

ICOH 2024

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34th International Congress on Occupational Health

28 April to 3 May 2024

Palais des Congrès - Marrakesh - Morocco



First announcement

Enhancing Occupational Health Research and Practices

Closing the Gaps!

Hosted by :



MARRAKESH AWAITS TO WELCOME YOU!

Key dates

Early Bird
Registration Opens
March 2023

Call for
Abstracts Opens
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Message from the ICOH President

The International Commission on Occupational Health (ICOH) is the oldest scientific association in the field of occupational health and safety, founded in 1906.

As of 2022, ICOH has approximately 2000 Individual and Collective members from over 100 countries worldwide. ICOH is an NGO recognized by the United Nations and has a close working relationship with the International Labour Organization and World Health Organization.



The ICOH Triennial Congress, regularly held since its foundation, is comprehensive, diverse, and professionally informative, because it is a harmonized conference of its 38 Scientific Committees. The integrated, up to date new knowledge and information disseminated during the Congresses have enriched the participants' professional careers.

Participants in these Congresses include physicians, nurses, epidemiologists, hygienists, toxicologists, psychologists, ergonomists, economists, social workers, administrative staff, government officers and public servants, etc.

As the President of ICOH, I would like to invite any and all professionals who work in the field of OSH regardless of their backgrounds to join us. Let's meet and exchange our wisdom in the thousand year old, historical city of Marrakesh Morocco in April 2024.

Professor Seong-Kyu Kang
President of ICOH

Organisers

The Moroccan Occupational Health Association (MOHA), the Faculty of Medicine and Pharmacy, University Hassan II of Casablanca (FMPC) and the Occupational Health Unit (USAT) of FMPC, in conjunction with the International Commission on Occupational Health (ICOH), have gathered their skills and experience to host the 34th International Congress on Occupational Health in 2024.



Scientific Programme

Throughout the six-day programme will include all the traditional features of ICOH Congresses: plenary, semi-plenary, special and oral sessions, the policy forum, poster presentations, workshops and symposia. Participants will share and discuss present and future challenges and opportunities in the fields of occupational health.

The extensive and interactive programme will enable local, regional and global initiatives and research to be shared with the delegates from around the world to build networks and legacies that will extend beyond the Congress.

Be sure to register your interest on www.icoh2024.ma to receive more information and updates about the scientific programme.



Invitation Letter

Dear distinguished guests,

The Moroccan Occupational Health Association (MOHA) and the Faculty of Medicine and Pharmacy, University Hassan II of Casablanca (FMPC), cordially invite you to participate in the 34th Congress of the International Commission on Occupational Health, ICOH2024, which will be held from **28 April to 3 May 2024, in Marrakesh, Morocco**. The year 2024 marks a significant milestone in ICOH members' reunion after the COVID-19 pandemic as the ICOH2024 Congress gathering will be held physically in Morocco, and planning and preparations are underway.

Throughout the Congress, we seek to develop innovative ways of exploring the theme **"Enhancing Occupational Health Research and Practices: Closing the Gaps!"** with the primary objective of positioning these discussions within the context of broader expertise in occupational safety and health (OSH) and scrutinizing the gaps in terms of both research and practices to discover the best possible solutions to closing them.

The six-day Congress will bring together an interdisciplinary group of scholars, graduate students, researchers, experienced professionals, decision-makers and managers who will share their best practices and research discoveries that will certainly shape the future of our field and help raise the standards of occupational health in the land of graciousness, Morocco, which has long been known for its legendary hospitality. A warm welcome, magnificent landscapes and a secular culture await you!

The ICOH2024 Congress will offer the opportunity to reunite with you physically in a way to continue the ICOH tradition of more than a hundred years and to learn about new developments, and to highlight the recent progress in occupational health.

We are looking forward to welcoming you for a special time in the 'Red City', Marrakesh, to dive into Morocco's most important heritage sites and uncover the secrets of glorious dynasties. Be ready to open your arms to oriental scents and surprises along the way!

Marhaba bikom! Marrakesh awaits you!

Sincerely,

Professor Abdeljalil EL KHOLTI
President of the ICOH2024 Congress

WELCOME TO MOROCCO

We invite you to stay in our Moroccan land that embodies so well the seductions of the East. Its imperial cities, Berber Kasbahs, sumptuous mosques, and gastronomic delights that unravel new flavours at each meal. Its snowy mountain tops and canyons will seduce even those who are unmoved by the unique charms of the desert. Its coastal cities are a genuine haven of rest after visiting the medinas (historical city centres) nestled behind red ochre clay walls and ramparts with inscribed city gates.

We invite you to discover a country turned to the future, a country whose national objective is sustainable development and whose imperative is to put man at the centre of progress in respect and tolerance.

Geography

Morocco is situated on the North-West corner of Africa, only 14 km from Europe. It is bordered in the North by the Strait of Gibraltar and the Mediterranean Sea, in the South by Mauritania, in the East by Algeria, and in the West by the Atlantic Ocean. The Moroccan coast is 3,500 km long.

Tolerance tradition and an open identity on difference

Morocco is a melting-pot of diversified cultures through the successive cohabitation that the Kingdom has known, and this particular trait

created a spirit of tolerance and openness. Today, Islam, Christianity, and Judaism expand spiritually and intellectually together by sharing and passing on their cultures. Their ability to adapt to a permanent evolution of society, to the social, cultural and scientific progress ensures perennial respect.

Safe, secure, and friendly

Morocco is a politically stable, safe and hospitable country and Marrakesh is regarded as the friendliest destination, which hosts each year more than 3,500,000 tourists and 25,000 business travellers.

A modern society

Morocco is decidedly turned to the future. Institutions, female empowerment, social politics are all included. All these aspects and more have been positively influenced by the winds of modernity.

Moroccan Connections

Owing to its location between the Mediterranean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean, Morocco is a meeting place accessible to all continents, thus facilitating the confluence of a large number of participants from Europe, North America, South America, Africa, Asia and Australasia.

Casablanca is directly connected to 13 major international hubs, allowing flights from Morocco to cover, in less than one stop, more than 170 country in the world.

Twenty-six airline companies operate to and from **Marrakesh**, offering direct flights to 60 cities and a total of 630 international flights per week.



Moroccan OSH Context

The Kingdom of Morocco is committed to meeting the challenges of the twenty-first century by making sustainable development a true social project and a new model of development under the enlightened impetus of His Majesty the King, Mohammed VI.

Enshrined in a new and extensive dynamic of economic and social policies, Morocco has launched in the course of the last two decades a wide spectrum of sectorial and regional projects that make it a country determinedly moving towards the future and towards further openness. The promotion of OSH is part of this dynamic.

Since 2004, with the revision of the Labour Code, and in particular the provisions relating to health and safety at work, and the new law on compensation for accidents at work in 2014, the ratification of the ILO's Convention 187, the Government, in consultation with the social partners and stakeholders, has committed itself to improving OSH, and more broadly, the working conditions. The creation of the 'National Institute for Working Life', mandated to galvanise the national strategy for the prevention of occupational risks, is one of the most important actions.

Morocco has developed an integrated action plan whose provisions will help make safer workplaces for the workforce of around 10 million workers.

More than 1,400 occupational physicians provide occupational health medical coverage. Morocco is positioned as a regional and continental leader in several sectors such as phosphate extraction and the export of fertilizers, manufacturer of automobile and aeronautics, as well as tourism, agriculture, and the food industry. The green economy represents a new pillar of industrialization in Morocco with investment in the production of green energy.

In addition, Morocco published its 'National Profile for Occupational Health and Safety', which served as a guideline for the 'National Policy of Occupational Health and Safety 2020-2024'. Policy whose objective is to establish the necessary changes in order to build the foundations of a shared vision for coherent and effective public action, in favor of economic and social rights of employees in both the public and private sectors. One of the major transformations that Morocco is experiencing in the health field is to ensure social coverage for all Moroccans, which will allow artisans and informal workers to benefit from large-scale health services.

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WELCOME TO MARRAKESH

Marrakesh, a never-to-be-forgotten experience!

Imperial city at the feet of the snowy high Atlas Mountains, with large ochre walls, Marrakesh offers its visitors moments of eternal memory. Muse of artists and of fashion, renowned place for festivals, celebrities, luxurious palaces and trendy nights, touristic capital for more than a century, Marrakesh offers a judicious equilibrium between the treasures of the past and the permanent energy of the living cultures.

Secret strolls in the Medina...

Erected in 1150, the Koutoubia Mosque, unique in the Maghreb, served as the model for the Giralda Mosque in Seville, Spain. In the very heart of the city, the Jemaa El Fna Square, on UNESCO's Masterpieces of Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity listing, is a place of meetings, spectacles and restaurants when dusk is falling.

The seething alleys of the Medina crisscross in the infinity, artisans with an ancestral expertise, souks, goings and comings toward the bread oven, the fountain, the grocer's store, the hammam – all add to the rhythm of daily life. The jewels of architecture are unveiled to you: examples are the Ben Youssef Medersa, attracting students from throughout the Muslim world; the M'Nhebi Palace, museum of contemporary art; the Saadian Tombs, a royal necropolis; and the Bahia Palace and its gardens.

Strolls on foot, by bicycle, by barouche through the gardens and palm groves

The Palm Grove with its 100 000 trees is the occasion for an agreeable stroll by barouche, a horse-drawn carriage. Planted with olive trees, the Menara Gardens, and their 14th century pavilion, against the majestic backdrop of the Atlas Mountains, are a magic place. Finally, the Majorelle Garden, glorified by the famous designer Yves-Saint Laurent, offers a symphony of colours, vegetation, bird twittering and water jets.

Leisure and more...

Marrakesh offers a complete sensory experience that is immediately captivating and thrilling. Whether your interests lie in architecture, museum visits, eating, shopping, getting your adrenaline racing, or just chilling in the gardens, there's something for everyone in this ancient city. Riads (small traditional Moroccan dwellings with an interior garden or courtyard) are ideal for a passionate stay in the Medina. A soak and scrub at the hammam (a traditional bath house) is an age-old ritual of Moroccan life and a quintessential pampering experience of 'calm, vapour, and voluptuousness'. Go shopping in the bustling souks – traditional markets with a labyrinth of narrow streets, partially roofed with makeshift mats piled high, with a wonder of arts, crafts, and workshops. It's impossible not to be captivated by Marrakesh's vibrant colours, heady scents, and inimitable feel. For athletes, nature lovers, epicureans, tourists and business travellers alike - Marrakesh offers you more than 1000 activities to experience and enjoy!

Congress Venue - Palais des Congrès de Marrakesh

The largest convention centre in Morocco, Palais des Congrès de Marrakesh, has played a major role in helping Marrakesh gain a notable reputation as host of international conferences and congresses.

Surrounded by hotels for all budgets and only a few blocks away from the Royal Theatre, the Palais des Congrès is located on a large avenue in the heart of Marrakesh.

The Palais has two auditoria, one ballroom, and 16 meeting rooms which, depending on the size of the audience, can be modified to suit the attendees' requirements, with a total capacity of 3,000 seats. Over 5,000 m² of exhibit halls are integrated in the structure, interconnected and offering exceptional lighting and modern amenities. The Palais offers services that take care of both disabled people and children.

Food courts are conveniently located around the exhibit area.



For further Information

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