



29 May 2018

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

It is an honor to serve as President of the World Allergy Organization (WAO), and I look forward to working for our Board of Directors and our member societies during my 2018-2020 term. Many excellent Past Presidents of WAO have led this organization admirably, and I will work to continue these traditions and educational offerings that were handed to me, particularly from my predecessor and friend, Professor Mario Sánchez Borges. With this strong foundation, and the support of the Board of Directors, WAO will continue to grow and be a leader in the field of allergy and clinical immunology worldwide.

As WAO progresses, a number of new projects will be implemented this year and our efforts in the arena of Advocacy will expand for the improvement of the profession and the patients we serve.

The WAO Initiative in New Allergen Immunotherapy (WINAiT) and the WAO Initiative in New Immunological Treatments (WINiT) keep WAO on the cutting edge of the science and treatment of allergic diseases. With myself and Prof G Walter Canonica overseeing these initiatives, I am confident these programs will advance the science in these important areas of the field and fill many educational gaps.

As WAO expands medical education globally through initiatives like WINAiT & WINiT, the organization is also expanding geographically. At the House of Delegates meeting during the World Allergy Congress (WAC) 2018, WAO accepted two new member societies: the Salvadorian Association of Allergy, Asthma and Clinical Immunology & the Pakistan Allergy, Asthma and Immunology Society (PAAIS). With the addition of these two new members, WAO now has a total of 99 member societies!

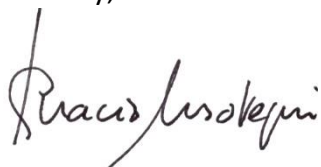
Beyond the House of Delegates meeting, WAC 2018 was a great success due to our partnership with the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology (AAAAI) and our many delegates who traveled from 75 different countries across North America, Latin America, Europe, Africa, the Middle East, Asia, and Australia to attend this outstanding scientific meeting. Again, we send our thanks to AAAAI for this extremely successful partnership.

Lastly, I invite you to attend the [WAO International Scientific Conference \(WISC\) 2018](#). This conference will be a joint meeting with the National Congress of the Italian Society of Allergy, Asthma

and Clinical Immunology (SIAAIC) and we expect great attendance from **6-9 December in Florence, Italy**. Don't miss this meeting, which is themed "Personalized Medicine in Allergy: Biologics & Immunotherapy."

I look forward to seeing you in Florence!

Sincerely,



Ignacio J. Ansotegui  
President, World Allergy Organization

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Save the dates:



Keep track of all WAO activities at:

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