



NARC CHAIR AND CHIEF REVIEWER REPORT IOHA BOARD MEETING OCTOBER 2025

NATIONAL ACCREDITATION RECOGNITION COMMITTEE

12 October 2025

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0 Report structure	3
2.0 INTRODUCTION	3
2.1 Committee Mission Statement	3
2.2 Purpose and Activities	3
2.3 NARC Register	3
3.0 COMMITTEE MEMBERS	4
3.1 NARC Leadership 2024-2025	5
4.0 COMMITTEE MEETINGS	5
5.0 NARC CHIEF REVIEWER'S REPORT	5
5.1 Re-accreditations	5
5.2 New Accreditations	5
5.3 Training Sessions	6
5.4 Surveys	6
6.0 CLOSING AND GRATITUDE (from the Chair)	7

1.0 Report structure

This report is a synthesis of the Chair and Chief Reviewer of the NARC.

- Aspects such as committee structure and governance are written by the Chair.
- Aspects of the program recognitions, quality and mentoring are written by the Chief Reviewer.

2.0 INTRODUCTION

2.1 Committee Mission Statement

To promote global respect for and recognition of occupational hygiene credentialing programs conducted by national associations and organisations which meet or exceed the requirements in the IOHA National Accreditation Recognition (NAR) Program.

2.2 Purpose and Activities

To promote the mission by:

- Receiving and reviewing applications from Occupational Hygiene Certification Boards seeking IOHA Recognition or Re-recognition.
- Maintain the NARC procedures to ensure they reflect the current operating framework for the profession and where appropriate, recommend changes for approval by the IOHA Board. The key documents for review are the National Accreditation Recognition Program procedure and the NARC Matrix Assessment Tool.
- Establish communications with prospective national associations with an emphasis on promoting their certification programs for recognition by the NARC.
- Develop a consulting role and support networks which assist countries in their ability to achieve IOHA recognition.
- Maintain the NARC Register listing the national associations and organizations with recognized programs and numbers of certified occupational hygienists globally.

2.3 NARC Register

There were 8073 active certified occupational hygienists globally, excluding retired certified members, belonging to NAR-recognized programs at end of 2025, see figure 1. The BGC has the highest number of certified industrial hygienists (CIH) with 6612 hygienists. The total number were lower than 2024 (8331 certified OH/IH).

Of positive note is that the newly started JIHO that works in Spanish-speaking countries have grown and surpassed many smaller programs in number of certified individuals, showing the need to reach parts of the world previously not covered by specific programs.

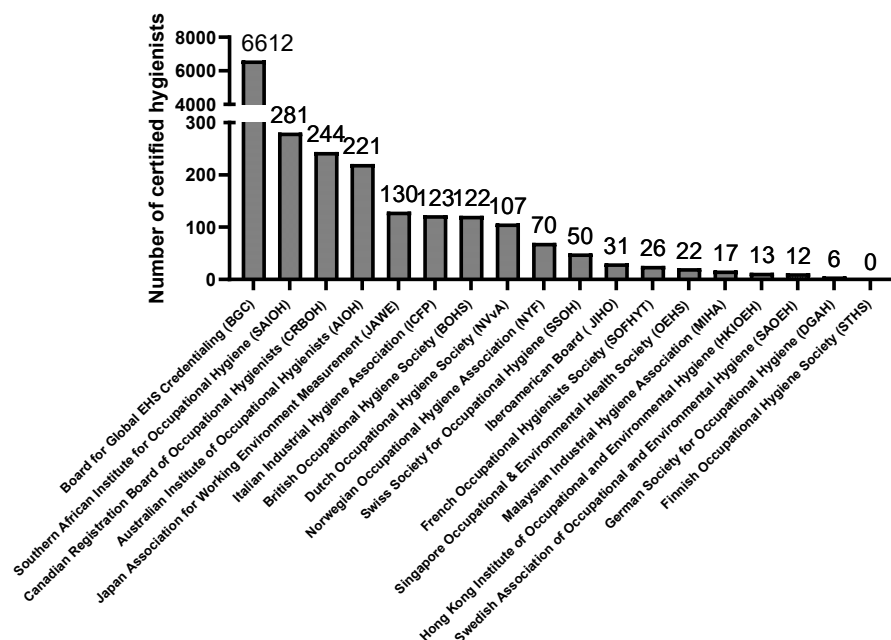


Figure 1. Numbers of certified hygienists in the different NARC National Associations and Organisations

3.0 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The Committee has 18 credentialing organizations recognized by IOHA under the NAR Program. Below are committee members as of October 2025.

NARC member organization 2025	Representative
Australian Institute of Occupational Hygienists (AIOH)	Gavin Wellings
Board for Global EHS Credentialing (BGC)	Cynthia Ozobu
British Occupational Hygiene Society (BOHS)	Len Morris
Canadian Registration Board of Occupational Hygienists (CRBOH)	Matthew Brewer
Dutch Occupational Hygiene Society (NVvA)	Andre Winkes
French Occupational Hygienists Society (SOFHYT)	Pascal Kerneiss
Finnish Occupational Hygiene Society (STHS)	Milja Koponen
German Society for Occupational Hygiene (DGAH)	Christoph Lutermann
Hong Kong Institute of Occupational and Environmental Hygiene (HKIOEH)	Alex Tse
Italian Industrial Hygiene Association (ICFP)	Mariella Carrieri
Iberoamerican Board (JIHO)	Dr Thomas Fuller
Japan Association for Working Environment Measurement (JAWEM)	Haruo Hashimoto
Malaysian Industrial Hygiene Association (MIHA)	Sabrina WanMohamad
Norwegian Occupational Hygiene Association (NYF)	Camilla Solheim Adams
Singapore Occupational & Environmental Health Society (OEHS)	Veronica Chow
Southern African Institute for Occupational Hygiene (SAIOH)	Coorlia Peens
Swedish Association of Occupational and Environmental Hygiene (SAOEH)	Stefan Ljunggren
Swiss Society for Occupational Hygiene (SSOH)	Jean Parrat

3.1 NARC Leadership 2024-2025

NARC-Chair: Stefan Ljunggren Stefan.Ljunggren@regionostergotland.se

NARC Vice-Chair: Camilla Adams camilla@thelmainneklima.no

NARC-Immediate Past Chairs: Kelly Fernandes kelly.fernandes@wsps.ca & Sharann Johnson sharann.johnson@bigpond.com

4.0 COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Committee met monthly (excluding July) during the year using virtual meetings. These meeting generally take 1-1.5 h. No physical meeting during 2025.

5.0 NARC CHIEF REVIEWER'S REPORT

Dr Sharann Johnson AM, COH, FAIOH

The first year of the Chief Reviewer's position has successfully supported the NARC Chair and members to deliver improved and timely assessments of the certification programs. In addition, the sharing of best practice has been achieved through surveys of critical issues in the delivery of certification programs. The achievements for 2025 were:

5.1 Re-accreditations

Lead the review of re-accreditation, and complete within three months.

National Association	Reaccreditation Date
Japanese Association of Working Environment (JAWE)	Aug. 2025
Occupational and Environmental Hygiene Society of Singapore (OEHS)	Aug. 2025
Malaysian Industrial Hygiene Association (MIHA)	Oct. 2025
Hong Kong Institute of Occupational and Environmental Hygiene (HKIOEH)	Nov. 2025*

* *Proposed date at the time of writing the report*

5.2 New Accreditations

Lead the communications with pre reviews and support for the accreditation process:

National Association	Reaccreditation Date
Indonesia Industrial Hygiene Association (IIHA)	Oct. 2025
Sociedad Argentina de Higiene Ocupacional (SAIHO)	Nov. 2025*
Mongolian National Association of Occupational Hygienists (MNAOH)	Nov. 2025*

5.3 Training Sessions

Prior to each accreditation or re-accreditation, the Chief Reviewer leads a training session with the two reviewers, using the NARC Matrix and the national associations documentation. This provides context and guidance on the detail which should be available in the submitted documentation.

5.4 Surveys

In past years, the NARC committee operated with members like silos where very little certification process information was discussed in detail. As a means of improving transparency, sharing best practice and unlocking the wealth of experience and knowledge in the committee members, surveys were conducted in the following areas:

- **Examinations** - Types of examinations offered by national associations such as oral, written (short answer and or MCQ) or combination.

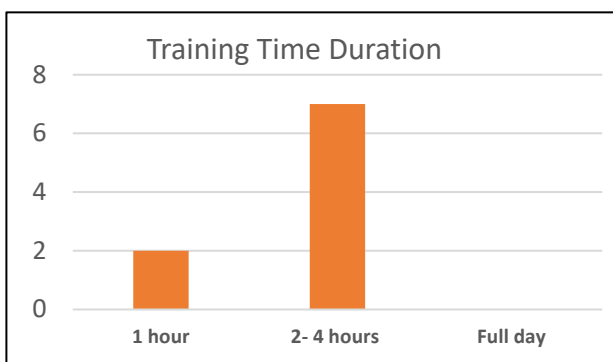
There was a variety of examinations and many were a combination of oral and written.

Types of questions being asked varied from eg Scenario, MCQ to short essays.

- **Ethics – Criteria 1 Codes of Ethics and Administration.**

“The applicant organisation must have an appropriate Code of Ethics in line with the IOHA Code of Ethics, as well as a mechanism for administering it.”

A survey was conducted on Criteria 1 including training, questions in certification examinations as well as disputes resolution. Training was being performed using a variety of processes and ethics questions were included in the examinations. However only five national associations has a disputes resolution process. This is an opportunity to share procedures and support the NARC members.



6.0 CLOSING AND GRATITUDE (from the Chair)

The NAR committee has continued its work with recognition of certification programs throughout the world. Over this year, we have continued to share more information regarding the different programs as a way to improve the understanding and quality of all NAR programs. Furthermore, a more active mentoring of potential new programs to achieve NAR status has led to that we are very close to welcome more programs into the NAR.

Most of the point above could not have happened without Sharann Johnson who took the new role of Chief Reviewer this year. As Chair I want to sincerely thank Dr Sharann Johnson for taking the role so seriously and helping the NAR grew better and hopefully bigger soon. I also want to thank Deputy Chair Camilla Solheim and Past Chair Kelly Fernandes for all their work. Furthermore, I want to send special thanks to the ever helpful Retha van Niekerk who as the IOHA Executive Secretary has provided structure and help whenever needed.

I also want to thank all the members of the NAR for all the work and discussions this year. Lastly thanks also to the IOHA board and the ExCo for their support and guidance during this year.

Stefan Ljunggren

Dr Stefan Ljunggren, COEH, SAOEH