

# PRESIDENT'S letter

International Bureau for Epilepsy 21 February 2008



## Promising Strategies

## New Projects approved!

Dear All

I am delighted to inform you that the International Executive Committee has selected six new and exciting projects for funding from the Promising Strategy Program. Each one is being provided with \$5000 in funds.

This is the second round of the program that gives support for projects in developing countries aiming at strengthening and empowering people with epilepsy for an independent life. I am confident this initiative will have a long life expanding to several countries and project ideas for a third, fourth and fifth round...

The involvement of IBE in the UN Economic and Social Council has brought us an invitation to become a member of CONGO (The Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations). An application of membership has been accepted.

CONGO is an independent, international, non-profit membership association of NGOs that facilitates their participation in United Nations debates and decision-making. CONGO was founded in 1948 and since then has worked to ensure that NGO voices are heard throughout the international arena. CONGO's chief objectives are to ensure that NGOs are present when governments discuss issues of global concern at the United Nations and to facilitate NGO discussions on such issues

Shortly all Members will receive information and a call for membership dues for 2008. In order to support Members based in low income countries, who in previous years were supported by the Solidarity Fund, the International Executive Committee proposes an introduction of a new dues structure. Full Members will recently have received the proposal from the Secretary General and I hope that this will be a positive way to continue our support of developing countries.

Until next - best wishes to all!

Susanne Lund  
President

Brazil  
Ethiopia  
Gambia  
Namibia  
Tanzania  
Kenya

## Congratulations!