PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

Welcome to the late summer 2014 newsletter.

In Guadalajara 2013, I took over as President of IFKF for this current period. A period with important challenges and even greater responsibilities that demands full commitment from myself and my fellow Board of Directors members.

2014 has been a year of change, we have incorporated and registered IFKF as a legal entity in The Republic of Panama using the category of a Private Foundation. This incorporation was approved by the Council due to the fact that Panama offers a tax efficient legislation that allows International Organizations to sit in the Country and benefit from their territorial fiscal legislation. Panama has subscribed a Bilateral Free Trade Agreement with the USA which makes the destination very appealing for doing business by using it as a hub; a perfect fit for international organizations like IFKF to set a transparent, auditable and reliable operation. Panama has also a great infrastructure and host one of the main Banking and financial hubs in the World, offering a lower operational cost in comparison with many other economies inside and outside the region; enjoying an accessible geographical position. These changes took long due to a tight legal due diligence performed in order with the compliance process that guarantees the Panama Authorities the legality and trajectory of IFKF as an International Non for Profit Organization.

Last March 13th, we celebrated the World Kidney Day 2014. This event took place simultaneously in more than 150 countries around the World. Every year, the World Kidney Day grows bigger in attendance and number of locations (Countries) which helps us create more awareness about the importance of both prevention and the early treatment of the CKD.

Guadalajara 2013 was a very successful event, we had attendees from 42 countries that took part in conferences and workshops. It is of upmost importance to get a big attendance to the 15th IFKF Annual Meeting that will take place in Lyon, France from August 3rd to 6th 2014.

Looking forward to seeing you all in this event to share experiences, practices and ideas that lead our cause to a greater success, I remain. With my best personal regards,

Guillermo García, M.D., President
1. 2013 ANNUAL MEETING IN GUADALAJARA, MEXICO

The 14th Annual Meeting of IFKF was held at the RIU Plaza Hotel in Guadalajara, Mexico. It was organized by “Fundación Mexicana del Riñón”, “Fundación Ale”, “Fundación Stella Vega” and “Una Solución de Vida”.

Attendees from 42 countries came together and took part in over 29 conferences and workshops, with 18 foreign and 16 national speakers. As for recreational activities there were 2 guided tours to “Tlaquepaque” and the historic center of Guadalajara. Beside this, we were able to share three dinners, one at the RIU Hotel, one in the town hall and one in the “Hacienda San José del Refugio” in Amatitlán.

This meeting was the beginning of this year’s changes concerning the incorporation of the Foundation in Panama and the decision to hire Congrex Panama as the secretariat of the foundation to become more organized and be able to centralize all the information in one channel.
2. WKD 2014: HIGHLIGHTS

The WKD 2014 had the motto “Kidney age, just like you”. We initiate the campaign of take a picture with you drinking water and post it on the media to create awareness of the importance of healthy kidney.

Over 560 events were organized around the world and we are still counting. Let’s make a bigger success on the 10th WKD 2015, taking place on March 12th under the motto “Kidney health for all”.

12 MARCH 2015
KIDNEY HEALTH FOR ALL

Caminata por la Salud Renal

(Gracias por acompañarnos a celebrar a nuestros riñones)
Nos dijo mucho que venga en nuestro Caminata por la Salud Renal.)
This year’s meeting will take place at Résidence Villemanzy, a charming hotel residence located in the very heart of Lyon on the slopes of the Croix-Rousse. This completely renovated seventeenth century former convent is exceptionally situated and enjoys stunning views over the Rhône River, Lyon and its suburbs.

The hosts of this year are “Foundation du Rein”, “Université de Lyon”, “Hospices Civils de Lyon and Ville de Lyon”. The event is sponsored by Abbvie (Paris, Adrea (Lyon), Gambro Industries (Lyon), Roche (Paris), Physidia (Angers), Hospices Civils de Lyon and Ville de Lyon.

The program of three and a half days will cover several topics such as: integrated kidney care, chronic kidney disease in disadvantaged populations, kidney care and public health agenda – national initiatives, kidney foundations as promoters for research, fundraising and marketing and the general assembly among others.

To read the complete program please visit the website www.bal-congres.fr/ifkf/