

---

## 2nd Quarter 1998

### GREETINGS

Advances on the internal and external milieus of the World Psychiatric Association have highlighted the activities of our organization during the second quarter of 1998.

Strengthening our internal milieu has been the focus of two institutional projects of the highest order. The first one, just completed, is the WPA General Survey. The 97% overall response rate attained is denotative of the growing cohesiveness and participatory maturity of our organization. The Survey report has already been distributed in full to all WPA components, and an executive summary is printed on these pages.

A second major infrastructural development, conducted by the Executive Committee, has been the preparation of the WPA Manual of Procedures. It is aimed at enhancing the effectiveness and transparency of all our operations. A second draft was presented this April in Beirut to the Executive Committee, which adopted it as a working draft. Upon its finalization in coming months, the Manual will be widely distributed.

On the external milieu, WPA has been especially active dealing with important governmental and non-governmental organizations. Through a late March meeting of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in official relations with the United Nations, we were updated on the extensive human resources and informational databases available at the UN in New York. UN Secretary General Kofi Annan pointed out that, increasingly, NGO's are indispensable contributors to UN work and important shapers of public policy. Also in that month, the WPA Secretary General represented our Association at a meeting of the World Federation for Mental Health in Maastricht aimed at forging new partnerships.

In May, a crucial meeting of the World Health Assembly in Geneva was attended by WPA's President and Secretary General, during which Dr. Gro Harlem Brundtland was elected new Director General of the World Health Organization. The reorganizational whirlwind that ensued at WHO and the remarkable comeback of mental health (in which WPA played a role) are briefly chronicled in these pages. More recently, in June, the United Nations held in New York a Special Session of its General Assembly on the World Drug Problem, which was also attended by WPA representatives. At the end of the Special Session, an unprecedented Political Declaration and Action Plan were adopted.

The strengthened internal and external milieus of WPA are delineating a promising matrix within which our organization can move more energetically and confidently to achieve its clinical, educational, scholarly, health promotional, and ethical commitments and goals. An Executive Committee Report on the first 18 months of the current governance period is being distributed to all Member Societies and other components of our Association. Comments are welcome.

---

## **WPA GROWING MEMBERSHIP**

This April in Beirut, upon completion of statutory consultations the WPA Executive Committee admitted, on an ad-hoc basis, the Armenian Association of Psychiatrists and Narcologists and the Psychiatric Association of Bosnia and Herzegovina as new Member Societies of WPA. With these new arrivals, we count now 110 full Members in our family, distributed over 93 countries.

At the same meeting, the Latin American Psychiatric Association, the Society for the Settlement of the Physically and Mentally Disabled of Ghana, and the World Association for Dynamic Psychiatry were admitted ad-hoc as Affiliated Associations.

Currently undergoing consultations is the admission application of the Kyrgyz Psychiatric Society. Furthermore, the Secretariat has received expressions of interest in joining WPA from the Bangladesh Association of Psychiatrists, the Cambodian Psychiatric and Mental Health Society, the Costa Rican Association of Psychiatry and Clinical Psychology, the Cyprus Psychiatric Association, and the Sri Lanka Mental Health Association. These contacts have been facilitated by our Zonal Representatives of South Asia and of Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean.

---

## **RECENT WPA MEETINGS**

On April 15-17, 1998, a WPA Thematic Conference on the Impact of New Knowledge on the Practice of Psychiatry was held in Beirut, Lebanon. In addition to a rich scientific and social program, this event framed a meeting of the Executive Committee as well as an encounter of EC members with Zonal Representatives for Northern Africa and the Middle East, presidents of Member Societies and several Section officers. Some other WPA-related meetings also took place during this quarter. These included the WPA-cosponsored Central American Congress of Psychiatry in April (during which the third Zonal Meeting for Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean took place), with the participation of the WPA Secretary General and the Secretary for Education. In May, a Meeting of the Section on Psychiatry, Law and Ethics was held in Berlin, which included the WPA President and Secretary General in the program. In June, a WPA Zonal Forum convened during the Annual Meeting of the American Psychiatric Association in Toronto, was co-hosted by the Zonal Representatives for Canada and the United States and was attended by a number of leaders from WPA and other organizations.

---

## **WHO'S REORGANIZATION AND THE RE-EMERGENCE OF MENTAL HEALTH**

On May 13, 1998, at her inaugural speech as the new Director General of the World Health Organization, Dr. Gro Harlem Brundtland spoke of the importance of mental health and the crucial value of NGO's for the organization. However, during the weeks that followed, news coming from Geneva suggested that a streamlined WHO would not include any distinctive mental health structure. Perceiving this as a grave threat to mental health programs everywhere (as governments usually follow WHO for the organization of their own health

services), our mental health community reacted at once. An unprecedented number of letters of concern reached Dr. Brundtland's office, many of them from WPA's leadership and various components.

At press time, we have learned that mental health has not only been preserved, but has emerged strengthened, at three structural levels: as a priority concern at the cabinet level, as one of the nine major organizational clusters (Social change and Mental Health), and as a fully distinctive Division of Mental Health and Prevention of Substance Abuse. The other eight clusters are Family and Health Services, Sustainable Development and Healthy Environments, Communicable Diseases, Noncommunicable Diseases, Evidence and Information for Policy, Health Technology and Drugs, General Management, and External Relations & Governing Bodies. While the WHO reorganization process has not been completed yet, it has emerged that Professor Jorge Alberto Costa e Silva, past Medical Dean and Rector of the State University of Rio de Janeiro and Past-President of WPA, will continue as the leader of WHO's Division of Mental Health.

---

### FORTHCOMING WPA EVENTS

The first WPA Regional Meeting to be held in Sub-Saharan Africa since 1981 will take place in Johannesburg on September 8-11, 1998, coinciding with the 10th Biennial Congress of the Society of Psychiatrists of South Africa, and a congress of the African Psychiatric Association. Its program has as central theme Psychiatry in Africa: Total Patient Care, and will be dealt with through the participation of psychiatrists from across and outside Africa.

A WPA Thematic Conference on *Manage or Perish?: Challenges of Managed Mental Health Care in Europe*, will be brought together in Geneva on October 7-10, 1998 in collaboration with the Department of Psychiatry of the University of Geneva and the Swiss Psychiatric Association. This theme, which is critically relevant to the organization of clinical care in many countries, will be examined through a number of lively debates and symposia. At this, as at other upcoming Regional Meetings and Thematic Conferences, awards funded by the Lilly Company will be presented to recognize achievements in helping patients with schizophrenia reintegrate into society.

The 50th Anniversary of the World Federation for Mental Health and the World Health Organization will be celebrated at Church House, Westminster, London, U. K. (Fax: 44-171-919-3669), on 22-24 October 1998. The symposium, entitled *Partners for Mental Health*, will be attended by the WPA President.

Few weeks later, on October 28-31, 1998 a WPA Regional Meeting will be organized in Guadalajara by the Mexican Psychiatric Association. Its scientific program, on *New Foci in Psychiatry*, includes plenary lectures, symposia, discussion forums, case conferences, and meet-the-expert sessions. A large attendance from throughout the Americas and other parts of the world is expected; the participants will enjoy the rich artistic and folkloric heritage of the Jalisco area.

In November 1998, a collaborative meeting of WPA, WHO and the Russian government, along with local psychiatric societies, will take place towards the development of a mental health program in Russia.

Preparations for the XI World Congress of Psychiatry, on August 6-11, 1999 in Hamburg, continue moving forward. This will be the first one ever held in Germany, the cradle of modern psychiatry. The Scientific Program, chaired by Prof. Juan José Lopez-Ibor, has received already a large number of symposia proposals. A third announcement is scheduled for July 1998, which will include, among other novelties, the procedures for Member Societies and others to nominate promising young psychiatrists for a financially supported Fellowship

Program. Information on the XI Congress is also available through a special Internet homepage ([www.wpa-hamburg.de](http://www.wpa-hamburg.de)) and the central WPA Website ([www.wpanet.org](http://www.wpanet.org)).

The subsequent XII World Congress of Psychiatry will be convened in Yokohama, Japan on August 24-29, 2002. It will be our first World Congress in Asia. It will coincide with the 100th anniversary of our host, the Japanese Society of Psychiatry and Neurology, presided by Professor Jiro Suzuki. The proximity of Yokohama to Tokyo, with a breathtaking view of its bay and the cultural richness of the area, shall add to the expected high quality of the scientific program to make of the XII World Congress a truly memorable event.

*The names and fax numbers of the contact persons for upcoming meetings appear on the last page of WPA News.*

---

### **ETHICS DEVELOPMENTS ON NEW AREAS OF PROFESSIONAL CONCERN**

The WPA Ethics Committee, chaired by Prof. Ahmed Okasha, is developing ethical guidelines pertinent to new areas of interest: among these are psychotherapy, genetics research and counseling in psychiatric patients, ethnic discrimination and cleansing, relationship with the pharmaceutical industry, managed care, and psychiatrists addressing the media. In due course, the draft of these guidelines will be distributed for comments to all Member Societies and then presented to the General Assembly in Hamburg in August 1999.

---

### **DENIS LEIGH, LEGENDARY SECRETARY GENERAL, PASSES AWAY**

On April 20, 1998, Dr. Archibald Denis Leigh passed away, at age 82, at home in England, after a long illness. As WPA Secretary General, from 1966 to 1977, he played a fundamental role in building our Association from its original single focus on the organization of World Congresses of Psychiatry to one whose continuity was ensured by the initiation of Regional Meetings and Scientific Sections.

Dr. Leigh started his professional career as neurosurgeon. As an army doctor during World War II he conducted the first detailed study of loss of smell after head injuries. In 1949 he was appointed consultant at the Maudsley and Bethlem Hospitals in London, where he established a reputation as an outstanding clinical psychiatrist, who would place nothing ahead of his patients' welfare. During those years, he described an unusual brain disorder in a 6-month old child, which became known as "Leigh's disease". For many years he was also active as a prominent forensic psychiatrist.

His tenure as WPA Secretary General spanned the periods of two Presidents, Professors Juan José Lopez-Ibor (Spain) and Howard Rome (USA). He was an extremely energetic organizer, who traveled around the world to visit Member Societies and to strengthen ties within WPA.

Thoughtful contributors to this obituary note were Professor Pierre Pichot (France), who was recruited by Leigh to serve as WPA President, and Professor Eugene Paykel, a Leigh's disciple, and now WPA Zonal Representative for Western Europe.

---

## **RECENT SECTION DEVELOPMENTS**

At the April meeting of the Executive Committee in Beirut, a new Section on Mental Health Economics was established on an ad-hoc basis. Its officers include as Chair, Dr. Agnes Rupp (USA), Co-Chair, Dr. Katarzyna Prot-Herczywoska (Poland), and Secretary, Dr. Massimo Moscarelli (Italy).

A proposal from the Chair of the Section on Education, Prof. Parameshvara Deva (Malaysia), aimed at developing guidelines for teaching interviewing techniques, was approved by the EC and allocated \$1,000 from the budget to support Section projects. A course connected to this upcoming development will be offered at the XI World Congress of Psychiatry.

Clustering of Sections into thematic groups designed to promote inter-Section cooperation continues to take shape. Suggested clusters include: Biological Psychiatry, Social and Cultural Psychiatry, Interdisciplinary Psychiatry, Specific Psychiatric Disorders, Assessment, Measurement and Informatics, Ethical Issues and Stress Situations, Developmental and Gender Psychiatry, and Psychiatry and Medicine.

Sections will have a special role throughout the scientific program of the XI World Congress of Psychiatry as well as that of upcoming Regional Meetings.

---

## **ADVANCES ON EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES**

The Standing Committee on Education, chaired by Prof. Roger Montenegro, WPA Secretary for Education, met this April, and, among other developments, it decided positively on upgrading the WPA Early Psychosis Program (for which funding from Janssen is being obtained), on endorsing a Program on the Professional Development of Young Psychiatrists in Eastern Europe, and on extending the dissemination and utilization of the recently completed Core Curriculum on Psychiatry for Medical Students.

One of the WPA Educational Programs currently in preparation, on Stigma and Discrimination because of Schizophrenia, is extending its activities to two more countries, Austria and Spain. The director of this program, Professor Norman Sartorius, is collecting illustrative examples of discrimination against patients diagnosed with schizophrenia, which can be addressed to him at H.U.G., 16-18 Bd. de St.-Georges, CH-1205, Geneva, Switzerland.

---

## **PROGRESS ON PUBLICATIONS**

Prof. Mario Maj, WPA Secretary for Publications, is finalizing the preparation of a forum on Psychiatry in Medical Education to appear in an upcoming issue of Current Opinion in Psychiatry.

A new WPA Series on Evidence and Experience in Psychiatry, to be published by John Wiley & Sons, is advancing well with two volumes

currently in preparation, dealing with schizophrenia and depressive disorders.

---

### **WPA GENERAL SURVEY SUMMARY REPORT**

The General Survey of the World Psychiatric Association for the 1996-1999 period was prepared as a consultational tool to respond to WPA's present challenges, generated by its growth in size and complexity of functions.

The Survey targeted all core WPA components, i.e. Member Societies, Sections, Zonal Representatives, Executive Committee, Council and Standing Committees and Task Forces. The following institutional aspects and tasks were covered: WPA purposes, internal and external communication, educational activities, Sections, meetings, publications, Consensus Statements, finances, and Ethical Standards. The formats of its questions and responses included check-off evaluative ratings as well concise textual responses, all of which agilized their processing.

The response rate obtained was highly encouraging, as shown on the following table:

WPA Components	Resp. Rate
Member Societies	99%
Scientific Sections	100%
Zone Representatives	91%
Executive Committee	100%
Council	86%
Standing Committees & T.F.	81%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>97%</b>

The results of the Survey revealed, first, that a perception of substantial fulfillment was reported for the majority of WPA purposes, the highest being "to increase knowledge and skills for mental health care" (81%), "to promote the highest ethical standards" (67%), and "to promote the rights of the mentally ill" (62%). At the other end of the spectrum, the purposes receiving the lowest perceptions of fulfillment were "to promote the prevention of mental disorders" (43%) and "to protect the rights of psychiatrists" (32%).

The most salient textual suggestion as a priority purpose for WPA was "to foster communication among psychiatric professionals and organizations". Among the needs of Member Societies and other components, "improved communication within each Society and with WPA" was most prominent.

*Internal communication and external visibility*, obtained good ratings, but they have room for improvement. Specific suggestions offered focused on greater interaction and communication with Member Societies and carrying out WPA work at Zonal and Regional levels.

*WPA Education activities*, particularly its educational programs, received encouraging ratings coupled with recommendations for greater accessibility to these programs and for their distribution through the Member Societies themselves, as well as expressions of interest from Societies to organize educational activities within the framework of WPA.

*WPA Section activities* are perceived to be in need of substantial improvement, with the most salient suggestions being to increase informational reports to and interactions with other WPA components, as well as greater inter-Section collaboration and the provision of financial and organizational support for Sections.

*WPA Section activities* are perceived to be in need of substantial improvement, with the most salient suggestions being to increase informational reports to and interactions with other WPA components, as well as greater inter-Section collaboration and the provision of financial and organizational support for Sections.

The latest *World Congress of Psychiatry* as well as the 1997 WPA Regional Meetings obtained substantial positive ratings. The main recommendations for improvement were to upgrade the professional organization and promotion of these meetings, to encourage the participation of leaders of Member Societies and to enrich their scientific programs.

Ratings of performance in *Publications* were fair to good, with the most salient recommendations being their greater promotion for wider audience reach and the upgrading of WPA's publications and editorial capacity.

Interest for *WPA Consensus Statements* appears to be considerable, on a wide range of topics, particularly ethical and problematic situations; assessment, measurement and informatics; psychosocial interventions; and specific psychiatric disorders.

Regarding *Finances*, the clearest need appears to be greater transparency and more frequent reports, followed by recommendations for WPA to support Section, educational and publication activities, Member Society projects in developing countries, as well as regional work and Zonal Representatives.

Concern for *ethical topics* was striking. The Madrid Declaration on Ethical Standards for Psychiatric Practice attained the highest quality ratings (73% good or excellent) among all WPA activities in the questionnaire, with recommendations for continued efforts in this area.

In closing, one can highlight, first, the outstanding response rate obtained by the Survey, which supports its validity and says much of the growing participatory strength of the World Psychiatric Association. The findings also call for pertinent action from the various sectors and components of WPA and provide leads for the design of strategies and policies for the next governance period. The Survey's democratic implications are in line with Massachusetts Institute of Technology Dean Lester Thurow's declaration: "The highest resource of any community is its ability to organize itself".

*The full report of the Survey has already been distributed to all WPA components.*

---

## **UPCOMING WPA CONGRESSES AND MEETINGS**

Secretary for Meetings, Professor Driss Moussaoui,  
coordinates these events and welcomes initiatives for new ones.  
Fax: (212-2) 294-707, E-mail: psych@casanet.net.ma

August 17th-21st, 1998. WPA Co-Sponsored XVI Congress of the World Association for Social Psychiatry in Vancouver, Canada, The Global Information Network and the Future of Psychiatry and Medicine.

Contact: Prof. E. Sorel Fax: (1-202) 785-9328

September 8th-11th, 1998, WPA Regional Meeting in Johannesburg, South Africa, (in conjunction with the Biennial Congress of the Society of Psychiatrists of South Africa/Association of Psychiatrists in Africa).

Contact: Dr. M. Vorster Fax: (27-11) 956-6941 E-mail: sapsych@jhb.lia.net

September 29th-October 3rd, 1998, WPA Co-Sponsored 34th Turkish National Psychiatry Congress and International Symposium in Izmir, Turkey, Culture and Diagnosis Across the World.

Contact: Dr. L. Küey Fax: (90-232) 422-3805

October 8th-10th, 1998, WPA Thematic Conference in Geneva, Switzerland, Manage or Perish?

Contact: Prof. J. Guimon Fax: (41-22) 305-5799

October 15th-17th, 1998, WPA Co-Sponsored IV Congress of the International Wernicke-Kleist-Leonhard Society in Göttingen, Germany.

Contact: Prof. H. Beckman Fax: (49-931) 203-427

October 15th-17th, 1998, WPA Co-Sponsored V World Congress of the International Association for Emergency Psychiatry in Brussels, Belgium, Emergency Psychiatry in a Changing Society.

Contact: Prof. M. De Clercq Fax: (32-2) 764-8921

October 19th-23rd, 1998, WPA Co-Sponsored XX Congress of the Latin American Psychiatric Association in La Habana, Cuba, Humanism, Integrity and Equity.

Contact: Prof. R. Montenegro Fax: (54-1) 821-4540

October 28th-31st, 1998, WPA Regional Meeting in Guadalajara, Mexico, New Foci in Psychiatry.

Contact: Dr. L. Ruiz-Flores Fax: (525) 652 5516

November 6th-8th, 1998, WPA Co-Sponsored Annual Conference of the Bulgarian Psychiatric Association in Sofia, Bulgaria, Economics and Mental Health.

Contact: Dr. B. Boyadjiev Fax: (35-92) 591-119

November 19th-21st, 1998, Co-Sponsored Meeting in Bratislava, Slovakia, Reintegration of Psychosocial Disabled People: Present State and Perspectives.

Contact: Dr. P. Nawka, Psychiatricka nemocnica, SK-07101 Michalovce, Slovakia.

November 27th-28th, 1998, WPA Co-Sponsored Meeting in Madrid, Spain, Alzheimer's Disease and Public Health: A Challenge for the Next Century.

Contact: Dr. J. and M. Antoine Selmes Fax: (34-91) 4579-5442 E-mail: alzheuro@lander.es

December 12th, 1998, WPA Co-Sponsored XX Annual Meeting of the Casablanca League for Mental Health in Casablanca, Morocco, Challenges of Mental Health for the XXI Century.

Contact: Prof. D. Moussaoui Fax: (212-2) 294-707 E-mail: psych@casanet.net.ma

January 22, 1999, WPA International Symposium on The City and Mental Health, New York, USA.



Contact: Prof. Juan E. Mezzich, Fax: (1-212) 426-0437, E-mail: wpa@dti.net  
February 24-27, 1999, WPA Regional Congress, Athens, Greece, Preventive Psychiatry.

Contact: Pr. G. Christodoulou, Fax: (301) 724-2032. E-mail: gnchrist@compulink.gr  
March 15-17, 1999, WPA Thematic Conference, Granada, Spain, The Community Care of the Long Term Mentally Ill Patients.

Contact: Pr. F. Torres-González, Fax: (34-958) 275-214. E-mail: ftorres@goliat.ugr.es  
March 17-21, 1999, WPA Co-Sponsored 12th World Congress of the World Association for Dynamic Psychiatry, Berlin, Germany, Schizophrenia and Borderline Disorders, a Challenge for Science and Society.

Contact: Pr. M.M. Kabanov, Fax: (49-30) 313-6959.  
March 20, 1999, WPA Co-Sponsored Symposium in Honor of Dr. Rodrigo Muñoz-Barragán, Santa Fé de Bogota, Colombia.

Contact: Pr. R. Muñoz-Tamayo, Fax: (57-1) 616-2706. E-mail: asocopsi@coll.telecom.com.co  
March 24-26, 1999, WPA Co-Sponsored Meeting on Psychiatry and Neuroscience in the Next Millenium, Cairo, Egypt.

Contact: Pr. A. Okasha, Fax: (20-2)348-1786; E-mail: aokasha@internetegypt.com  
March 26-27, 1999, WPA Co-Sponsored 6th International Symposium about Controversies in Psychiatry, Dissociative States, Barcelona, Spain.

Contact: Dr. L. Sánchez Planell & Dr. C. Diez-Quevedo, Fax: (34-93) 395-4206, E-mail: crisanto.diez@uab.es  
April 16-20, 1999, WPA Co-Sponsored 15th World Congress of Psychosomatic Medicine, Athens, Greece.

Contact: Pr. G. Christodoulou, Fax: (30-1) 724-2032. E-mail: easytravel@hol.gr  
August 1-4, 1999, Meeting of the WPA Section of Epidemiology and Public Health, Turku, Finland, From Epidemiology to Clinical Practice, Satellite meeting of the XIth World Congress of Psychiatry.

Contact: Pr. V. Lehtinen, Stakes, Fax: (358-9) 3967-2155. E-mail: lehtinen@stakes.fi  
August 6-11, 1999, XI World Congress of Psychiatry, Hamburg, Germany, Psychiatry on New Thresholds.

Contact: Pr. W. Gaebel. Fax: (49-40) 670-3283. E-mail: cpo@wpa-hamburg.de <http://www.wpa-hamburg.de>  
September 5-10, 1999, WPA Co-Sponsored World Congress of the World Federation for Mental Health, Interfaces in Mental Health: Poverty, Quality of Life and Society, Santiago de Chile, Chile.

Contact: Pr. Benjamin Vicente, Fax: (56-41) 312-799.  
October 20-23, 1999, WPA Co-Sponsored Second Conference on the Synthesis between Psychopharmacology and Psychotherapy, Geneva, Switzerland.

Contact: Pr. S. Tyano, Fax: (972-3) 925-8361. E-mail: styano@post.tau.ac.il  
November 6-10, 1999, WPA Co-Sponsored XX Congress of the International Association for Suicide Prevention, Preventing Suicide at the Dawn of the New Century, Athens, Greece.

Contact: Pr. C. N. Stefanis, Fax: (30-1) 362-5572. E-mail: easytravel@hol.gr  
April 5-7, 2000, WPA Co-Sponsored Central American Congress of Psychiatry, Panama.

Contact: Dr. Gloria Grimaldo. Fax: (507) 223-1462.  
May 24-27, 2000, WPA Thematic Conference, Madrid, Spain, Forensic and Legal Psychiatry.

Contact: Pr. A. Calcedo Ordoñez, Fax: (34-91) 394 1506.  
June 26-30, 2000, WPA Jubilee Meeting, Paris France, From Clinical Practice to Research: Rethinking Psychiatry.

Contact: Dr. J. Garrabé, Fax: (33-1) 4278-3512. E-mail: jmthurin@pratique.fr  
September 30-October 3, 2001, WPA Regional Meeting, Madrid, Spain.

Contact: Pr. J.J. Lopez-Ibor, Fax: (34-91) 316-2749.  
August 24-29, 2002, XII World Congress of Psychiatry, Yokohama, Japan.

Contact: Pr. J. Suzuki, Fax: (81-3) 3814-2991.