Dear Friends and Colleagues,

The World Allergy Organization is a global federation that is making an international impact every day. With a membership of 97 national and regional societies, WAO's reach is extensive, but WAO's impact goes beyond even this wide scope thanks to our many volunteers who are reaching out to advance the allergy, asthma, and immunology professions through WAO committees and programs and through their own societies.

Through the Emerging Societies Program, WAO has been hosting World Allergy Training Schools (WATS) since 2008. Patient advocacy is at the heart of our profession and through our WATS, we are educating physicians across the world. These physicians are leaders in their local countries who use this knowledge to improve the lives of their patients.

In 2016, the World Allergy Organization is again partnering with the American College of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology (ACAAI) to host a Training School in St. Petersburg, Russia, with additional locations being finalized. These WATS will attract a large number of physicians from the region, who are seeking to expand their knowledge and better the lives of their patients.

The newly formed WAO Committee on Allergy in Developing Countries is also expanding and reaching across boundaries. Professor Luis Caraballo from Colombia and Professor Suwat Benjaponpitak from Thailand co-chair this very important committee. As a global federation, WAO continually seeks to disseminate healthcare knowledge across the globe to benefit patients everywhere and this committee will assist in this effort and explore the unique needs of developing regions regarding allergy resources, training, and education.

Perhaps the most evident example of WAO's global reach is through our scientific meetings. Each year WAO attracts delegates from various parts of the world and the WAO International Scientific Conference (WISC 2016) will be no different, particularly given the impressive list of speakers and topics. The courses at WISC 2016 will be on the cutting edge of the science and I know all delegates will greatly benefit from attending this meeting and take away new insights that will be useful in their clinical and research efforts.
WISC 2016 will take place 6-9 December 2016 in Jerusalem and I hope to see you broadening your knowledge in a way that helps you advance your goals for optimal care of your allergy patients. I invite you to learn more about WISC 2016 online at: www.worldallergy.org/wisc2016/

Lastly, I’d like to thank the Italian Society of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (SIAAIC) for recognizing Professor Stephen Holgate and me as Honorary Members. I am fortunate to attend numerous national and regional member society meetings each year; the success of the SIAAIC Congress, and many others, gives me great confidence in the future of this profession and the patients that we serve.

See you in Jerusalem!

Sincerely yours,

Mario Sánchez Borges, MD
President, World Allergy Organization

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Save the date for WISC 2016: 6-9 December 2016

Keep track of all WAO activities at:
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