

Dear IBE members and supporters,

With the new decade still in its infancy, we are already racing to keep up with all of the activities planned for 2010.

This being an 'even' year, beginning with the 2nd East Mediterranean Epilepsy Congress in March, IBE will be involved in four regional congresses during the year.

The first European regional meeting took place 22 years ago in Rome in April 1988 and, in the years since then, other regional congresses have become established in the Asian Oceanian Region, Latin America and, more recently, in the East Mediterranean Region.

The great attraction of regional meetings is their ability to focus on particular aspects of epilepsy that are either peculiar to that region or which impact in a different way within the region.

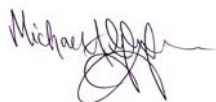
In addition, regional congresses are more accessible to those living in the region, with shorter journeys and, usually, fewer issues with language. Most regional meetings are on a smaller scale than the biennial major international events and this provides a better opportunity to make contact with colleagues old and new. And, with lower delegate numbers, there is more scope to become involved in discussing issues of relevance to you or to your association.

For people with epilepsy and their carers, the Special Programmes held during the regional meetings, have become hugely popular. The mix of workshops, plenary sessions, special awards and, of course, the great social activities are a big success with all who attend them. Already the Regional Executive Committees are working hard to put attractive and well planned programmes in place for 2010.

The IBE/ILAE congress website www.epilepsycongress.org has full details on all of this year's congresses and I would urge you to make a special effort to attend the congress in your region.

I hope to meet you in Dubai, Cartagena, Porto or Melbourne!

With best wishes



Mike

Mike Glynn
President



Regional Congresses 2010



2nd East Mediterranean Epilepsy Congress
4th - 6th March 2010
Dubai, United Arab Emirates



12th European Conference on Epilepsy & Society
25th - 27th August 2010
Porto, Portugal



6th Latin American Epilepsy Congress
1st - 4th August 2010
Cartagena—Colombia



8th Asian Oceanian Epilepsy Congress
21st - 24th October 2010
Melbourne, Australia