



**International
Pediatric
Association**

Every Child • Every Age • Everywhere

International Pediatric Association Newsletter

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Message from the President



It is with great honor and gratitude that I address to you as the President of the International Pediatric Association (IPA), the only umbrella organization representing more than 1 million pediatricians from 165 professional societies in over 150 countries. I would like to express my sincere

appreciation to Dr. Enver Hasnoglu, the Immediate Past President, and all the former members of the Standing Committee for their exceptional leadership and unwavering dedication in achieving the organization's objectives.

In 2021, following a two-decade interval, our Strategic Planning Consultant, Dr. Pallavi Thacker, initiated a thorough and inclusive process of Strategic Planning under the guidance of the IPA Standing Committee. This comprehensive endeavor encompassed an organizational assessment, SWOT analysis, Member Societies Satisfaction Survey and interviews with the Presidents of similar organizations. Six [Strategic Priorities](#) were identified, focusing on advocating for children's well-being at every stage of life, strengthening and empowering pediatric workforce and pediatric societies, fostering collaboration with similar healthcare professional organizations and promoting equity, diversity and inclusion in the IPA leadership. This was presented in the Council of Delegates Meeting held during the IPA Congress 2023. The overarching theme for the term 2023-2025 is "Reaching Every Child Every Age Everywhere," emphasizing our commitment to ensuring comprehensive care for children across

all locations and stages of development. Our goal is to establish functional member societies in every country and to connect one million pediatricians through a single click. An IPA Digital Academy and office automation is in the implementation phase to take this agenda forward. The [IPA Call to Action & Commitments](#) which was released during the IPA Congress has its special focus on the entire life course from childbirth to late adolescents along with the cross-cutting areas of Immunization, Environment & Climate Change, Early Child Development, Humanitarian and children in crisis settings, Quality of care of every child everywhere.

IPA has been actively working to strengthen our network and expand our reach to better serve our members. In April, 2023, IPA participated in the 2nd Global Forum on Childhood Pneumonia, held at CaixaForum Madrid, Spain. This forum brought together senior health ministry officials from countries burdened by childhood pneumonia, leading representatives from the Spanish Government, donor governments, foundations, NGOs, academic institutions, and the private sector. The purpose was to accelerate efforts to reduce pneumonia deaths and boost national child survival progress.

Dr. Enver, the former president of IPA, and I personally visited the earthquake-ravaged areas in Turkey's Hatay region. Following our visit, we took the lead in establishing a disaster relief fund on behalf of the International Pediatric Association. I will be visiting Earthquake affected areas of Syria in November 2023.

In May 2023, after a gap of 20 years, a retreat for the IPA Standing Committee was organized in



Message from the President

Athens, Greece. The purpose of this retreat was to identify future initiatives, foster bonding among the standing committee members, strengthen the team dynamic, and establish a collective vision for IPA. A carefully crafted work plan was devised to align seamlessly with the identified six Strategic Priorities serving as a solid foundation for driving the activities in the future.

Another significant event was IPA's participation in the first biennial International Maternal Newborn Health Conference (IMNHC) held from May 8 to 11, 2023 in Cape Town, South Africa. This conference, organized by AlignMNH in collaboration with the maternal and newborn health community, provided a valuable platform for engagement. I had the privilege of participating in a panel discussion on future actions and plans alongside organizations such as WHO, UNFPA, ICM, UNICEF, and FIGO.

Furthermore, I had the honor of representing IPA at the Seventy-Sixth World Health Assembly held in Geneva, Switzerland, from May 21 to 30, 2023. IPA submitted its statement on Agenda items 13.1 Universal health coverage and 13.2 political declaration of the third high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases and mental health. We also participated in several side events, further strengthening our role in advocating for child health at the global level.

IPA recognizes the importance of addressing program areas of work that span the spectrum of childhood and adolescents. Since 2000, IPA program areas have evolved with each term alongside the shifting global emphasis on health

and well-being. They represent critical areas for action to improve the health of all children and youth through capacity building, advocacy, research, and educational support, working with member societies. IPA has now established 11 program area committees and 15 working groups, each dedicated to content such as immunization, infectious diseases, nutrition, non-communicable diseases, adolescent health, environmental health and more. These program areas serve as platforms for experts from around the globe to contribute their vast knowledge and experience, united in their mission to bring about positive transformations in the health of every child.

As we move forward, let us remember the power of unity, collaboration, and advocacy. Together, we can shape the future of pediatric healthcare and improve the lives of countless children. I look forward to more joint activities to promote policies and programs that support child health, and to raise awareness of the importance of child and adolescent health issues.

Dr. Naveen Thacker
IPA President



From Executive Director's Desk



Dear distinguished fellow colleagues,

It is a tremendous honor for me to carry the duties and responsibilities as the IPA Executive Director for a second term. Following the election at the Council of Delegates Meeting and IPA Congress 2023 in Gandhinagar, India, we introduced the elected IPA Officers, Executive Committee (EC), and Standing Committee (SC) members for 2023-2025 to all member societies through our IPA's social media platforms. Messages from the IPA President, President-Elect, and Executive Director can be read exclusively in the About Us section on the [IPA Website](#).

The IPA last held a strategy planning retreat in Mafflier in 2002. This year the IPA SC held a second, successful Standing Committee Retreat in Athens, Greece, on 5-6th May 2023 to develop strategies to achieve the shared vision of IPA. Twenty-five of 28 SC members attended the retreat. The second IPA SC meeting of this term was held in the afternoon of the 2nd day, where discussions were held on By-Laws, program areas and the way forward to achieving IPA's vision for "Every Child, Every Age, Everywhere."

Publication of the first issue of the IPA Newsletter was delayed due to our change in leadership, but we are committed to getting back on track and publishing the IPA Newsletter three times a year. As the only global body representing pediatricians around the globe, all IPA member societies, which comprises 154 National Pediatric Societies from 149 countries, 7 Regional Pediatric Societies, and 11 International Pediatric Specialty Societies, are welcome to contribute by sharing events, news, and articles to be featured and promoted in the IPA Newsletter. Additionally, IPA members are highly encouraged to further disseminate the IPA Newsletter to their respective societies' members and networks and ensure that the news reaches every member.

I hope that the IPA newsletter can be a source of valuable and trustworthy information for pediatricians across the globe, and can play an important role for IPA members to stay connected and engaged.

Prof. Aman B Pulungan
IPA Executive Director



From the Editor



I was properly introduced to the world of IPA at the recent IPA Congress 2023 in Gujarat, India and have since had the privilege of being elected to the Standing Committee, the Executive Committee and being proposed

as Editor of the IPA Newsletter. I work in Australia as a general paediatrician in both inpatient and outpatient settings. I am a clinical educator and academic who feels strongly that we must continually improve how we grow our paediatric workforce. I am a global health researcher who believes there are many local solutions to these problems which are scalable and achievable. I have lived and worked in Vietnam and Lao PDR to strengthen paediatric care for more than 15 years. I was even a medical student in India many years ago...and for most of my working life in Australia I have felt like a global citizen.

Yet the IPA has opened my eyes to the true nature of global paediatrics and the various challenges that face us in different ways. I have, in such a short time, met global leaders in paediatrics whose stories you will read about in this newsletter, but who should not impress you with their titles but with their true dedication to children. In India I met paediatricians trying to solve how to provide meaningful professional development to everyone, to meet rapidly changing health care needs, in such a variety of health care

settings. I watched my colleagues at the Standing Committee strategy retreat in Athens argue for putting the child at the centre always, but to not forget about our adolescents and youth and to call for a shift of emphasis from the “first 1000 days”, to the “first 1000 weeks” in response. I have seen the advocacy, activities and strengths of Regional Societies and Associations. And I have had the honour of being part of global and meaningful conversations in between these events, to understand how the IPA can do better for the paediatricians it connects and the children, adolescents, and youth for whom they care.

We want this newsletter also to be truly global and will be working to provide you content in English, French and Spanish. Going forward we will be seeking stories to spotlight the efforts and challenges of individual paediatric associations and societies. I, personally, am keen to use this forum to share our learnings. For now, please take the time to read these stories and the activities that have connected paediatricians from around the globe since the start of this year.

Associate Prof. Amy Gray

IPA Newsletter Editor-In-Chief



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IPA Leadership 2023-2025

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Joseph Haddad
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Assistant Editor-in-Chief

Ousmane Ndiaye
Senegal



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Carlos Alonso-Rivera
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A global meet for a global mission to champion pediatric care

Highlights of the 30th IPA Congress and 60th PEDICON 2023

In the heart of vibrant Gujarat, within the halls of the Mahatma Mandir Convention and Exhibition Centre, Gandhinagar, the air was electric with anticipation as history was being crafted. From February 19 to 23, 2023, the pediatric medical fraternity convened for two landmark events - **the 30th International Pediatric Association (IPA) Congress and the 60th PEDICON**, the annual conference of the Indian Academy of Pediatrics. These events, a confluence of knowledge, innovation, and passion, served as a testament to the unwavering commitment towards enhancing paediatric care worldwide.

The conference, which marked the 60th anniversary of PEDICON and the return of the IPA Congress to India after 47 years, reflected India's rising prominence in the field of healthcare, especially pediatrics. With the theme "**Quality Care for Every Child Everywhere**", the conference underscored the need for equitable access to quality pediatric healthcare, regardless of a child's background or circumstances. This unequivocal message set the tone for the five days that followed—a rigorous quest for knowledge, a united resolve for change, and an unyielding dedication to improving the lives of children across the globe.

The congregation of over 7,500 pediatricians, healthcare professionals, researchers, and industry experts from around the world at this prestigious event illustrated the

sheer magnitude of this global endeavour. The events were marked by impressive international participation, with over 1,000 faculty members from 78 countries joining forces to share their expertise and address critical challenges in pediatric healthcare through shared learning.

The conferences were opened by distinguished guests including the Honourable Chief Minister of Gujarat, Shri. Bhupendra Patel, and the Honourable Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, Shri. Mansukh L. Mandaviya, setting a high note for engagement and commitment from the top echelons of the government.

Numerous key entities, such as the World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and The Government of India, joined forces towards ensuring the success of this Congress. The central committee, comprising of Dr. Bakul Parekh, Dr. Naveen Thacker, Dr. Upendra Kinjawadekar, Dr. Vineet Saxena, Dr. Santosh Soans, Dr. Basavaraja, Dr. Remeshkumar, Dr. Sameer Dalwai, and Dr. Chetan Trivedi, served as the vital core of the organising team. While the success of the congress is fully attributed to a whole team effort, it was led from the front by the Congress President Dr. Bakul Parekh along with Dr. Santosh Soans who served as the Scientific Chair of the congress. The chosen logo, symbolising the national bird of India, the peacock, and the national flower, the lotus, was designed

to notionally encapsulate all health-related spheres, including nutrition, immunization, social and mental health, among others.

Ethical and legal considerations in pediatric practice were another focal point. Speakers addressed the complexities surrounding consent and decision-making, medical ethics, patient privacy, and the evolving legal landscape in pediatric healthcare. These discussions illuminated the myriad ethical challenges healthcare professionals face in pediatric practice and explored potential strategies to navigate them.

Hands-on workshops and skill-building sessions enriched the conference experience, helping attendees refine their practical expertise. These interactive sessions covered critical areas such as neonatal resuscitation, pediatric emergency care, advanced imaging techniques, pediatric intensive care, and communication skills for healthcare providers. Delegates seized the opportunity to acquire new skills, exchange best practices, and engage in meaningful dialogues.

Further enhancing the academic programme was the display of poster presentations and research abstracts. This platform allowed delegates to share their ongoing research, clinical studies, and innovative methodologies in paediatric medicine, thereby fostering scientific dialogue and collaborations among practitioners.

The congress and conference reflected on the “Best of India” to the world, showcasing the country’s scientific, academic, cultural, and manufacturing prowess and leadership. Beyond the scientific deliberations, the congress celebrated India’s rich cultural heritage with mesmerising performances from renowned artists and celebrities, fostering a sense of unity and shared appreciation.

One of the notable highlights of the conference was the adoption of the **IPA Call to Action**, a comprehensive initiative aimed at shaping child health priorities and strategies for the next decade. This roadmap, emphasising areas like access to quality healthcare, nutrition, immunisation, and early childhood development, is expected to spur global change in child health outcomes.

As the curtain fell on the 30th IPA Congress and 60th PEDICON 2023, the resolve among the delegates was palpable – to take learning, collaborations, and inspiration from the event back to their home countries. The event marked a promise to strive relentlessly towards a world where every child receives equitable and quality care they deserve, because the health of our children is the health of our future!

Photos of IPA Congress 2023



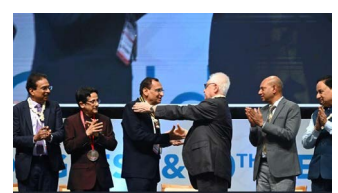
Inauguration Ceremony



Scientific Hall



Medal Exchange Ceremony



Medal Exchange Ceremony



Medal Exchange Ceremony



Call to Action



Speech by Dr. Naveen Thacker



On a personal note..

The year was 2019, and I was part of a team that travelled to Panama to bid for India to become the host country for IPA Congress. It was a moment that, for me, changed everything. A quote comes to mind - "If you can dream it, you can do it." Against all odds, we secured the bid, followed by a wave of elation that engulfed us all.

One of the most crucial decisions that we had to make during the planning process was electing the Congress President. I recall a sense of intense pressure mixed with excitement and a feeling of being on the cusp of something great. We opted for democratic elections. To my surprise, I won by a hair's breadth, leaving me feeling euphoric.

As fate would have it, the COVID-19 pandemic hit, and everything came to a crashing halt. I remember feeling, as if the universe was conspiring against us. But even in the darkness, we refused to give up. We decided to turn the Congress into a congress of firsts, creating a visual feast for everyone, a beautiful tapestry of both physical and virtual interactivity that transcended borders and brought people together from across the globe. This idea of collaborating across borders was nothing short of impressive. We wanted maximum participation from around the world, and to make the conference accessible to everyone, the virtual content as available to registered delegates for three months post-conference. I have a sense of deep gratitude towards everyone who

helped make the event a success.

The journey of organising an event of this magnitude was one that was both exhilarating and humbling, and I wouldn't trade it for anything in the world. It was a colossal feat that was a visual wonder, and I was proud to the core. The quote "Teamwork makes the dream work" resonated with me more than ever.

As I reflect on the memories of the event, I am filled with a sense of awe and inspiration. We built something that was much larger than ourselves, despite the daunting challenges we faced. It is said that "Difficulties break some men but make others." We were the latter, and I am proud of what we've achieved. I will always carry the lessons learned from this experience and the memories created therein. The experience of organising the IPA Congress taught me that true satisfaction can come from achieving something, even when the path isn't straightforward. I look forward to the future with renewed vigour, knowing that anything is possible with hard work and determination.

Dr. Bakul J Parekh

IPA 2023 Congress President



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IPA SC Retreat 2023 and IPA SC 2023-2025 Meeting in Athens, Greece

The IPA Standing Committee (SC) Retreat 2023 was held from the 5th to the 6th of May, at the Hotel Athenaeum Intercontinental, Athens, Greece. The retreat was attended by a total of 25 of 28 SC members and was followed by the IPA SC 2023-2025 meeting on the afternoon of the second day.

IPA SC Retreat 2023, 5-6th May 2023

The 2023 SC Retreat is the first SC retreat for 20 years. Dr. Naveen Thacker, IPA President, led the commencement of the SC Retreat and presented "What do we stand for? How far have we come?" to SC members. The goal of the retreat was to achieve bonding, team building, and a shared vision for IPA by focusing on 6 IPA Strategic Priorities (SP):

- SP 1 For Children
- SP 2 For Pediatric Workforce
- SP3 For Pediatric Societies
- SP 4 For Partnerships
- SP 5 For Communication, and
- SP 6 For Leadership and Governance.



Dr. Naveen Thacker, IPA President, opened Day One of the IPA Standing Committee Retreat with the presentation, "What do we stand for? How far have we come?"

For breakout sessions during the Retreat, members were divided into 3 groups - Group 1 (Orange) "Global Advocacy for Child Health", Group 2 (Blue) "Pediatric Workforce", and Group 3 (Green) "Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion" - based on a balanced representation of old and new SC members, genders, and regions. Each group discussed IPA Strategic Priorities around questions of the way forward, the actions needed and the obstacles to address.



Group 1 (Orange). In picture: Dr. Marcela Maria Fama Pereira (facilitator), Dr. María del Carmen Calle Dávila (facilitator), Dr. Joseph Haddad, Dr. Erkin Rahimov, Dr. Iqbal A Memon, Dr. Dipesalema Joel, Dr. Hassan Afilal, and Dr. Rajeshwar Dayal.



Group 2 (Blue). In picture: Dr. Naveen Thacker, Dr. Nitin Kapur (facilitator), Dr. Amy Gray (facilitator), Dr. Aman Pulungan, Dr. John Adabie Appiah, Dr. Jonathan Klein, Dr. Carlos G Alonso Rivera, Dr. Adamos Hadjipanayis, Dr. Barbara Rubio.



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Group 3 (Green): In picture: Dr. Sara Helen Goza (facilitator), Dr. Catherine Farrell (facilitator), Dr. Enver Hasanoglu, Dr. M Ashraf Sultan, Dr. Stefano del Torso, Dr. Basim Al-Zoubi, Dr. Santosh T Soans.

At the plenary session on the first day, the SC members did a prioritization exercise for the identified areas of work based on rationale/ importance, cost, feasibility, and alignment with the IPA's call to action and collaboration plan. During the plenary session on the second day, each group presented the suggested action plans to be discussed by SC members. By the end of the retreat, the IPA Work Plan was laid down.



IPA SC 2023-2025 Meeting, 6th May 2023

On the final day, the SC meeting was held, led by IPA President Dr. Naveen Thacker. Action items from the Retreat were reviewed with a plan for future action and use of a monitoring & evaluation framework to assess progress. Program Areas of work were then discussed and the work on these will include members and chairs from all over the world contributing this year. During the meeting, IPA SC addressed the creation and implementation of IPA By-Laws, which are currently being finalized, that will benefit IPA and all its member societies in future activities and governance.

We look forward to bringing these plans and actions to life.



Dr. Naveen Thacker presided over the IPA Standing Committee meeting



American Academy of Pediatrics

AAP IMNHC 2023 Activities

The International Maternal and Newborn Health Conference (IMNHC) was held in Cape Town, South Africa, from 8-11 May 2023. IMNHC served as a convening of the maternal newborn health community to drive urgent action for the health of mothers and newborns by collaborating and fostering strong connections, exchanging the most effective tools, sharing best practices and evidence, and investing in proven interventions.

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) submitted several abstracts that were accepted to IMNHC. It was a privilege to be able to showcase aspects of our work at the conference and engage with colleagues to discuss lessons learned and opportunities for collaboration. Below is an overview of the Academy's IMNHC activities.

- **Essential Newborn Care Panel:** The AAP and Laerdal Global Health (LGH) joined the World Health Organization (WHO) in the launch of the new WHO Essential Newborn Care (ENC) Course face-to-face materials at the conference. The event was moderated by Anshu Banerjee from the WHO. The panelists for this event included:
 1. Dr. Helen Louise Taylor, WHO consultant
 2. Dr. Janna Patterson, SVP, Global Child Health and Life Support, AAP
 3. Karoline Linde-Myklebust, CEO

Laerdal Global Health

4. Dr. Fatima Gohar, Maternal, Newborn & Adolescent Health Specialist, UNICEF ESARO
5. Fekadu Mazengia, Executive Director, Ethiopian Midwives Association
6. Dr. Maryam Molla, Med Global Bangladesh



WHO ENC Launch panelists: Dr Anshu Banerjee, WHO; Dr. Helen Louise Taylor, WHO consultant; Karoline Linde-Myklebust, Laerdal Global Health; Dr. Janna Patterson, AAP; Dr. Fatima Gohar, UNICEF ESARO; Fekadu Mazengia, Ethiopian Midwives Association; Dr. Maryam Molla, Med Global Bangladesh

- **ENC Technical Marketplace:** Dr. Maryam Molla, Bangladesh, and Dr. Petronila Tabansi, Nigeria, served as lead presenters on behalf of the AAP at the ENC technical marketplace table where they demonstrated the use of remote facilitation using [ENC Now!](#), the digital version of the WHO ENC course, and use of Laerdal's new manikin, NeoNatalie Live (NNL), that includes real-time feedback and team-based scenarios to support self-directed- and continuous on-site low dose high-frequency practice.



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IPA Regional Activity Recap **North America Region**

- **iKMC Technical Marketplace:** Prof. Ebuloluwa Adejuyigbe and Dr. Helga Naburi served as lead presenters on behalf of the AAP at the iKMC technical marketplace, where they demonstrated [immediate Kangaroo Mother Care \(iKMC\)](#) as a method that can improve the quality of care and outcomes for small sick newborns through continuous skin-to-skin contact between the mother and the newborn, promoting exclusive breastfeeding, thermal regulation, early maternal-infant bonding, and infant growth and development. The demonstration, through scenarios, used NeoNatalie and PreemieNatalie newborn manikins to emphasize kangaroo mother care wrap and application.

We look forward to building on the momentum and the learnings from this conference.

- For more information about the Essential Newborn Care Course and ENC Now!, visit: <https://hmbs.org/>
- For more information about iKMC, visit: <https://www.aap.org/en/aap-global/immediate-kangaroo-mother-care-ikmc/>



Left: ENC Technical Marketplace table, Right: iKMC technical marketplace table

IPA Regional Activity Recap

Latin America

REGION

ALAPE

We started the year with the publication of our Newsletter, where we share all the activities from our last semester and the latest Congress celebrated in Punta Cana

from September 29th to October 1st, 2022. Download the Newsletter [here](#).

Currently, all our efforts are focused on the VI Update Conference of ALAPE and the LXIV National Congress of Pediatrics ASOPEDIA 2023, held in Guatemala from September



IPA Regional Activity Recap Latin America Region



27th-30th, Hotel Westin Camino Real. With the participation of distinguished speakers from our affiliated associations and noted American institutions. Learn more about this event at [this link](#).

We also have been working very hard on the development of our social media, creating educational materials spreading different campaigns such as “The Prevention of Non-Communicable Diseases from the “First 1000 Days of Life”. Available here: <https://alape.org/campana-de-prevencion-de-ent/>

Awareness Campaigns

- World Salt Awareness Week
- International Childhood Cancer Day
- World Obesity Day
- World Tuberculosis Day
- World Health Day
- Vaccination Week in the Americas with the campaign #CadaVacunaCuenta
- World Down Syndrome Day
- World Hypertension Day
- World No Tobacco Day
- New authorities in ALAPE at IPA- 30th IPA Congress and PEDICON 2023



In May, we started our committee’s webinar series with the webinar “How to support nursing parents who return to paid work” hosted by ALAPE’s Breastfeeding Committee. In the coming months, new topics related to emerging problems of children and adolescents and the situation of children in Latin America will be developed.



IPA Regional Activity Recap Latin America Region



International Participation

At the May SC Retreat our President Dr, Carlos G. Alonso Rivera, and our Vice President, Dr. Marcela Maria Fama Pereira represented ALAPE, participating in all the activities over 2 days, where some collaboration goals were established with different international bodies.

Some of the highlights of this reunion were the review of the lines of work and collaboration for the well-being of children and adolescents in different regions of the world; for example, among other important issues, shifting awareness of the importance of the first 1000 days of life to the first 1000 weeks of life in the health of our children.

A review and update of the statutes that regulate the IPA was made, and work strategies were proposed for the next 2 years, until the next congress that will be held in Glasgow, Scotland, in June 2025.

The meeting was



considered one of the most productive in terms of projects for the Latin American region.



From the 11th to the 14th of May, the 54th National Congress of Pediatrics (CONAPEME) was celebrated in Acapulco

Guerrero, México. Around 6 thousand pediatricians from México and Latin America attended the event with a distinguished group of national and international professors, allowing a high-level academic exchange. ALAPE was represented by our President, Dr. Carlos G. Alonso Rivera, who shared a message with all the Latin American pediatricians in the opening ceremony and extended a cordial invitation to participate in the next conference to be held in the city of Antigua, Guatemala in September 2023.

In addition, a working meeting was held with the president of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), Dr. Sandy Chung, and the CONAPEME authorities to generate joint strategies for academic and scientific collaboration between Latin American countries and the AAP.





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IPA Regional Activity Recap

Europe REGION

EPA-UNEPSA

During the period from January to May 2023, EPA-UNEPSA continued its close collaboration with its 50 European member societies and actively worked together with its European partner society, the Confederation of Primary Care Pediatricians (ECPCP), and its 22 member societies of primary care pediatrics. The two IPA member societies have continued and further developed the European program: European Pediatricians Speaking with One Voice. Their active collaboration shows that European pediatricians now speak with one voice.

Delegates from the two societies held a joint meeting at the ECPCP annual congress in Israel on March 16-18, 2023. On this occasion, EPA-UNEPSA and ECPCP jointly developed, issued, and published in the Journal of Pediatrics a joint statement on the serious problem of pediatric drug shortages in Europe: Drug Shortages in Pediatrics in Europe: The Position of the European Pediatric Societies. Journal of Pediatrics. May 11, 2023. Link to full-text journal: [https://www.jpeds.com/article/S0022-3476\(23\)00320-7/fulltext](https://www.jpeds.com/article/S0022-3476(23)00320-7/fulltext) (TABLE)

During the same period, EPA-UNEPSA actively continued its research activities as a partner in the European Union's Safe Food For Infants project under the European Commission's Horizon 2020 program. EPA-UNEPSA represents European pediatricians affiliated with its member societies in the Consortium of Scientific Centers that has been awarded a €4 million grant dedicated to the important topic of child food safety. EPA-UNEPSA collaborates closely, as leader of the work package, with the French National Research Institute for

Agriculture, Food and the Environment, which coordinates the program's research activities. Of great importance is the global collaboration with other continents, as this European Union-funded Consortium has established close collaboration with a network of Chinese research centers, which are participating in joint efforts to develop innovative solutions to ensure effective quality monitoring of baby food marketed in Europe and China. EPA-UNEPSA is actively contributing to the overall goal of developing an integrated approach to improve the identification, assessment, detection, and mitigation of safety risks from microbiological and chemical hazards throughout the EU and Chinese infant food chain.

EPA-UNEPSA is a permanent partner of the Journal of Pediatrics. In this U.S.-based scientific journal, EPA-UNEPSA publishes monthly articles on the most important issues facing children globally. The Society's Working Group on Social Pediatrics actively contributes to this effort, as described by the list of articles below, which have a high international impact (its recent article on "Behavioral and Emotional Disorders in Children During the COVID-19 Epidemic" is the most cited article in J.Pediatrics in the past 3 years):

- *Epidemiologic Changes Caused by the Preventive Measures for the Coronavirus Disease 2019 Pandemic: An Additional Challenge for Pediatricians* (J.Pediatrics. Volume 252, p225-226.e1, January 2023).
- *Lost in Transition: The Issue of Vanishing Unaccompanied Alien Children in Europe* (J.Pediatrics. Volume 256, P3-4.E1, May 2023).



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IPA Regional Activity Recap **Europe Region**

- *Online “Sharenting”: The Dangers of Posting Sensitive Information About Children on Social Media* (J.Pediatrics. Published online: January 17, 2023)
- *The Shortage of Amoxicillin: An Escalating Public Health Crisis in Pediatrics Faced by Several Western Countries* (J.Pediatrics. Published online: January 17, 2023)

EPA-UNEPSA looks forward to the coming years with confidence to strengthen collaboration with IPA and as a time full of possibilities and to work together recognizing and assessing challenges with the common goal of developing solutions.

EPA-UNEPSA Report for IPA: 1st semester 2023 Activities - L. M.Pettoello-Mantovani

EAP

The European Academy of Paediatrics continued its mission to promote the health of children and young people in Europe and beyond during the first quarter of 2023.

The world of paediatrics recently witnessed an extraordinary gathering of minds at the EAP Congress and MasterCourse, where 761 participants from an astounding 69 countries came together. This remarkable event, hosted in the beautiful city of Padova, Italy, and held in collaboration with the Società Italiana di Pediatria (SIP), served as a global platform for paediatric experts, healthcare professionals, and enthusiasts to exchange knowledge, discuss cutting-edge research, and foster collaboration. With 279 delegates

actively engaging in the MasterCourse, the Congress proved to be a pinnacle of excellence. From captivating scientific sessions to networking opportunities, the event left an indelible mark on the landscape of paediatric medicine.



An abbreviated EAP Spring Meeting took place alongside the event. During the **General Assembly**, chaired by the President of the EAP, Adamos Hadjipanayis, delegates received an update on EAP matters throughout 2022 and 2023, followed by presentations by the Executive Director, Stefano del Torso, and the Secretary-General, Ann de Guchtenaere and Arunas Valiulis, the EAP’s Treasurer.

During the European Board of Pediatrics (EBP) Session, Liviana da Dalt (EBP Chair) provided a comprehensive overview of the [European Board of Paediatrics \(EBP\) - EAP Exam](#) and its plans. The upcoming examination is scheduled for November 21, 2023. EAP takes pride in offering two valuable resources to assist trainees in their exam preparation.



IPA Regional Activity Recap

Europe Region

Firstly, the [EAP Learning](#) app provides a virtual classroom experience accessible on mobile, tablet, or laptop devices. Additionally, the online [Core Knowledge in Paediatrics \(CKP\)](#) course, scheduled for October 13-14, 2023, offers a specialized curriculum to enhance candidates' knowledge base.



Further highlights from the EAP Strategic Advisory Groups & Permanent Councils:

- The thought-provoking [Primary Care Council](#) session, chaired by Zachi Grossman, opened the floor to discussion on some of the critical challenges faced by paediatricians. As we address the shortage of professionals, budget constraints, and the concept of other providers delivering paediatric services, we are committed to ensuring the well-being of children remains a top priority. The session included a presentation by Laura Reali, President of ECPCP, during which she shared an important video about air pollution and greenhouse gases, which affects every single aspect of a child's
- One prominent topic addressed by the [Secondary-Tertiary Care Council](#) session (chaired by Ketil Stordal) was the European Training Requirements, including the procedures for approval by UEMS (Union Européenne des Médecins Spécialistes). This conversation aimed to establish standardised training criteria for various paediatric specialties, ensuring high-quality education and proficiency across Europe. José Lopes dos Santos, one of the founders of the Education and Training Committee in Paediatric Allergy and liaison officer between the EAP/EAACI and UEMS, delivered a presentation covering the history and initial goals of the Section on Paediatrics of EAACI (SP-EAACI). He emphasised the aim to be represented in the Tertiary Care Working Group of the UEMS Section of Paediatrics (formerly CESP, now part of EAP). This underscores SP-EAACI's dedication to advancing paediatric allergy as a paediatric subspecialty.
- Several [Young EAP](#) Representatives joined the Congress and MasterCourse as well as the Spring Meeting in Padova. Current yEAP projects include BurnOut (Sian Copley, UK). European network of hospitals to help Ukrainian children (Ivan



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IPA Regional Activity Recap **Europe Region**

Bambir, Croatia); ImmuHubs (Sian Copley, UK & Nora Karara, Germany); EAP/EBP exam, EdApp, CKP course, Handbook (Valentina Ferraro, Italy & Francesca Seregni, UK); Advocacy (Sian Copley, UK); Migrant Health (Paul Torpiano, Malta) and the National training comparison project (Miguel Martins, Portugal). Follow the [yEAP blog](#) for the latest updates on activities.

On 23 May, Ann de Guchtenaere, Secretary General of the EAP, participated in a highly informative webinar focused on “Strengthening health care practitioners’ competencies to support nurturing care and early childhood development. “The UNICEF Regional Office organised this enriching webinar for Europe and Central Asia (ECARO), the WHO Regional Office for Europe (WHO/Europe), and the International Step by Step Association (ISSA), under the auspices of the Health Systems for Early Childhood Development initiative. Together, they empower healthcare practitioners to profoundly impact nurturing care and early childhood development.



Adamos Hadjipanayis, the EAP President, joined the 8th Congress of the Pediatric Association of North Macedonia, held in the enchanting city of Skopje in early June 2023. With his captivating address during the opening ceremony, he set the stage for a truly remarkable and unforgettable Congress experience.

Keep an eye on EAP’s website for [new publications](#) and initiatives that EAP is involved in: [Vaccinate your Child Campaign](#), [Core-MD project](#), [ImmuHubs](#), [RIVER EU](#) (project on vaccine equity) & [IMMUNION](#).

The EAP thanks the Società Italiana di Pediatria (SIP), the Scientific and Organizing Committees of the Congress and MasterCourse, all the leaders of the Strategic Advisory Groups, National Delegates, Individual members, and collaborating societies for being a part of its accomplishments.

Warm Regards,
Prof. Adamos Hadjipanayis
European Academy of Paediatrics President





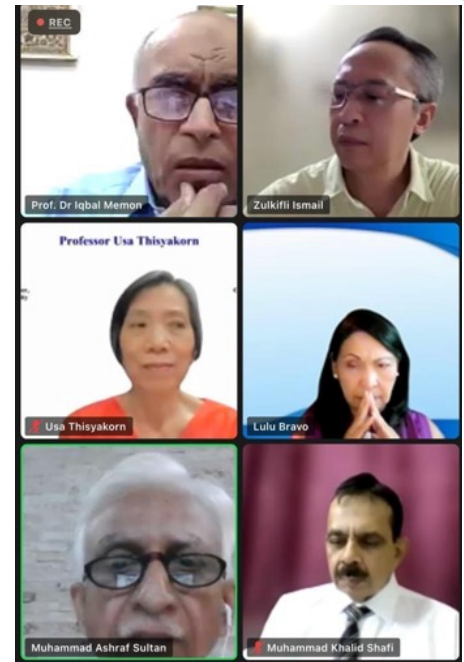
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IPA Regional
Activity Recap

Asia Pacific REGION

APPA Executive Committee (EC) & Standing Committee (SC) Zoom Meeting

The APPA EC and SC Zoom Meeting was held on April 2, 2023. The meeting was held to discuss issues pertaining to APPA which included updated information on the 18th Asia Pacific Congress of Pediatrics (APCP) to be held from November 14-17, 2024, in Cebu, Philippines, follow-up on APPA Technical Advisory Groups (TAGs) activities, Nomination for IPA Standing Committee, Training of Pediatric Fellows from APPA member countries, WHO code for Breastfeeding substitute, Indexation, revamping and strengthening the APPA e-journal (Asia Pacific Journal of Pediatrics and Child Health, APJPCH), World Immunization Week (WIW) and APPA Vision.



International Webinar - The Big Catch Up on World Immunization Week (WIW), May 1, 2023.

The Webinar was held in collaboration with APPA, SAPA (South Asia Pediatric Association) and PPA (Pakistan Pediatric Association) with a focus on immunization. The webinar aimed to bring together Paediatric experts from across the globe to share their insights and knowledge regarding the issue. Participants had the opportunity to engage with the Speakers and other participants through interactive Q&A sessions and group discussions.



Prof. Iqbal Memon
addressing the APPA
Symposium

APPA Symposium on Child Protection and Safety, May 16, 2023.

The Symposium was held in conjunction with the 25th Scientific Conference of the Sri Lanka College of Paediatricians, which was held from May 14-16, 2023, in Colombo. The Scientific Conference featured a thought-provoking symposium on Child Protection and Safety. APPA President, Prof. Iqbal Memon, opened the symposium. He thanked the Sri Lanka College of Paediatricians (SLCP) and the



IPA Regional Activity Recap

Asia Pacific Region

APPA Technical Group (TAG) on Child Rights, Environment, and Child Health for organising the important symposium. Four papers were presented during the symposium, which aimed to address various aspects surrounding child protection, such as the establishment of child protection services, the challenges faced by low and middle-income countries, the impact of natural disasters, and the effects of climate change on child health.



APPA Bulletin (Newsletter)

The latest APPA Bulletin (Volume 87 January-April 2023 No. 77) has been published and circulated digitally to all APPA members and IPA on May 5, 2023.



Asia Pacific Journal of Pediatrics and Child Health (APJPCH), the official APPA e-journal

APJPCH is a quarterly e-journal published regularly since September 2018 – www.apjpch.com. APJPCH is now in the process of re-organising and strengthening its Editorial Board. The January-March 2023 issue is now online.

Compiled by Fairos Nazri, Executive Secretary, APPA

International Subspecialty Pediatric Societies

International Society for Social Pediatrics and Child Health (ISSOP)

ISSOP has been engaged in several initiatives in which we would like to ask for your involvement. At the recent IPA-IAP meeting in India, ISSOP and ISPCAN launched a global initiative to address the needs and rights of the street and working children. In May, ISSOP, in collaboration with the Kenya Pediatric Association, UNAPSA, and multiple African Pediatric societies, we launched an effort to establish a pan-African consortium of pediatricians and pediatric societies to address the impact of climate change on children. Building on our success with our research collaborative on the impact of Covid on children, we are extending this to include research groups on the effects of school closures on children and on the street and working children. For those of you from South America, we are in the process of developing an educational and advocacy initiative in collaboration with a WHO Collaborating Center at the University of Albany, PAHO, ALAPE, and regional groups on climate change and environmental justice. We are also in the early stages of implementing a mentorship program for young pediatricians and child health professionals. In addition, we are working on a toolkit to support the generation of alternative “shadow” reports to the Committee on the Rights of the Child, and an effort to make insulin more available to children in low and middle-income countries.

If you are interested in participating in any of these endeavors, please let us know, and we will gladly connect you to those taking the lead. We would also very much look forward to you joining ISSOP—membership is critically important to sustaining these and other initiatives today and into the future. The link to join is <https://www.issop.org/membership/>.

Jeffrey Goldhagen, M.D. (jeffrey.goldhagen@jax.ufl.edu)

Barbara Rubio, M.D. (Barbara.rubio@gmail.com)

International Society of Paediatric Oncology (SIOP)

Childhood cancer has a high potential for cure. Among the non-communicable diseases, it is often considered a “best buy option” in terms of cost-benefit. The International Society of Paediatric Oncology (SIOP) is the leading voice of the healthcare team managing childhood cancer at a global level. Our efforts at the WHO Executive Board and [the 76th World Health Assembly](#) called for member states’ support and highlighted the dangers of substandard medicines. We also collaborated with partners in the childhood cancer community to amplify our messages on the International Days of [Childhood Cancer](#), [Women](#), [Nurses](#), and [No Tobacco](#).

During this period, we have also come together for education and networking at our Latin American, Asia, and Europe Regional Continental Congresses. We continue to host regular educational webinars, including the last 3 sessions of our CEDAR CME-Accredited series on the Diagnosis and Referral of [Hodgkin Lymphoma](#), [Burkitt’s Lymphoma](#), and [Wilms Tumour in association with IPA](#). Our [PARC Programme](#) for advancing research capacity in childhood cancer in LMICs is continuously expanding, securing 2 additional grants to support the [Indian Pediatric Hematology Oncology Group \(INPHOG\)](#) and the [Pediatric Oncology East and Mediterranean \(POEM\) Group](#).

SIOP is a truly multidisciplinary society, and we welcome all paediatric specialists interested in paediatric cancer.





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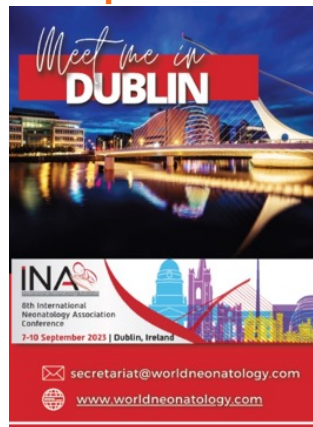
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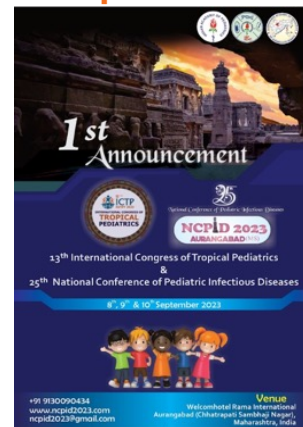
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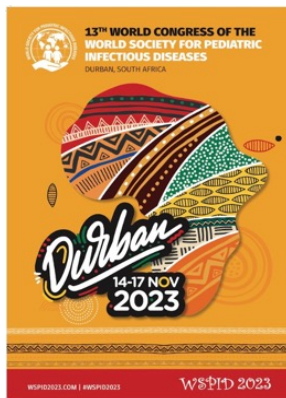
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8-10 September 2023



14-17 November 2023



11-14 October 2023



12-14 October 2023



14-17 November 2024

2024



Redesigning the Horizon of Pediatric Healthcare in the Asia Pacific

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