Activities
The Special Interest Group (SIG) meets at least once a year in conjunction with an IHF event:

- GPO / IHF / Industry Dialogue Exchange meetings
- IHF World Hospital Congress
- IHF Hospital & Healthcare Association Leadership Summit

Calendar of events 2014-2015

4-5 November 2014
International Conference: “Transforming Purchaser/Supplier Cooperation to improve healthcare efficiency: A Global Challenge” (Paris, France)

12-14 November 2014
IHF Hospital & Healthcare Association Leadership Summit (Seoul, South Korea)

6-8 October 2015
IHF 39th World Hospital Congress (Chicago, USA)
Background and vision
Goods and purchased services annually in the public and private hospital setting in OECD countries are in excess of 450 billion Euros (US$620 billion).

Understanding of the healthcare supply chain is pivotal to the management of a health care delivery organization.

Against this background, the International Hospital Federation (IHF) in September 2010, formed a working group - Group Purchasing Special Interest Group (GPO-SIG) - dedicated to hospital procurement.

The Special Interest Group serves as a platform for open dialogue at the international level between key Group Purchasing Organizations (GPOs), healthcare decision-makers and industry.

Objectives
The objectives of the Special Interest Group are to:
♦ Create an international network of GPOs
♦ Improve strategic decision-making
♦ Enhance performance of healthcare organizations

Governance
The Special Interest Group has its own governance under the auspice of IHF. Secretariat and coordination of its activities are ensured by Resah-idf on behalf of the Special Interest Group.

The IHF Secretariat provides technical assistance, convenes support and offers its communications network for dissemination of information.

Priority themes
The priority themes of the Special Interest Group have been and will be as follows:
2010-2011
♦ Globalization and tier pricing
♦ Procurement and the green agenda
2012– to date
♦ Managing the procurement of innovation

Information exchanged within the framework of the Special Interest Group’s activities is confidential.

Who can participate?
Membership is automatic through IHF Associate Membership for profit and not-for profit associations and groups of hospitals, private or public institutions involved in healthcare purchasing.

To join the Special Interest Group, please contact:
IHF - sheila.amazonwu@ihf.fihs.org
Resah-idf - c.gandon@resah-idf.com

Founding Members
♦ Resah-idf (France), coordinator
♦ NHS Commercial Solutions (England)
♦ Azienda ULSS N.20 Verona (Italy)
♦ Healthcare Supply Chain Association (United States)

Other Members
♦ Centrale d’achats et d’ingénierie biomédicale University Hospitals of Vaud-Genève (Switzerland)
♦ Centrale des Marchés Mercure (Belgium)
♦ Hospital Authority (Hong Kong)
♦ Entente des Hôpitaux Luxembourgeois (Luxembourg)
♦ University Healthsystem Consortium (USA)
♦ National Private Hospital Association – ANAPH (Brazil)