

## The InterAcademy Quarterly News Bulletin



## WELCOME FROM THE IAP CO-CHAIRS

**Dear IAP, IAC and IAMP Member Academies,**

Welcome to our first Bulletin that provides news from the three inter-academy networks, IAP, IAMP and IAC. By issuing a joint bulletin we hope to better coordinate the dissemination of information of interest to the 130+ academies within the fledgling [InterAcademy Partnership](#), and other organizations, and to foster a common purpose among our three constituent networks.

The establishment of the InterAcademy Partnership as an umbrella organization has been progressing in recent months and the IAPartnership's Steering Committee (comprising the 6 co-chairs of its three constituent organizations) met in Trieste, Italy, in February 2015. Plans are underway to organize an electronic vote of approval from IAP, IAMP and IAC members to seek formal endorsement of being an integral part of the InterAcademy Partnership and an email to this effect will reach you in May/June 2015. Meanwhile, the IAP Executive Committee, the IAC Board and the IAMP Executive Committee are now working on the IAPartnership's draft Strategic Plan with clear priorities for science, health and research that will be finalized at the Joint Session hosted by INSA in New Delhi, India, in September, prior to circulation to the broader membership. At the Joint Session, plans for the launch of the umbrella organization in early 2016 will also be finalized. Our fundraising efforts are progressing, identifying potential donors to the IAPartnership, using the recently published IAPartnership prospectus '[Building a better world through science](#)'. We would also like to thank those member academies who have contributed to our ongoing fundraising campaign or pledged a voluntary annual membership contribution so far. We welcome your support at any time. For more information on how to participate in the IAPartnership's fundraising campaign, see our [website](#) or contact the Secretariat.

As always, we thank you for your commitment and support to our activities and look forward to continued collaboration in the coming months. Please feel free to come back to us with any queries and/or feedback on the plans underway for the InterAcademy Partnership establishment process, or with additions for the next joint News Bulletin. Thank you!

Mohamed Hassan & Volker ter Meulen

INTERACADEMY PARTNERSHIP PROJECT ON FOOD SECURITY	IAP CALENDAR
<p>The German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina is hosting the kick-off meeting for the new InterAcademy Partnership project on "Security of Food Supply and Sustainable Agriculture". The meeting will bring together experts from all 4 IAP affiliated regional networks, AASSA, EASAC, IANAS, and NASAC, and will take place in Halle, Germany, on 1-2 June 2015. Meeting participants will discuss the project's scope and timetable, as well as the specific scientific focus of the project, which is aiming for 4 regional statements plus an over-arching global statement. See <a href="#">here</a> for more information.</p>	<p><b>3<sup>rd</sup> IAP/IAC/IAMP Joint Session &amp; 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the InterAcademy Partnership Board @ New Delhi, India</b> 28-29 September 2015</p> <p><b>SAVE THE DATE!</b> <b>IAP Conference &amp; General Assembly</b> <b>@ Hermanus, South Africa</b> <b>28 February-2 March 2016</b></p> <p><i><a href="#">Link to meetings/events page.</a></i></p>

## 2016 IAP CONFERENCE & GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Preparations are now under way for the [IAP Conference on 'Science Advice' and General Assembly](#) in Hermanus, South Africa, on 28 February-2 March 2016. The Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf) will host these events in conjunction with its 20th Anniversary. The conference committee will be chaired by Professor Daya Reddy (President, ASSAf) and Professor Jörg Hacker (President, German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina). All IAP and IAMP Member Academies are encouraged to attend this event for the launch of the InterAcademy Partnership. More information will be made available on the [conference website](#) over the coming months.

## FROM MEMBER ACADEMIES / OBSERVERS

+ The [Colombian Academy of Exact, Physical and Natural Sciences](#) will host the annual meeting of the Executive Committee of the InterAmerican Network of Academies of Science ([IANAS](#)) in Bogotá, Colombia, on 27-30 May 2015. The Committee will discuss reports on the [IANAS programmes](#) on energy, water, education and women for science, as well as budgetary issues, and will kick-off preparations for the 2016 IANAS General Assembly to be held in Brazil.

+ The [World Academy of Art & Science](#) organized an international conference on a "[Framework for a New Paradigm in Human Development](#)" in collaboration with Nizami Ganjavi International Center (NGIC) in Baku, Azerbaijan, on 29-30 April 2015. The conference was the penultimate step in the preparation of a report on the need, characteristics and pathways to a new paradigm. Visit the [New Paradigm Project](#) for an overview of the project, reports on earlier conferences, published articles and papers.

+ In preparation for the G7 Summit in Germany in June 2015, the science academies of the G7 states under the leadership of the [German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina](#) jointly prepared statements on 'Infectious Diseases and Antimicrobial Resistance: Threats and Necessary Action', 'Neglected Tropical Diseases', and 'Future of the Ocean: Impact of Human Activities on Marine Systems'. These statements were presented to the German Chancellor on the occasion of a [science conference](#) in Berlin on 29-30 April 2015.

## ACTIVITIES AROUND THE WORLD

+ At the close of the UN World Conference on [Disaster Risk Reduction](#) in Sendai, Japan, in March 2015, world leaders released the [Sendai Declaration](#) in which they recognized the "increasing impact of disasters and their complexity in many parts of the world" and declared a "determination to enhance our efforts to strengthen disaster risk reduction to reduce disaster losses of lives and assets worldwide". Participants agreed that science was integral to a new global disaster risk reduction agreement. Efforts in disaster risk reduction will now be undertaken through a new framework agreement, the [Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030](#), which replaces the 2005-2015 Hyogo Framework for Action. IAP was represented on the Science and Technology Major Group by two experts from the Science Council of Japan; see [here](#) for their report.

+ IAP Co-Chairs Mohamed Hassan and Volker ter Meulen, together with IAP Coordinator Peter McGrath and EASAC Biosciences Programme Director Robin Fears, have contributed an article on "[Academies of Science as Key Instruments of Science Diplomacy](#)" to AAAS's recent publication *Science and Diplomacy*.

+ IAP published '[Working with Big Ideas of Science Education](#)', edited by Wynne Harlen. This document, the work of an international expert group of scientists, engineers and science educators, addresses concerns that the science curriculum in many countries is overloaded and over-detailed, frequently accompanied by assessment that requires memorizing multiple

facts, and a deterrent to the widely advocated inquiry-based approach to teaching and learning. Printed copies are available from the IAP Secretariat upon request.

+ In March 2015, the Pakistan Academy of Sciences hosted an international workshop on ‘[Policy Makers and Practitioners: Awareness Workshop on Dual Use Education](#)’ in collaboration with the Quaid-i-Azam University (QAU) and with support from IAP. The workshop aimed at raising awareness about the potential implications of dual-use research concerns in biotechnology and at discussing possible ways to prevent biotechnology abuse.

#### IAMP (IAP FOR HEALTH)

+ On 3 March 2015, a majority of IAMP members endorsed the draft statement on [Healthcare for Hearing Loss](#).

+ An international workshop, supported by IAP, on ‘[Health Science Education in Compulsory Primary Schools](#)’ took place at the Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei in Rome, Italy, on 15 May 2015.

+ IAMP has issued a Call for Abstracts for a project on ‘[Exploring Traditional Medicine](#)’. The project aims at exploring the contribution of traditional medical practices in healthcare and defining the methodologies to assess the science, safety, quality and efficacy behind them. Member Academies are asked to suggest successful examples of traditional practices as case studies for discussion at a symposium in Beijing, China, in September 2015.

+ The Call for Nominations for the IAMP [Young Physician Leaders Programme 2015](#) is now open (deadline: 30 June 2015).

+ IAMP is working towards developing programmatic activities in the area ‘[One Health](#)’ and has asked member academies to respond to a survey on their activities in this area. Information from other academies on their ‘One Health’ activities is also welcome.

#### FROM IAP AFFILIATED REGIONAL NETWORKS

**AASSA** has published an updated version of its [Brochure](#), which is now available online.

The Network is organizing the 11th AASSA Regional Workshop on ‘[Gender Issues in Science Research and Education](#)’ in Seoul, Korea, on 26-27 August 2015. This workshop will take place in conjunction with the Gender Summit 6 Asia Pacific 2015.

**EASAC** published a report on ‘[Ecosystem Services, Agriculture and Neonicotinoids](#)’, which was launched with a discussion event in Brussels, as well as a commentary in *Nature* in April. It received extensive [media coverage](#) both in Europe and globally.

EASAC also contributed to the Centre for Science and Policy’s (Cambridge) publication on ‘[Future Directions for Scientific Advice in Europe](#)’, which was launched at a discussion event in Brussels in April 2015.

**IANAS** released a comprehensive volume on [Urban Water Challenges](#) as part of the recognition of World Water Day in March 2015. The volume includes chapters evaluating urban water issues for 20 countries of the Americas. The book is available for free in both English and Spanish. Financial support was provided by IAP, the International Hydrological Program of UNESCO and IANAS member academies.

**NASAC**’s Board will meet in Nairobi, Kenya, on 29 May 2015.

NASAC has admitted two new academies into its network. The [Académie Nationale des Sciences du Burkina Faso \(ANSB\)](#) and [Académie Nationale des Sciences et Technologies du Congo \(ANSTC\)](#) now bring NASAC membership to 21 academies.

## IAP YOUNG SCIENTISTS ACTIVITIES & GLOBAL YOUNG ACADEMY (GYA)

+ IAP and the Global Young Academy have issued a call for the nomination of experts and for the provision of best practice case studies for an IAP-funded GYA project to conduct a policy report on "[Solid Waste Management and Green Economy](#)" under the umbrella of the InterAcademy Partnership. The call is for experts from the IAP and GYA networks in the fields of solid waste management, environmental science, green economy and sustainable development to participate in this report. As part of the project, an international workshop will take place on 22-23 October 2015 at the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina in Halle, Germany.

+ Following the success of the young scientists programmes organized in collaboration with the World Economic Forum, this year IAP has formed a partnership with the Hungarian Academy of Sciences to hold a young scientists side event prior to the World Science Forum 2015, in Budapest. IAP Members have been invited to submit nominations of outstanding young scientists and the selected group of some 35 should be formed by early June 2015. More details on the planning can be found [here](#). The agenda for the event is being designed in collaboration with [WAYS](#), [ICoRSA](#) and the [GYA](#).

+ In February 2015, several National Young Academies from Europe wrote an [open letter](#) to the President of the European Commission, Jean-Claude Juncker, criticizing his proposed cuts in EU research budget as these would undermine competitiveness and mobility for young researchers, and asking that the Commission reconsider these proposed cuts to the Horizon 2020 budget. The National Young Academies of Belgium, Denmark, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Poland, Scotland and Sweden signed the letter.

## UPDATES FROM THE SECRETARIAT

+ On the occasion of the [2015 International Day for Biological Diversity](#) (22 May 2015) view some [IAP projects](#) that touch on the theme.

+ The Internship Programme at the IAP/IAMP Secretariat in Trieste is running again this summer. See [here](#) for more details.

+ IAP/IAC/IAMP Member Academies and Affiliated Regional Networks are invited to contribute to the [Meetings & Events](#) page by submitting information and details on workshops/other events they are organizing.

ANNIVERSARIES	FEEDBACK / CONTACT
<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div style="flex-grow: 1;"> <p>In 2015, the <a href="#">Swiss Academy of Sciences</a>, which is part of the Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences, celebrates its 200th Anniversary.</p> </div> </div>	<p style="text-align: center;">+ + + The InterAcademy Quarterly News Bulletin + + +</p> <p style="text-align: center;">+ + + Email: <a href="mailto:iap@twas.org">iap@twas.org</a> + + +</p> <p style="text-align: center;">+ + + Web: <a href="http://www.interacademies.org">http://www.interacademies.org</a> + + +</p> <p style="text-align: center;">+ +</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The deadline for contributions to the next issue of the News Bulletin is <b>21 August 2015</b>.</p>

... *Working together towards the InterAcademy Partnership*