ILAE-IBE International Director of Meetings Report on Congresses
June 2013

2012

During 2012, the Congress Team managed 4 congresses with 5,807 attendees and 676 speakers and chairs. 1,169 abstracts were received and 209 bursaries were awarded.

A combined net surplus of $873,000 was generated.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Congress</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Attendees</th>
<th>Abstracts</th>
<th>Bursaries Awarded</th>
<th>Awards Presented</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9th Asian &amp; Oceanian Epilepsy Congress</td>
<td>Manila, Philippines</td>
<td>22nd-25th March 2012</td>
<td>1,213</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>Outstanding Person with Epilepsy Awards, Tadokoro Award</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st African Epilepsy Congress</td>
<td>Nairobi, Kenya</td>
<td>21st-23rd June 2012</td>
<td>291</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>60</td>
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<tr>
<td>10th European Congress on Epileptology</td>
<td>London, United Kingdom</td>
<td>30th September-4th October 2012</td>
<td>3,637</td>
<td>859</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>European Epileptology Award, British Branch Excellence in Epilepsy Award, Morris-Coole Epilepsia Prize, CEA Award for Service, Education and Young Investigator.</td>
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Launched: The photographic exhibition “Stand Up For Epilepsy”, by the ILAE Taskforce on Sports and Epilepsy.
7th Latin American Congress on Epilepsy, Quito, Ecuador  
14th-17th November 2012

- 666 attendees.
- 148 abstracts.
- 49 bursaries awarded.

2013

European Forum on Epilepsy Research, Dublin, Ireland  
25th-27th May 2013

- 270 attendees from 50+ countries.
- 11 CEA bursaries awarded.
- 13 IBE bursaries awarded.
- The Forum, for its very nature and proposition, targeted an optimum mix of delegates including researchers, clinicians, neurologists, primary care professionals, medical & postgraduate students, pharmaceutical industry, persons with epilepsy, health policy makers, European and national government representatives and European Parliament and Commission officials.
- The Forum report is being prepared by Asla Pitkänen, with support of the Congress Office.
- An evaluation of the Forum is ongoing.

30th International Epilepsy Congress, Montreal, Canada  
23rd-27th June 2013

Organising Committee:  Congress Chairs: Mike Glynn (Ireland), Solomon L Moshé (USA)
Venue:  Palais des congrès de Montréal

- 1,142 abstracts (the highest number in recent years) were received from 1,007 authors, in 90 countries worldwide. As of 13th June -
  - 72% of authors were registered.
  - 28% of authors were not registered.
- 60 bursaries were awarded.
- New additions: Meet the Experts sessions, Controversies and an Epi-Quiz.
- A strong emphasis on posters. Poster tours led by opinion leaders every day.
The theme of the conference is “Break Down the Barriers and Stand Up for Epilepsy”, which analyses different aspects of living with epilepsy. The main objective of this programme is to reduce the stigma by discussing issues associated with epilepsy.

Morning plenary session topics include “What’s next after the European Declaration?”, “What are the alternatives when drugs don’t work?”, “Beyond seizures and medication”, “Epilepsy and cognition”, “What is the role of epilepsy support groups?”, “Social media”, “Women and epilepsy”, “Switching brands: what are the issues?”, “Epilepsy care in Europe”.

There will be a debate on representations of epilepsy in popular culture breaking down stereotypes and stigma or reinforcing them. Group Discussions on “Joining Forces” and “Employment and Epilepsy” and Workshops on epilepsy care, representations of epilepsy in popular culture and European Epilepsy Day complete the programme.

A full-day Advocates for Epilepsy workshop will be held on Wednesday 28th August. This is the first time a workshop of this nature has been held and is aimed to attract people working in the field of epilepsy, including nurses, carers, allied health professionals, social workers and teachers. Sessions will focus on “Epilepsy and everyday activities”, “Seizure observation”, “Raising awareness”, “Management of seizures” and many more.

On this occasion and for the first time, CEA has made a financial contribution to the ESEC congress, for a workshop entitled “Advocates for Epilepsy”.

Special emphasis is being placed on posters at the conference. The deadline for online poster submission is 8th July 2013.

The conference will provide assistance towards travel, accommodation and registration for a limited number of lay delegates form national organisations or those working with people with epilepsy.
2014

11th European Congress on Epileptology, Stockholm, Sweden
29th June-3rd July 2014

Organising Committee: IOC Chairs: Meir Bialer (Israel), Kristina Malmgren (Sweden)
SAC Chair: Torbjörn Tomson (Sweden)

Venue: Stockholmsmässan

- Registration will open shortly.
- 4 main themes have been selected: basic science, epilepsy surgery, pharmacotherapy and paediatric epileptology.

10th Asian & Oceanian Epilepsy Congress, Singapore
24th-27th August 2014

Organising Committee: Chairs: Byung-In Lee (Korea), Shih Hui Lim (Singapore)

Venue: SUNTEC International Convention & Exhibition Centre

- Registration will open in late 2013.
- The SOC expects to complete the Scientific Programme at the 30th IEC.
- As Singapore is enjoying an economic boom, costs are high. However, one pharmaceutical company has already confirmed a contribution of USD$100,000+.

2nd African Epilepsy Congress, Cape Town, South Africa, 2014

- South Africa has been selected as the location.
- Cape Town is the preferred city.
- A number of suitable venues were visited and as a result of follow-up meetings two hotels represent the best facilities and value –
  - Venue 1 - 21st-25th May.
  - Venue 2 – 28th-31st May.
- A further site inspection will take place at the end of July, to finalise costs and venue selection.
8th Latin American Congress on Epilepsy, 2014

- During the 7th LACE, both the IBE Regional Latin American Committee and the ILAE Commission on Latin American Affairs discussed options for the 8th LACE 2014, listing Buenos Aires and Santiago de Chile as preferences with Buenos Aires being the first option.
- A site inspection of Buenos Aires and Santiago de Chile was carried out by the Congress Team in March 2013. Both cities have excellent facilities and flight access however associated costs of holding the congress will be considerably more than in previous destinations. It is expected that government support in Argentina will be stronger and some financial support can be obtained in addition to good support from industry.

2015

31st International Epilepsy Congress, Istanbul, Turkey
6th-10th September 2015

Venue: Istanbul Convention & Exhibition Centre (ICEC)

- The ICEC is close to the centre of Istanbul. Accommodation and transport are plentiful.
- It is expected that the SOC will be in place shortly.
- Promotional leaflets, to announce the congress, are included in the 30th IEC congress bags.

Richard Holmes
International Director of Meetings