Engagement with countries interested in developing advanced MSK practice structures.
- Professor Lisa Roberts' appointment as the UK representative on the IFOMPT Vancouver 2028 Scientific Committee, providing direct UK input into development of the international scientific programme.
- Continued contribution to IFOMPT strategic and governance consultations.

MACP Executive input is likely to be required during forthcoming consultation on the Contemporary IFOMPT Standards. Appropriate mechanisms will therefore be needed to circulate information and ensure MACP member and Executive views are represented effectively, an action specifically identified in the June IFOMPT update.

10 Looking Ahead

IFOMPT is moving from a period dominated by strategic planning and organisational reform towards implementation of several major initiatives.

For MACP, priorities will include engaging fully with the Contemporary IFOMPT Standards consultation, supporting the continued international development of iMACP, contributing UK expertise to international advanced practice discussions, strengthening relationships with emerging MOs and RIGs, and encouraging UK participation in Vancouver 2028.

The success of IFOMPT Africa and growing international interest in advanced practice recognition also provide an opportunity for MACP to contribute beyond its established educational role. Its experience in standards, credentialling and advanced MSK practice can support wider international professional development while enabling MACP to learn from the diverse approaches represented across IFOMPT.

MACP therefore remains an active and influential member of the IFOMPT community, contributing to evolving standards, international development and strategic direction while ensuring that UK MSK physiotherapy is strongly represented within global discussions.

Dr Tim Noblet

MACP UK Member Organisation Delegate to IFOMPT

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