

## IPA Newsletter Volume 2, Number 1, January, 2007

2006 has been a busy year for the International Pediatric Association. This Newsletter will review highlights of our 2006, include news from our members, and bring greetings from President Adenike Grange and from IPA Executive offices.

### January 2006

- The International Pediatric Association year started off with the production of a [new brochure](#) describing IPA history, membership, governance, and program and action areas. This brochure includes two important new documents. The first is an [IPA Vision, Mission, and Values](#) statement which was crafted by our current Standing Committee.



**President Adenike Grange**

- The second is the [IPA Millennium Call to Action 2005-2015](#). This Call to Action emphasizes the importance of the eight Millennium Development Goals to global child health, recognizes that pediatricians perform many activities which promote the MDGs, and urges the global pediatric community to promote the MDGs in all countries and regions.

- Professor Andreas Constantopoulos of Athens and his colleagues welcomed the IPA Executive Director and Administrative Assistant to Athens in January for a site visit to the [25<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Pediatrics](#) which will be held in Athens from August 25-30, 2007. The Congress will take place in central historic Athens within both sight and walking distance of the Acropolis and other magnificent sites. The venue will be the Athens Convention Centre which includes a concert hall and beautiful meeting rooms with ample room to mix and talk with colleagues from all over the world. Professor Constantopoulos and his colleagues are representing over 5,000 pediatricians from all of our IPA regions. The final scientific program will include



**Andreas Constantopoulos and Jane Schaller, January 2006 - only steps from the Congress site**

exciting and unique sessions such as meet the editors, a ministerial summit, a round table on child survival, and discussions of the Millennium Development Goals. Comprehensive plenaries and symposia, meet the expert sessions, and debates covering topics of maternal, newborn, child, and adolescent health will be of interest to pediatricians from all countries. Special events are planned for our IPA Alumni. The journal Pediatrics will publish a supplement with the top 200 abstracts of the 25<sup>th</sup> Congress for its subscribers all over the world; the deadline for receiving ICP abstracts is February 12, 2007. We anticipate attendance from leaders in academics, international agencies, and governments. The International Congress is not to be missed; we look forward to greeting a wide audience there.

- The IPA President, Executive Director, Administrative Assistant, and representatives of the IPA Professional Congress Organizer were graciously welcomed by our colleagues to Johannesburg South Africa, by 26<sup>th</sup> ICP organizers Peter Cooper (President of UNAPSA), Keith Bolton (Witswaterand University), and South African Pediatric Association President Raziya Bobat. The 26<sup>th</sup> ICP will be the first IPA Congress managed by our Professional Congress Organizer. We were impressed with the proposed site of the Congress, Sandton, an anticipated short train ride from the Johannesburg



**View of the wild, a mere hour from the 2010 Congress site**

International Airport.

The Congress meeting facilities are ample and beautiful, with a wide range of hotels in the immediate area. Our South African colleagues and IPA are planning a fine program which will focus on science and issues of child health as well as providing a unique window on African child health. Magnificent natural

African landscape is close by and there will

be many opportunities to see beautiful Africa first hand. This will be a landmark event, the first IPA Congress to be held in Sub-Saharan Africa.

- IPA was represented at the Executive Board Meeting of the World Health Organization, the meeting that set the agenda for the 2006 World Health Assembly in May.

## February 2006

Two program areas of particular interest to the IPA were highlighted by regional and national meetings:

- IPA Standing Committee member Manuel Moya attended a European Union meeting on childhood obesity in Brussels. The IPA is a founding member of the International Obesity Task Force and the [Alliance for Prevention of Obesity and Chronic Disease](#). A number of meetings on these topics have been held around the world, and wherever possible pediatricians are being included. Other members of the Obesity Task Force and the International Alliance include the International Cardiology and Diabetes Societies and the International Union of Nutritional Sciences. IPA Standing Committee member Ricardo Uauy is the current President of the International Union of Nutritional Sciences, and Standing Committee member Zulfiqar Bhutta has been active in planning for a Lancet series on maternal and child undernutrition which will appear in 2007. Past IPA President Michael Gracey from Australia is an expert on obesity and diabetes in indigenous populations, based on his extensive work with aboriginal peoples of Australia. Nutrition, obesity, and chronic disease will be highlighted in a number of presentations at the 25<sup>th</sup> ICP.

- The Indian Academy of Pediatrics held the first of a series of meetings on HIV/AIDS in Delhi on February 25-26, with the topic "HIV/AIDS - Roadmap for India". The groundwork for this conference had been laid during the IAP National Conference in January 2006 by the National AIDS Control Organization.

The goals of this meeting were to explore training courses for pediatric experts in anti-retroviral therapy and for training master trainers within the IAP, developing a manual for workshops for pediatricians conducting ten such workshops each year, developing course content for general practitioners, and working with the Clinton Foundation to conduct workshops. Collaborators in this meeting were The National AIDS Control Organization, UNICEF, and the Clinton Foundation.



**President Grange and IPA Standing Committee member Manuel Moya of Spain, pediatricians active in the Alliance for Prevention of Obesity and Chronic Disease**

- The IPA Committee on Child Health in Humanitarian Emergency responded to the tragic earthquake in Pakistan at the request of the Pakistan Pediatric Association (PPA) with a series of four courses for Pakistani pediatricians and child health workers in January and February of 2006 in conjunction with the PPA. These courses held in Peshawar and Islamabad and geared to teaching pediatricians basic aspects of disaster management and child health, were ably led by Karen Olness of Case Western Reserve University and Sriwong Pairjokol of Khon Kaen University Thailand. Pakistani pediatricians were also active in earthquake relief, leading and participating in activities from a number of their universities and hospitals. The IPA and its program in child health and humanitarian emergency have been active in training pediatricians in countries from all regions of the world to be prepared to deal with natural or man made disasters affecting children.

### March 2006

- The IPA Executive and Standing Committees met in Geneva with a particular emphasis on program and action areas.

Elizabeth Mason, the Director of WHO Child and Adolescent Health, attended the SC meeting along with her WHO colleagues Martin Weber and Chandra Mouli, and discussed closer working relationships between IPA and WHO Child and Adolescent Health. Martin Weber introduced the new [Pocketbook for Hospital Care](#), an important publication which IPA assisted and endorsed, which is directed to improving standards of facility care at multiple levels in the developing world.

## April 2006

- The IPA endorsed the new WHO Growth Standards for Infants and Young Children. The IPA firmly subscribes to the International code on marketing of breast milk substitutes [IPA Statement on Relations with Industry](#) and fully endorses the importance of exclusive (or predominant) breastfeeding for the first six months of life, continued breastfeeding as possible, and introduction of sound complimentary feeding after the age of six months. This, along with maternal health and absence of risk factors such as tobacco exposure, is the basis for these new growth standards which show that during the first five years of life children from all regions of the world grow in a similar distribution if they are soundly fed and cared for by healthy mothers in healthy environments.



**IPA Standing Committee member Ricardo Uauy of Chile, contributor to the WHO growth standards process**

## May 2006

- Standing Committee members Judy Hall and John Lewy (representing North America), Zulfiqar Bhutta, Ruth Etzel, and Executive Director Jane Schaller represented the IPA at the meeting of the Section on International Child Health of the American Academy of



**IPA Standing Committee member John Lewy, government activist for the American Academy of Pediatrics**

Pediatrics which took place at the Pediatric Academic Societies meeting in San Francisco. Each IPA representative described IPA areas of interest, and IPA requested that the AAP Section on International Child Health discuss how the IPA could best serve the American Academy of Pediatrics' international interests, and how the AAP Section on International Child Health could best relate to the IPA. In addition we discussed how the AAP Section might address achievement of the Millennium Development Goals for all children in the United States. Relationships

- between the International Pediatric Association, which represents pediatric associations and societies from most countries of the world, and its individual member societies are of great importance to IPA.
- Zulfiqar Bhutta participated in the sessions on Global Child Health Research organized in conjunction with the Pediatric Academic Society meetings by Alvin Zipursky of Toronto.

- The IPA was represented at the World Health Assembly in Geneva by President Grange, President-Elect Chan, Treasurer Cabral, and Executive Committee Member Rahimy. IPA has attended the World Health Assembly regularly since 2002, and when possible has offered formal statements on topics of interest. This year the WHA schedule was disrupted by the untimely death of J.W. Lee, Director General of WHO.
- The IPA was saddened by Dr. Lee's untimely death. We first had the pleasure of meeting him as the head of WHO Stop TB in 2001 when Jeffery Stark and Jane Schaller met with him and other leaders of Stop TB to discuss issues of childhood tuberculosis. Since that time childhood tuberculosis has gained a role within the Stop TB campaign with establishment of an official working committee on childhood tuberculosis. IPA representatives also met with Dr. Lee as WHO Director General at the time of previous World Health Assembly meetings. We have greatly valued his interest in child health and his commitment to the larger issues of maternal and child health which culminated in 2005 when World Health Day was accorded to maternal and child health with the mantra "Make Every Mother and Child Count". The IPA presented a formal statement of condolence on the occasion of his death.

### June 2006

- IPA was represented at the WHO-FIGO Alliance for Women's Health in London. This Alliance joins UN agencies, professional organizations, and NGOs with interests in women's health. Our FIGO colleagues also have interests in girls' and adolescent health, and have now invited IPA to become a formal member of their Alliance. IPA endorsed this idea with enthusiasm. This Alliance also includes representatives of international nursing and midwifery.
- The Canadian Pediatric Society, like the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Royal College of Pediatrics UK, has an active section on international health. Jane Schaller represented IPA at the meeting of the CPS Executive Board and also in the section of international child health at the annual CPS meeting. This meeting included a major presence of the Canadian Association of Paediatric Health Centres which represents those hospitals within Canada devoted to child health. This is an important constituency for IPA: similar children's hospital organizations in other countries should be identified.
- A major meeting of stakeholders in the fields of pediatric pharmacology and pediatrics convened in a side session of the Congress of the International Union of Basic and Clinical Pharmacology (IUPHAR) in China at the end of June 2006. IUPHAR's children's committee is headed by Kalle Hoppu, a pediatric pharmacologist and academician from Helsinki, Finland. Pediatric pharmacologists have also been organized through the National Institute of Child Health and Development in the United States. IPA has had an interest in issues of essential medicines for children starting with a workshop in 1990. We have been meeting with WHO Essential Medicines over the past several years to advocate for action on this issue. During this Shanghai meeting, an alliance was suggested and approved to join the forces of the IPA and the Children's Committee of IUPHAR and other concerned organizations. This Alliance was endorsed by all of those present at the Shanghai meeting, several hundred advocates of better medicines for children drawn from the pharmacology and pharmacy and pediatric worlds. Dr. Xiaohu He, President of the Chinese Pediatric Association, co-chaired the Alliance session.



**Xiaohu He, President of the Chinese Pediatric Association and Stuart MacLeod, pediatric pharmacologist and Professor, Vancouver - Shanghai Better Medicines for Children June 2006**

The name “The International Alliance for Better Medicines for Children” was chosen, and a declaration and basic document were drawn up.

## July 2006

- The IPA was saddened by the sudden death of Dr. Donald Hillman of Canada who contributed, taught, and worked throughout his life on issues of international child health in Africa and South Asia, and who brought these issues home to the industrialized world. Don worked in partnership with his wife Liz Hillman, who is an alumna of the IPA Standing Committee and a long time advocate for IPA. A Donald and Elizabeth Hillman lectureship has been established in Canada; the first lecture will be given by [Zulfiqar Bhutta on February 14, 2007 in Vancouver](#).



Liz and Don Hillman

- SC member Swati Bhave was a co-organizer of a WHO Adolescent Counseling Workshop in New Delhi which was also attended by President Grange and several other leading pediatricians.
- Our colleagues from the Indian Academy of Pediatrics broadened their reach in pediatric AIDS with a seminar on pediatric HIV for neighbouring Asian countries Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, and Sri Lanka. More than 125 invited participants from India and other countries attended. This seminar built on the first technical national consultative meeting on pediatric HIV which the IAP conducted in February in collaboration with their National AIDS Control Organization (NACO) and UNICEF. Please also see the November section for the activities of the Japanese Pediatric Society in HIV/Aids.
- President Adenike Grange and Executive Director Jane Schaller attended the meeting of the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI) board in Washington DC. Considerable effort was spent organizing activities of a Task Team on Civil Society which IPA (representing all NGOs on the GAVI board) was instrumental in creating. Plans were laid for presentation of a formal proposal to the GAVI board at its next meeting.
- The Lao Pediatric Teachers, a national member society of IPA, demonstrated their willingness to advocate for good infant nutrition by pointing out misleading labeling of a condensed milk product which suggested that it was intended for infant feeding. As many Laotian parents do not read, the image



**IPA Member Society: The Lao Pediatric Teachers –Working together for better health and nutrition for all their children**

of a mother bear feeding a baby bear prominently displayed on a condensed milk label is subject to misinterpretation by caregivers. The Lao Pediatric Teachers were alarmed when a severely malnourished infant being cared for by aged grandparents arrived at a care facility with a history of being (mal)nourished on this product. They pursued the company via mail and finally in person, and seemed to win a concession that the mother bear feeding the baby bear would no longer be used on products of this company in Laos. IPA would be interested in hearing from pediatricians in other countries about any sightings of this image of mother bear feeding baby bear on milk products in their countries. We acknowledge the Lao teachers as a new National Member of IPA, and one which shows how an active pediatric society from a small country can make a difference. The Lao Teachers and the Thai Pediatric Association have developed an exchange relationship showing how neighbouring societies can collaborate and assist each other. Our thanks to the Lao Pediatric Teachers for their many activities, and our thanks to the Thai Pediatric Society for a good demonstration of pediatric collegiality!

### August 2006

- The new [Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health](#) (PMNCH) convened representatives of professional society members of the Partnership. Three Standing Committee seats have been accorded to professional societies: IPA (Zulfiqar Bhutta), FIGO (Andre LaLonde of Ottawa), and ICM (Joyce Thompson of Michigan). A number of other professional societies are also members of the Partnership, including the International Council of Nurses, the International Society of Neonatal Nurses, and the International Society of



**IPA Standing Committee member Zulfiqar Bhutta of Pakistan, Executive Committee member M. Cherif Rahimy of Benin, and Consultant in newborn survival and health Vinod Paul of India, pediatricians active in the Partnership for Maternal Newborn and Child Health**

Pharmacists. Representatives of all these groups met in Geneva to define roles and activities of professional societies within PMNCH, a Partnership which joins UN Agencies, governments, major donors, major NGOs, and professional societies in an effort to coordinate and address the most difficult problems of maternal, newborn and child health. The ultimate work of the Partnership will take place at country level, initially targeting key African countries. IPA was well represented at this meeting of professionals by Zulfiqar Bhutta, Jane Schaller, Peter Cooper (Johannesburg, current President of UNAPSA), and M. Cherif Rahimy (Benin, UNAPSA Secretary General and IPA EC member). The acknowledgement of professional groups as active partners and important constituents of the PMNCH is a welcome event. This meeting resulted in a formal document concerning roles of the professional societies; this document was drafted by IPA, and later amended and approved by the entire group. It has now become an official brochure of the Partnership and will be sent to Ministers of Health and country level UNICEF and WHO offices throughout the world. This document mandates that Ministers of Health and country level UNICEF and WHO offices must include professional societies at country

level in planning, implementation, and monitoring of all programs related to the Partnership.

- The WHO Department of Essential Medicines held a technical consultation on essential medicines for children. IPA was represented by Sverre Lie and Jane Schaller; Kalle Hoppu of IUPHAR was also included at the request of IPA. IPA has been meeting with WHO since 2000 to point out the need for consideration of medicines for children in the WHO Essential Drug List and Formulary. We are therefore very pleased that now WHO will move forward on this issue. In attendance at this meeting were several pediatricians and pharmacists representing both developing and industrialized countries; all agreed with the urgent need for more emphasis on medicines for children. IPA and IUPHAR presented the concept of the new International Alliance for Better Medicines for Children. IPA and IUPHAR take the position that any essential medicines list for children and pediatric formulary must be based on an agreed definitions of regional and country level disease burdens and assessment of the best basic medicines needed to address them.



**IPA President-Elect Chok Wan Chan, a tireless representative of IPA at the World Health Assembly and the Asian Regional WHO meetings**

- The regional consultation WHO AFRO in Ethiopia was attended by President Grange and Executive Committee member Rahimy. President-Elect Chok Wan Chan attended the Asia Pacific WHO regional consultation in New Zealand. The regional WHO meetings are of interest and importance to IPA, and we hope that representatives of IPA will attend all regional meetings in 2007.
- Pediatrician Sami Nabulsi sends news from Jerusalem. Dr. Nabulsi is the Chief Pediatrician at the Spafford Children's Centre in old Jerusalem. The Spafford initiative began

in 1881 when the Spafford family

immigrated to the Holy Land with a mission to serve the local population rooted in their deep Christian convictions after a tragedy resulted in the loss of several of their own children. They settled in the building where the Spafford Centre is now located. As more people joined them, they became known as the American Colony and moved to a larger building which became the American Colony Hotel. The old building in the old city of Jerusalem became a school for girls, then a home for children in need, and then the only children's hospital in the old city of Jerusalem. This hospital closed in 1975 and became the current Spafford Children's Centre. The Centre serves 10-20,000 children from East Jerusalem and the West Bank annually with low or no fees. Services include immunization; medical, psychosocial, educational, cultural services to children and families; developmental screening, health education programs, and attention to children with learning disabilities. There are few such services in the region, and the Spafford Centre stands out as an entity that is attempting to help underserved children and families

### September 2006

- The Government of Norway, the Lancet, and UNICEF hosted a symposium in New York coinciding with the UN General Assembly. This meeting highlighted the urgent need for more world attention to child survival if the Millennium Development Goals, particularly MDG 4, are to be met. Featured speakers included a number of international leaders; prominent roles were played by Prime Minister Stoltenberg of Norway, Richard Horton of the Lancet, and Ann Veneman of UNICEF. Zulfiqar Bhutta did an impressive job in a formal question and answer session, and Jane Schaller also attended on behalf of IPA.



IPA has recognized the importance of pediatricians in achieving the Millennium Development Goals, as highlighted in our Millennium Call to Action of 2005. In the coming year we plan to emphasize pediatric action for MDGs at country level. The IPA is a member of the Countdown to 2015 process which will track progress or lack thereof in achieving MDG 4 and suggest needed actions. A number of IPA related pediatricians have been instrumental in this activity including Zulfiqar Bhutta, Vinod Paul of India, and Joy Lawn of South Africa.

- Norway, led by its Prime Minister Stoltenberg, announced major increases in its funding to GAVI, and the planning of a multi billion dollar initiative to target child survival in four large countries: India, Pakistan, Nigeria, and Tanzania. Our IPA Coordinator, Sverre Lie of Oslo, serves as an advisor to this program, and Vinod Paul and the Indian Academy of Pediatrics, Zulfiqar Bhutta and the Pakistan



**Norwegian Ambassador to Nigeria and IPA Coordinator Sverre O. Lie of Norway – together in the Norway Initiative**

Pediatric Association, and Adenike Grange and the Pediatric Association of Nigeria have all been important participants in drafting country plans.

- The IPA endorsed an [important document](#) which has become an official document of the European Union concerning infant and young child feeding. This document was drafted by pediatrician Adriano Cattaneo and his colleagues at the Burlo Trieste Centre for Child Health which is led by IPA Standing Committee member Georgio Tamburlini.
- Regretfully, the regional meeting of the [Asia Pacific Pediatric Association](#), excellently planned by our colleagues from Sri Lanka, was postponed until March 2007 because of unrest in Sri Lanka. Many of our colleagues around the world this year have been troubled by natural or man made disasters which have made the work of pediatricians and their societies more difficult.
- The International Pediatric Chairs, an organization formed in 2001 to include Pediatric Chairs and academic leaders of countries all over the world, had an ad hoc Organizing Committee meeting in Vancouver to lay plans for formal elections and adoption of bylaws at the Athens Congress in August 2007. The IPCA hopes that pediatric chairs and academic leaders, from all regions will join in this organization which will address issues of teaching and training in pediatrics and child health throughout the world.

### October 2006

- IPA was represented at the American Academy of Pediatrics in Atlanta by President Grange, Treasurer Cabral, and 25<sup>th</sup> ICP President Constantopoulos.
- The Central Asian Pediatric Societies (formerly called the Turkic Speaking Societies) met in Baku, Azerbaijan, with IPA Standing Committee member Kadriye Yurdakok and past IPA Standing Committee member Enver Hasanoglu representing IPA, and Jane Schaller an invited plenary speaker. This meeting was of particular interest to IPA as our Central Asian colleagues drafted a Baku Declaration committing to breast feeding and immunization as key areas of MDG 4 activity for the coming year.

The European Pediatric Societies met at the Europediatrics meeting in Barcelona.

- IPA Standing and Executive Committees met in Abuja Nigeria under the gracious hosting of our President Adenike Grange. Prior to these meetings a Forum on Nigerian and



African child health attracted the Minister of Health of Nigeria and resulted in the President of Nigeria accepting the role of Patron of Nigerian Child Watch Africa. Ruth Etzel, Chair of the IPA Children's Environmental Health Committee and Joy Lawn of Saving Newborn Lives were guest speakers and workshop leaders during the Forum. Some 50 members of the Pediatric Association of Nigeria and representatives of several other African countries were in attendance. Dr. Etzel reviewed the African meeting on [Children's Environmental Health in Nairobi](#) October 2005 and announced that similar regional conferences on children's environmental health would take place in New Delhi in February

**President Grange dressed to visit the President of Nigeria, where she requested a meeting of Nigerian stakeholders in child survival and child health**

2007 and Haiti in June 2007. Dr. Lawn highlighted the opportunities for pediatricians to address issues

of newborn survival and health as part of the IPA Global Movement of Pediatricians for Newborn Survival and Health, and presented the [December 2005 Declaration of UNAPSA](#) on this matter.

## November 2006

- The annual meeting of the Childhood TB Sub-Group took place on November 1 in Paris at the time of the International Union against TB and Lung Disease (IUATLD) annual meeting. Since the year 2000, IPA has been working along with the Child Lung Health Group of the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease to bring childhood tuberculosis into the scheme of WHO tuberculosis programs. This has resulted in the formation of a working group within Stop TB which is currently chaired by Robert Gie of South Africa. IPA representatives Jeffrey Stark of Baylor University, Anna Mandalakas of Case Western Reserve University, and Jane Schaller have represented IPA in this endeavor, as have other IPA pediatric TB experts including Zai Fang Ziang of China, Clemax St. Ana of Brazil, and Philipa Musoka of Uganda. This working group has now written [official WHO guidelines](#) for childhood TB. This is a major step forward for children, and one that IPA takes pride in having played a major role in starting. The Child TB Working Group continues to work on issues of treatment and availability of suitable anti-tuberculosis drugs for children.
- Standing Committee member Judy Hall attended a conference in Morocco organized by the Ministry of Health of Morocco and the NICHD (National Institute of Child Health and Development of the NIH) on newborn screening and birth defects in the developing world. The March of Dimes has recently released a report suggesting that a significant percentage of child death and disability in the developing world is related to birth defects and genetic defects, and pointed out that this has been a neglected issue. This meeting resulted in the Marrakech Declaration which seeks collaborative network of stakeholders to address these neglected issues.

- [“Opportunities for African Newborns”](#), a document developed by the Saving Newborn Lives network and endorsed by IPA, was launched at the Pan African Parliament meeting in Johannesburg. IPA acknowledges the collegiality of Joy Lawn, Vinod Paul and Garry Darmstad, pediatricians with major roles in Saving Newborn Lives, who have assisted with starting the IPA Global Movement of Pediatricians for Newborn Health, and also of Ann Tinker, Executive Director of Saving Newborn Lives, who has been a valued colleague within the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health.



**IPA Program leaders: Joy Lawn, South Africa, Newborn Survival; Ruth Etzel, USA, Children’s Environmental Health – both led excellent workshops during the Abuja meeting**

- The Triennial Congress

of IPA Regional Society member ALAPE was held in the Dominican Republic. Alberto Bissot, the outgoing President of ALAPE, has represented ALAPE on the IPA Standing Committee during this triennium.

- FIGO held its international congress in Kuala Lumpur. IPA was represented by Zulfiqar Bhutta who participated in a joint session with FIGO, Saving Newborn Lives, and PMNCH on collaborative efforts for maternal, newborn and child health. President Grange, also an invited speaker, could not attend. This was the first time we recall that IPA has collaborated in a FIGO Congress. The IPA will reciprocate at our 25<sup>th</sup> ICP with FIGO President Dorothy Shaw as a plenary speaker to discuss collaborations in maternal and child health.
- The Japanese Pediatric Society, in conjunction with UNICEF Japan, presented a conference on HIV/AIDS in children which was well attended by stakeholders from a number of professions and communities. Adenike Grange and Jane Schaller were invited speakers. We congratulate the Japanese, Indian, and Thai Pediatric Associations, and all others among us who have called attention to the difficult issues of HIV/AIDS in children. This will be a featured topic at the 25<sup>th</sup> ICP in the summer of 2007, with a plenary lecture by Mark Kline of the Baylor AIDS program and a symposium including a number of world leaders in pediatric HIV/AIDS.



**Pediatric Aids: Conference of Japanese Pediatric Society and UNICEF. IPA President Grange, IPA Standing Committee Member Yoshikato Eto, IPA Executive Director Schaller – Tokyo November 2006**



- The International Children's Centre (ICC), based in Ankara Turkey under the leadership of Münevver Bertan and Ihsan Dogramaci, convened its annual Council meeting in Bilkent, Turkey. This organization includes stakeholders from a wide range of government, academic, United Nations, and professional groups to address broad issues of child health and child welfare, particularly as they pertain to Turkey and Central Asia. Tomris Turmen was elected ICC President by acclaim. The ICC Council includes IPA Executive Committee member Ashfaq Ahmad Khan, President Grange, Executive Director Schaller, and former IPA Officers and Committee member Niilo Hillman of Finland.
- The GAVI board meeting in Berlin featured a presentation by President Grange on the proposal of the GAVI CSO Task Force on supporting activities of civil society organizations at country level in GAVI immunization programs. This proposal was built on a lot of hard work which took place with conference calls and Task Team meetings in Geneva beginning in November 2005. The GAVI Board adopted our proposal, and voted to fund it over the next two years. The task of operationalizing this initiative now requires continuing intensive work. Congratulations to President Grange for her leadership with this initiative, and to other members of the Task Team including pediatricians Mark Kane and Jane Schaller, Simon Mphuka representing the Church Association of Zambia, James Cheyne of PATH, and members of the GAVI Secretariat. Support for civil society activities from an international Partnership like GAVI is an important step forward. Please note that civil society organizations include pediatric associations which will be able to apply for these funds at country level.

#### December 2006

- IPA is winding down its activities of 2006 and looking forward to 2007. We are working with 25<sup>th</sup> ICP President Andreas Constantopoulos on finalizing the program for the 25<sup>th</sup> ICP. We are working with WHO Child and Adolescent Health to structure a more formal relationship between IPA and child related activities at WHO. And we are laboring to have our newly designed IPA website operational early in the New Year with the able assistance of SC member Kevin Forsythe and his colleagues at Flinders University.
- IPA has been attentive to a request from our colleagues in ALAPE that major IPA documents be translated into Spanish. This process has begun with production of the [IPA Constitution in Spanish](#). The IPA Constitution has also been translated into French. In the future IPA will do its best to live up to its status as a tri-lingual organization, while acknowledging many members of our member societies also speak and read other languages. IPA will do our best to assist with requested translations, with the caveat that IPA does not have unlimited funds to translate all documents. Any expert assistance available from linguistic groups will be most welcome in this regard.

The IPA Newsletter always seeks news from Member Societies and from individual pediatricians around the world. We plan to produce this newsletter quarterly in 2007. Please send any materials you would like to see in our Newsletter to [jschaller@cw.bc.ca](mailto:jschaller@cw.bc.ca) with a copy to IPA Administration Office at [adminoffice@ipa-world.org](mailto:adminoffice@ipa-world.org).

#### Upcoming Events for 2007 include:

- January 22<sup>nd</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> [WHO Executive Board Meeting](#)
- March 12<sup>th</sup> -15<sup>th</sup> [Asian Pacific Pediatric Association](#)
- May 22<sup>nd</sup> -27<sup>th</sup> World Health Assembly
- [25<sup>th</sup> ICP Athens Greece - August 25-20<sup>th</sup>](#)
- [Regional WHO meetings:](#)
  - August 20<sup>th</sup> -23<sup>rd</sup> Bhutan - Regional Committee for South-East Asia: sixtieth session
  - August 27<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> Brazzaville - Regional Committee for Africa: fifty-seventh session

- September 10<sup>th</sup> -14<sup>th</sup> Jeju Island, Republic of Korea - Regional Committee for the Western Pacific: fifty-eighth session
- September 17<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> Belgrade - Regional Committee for Europe: fifty-seventh session
- October 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Washington, DC - Regional Committee for the Americas: fifty-ninth session
- October 20<sup>th</sup> -23<sup>rd</sup> Khartoum - Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean: fifty-fourth session



**25<sup>th</sup> ICP President Andreas Constantopoulos and his hard working ICP program committee. We look forward to seeing pediatricians from all IPA Member Societies in Athens August 25-20, 2007**



**The two 25<sup>th</sup> ICP Presidents – Adenike Grange of IPA and Andreas Constantopoulos of the Hellenic Pediatric Society – waiting to greet you in person in Athens August 25-30, 2007**