

Article 1. NAME

The name of the organization shall be the INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF PLASTIC, RECONSTRUCTIVE AND AESTHETIC SURGERY (IPRAS).

Article 2. PURPOSE

The purpose of IPRAS shall be to promote the art and science of plastic surgery, to further plastic surgery education and research, to provide care for patients in need worldwide and to encourage friendship among plastic surgeons and physicians of all countries.

Article 3. COMPOSITION

IPRAS shall consist of the following five components:

Section A. National Associations

1. An official national association of plastic surgeons, representing the majority of plastic surgeons, shall represent that country in IPRAS.
2. Each such association shall consist of at least 5 members.
3. Applications for membership from national associations shall not be rejected on the basis of religious beliefs or political ideals of the parent nation.

Section B. Regional Sections

Two or more qualified national associations from a contiguous geographic region may represent that region in IPRAS.

Section C. Co-Opted Societies

International associations or societies representing areas of activity pertinent to plastic surgery represented in IPRAS.

Section D. Regional Associations

1. Regional associations may be formed to represent plastic surgeons in geographic areas otherwise unable to affiliate with IPRAS.
2. This affiliation shall be for purposes of scientific communication, and organizational support.
3. Regional associations shall request formal recognition from IPRAS.
4. Such recognized regional associations shall enjoy the same privileges, rights and obligations as a national society.

Section E. Provisional Associations

1. National associations formed not less than six weeks prior to the next meeting of the Council of National Delegates may be recognized as a provisional association by action of the Executive Committee.
2. Such provisional associations shall be elevated to full membership at the next meeting of the Council of National Delegates, providing all other requirements of membership have been met.
3. Provisional associations may appoint an observer to the Council of National Delegates for representation at its biennial meeting until national association status has been confirmed by the Council of National Delegates.
 - a. Observers may participate in discussions and debates, but may not vote.
 - b. When national association status is achieved, the observer shall be seated as the Delegate with full rights, privileges, and obligations.
 - c. Provisional associations will pay dues for each year they have provisional status.

Article 4. ORGANIZATION

Section A. General Principles

The administration and governance of the IPRAS shall consist of: Board of Directors, Executive Committee (EXCO), Council of National Delegates, General Assembly.

Section B. General Secretary

1. The General Secretary shall be elected by the Council of National Delegates to serve one four (4) year term. A candidate for the General Secretary position shall have served on the Executive Committee for at least one (1) term.
2. The General Secretary's duties include
 - a. Conduct the day-to-day affairs of IPRAS.
 - b. Promote patient care in all parts of the world.
 - c. Conduct the meetings of the organization.
 1. Board of Directors
 2. Executive Committee
 3. Council of National Delegates
 4. General Assembly
 - d. Cause the Newsletter to be published.
 - e. Maintain the historical documents of the organization.
 - f. Receive reports from all Committee chairpersons.
 - g. Represent IPRAS at various section meetings, chapter meetings, national meetings, and regional meetings as necessary.

Section C. Board of Directors

1. The Board of Directors shall consist of:
 - a. the General Secretary (elected by the Council of National Delegates)
 - b. four (4) Deputy General Secretaries (appointed by the EXCO upon the recommendation of the General Secretary)
 - c. the Treasurer (elected by the Council of National Delegates)
 - d. the Parliamentarian (appointed by the EXCO upon the recommendation of the General Secretary)
2. The duties of the Board of Directors are:
 - a. to assist the General Secretary in conducting the day-to-day affairs of IPRAS
 - b. to establish a global network of cooperation, education and patient care
 - c. to supervise the activities of the committees.

Section D. Executive Committee

1. The Executive Committee shall consist of:
 - a. General Secretary
 - b. Treasurer
 - c. Members representing the geographic regions of IPRAS (1 regional representative per 1000 members) elected by the Council of National Delegates
 - d. Representatives who are the President or General Secretary of each Section
 - e. Representatives who are the President or General Secretary of each Co-opted Society
 - f. Chair and Deputy Chair of the Council of National Delegates
 - g. *Ex officio* members.
2. The members of the Executive Committee shall be elected by the Council of National Delegates to serve one (1) four (4) year term. Re-election is possible for one more four (4) year term.

3. The members of the Executive Committee shall be chosen to represent the following geographic regions:

- a. Africa and Middle East (1 delegate)
- b. Asian-Pacific (5 delegates)
- c. Europe (4 delegates)
- d. North America (6 delegates)
- e. Mexico, Central America and Caribbean (1 delegate)
- f. South America (3 delegates)

4. The Executive Committee shall accept one representative who is the General Secretary or President of each of the following:

- a. Regional Sections
 1. African Section
 2. Asian-Pacific Section
 3. European Section
 4. Ibero-Latin-American-Section
 5. Pan-Arab Section
- b. Co-Opted Societies – 1 representative (must be a Plastic Surgeon) each
 1. International Federation of Societies for Surgery of the Hand (IFSSH)
 2. International Society of Aesthetic Plastic Surgery (ISAPS)
 3. International Society of Craniofacial Surgery (ISCF)
 4. World Society of Reconstructive Microsurgery (WSRM)
- c. The Executive Committee shall appoint, upon the recommendation of the General Secretary, the following *ex officio* members:
 1. Up to four (4) Deputy General Secretaries (term of office four (4) years)
 2. Parliamentarian (term of office four (4) years)
 3. Editor of GLOBALPLAST (term of office four (4) years, reappointment is possible, may be a shared appointment)
 4. President of the next Biennial Congress
 5. Chairperson of the Organizing Committee of the next Biennial Congress appointed
 6. Historian - may be re-appointed for one or more terms to provide continuity; the Historian shall be responsible for a systematic collection of memorabilia and written information which will be collected as the history of IPRAS.

5. The duties of the Executive Committee:

- a. supervise the affairs of IPRAS between the Biennial meetings of the Council of National Delegates.
- b. represent IPRAS and its Council of National Delegates.
- c. appoint such committees as are required to conduct the business of IPRAS.
- d. oversee and assist the organization and implementation of the Biennial scientific congress of the IPRAS

6. No member of the Executive Committee shall be permitted to participate in discussions or debate or vote if his/her national society is in arrears of its annual assessment.

Section E. The Council of National Delegates

1. The Council of National Delegates shall be the main decision making body of IPRAS

2. The Council of National Delegates shall consist of:

- a. One (1) delegate selected by each member national society.
 1. The national delegate shall be selected by the respective national society from amongst its senior leadership and shall be involved in the administration and governance of said national society. The delegate should be the spokesperson for the national society to IPRAS and from

2. The national society shall provide the name of their National Delegate to the General Secretary or Executive Director within the first six (6) months following the beginning of a new 4 year cycle.
3. Substitutions of delegates (for representational purposes) are permitted upon official notification to the General Secretary or Executive Director from the national society.
4. A national society whose delegate is elected to serve on the Executive Committee may, at its own discretion, appoint another active member to serve as its delegate to the Council of National Delegates.
 - b. One (1) delegate selected by each regional association.
 - c. All members of the Executive Committee.
3. National delegates may not participate in the discussions and debates of the Council of National Delegates nor may they vote, if their national society is in arrears in assessment payments.
4. The Council of National Delegates has the following responsibilities:
 - a. Approves applications of national associations for membership.
 - b. Approves applications of regional associations for membership.
 - c. Elects the members of the Executive Committee.
 - d. Elects the General Secretary.
 - e. Selects the site of the next biennial scientific congress after hearing presentations by the prospective host national societies and the recommendations of the Executive Committee.
 - f. Receives the report of the General Secretary on the activities of the Executive Office.
 - g. Receives a detailed and audited financial report of IPRAS.
5. The Council of National Delegates is chaired by the General Secretary.
6. The Council of National Delegates is granted the authority to review the finances of IPRAS.

Section F. The General Assembly

1. The General Assembly shall consist of those members attending the Biennial Congress who are members of accredited national societies, members of regional associations, and members of co-opted societies.
2. The General Assembly shall receive reports from the General Secretary on behalf of the Executive Committee and its subcommittees and the Council of National Delegates including:
 - a. Overview of the current affairs of IPRAS.
 - b. Finances of IPRAS.
 - c. Proposals for future congress sites.
 - d. Proposals for elections.

Section G. Subcommittees

1. The Executive Committee shall appoint sub-committees as it requires to conduct the affairs of IPRAS.
2. The subcommittees shall serve until the next meeting of the Council of National Delegates.
3. Subcommittee membership shall be limited to active members of accredited national societies, but need not be members of the Executive Committee or the Council of National Delegates.
4. Subcommittee members shall be selected for their professional expertise in the designated area of service.
5. The Executive Committee upon the recommendation of the General Secretary shall appoint the chairs.
6. Each subcommittee shall report its activities to the General Secretary annually and ninety (90) days prior to each meeting of the Council of National Delegates.

7. Standing subcommittees of IPRAS shall be:
 - a. The By-Laws Committee shall consist of the Parliamentarian, who shall serve as Chair and four (4) members selected from the Executive Committee and shall:
 1. Be charged to review the By-Laws every two (2) years and recommend appropriate revision to the Executive Committee.
 2. Receive and review all proposed changes to the By-Laws and report their recommendations to the Executive Committee. All such changes shall be forwarded to the Council of National Delegates with appropriate recommendations for action.
 - b. The Nominating Committee shall consist of five (5) members selected as follows: The Council of National Delegates shall elect two (2) members; the Executive Committee shall elect three (3) members; The General Secretary shall select the Chairperson.
 1. All elected members shall hold a current seat in the IPRAS organizational structure.
 2. The Nominating Committee shall produce a quadrennial slate of candidates for each of the following offices and report this slate to the Council of National Delegates for their action:
 - a. General Secretary
 - b. Treasurer
 - c. Representatives of geographical regions on the Executive Committee
 - d. Two (2) members of the Nominating Committee
 - c. The Communications Committee shall consist of the Editor of *GlobalPlast* and at least four (4) other members and shall:
 1. Receive all pertinent national and regional news submitted for publication in *GlobalPlast*
 2. Be chaired by the Editor of *GlobalPlast*.
 - d. The IPRAS Foundation (former IPRAF) shall consist of the chairpersons of all committees involved in humanitarian projects and shall:
 1. Prepare an evaluation of IPRAS humanitarian projects and their efficacy annually for the Board of Directors
 2. Present suggestions for further improvement of efficiency of existing committees and suggest the introduction of new committees, if needed.
 - e. The Budget and Finance Committee shall consist of three members appointed by the Executive Committee and shall be:
 1. charged with the annual review of the financial affairs of IPRAS.
 2. presenting a budget to the Executive Committee for transmission to the Council of National Delegates.
 3. assisting the General Secretary in preparation of the required financial statements.
 4. chaired by the Treasurer

Article 5. CONGRESS

Section A. The Scientific Congress

1. The scientific congress shall be held every two (2) years.
2. The congress shall be hosted by a currently accredited national society.
3. The site for the biennial congress shall be selected by the Council of National Delegates after recommendations have been made by:
 - a. The General Secretary
 - b. The Executive Committee
4. Selection of the host city shall be determined by a simple majority of a secret vote of the Council of National Delegates. In the case of more than two (2) nominees, preferential balloting shall be used.

5. Bids to host the scientific congress shall be submitted to the General Secretary twelve (12) months prior to the congress at which the selection will be made.
 - a. All informational materials submitted in the bid shall be sent to the General Secretary, who shall distribute said materials to the Executive Committee. Failure to observe this requirement shall disqualify the bid.
 - b. Bids shall include tentative plans for site, hotel space, scientific programming, social activities, travel arrangements, budget and organizing committee framework.
6. The host national society may, at its discretion, utilize a subsidiary organization(s) to sponsor and administer the congress.
7. The organizing committee of the host national society shall assume all responsibility for the administration of the congress including:
 - a. Scientific programming
 - b. Administration
 - c. Execution
 - d. Finances
8. The host organizing committee shall extend an invitation to each member of all accredited national societies and regional chapters to participate in the scientific program.
9. Preliminary registration materials shall be provided to each member of each accredited national society at least one (1) year prior to the planned congress.
10. Registration and scientific abstract materials shall be presented to the General Secretary for approval prior to distribution.

Section B. Congress Membership

1. All members of accredited national societies, regional associations and co-opted societies are eligible to register, and, upon payment of a registration fee, become an accredited attendee of the scientific Congress.
2. Residents-in-training and fellows may also attend upon presentation of a certifying letter from his/her Training Program Director indicating their accredited status in an approved training program.
3. Family members may attend and participate in the scientific and social events upon payment of appropriate registration fees.
4. Guests may be invited to participate by the following groups:
 - a. Host organizing committee may invite non-members to participate for their contribution to the scientific program.
 - b. Guests may be sponsored by accredited national societies.
 - c. Guests shall pay appropriate fees for any social events attended.

Section C. Official Language for the Congress

The official language for the biennial congress shall be English. Scientific papers may be given in other languages only if simultaneous translation into English is available.

Section D. Transactions

1. The official transactions of each congress will be published by the organizing committee in a medium chosen.
2. The transactions should follow the format used for previous editions.
3. The official language of the transactions shall be English.

Section E. Scientific Programming

1. Scientific programming is the responsibility of the host organizing committee.
2. Each IPRAS Co-Opted Society shall name an active representative for consultation and service to the congress scientific program committee of the host country's organizing committee.

Section F. Financial Relationships and Obligations

1. The host national society, or its designated organizing committee, shall assume all financial responsibility for the conduct of the congress.
2. The host committee may adopt whatever financial structure it chooses.
3. A "profit-sharing" arrangement (50% / 50 %) with IPRAS at the conclusion of a successful meeting is mandatory.

Article 6. SECTION CONGRESSES

1. Official Sections of IPRAS may conduct regional scientific congresses with the endorsement of the IPRAS Executive Committee.
2. Regional Scientific Congresses held under the auspices of and identified as a part of IPRAS shall conform to all of the requirements of IPRAS Congresses.
3. The official language may be other than English if appropriate.

Article 7. RULES OF PROCEDURE

Section A. Procedures

1. The official deliberations and decisions of IPRAS shall be governed by Sturgis' Rules of Order.
2. All votes shall be decided by a simple majority vote.
3. Tie votes shall be decided by a vote cast by the General Secretary.
4. Votes by written (mail) or electronic methods may be utilized to decide urgent business between biennial meetings of the Council of National Delegates.
 - a. All such mail ballots shall be approved by the Board of Directors at its next meeting.
 - b. All such mail ballots shall be ratified by the Council of National Delegates at its next meeting.
 - c. Revisions of the By-Laws, election of officers, and selection of the congress site shall be by 2/3 majority vote.

Section B. Quorum

The various administrative segments of IPRAS may officially conduct business on behalf of IPRAS when the following quorum is present:

1. Board Of Directors - 4 members
2. Executive Committee - 5 members
3. Council of National Delegates – 25 members
4. General Assembly - No quorum required (Advisory only).

Section C. Amendments to the By-Laws

1. Suggested changes to the By-Laws may be submitted to the General Secretary at least twelve (12) months prior to the succeeding biennial Council of National Delegates meeting.
2. All suggestions for change(s) in the By-Laws shall be referred to the By-Laws Committee for review, evaluation, and recommendations.
3. The By-Laws Committee shall present its recommendation(s) for or against the proposed changes to the Executive Committee for its review and recommendations.
4. The proposed changes to the By-Laws may only be adopted by the Council of National Delegates voting at a regularly scheduled meeting.
5. Amendments to the By-Laws require a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the voting members of the Council of National Delegates.

Article 8. DUES AND FINANCES

Section A. Dues

1. Dues for membership are assessed to each member of each member national society on a *per capita* basis of total paying members for the current year.
2. The dues assessment shall be prorated to each national society on a yearly basis.
3. Dues are payable during the first three (3) calendar months of each year.
4. Dues are delinquent after the 3rd month has elapsed from the date of assessment. Ten percent (10%) of the total amount due will be added each month that dues are not received.

Section B. Finances

1. The finances shall be reviewed by internal methods annually with external reviews every four years.
 - a. A three (3) person, *ad hoc*, financial oversight committee shall be appointed by the Executive Committee.
 - b. The Treasurer shall serve as an *ex officio* member of this committee.
 - c. An external review by a certified public accountant will be commissioned by the General Secretary for presentation to the Council of National Delegates at their biennial meeting.
2. The financial review shall be presented to the Executive Committee for information and to the Council of National Delegates for acceptance.

ARTICLE 9. DISSOLUTION

Section A. Use of Funds

1. IPRAS shall use its funds only to accomplish the purposes specified elsewhere in these By-Laws.
2. No part of these funds shall inure to the benefit of any individual member or employee of IPRAS.

Section B. Dissolution

In the event of the dissolution of IPRAS, the Executive Committee, acting with the authority of the Council of National Delegates, shall, after satisfying all liabilities of IPRAS, distribute all remaining assets to such organization(s) operated for one or more of the purposes contained in these By-Laws, or to such charitable, educational, and/or scientific organizations as shall qualify.

ARTICLE 10. INDEMNIFICATION PROVISIONS

IPRAS shall indemnify, to the full extent permitted by law, every past and present officer, director, executive office staff member, and committee member of the organization. This indemnification shall be against expenses actually and necessarily incurred in connection with defense or settlement of any action, suit, or proceeding to which any of them is made a party as a result of having served in any of the foregoing capacities. This indemnification shall not apply to matters in which the individual is judged liable for willful misconduct and to matters as shall be settled by agreement predicated upon the existence of such liability.

The term "expenses" shall include: attorney fees, court costs, costs of investigation, cost of preparation for and attendance at trials, amounts of judgments, fines, and penalties, amounts paid at settlement (unless paid to IPRAS), and other expenses necessarily and reasonably incurred in connection with the defense or settlement of any action or proceeding. The foregoing right of indemnification shall be exclusive of any other rights to which the parties may be entitled. This indemnification shall be in addition to any other power or right that IPRAS has to indemnify its officers, directors, staff, and committee members. IPRAS may purchase insurance against any liability incurred as the result of the first paragraph of this Article.

Plastic Surgery Meetings from around the World

View an updated list on our website at www.ipras.org

MAY 2008

Dates: 07 May 2008 - 10 May 2008

XVI International Course on Plastic and Aesthetic Surgery

Location: Barcelona
Venue: Clinica Planas
Contact: Jorge Planas, MD
Tel: 34-93-203-2812
Fax: 34-93-206-9989
e-mail: cursos@clinica-planas.com
HomePage: <http://clinicaplanas.com/es/congresos/2008>

Dates: 09 May 2008 - 11 May 2008

14th ASEAN Congress of Plastic Surgery

Location: Jakarta
Venue: Borobudur Hotel
Contact: Teddy Prasetyono, MD
Tel: +62-21-5596-0180
Fax: +62-21-5596-0179
e-mail: teddyohp@yahoo.com

Dates: 23 May 2008 - 24 May 2008

Fresh Frozen Cadaver Course: FACE to FACE

Location: Department of Anatomy
Venue: University of Utrecht
Contact: H. ter Linden, Plastic Surgeon, Isala Klinieken,
Zwolle, the Netherlands
Tel: +31 (0) 384246042
Fax: +31(0) 384527368
e-mail: secretariaat@drtulp.nl
HomePage: <http://www.drtulp.nl>

Dates: 26 May 2008 - 30 May 2008

17th Congreso de la FILACP

Location: Quito
Contact: Wilfredo Calderon, MD
Tel: 593-2-243-5397
Fax: 593-2-243-5398
e-mail: filacp2008@groupdmc.com
HomePage: <http://www.filacp2008-quitosecpre.com>

JUNE 2008

Dates: 05 June 2008 - 07 June 2008

THE V INTERNATIONAL PLASTIC SURGERY COURSE

Location: Ekaterinburg, Russia
Venue: Atrium Palace Hotel
Contact: Elena Tselikova, Katherine Ushkova
Tel: +7-343-371-88-24
Fax: +7-343-371-88-24
e-mail: org@plastic-surgery.ru
HomePage: <http://www.b-med.ru/en>

Dates: 06 June 2008 - 08 June 2008

8th International Congress

Location: Bucharest, Romania
Venue: Marriott Grand Hotel
Contact: Romanian Aesthetic Surgery Society
Tel: +40-264-414-432
Fax: +40-264-414-432
e-mail: congres@srce.ro
HomePage: <http://www.srce.ro>

Dates: 12 June 2008 - 14 June 2008

9th Euromicro

Location: Turku, Finland
Venue: Sigyn Hall
Contact: Heli Alasaukko-oja/Congrezon Ltd
Tel: +358 3 254 1251
Fax: +358 3 260 4266
e-mail: euromicro2008@congreszon.fi
HomePage: <http://www.www.euromicro2008.org>

Dates: 25 June 2008 - 28 June 2008

International Symposium on Plastic Surgery

Location: Bologna, Italy
Venue: University of Bologna
Contact: Paulo Morselli
Fax: 39-51-636-3641
e-mail: paolo@morselli.info
HomePage: <http://www.plasticsurgerysymposium.info>

September 2008

Dates: 07 September 2008 - 11 September 2008

14th Congress of the International Society For Burn Injuries

Location: Hilton Bonaventure Montreal Hotel, Montreal CA
Venue: Montreal Canada
Contact: Goddard Communications: info@goddardcom.com
e-mail: info@isbi2008-montreal.com
HomePage: <http://www.isbi2008-montreal.com>

OCTOBER 2008

Dates: 01 October 2008 - 05 October 2008

25th Annual Meeting of the Northeastern Society of Plastic Surgeons

Location: Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Venue: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Contact: PRRI
Tel: 1-978-927-8330
Fax: 1-978-524-0498
e-mail: nesps@prri.com
HomePage: <http://www.nesps.org>

Plastic Surgery Meetings from around the World(cont.)

OCTOBER 2008 (cont.)

Dates: 01 October 2008 - 05 October 2008

7th Croatian Congress of Plastic, Reconstructive & Aesthetic Surgery

Location: Split

Venue: Hotel Ivan, Solaris Holiday Resort

Contact: Dr. Zdreavko Roje

Tel: +385-1-6110-449

Fax: +385-1-6110-452

e-mail: kongres@studiohrg.hr

HomePage: <http://www.studiohrg.hr/plastic-surgery2008>

Dates: 15 October 2008 - 18 October 2008

12th Asian Pacific Association for Lasers in Medicine and Surgery and 1st Asian Pacific Aesthetic Plastic Surgery Symposium (ISAMLS)

Location: Seoul

Venue: Seoul Yonsei University, Severance Hospital

EunMyung Auditorium

Contact: Prof. Pres. Jin Wang Kim MD, PhD

Tel: 822-511-3713

Fax: 822-517-3713

e-mail: khg000@unitel.co.kr

HomePage: <http://www.lasercongresskorea.org>

September 2009

Dates: 20 September 2009 - 26 September 2009

11th Congress of ESPRAS

Location: Rhodes

Venue: Rhodes Palace Hotel

Contact: Prof. Andreas Yiacomettis

Tel: 30-22920-60610

Fax: 30-22920-27530

e-mail: gerasimosk@zita-congress.gr

HomePage: <http://www.espras2009.org>

OCTOBER 2009

Dates: 07 October 2009 - 09 October 2009

10th Asian Pacific Congress

Location: Tokyo

Venue: Keio Plaza Hotel

Contact: Eriko Kosaka

Tel: +81-3-6425-8671

Fax: 81-3-5779-4978

e-mail: iprasapx@avila.jp

HomePage: <http://iprasapx.umin.jp/>

November 2009

Dates: 29 November 2009 - 03 December 2009

15th World Congress of IPRAS

Location: New Delhi

Contact: Rejeev Ahuja, MD

Tel: +91-11-2323-1871

Fax: +91-11-2322-2756

e-mail: desk@ipras2009.org

HomePage: <http://www.ipras2009.org>

October 2010

Dates: 31 October 2010 - 04 November 2010

11th Triennial Congress of the International Federation of Societies for Surgery of the Hand

Location: Seoul Korea

Venue: Sheraton Grand Walkerhill Hotel

Contact: Goo Hyun Baeh, MD

Tel: +822-2072-3787

Fax: +822-764-2718

HomePage: <http://www.ifssh2010.com>

May 2011

Dates: 22 May 2011 - 27 May 2011

IPRAS 2011 Vancouver

Location: Vancouver CANADA

Contact: CSPS offices

e-mail: csps_sccp@bellnet.ca

2013

IPRAS 2013

Location: Santiago, Chile

More nfo: info@ipraschile.cl

Add your meeting to this list.

Contact Becky Cook, IPRAS Executive Webmaster at bcook@sover.net

Please provide as much information as possible

Additional meetings online at
www.ipras.org

The German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery had the honour and the pleasure to host the 14th International Congress of the International Confederation for Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery in Berlin from June 26 to 30 2007. Many invitation trips to all 5 continents done by Marita Eisenmann-Klein, the General Secretary of IPRAS, by Johannes Bruck, the Secretary of the meeting and by Rolf R. Olbrisch, the President, during the time after the last meeting in Sidney in 2003 and the following 4 years had been successful: We welcomed 2686 Attendees from 97 countries from all over the world, from Albania to Yemen and from Argentina to Venezuela.

The hosting No 1 country of Germany with 641 participants was followed by the USA with 203 participants, United Kingdom with 150, Australia with 139, Russia with 126, and Japan with 102. Venezuela with 58 and Brasil with 52 brought the biggest groups from South America. But even countries like Saint Kitts, Albania, Northern Korea, Kyrgyzstan, Tansania and Yemen sent Delegates.

In the Regional attendance we had 52 % from Europe, 12 % from Eastern Europe, 9 % from North America, 7 % each from South America and Asia, 6 % from Australia, 4 % from the Middle East, 2 % from Central America and 1 % from Africa.

The composition of the 2686 Attendees showed 1936 Delegates, 383 Accompanying Persons and 367 Exhibitors from 68 companies.

Mentor came as a Platinum Sponsor, Allergan, Ethicon and Polytech Silimed as Gold Sponsors and UltraShape as a Silver Sponsor.

The wheather had been perfectly prepared as it rained only during the interruptions between the sessions which gave the exhibitors a full house all the time because nobody than left the congress hall.

Altogether a number of 1031 abstracts reached the organizing comitee in due time. Therefrom 583 became orals and 448 posters.

The traditional Poster Exhibition and Poster Sessions were replaced by an E-Poster exhibition: All accepted posters were displayed on computer screens and participants in the congress could log in at any terminal and view the posters. All poster presentors could gain access to their personal poster account and read comments. The poster terminal also provided chat functions where viewers and authors could communicate with each other. The 3 Poster awards were awarded to the german group with Horch from Erlangen and its Video presentation: " The anterolateral Thigh Perferator Flap ", the second to Zocchi et al from Italy for " Biocompartmental Breast Lipostructuring " and the third to Keramidios from the U.K. for the " Composit Plane Breast Augmentaion: A new concept ".

A typical day had a masterclass in the morning and at the end of the day, 4 scientific sessions and a company training course. Each scientific session comprised of 1 or 2 Keynote addresses and lots of free papers – altogether 583. There were 5 concurrent sessions at any given time. Most of the orals had been Reconstructive papers (171) followed by Aesthetics with 130 papers, Mamma 107, Research / Experimental 44, Craniofacial 40, Burns 34 and Tumors 29. We had 1269 bookings for 36 masterclasses with the most popular by Bryan Mendelson concerning the Aesthetic face with 118 participants followed by the masterclass of Glenn Jelks on periorbital Surgery with 84 attendees and Patrick Tonnards Minimal invasive facelift-session with 82 participants.

At the academic opening ceremony Marita Eisenmann-Klein welcomed the Delegates as did the President of the Berlin House of Representatives and the Dean of the Medical Faculty of the Humboldt University. Dr Riccardo Mazzola of Italy then enumerated Berlin's glorious legacy to Plastic Surgery and was rightly honoured with the title of Official Historian of IPRAS.

Marita Eisenmann-Klein as the Secretary General of IPRAS in here address emphasized on 3 programmes which the IPRAS had taken up under her leadership:

" Woman for woman " is a global undertaking by female member Surgeons who donate time and skill to woman and children of third world countries to attend to their reconstructive surgery needs. Support for Iraqi Surgeons is one ongoing training programme for Surgeons in Iraq, and Disaster Relief Programme is a new initiative to offer reconstructive Surgery to victims of natural disasters like Tsunami, Earthquakes etc.

The welcome Ceremony in the eve of the first day at the Dome of Berlin, the biggest protestant church in Germany, with a concert for organ and trumpet and a young boys choir impressed most of the 1400 attendees who than followed a Dixieland Band across the river Spree to the Welcome Party at the Congress Hotel in front of the Dome. During the Gala Party at the end of the meeting with more than 1600 joyful people which took place at the historic Tempelhof Airport we became reminded of the Berlin Airlift of 1948 while Johannes Bruck as the Secretary and Rolf Rüdiger Olbrisch as the President of the meeting greeted the crowds in perfect blue uniforms together with beautiful young stewardesses from PanAm and Russian Aeroflot. See the pictures of the congress which are online on the congress website at www.ipras2007berlin.com as a reminder of intensive and wonderful days in Berlin which we tried to organize as " a time to make friends ".

Rolf R. Olbrisch

President of the Berlin IPRAS meeting 2007

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