



Great success!



Dear Friends

I am pleased to be writing to you again.

Copenhagen Conference

I have recently returned from a very successful 10th Epilepsy & Society conference in Copenhagen where I had the opportunity to meet many friends and colleagues from more than 45 countries, not only from Europe but also from as far away as Australia, Uganda, Colombia, Hong Kong, Philippines, The Gambia and South Korea. There were almost 300 delegates attending who were able to enjoy many excellent speakers who delivered great presentations on topics including sexual issues, fundraising, campaigning and political issues and SUDEP, all aiming to improve the quality of life of people with epilepsy. We were also happy to have a Member of the European Parliament (MEP) presenting a workshop on raising morale. The conference also gave us the opportunity to have some terrific discussions in a very pleasant environment.

All of this was made possible through the hard work undertaken by the Danish Epilepsy Association, who were our hosts and who planned this wonderful meeting. I would like to thank in particular Lone Norager-Kristensen, the President, Jutta Houmøller, Chief Executive and Bente Munch-Pedersen for their outstanding contributions to the conference. I would also like to thank the European Regional Executive Committee chaired by Peter Dahlqvist for creating such an exciting programme and Liz, Gus and Vania at IDM for taking such good care of the logistics.

We are hoping to have some of the presentations available on the IBE website in the near future. There will also be a report in the next issue of IE News.

Regional Congresses

The next regional congress, the 4th Latin American Epilepsy Congress, takes place in Guatemala in the beginning of September and I hope to meet many of our members from the region during the congress. I know that the Organising Committee including Henry Stokes, Lilia Nuñez and Carlos Acevedo have been busy putting the final pieces in place for the meeting and I am looking forward to participating at the event.



A new date and venue has been set for the 1st Eastern Mediterranean Congress, which had been postponed earlier this year. This conference will now take place in February 2007 in Luxor, Egypt.

The final regional congress in 2006, the 6th Asia Oceania Epilepsy Congress, takes place in Kuala Lumpur in November. Likewise our regional committees in South East Asia and Western Pacific are occupied in arranging the programme. I am sure it will be a terrific meeting. Information on this meeting and on all other conferences can be found at www.epilepsycongress.org.



Promising Strategies!

I hope you have noticed the great initiative which has been launched which we have titled Promising Strategies. We will provide some financial support to IBE member organisations on a competitive basis in countries whose gross national income is less than US\$10,000, according to World Bank figures, for initiatives at national level aimed at improving the quality of life for people with epilepsy.

Can I remind you that the closing date for submission of **letters of intent is 31st August**. I hope that you will take this wonderful opportunity to strengthen your activities. The first successful applicants will be announced at the end of March 2007. If you have any enquiries about this initiative please contact Ann Little at the IBE office ibedublin@eircom.net.

Annual Report

The latest Annual Report has just been published and copies will be sent to all Members and supporters over the next few weeks. A special thank you to Ann Little for making this report so attractive.

My very best wishes to you all!

Susanne Lund
President

P.S The IBE Website Task Force is looking for your points of view. Please bring your suggestions to the Chair Shung-Lon Lai; shunglon@mail.nsysu.edu.tw.