



Dear Friends

I hope that those of you who attended the 26th International Epilepsy Congress last week have enjoyed a safe return home from Paris. After such an extremely busy, but interesting, meeting it was good to take a short time to relax and reflect on all that had happened during the congress and to "refuel" for what will be a busy time ahead for IBE. Now I am back at my desk and looking forward to the many interesting challenges that lie in the future.

The International Epilepsy Congress in Paris was an excellent meeting with a huge number of delegates, topics and sessions. On behalf of the International Bureau for Epilepsy I wish to thank Richard Holmes and his great team at the IDM office for organising such a successful event!

The profile of IBE was forefront throughout the congress with workshops, regional delegate meetings, commission meetings and commission posters, the special IBE member session, our General Assembly - all IBE activities!

IBE's presence at the international congress has never been more visible! Did you see our three new IBE banners at the Exhibition Stand announcing the vision and objectives of IBE? No one could miss them - tall and attractive! The two main meeting room corridors provided a great place in which to hang 46 individual posters advertising the work and achievements of our members and these were much appreciated and commented on. They gave a very powerful and impressive image of the diversity of IBE's global membership.

The IBE stand had many visitors seeking information and materials and the great diversity of our members was very well reflected by the large number of folders, magazines, etc. that were displayed. In addition, IBE is growing and the General Assembly approved 14 new full members and 4 associate members! I welcome all those new members to the IBE family! We now have 112 members in 82 countries. That's a fantastic development, thanks to the Secretary General and Past President, all the other members of the outgoing International Executive Committee, and many other supporters of IBE! For all those who were not able to attend the congress we will report on Paris in the next IE News.

The congress in Paris was also a very special moment for me personally, meeting so many experienced and dedicated people from all over the world. I was impressed and humbled by the great spirit and enthusiasm displayed by both individuals and member associations.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your trust and confidence in me as I take my first steps as the new President of IBE. I will rely very much on your support and experience and I look forward to your valuable input in the work of IBE. I am very grateful also to

have such an excellent team of talented and committed people in the International Executive Committee with whom I will be working - I am sure we will have a busy time during the next four years.

I wish you all good luck in your important work in the field of epilepsy!

Best wishes
Susanne Lund

