

# PRESIDENT'S letter

International Bureau for Epilepsy 28 January 2008



Dear Friends

First a Happy New Year to all of you even if we are already well into the new year! This year will be a very busy period for IBE with several regional congresses and other meetings. We will also continue to develop the newly launched website and I look forward to your feedback on the design as well as the content.

I am delighted to welcome Mary Secco as the Vice President North America onto the International Executive Committee.

I also would like to draw your attention to the steadily growing IBE family. IBE has now 90 Full Members and 28 Associate Members in 92 countries! This is worth applauding and all your efforts running the member organisations are very much appreciated. Despite that we still have blank areas where people with epilepsy are lacking appropriate health care and support and where the consequences of stigma are severe.

The International Executive Committee therefore would like to encourage further enlargement of IBE during 2008 and would like to invite you to support and encourage networks and groups already in place, working to improve the quality of life for people with epilepsy, to consider IBE membership. Twinning, supporting and initiating contacts with other associations of which you are aware, even the smallest action can have a positive effect. Use contacts that we have, liaise with the Enlargement Commission which is chaired by Philip Lee, contact the office to share any information you have on newly created associations, working together we can be effective in growing our presence around the world.

Best wishes to all!  
Susanne Lund  
President

## Filling the gaps!

I am happy to welcome the following new Full Members:

Canadian Epilepsy Alliance, Canada  
Association for the Future of People  
with Epilepsy in Hungary,  
Hungary  
Nepal Epilepsy Association, Nepal

and new Associate Members:  
Lithuanian Association for  
Integration of People with Epilepsy  
(LESIA), Lithuania and the  
Association Clinique  
des Epileptiques, Togo

## Membership Drive 2008!

