PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

Some weeks ago Venus passed between the sun and Earth. If you missed it because of weather you can see the pictures on many websites. Next time this astronomic phenomenon occurs will be in 2117. Where will IFKF be in that next century? Who knows? More interesting question is this: where do we want to be in 3 – 5 years from now?

A small team is preparing a “Strategic Issues’ document. Essentials from this document will be presented during the Annual Meeting in Budapest.

Topics in this newsletter:

• Annual Meeting in Budapest: latest news
• Successful Regional Meeting in Albena, Bulgaria.
• 2011 for IFKF: a solid financial year
• COREP meeting in Mumbai
• WKD 2013: a new theme and other facts
• Exposure for IFKF at ERA EDTA, Paris
• Fresenius and IFKF: joint sponsoring of the AFRAN conference, February 20

You will also find latest news on our new website www.ifkf.org, along with regional meetings, partners & sponsors, IFKF programmes and other items of interest for you as an IFKF member.

With kind regards,
Timur Erk

1. ANNUAL MEETING IN BUDAPEST, AUGUST 22-25

Members are starting to use the dedicated webpage, www.ifkfbudapest.com for registration and accommodation. After registration and payment an invoice will be sent to you for your administration.

A new poster category has been added to the program. And a declaration about the holistic approach of nephrology will be published on the occasion of the 13th IFKF Annual Meeting.

An important item on the agenda of the Budapest Council Meeting will be the election of the President-Elect. The 1st two-year term of our Treasurer/Secretary will end during the Budapest meeting and two Board members are eligible for re-election.

This year’s all past-presidents Nomination Committee will send their recommendations to the Council before July 8.

A recent Letter of Invitation by Laszlo Rosivall and his team is attached as appendix to this newsletter.

2. WELL ORGANISED REGIONAL MEETING IN ALBENA, BULGARIA

According to the decisions taken during the 12th IFKF annual meeting held in Vancouver, Canada last year, the first step to organise regional meetings was achieved on May 20 and 21st. Timur, Marianne and Paul Beerkens attended the first meeting on behalf of IFKF.

The first of the meetings, which aims to establish a common practice to fight against CKD by means of regional similarities, such as culture and lifestyle, was hosted and very well organised by Professor Zdravko Kraev, president of the Balkan Kidney Association. Representatives from Bulgaria, Greece, and Macedonia attended the meeting.
IFKF was represented by President Timur Erk, Board member Marianne Vennegoor and Executive Director Paul Beerkens. The meeting was held in Varna’s Albena Region.

Main topics were studies of IFKF, studies of BKA and Bulgarian Transplanted Patients Association, WKD 2012 and preparations for WKD 2013, fundraising strategies during economic turmoil situations, evaluation of Bulgarian national CKD research, renal nutrition therapies and ways to adopt successful regional meetings, as well as Balkan Nephropathy which is a regional health issue. Due to one of the IFKF’s objectives, attempts to establish new foundations have reached a new stage: Greece and Macedonia have plans to establish kidney foundations with doctors from Bulgaria, Greece and Macedonia.

Some of the delegates at the Albena meeting.

3. 2011 FOR IFKF: A SOLID FINANCIAL YEAR

The Board is pleased to report that the 2011 year showed a solid financial performance for the IFKF. A key feature contributing to this improved performance is the increase of income from partners/sponsors, both as unrestricted income and project related restricted income.

Operating overheads were more or less as forecasted, with the exception of increased marketing costs. This increased expenditure in marketing relates to an investment in building brand awareness for the IFKF, characterized by our attendance at the WCN in Vancouver, ERA EDTA in Prague and ASN in Philadelphia.

In summary, we saw an increase in equity of US$ 90,000, which is added to our reserves and creates a stronger financial position for the organisation as we enter 2012. We are now starting to forecast the outcome for the 2012 fiscal year and it is clear that securing membership and sponsorship income will be more challenging this year. We believe we will still be able to add to our reserves in 2012, but not at the level of last year.

Membership Fees 2012 reminders have been sent.

Els de Weerd has sent reminder invoices to those members who have not yet paid their dues. If you wish to pay by credit card we can process your payment according to the instructions regarding confidentiality on the invoice. A confirmation is automatically sent to you by the secured system which we use.

To avoid misunderstanding in the future, members who are not paying their fees cannot vote during Council meetings and will not benefit from special (sponsored) activities.
4. COREP: VERY SUCCESSFUL MEETING IN MUMBAI

COREP in Mumbai, the 2nd Regional Meeting just this year has been very successful. For the first time renal health care professionals with different specialisms came together to share their experiences and learn from each other. They provided excellent presentations and enough time to connect on an informal level.

Not less then 650 people attended the meeting, of which 525 were paying delegates. The other attendants were mainly students, who were sent to the meeting by their College and University principals and professors. There were 85 faculty members from the different specialisms. Among these as overseas faculty members Joel Kopple, Marianne Vennegoor, Geraldine Biddle and Teri Brown. Photos of the COREP meeting will be published on our website.

Principal college of nursing SNDT University - Vasudha Kamble
President of Indian Dietetic Association - Jagmeet Madan

Other Regional Meetings in 2012 and 2013: Work in progress

The IFKF policy to promote regional meetings is taking shape in 2012 and 2013. Intended Regional Meetings are in France, Australia and Brazil.

4. IFKF: EXPOSURE DURING ERA EDTA IN PARIS

During ERA EDTA in Paris, IFKF was presented at a small and simple booth. We had a DVD presentation, gave information to visitors and handed out informative postcards with the new logo. As small gifts we handed out pencils with the IFKF name to visitors. Els de Weerd, Anne-Marie Klein, (Els’ colleague at the Dutch Kidney Foundation) and Jan Lantink manned the booth. Presentations like this during congresses and conferences require part of the marketing budget, of course, but it contributes to building the IFKF brand worldwide.

Yusuke Tsukamoto, Deputy Director of the Itabashi Chuo Medical Centre (Japan) and KDIGO Board member with IFKF Board members Guillermo Garcia Garcia, Immediate Past President Miguel Riella, President Timur Erk and Program Director Jan Lantink at the IFKF booth.
Interview with Board member Maurice Laville

Our IFKF Board member Maurice Laville was not only a speaker; he was also interviewed by ERA EDTA Daily News. Maurice was the President of the Foundation du Rein (now Michel Godin), and is now the President of the French Société de Néphrologie.

The full text of the interview with Maurice is available at the ERA EDTA Paris website http://www.eraedta2012.org/. Click on Daily Congress News Issue 1.

The next ERA EDTA Congress

The next ERA EDTA Congress will be in Istanbul, hometown of the Turkish Kidney Foundation. May 18 – 21, 2013

6. IFKFIS BUILDING MORE PRESENCE IN AFRICA

Together with our long term partner, Fresenius, and with the help of IFKF members from the region, we are supporting a number of activities in sub-Saharan African countries.

The next large event will be the AFRAN congress in Ghana, February 2013. IFKF will be a sponsor of this event in close cooperation with Fresenius Medical Care. IFKF will present itself in a small booth separated from the Fresenius booth. We will keep you informed about this event and IFKF’s presence, which in this form is new to IFKF.

7. IFKF AND KDIGO

KDIGO is changing its organisation, and will be an independent organisation from October on. Quotes from a letter by John Davis, KDIGO’s new CEO:

KDIGO is moving forward to establish itself as a stand-alone organisation continuing to develop, publish and implement kidney disease guidelines on a global basis. The scheduled date of transition: October 1, 2012

While we are in this transition phase, KDIGO will continue to have the superb support of the NKF staff. In the near term, KDIGO will still need financing from pharmaceutical and provider companies. This is an important priority - Corporate Roundtable on October 4th. It is critical this year that as many corporate decision makers as possible attend.

We hope to enlist the support of global, regional and country-specific organisations in all aspects of KDIGO’s work. That is especially true in implementation. The Implementation Task Force has been working hard
and will continue to do so. KDIGO is strong. We are publishing five guidelines this year and intend to begin new ones soon.

Miguel Riella will speak about KDIGO and the intended collaboration with IFKF during our Annual Meeting in Budapest.

8. SeeKD®

Marcus Bastos (Brazil) and Nadine Valk (Canada) are writing the next draft of the programme. They will make the programme available for all members, including a step-by-step plan for the introduction of SeeKD® in 2012 and the following years.

SeeKD® by the Kidney Foundation of Canada had a very successful first year, with 2000 people screened in every region. KFOC partnered with First Nations, Sikh and Chinese communities to be able to focus on these high risk populations. Understanding of kidney disease increased, a lot of feedback came back from individuals about the difference it made to their health, losing weight, taking care of pre-diabetes, flagging undiagnosed hypertension. More outreach in more northern and more rural is already on going in year two.

9. KIDNEY FOUNDATIONS PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME KFPP

More news in the next President’s Newsletter.

10. WDK 2013: A NEW THEME AND OTHER FACTS

The WKD Steering Committee has decided to focus W KD 2013 on Acute Kidney Injury (AKI), a relatively new topic. At present we are testing some possible slogans (taglines) to communicate the 2013 theme. The Scientific Editorial will be written by a number of authors, whose contribution will cover various facets of the AKI theme, among these:
• Public health issues in developing countries.
• Intensive care issues in hospital setting.
• Primary care issues.

The W KD main tagline:
KIDNEYS for LIFE is still appropriate and will continue.

11. PARTNERS AND SPONSORS: SOME LATEST NEWS

Fresenius has intensified their partnership for 2012. For mutual activities we refer to the section ‘IFKF Presence in Africa’.

With Abbott we are continuing to work together on two projects:
Kidney Health for Life (formerly Renal Health for Life).
• Main objective of KH4L: “To develop a systematic international inventory to evaluate gaps and inequalities in care for CKD patients – with an emphasis on early detection and management of the disease – and to provide guidance/recommendations to address these gaps and inequalities to improve the standard of care.”
• IFKF has been represented during a Steering Committee meeting in Paris. More about this ambitious project in a separate message.

International Challenge
We reported about this competition in an earlier newsletter. The International Challenge, goals and guidelines will be presented in Budapest.
The 2011 ‘Make the Difference’ project has been discontinued. We are now working on a different partnership with Shire.

We hope to sign the agreement with MSD/Merck this month. A delay has been caused by discussions that MSD had with the FDA in the US.

HemoCue is actively supporting screening programmes in Kenya, organised by NKF Kenya (former KHA-TO). We will inform you about Valentine Imonje’s plans in the next newsletter or in a separate email.
DEAR COLLEAGUES AND FRIENDS,

The 13th IFKF (International Federation of Kidney Foundations) Annual Meeting will take place in Budapest between 22-25 August, 2012. This is a unique opportunity for all of us to review the needs of the renal patients and the services that health care professionals can offer. In the third millennium, the technological development has taken amazing pace and is pushing the borders of science which of course will add to the standards and value of our professional care.

However, we cannot fail to appreciate the centuries long traditions and human values that medical practice has painstakingly gained and added to our ars medica. The importance of socio-psycho-economic factors in the provision of the best patient care cannot be underemphasized. In this century, we are facing incredible challenges like sustainable development, social and economic troubles. We need collective understanding and response to effectively address such issues. Therefore, it is high time that the young nephrologist, scientists, medical doctors, social workers and policy makers together with the active members of the society invest their efforts in establishing foundations that take the lead in introducing the holistic approach of medicine.

I find it my responsibility to call the attention of my fellow friends to undertake this effort and I can ensure you that all our outstanding faculty will do their best in this meeting to share their knowledge and experience with you which you will take home as an asset. The world leaders of the renal foundations from scientists to practicing doctors, from lawyers to patients will be here in Budapest providing a fantastic opportunity for you to exchange ideas and learn from their invaluable experiences.

Please check the details of the program at www.ifkfbudapest.com

I am expecting to meet you soon in Budapest.

Sincerely yours,
László Rosivall
President