



Dear Reader,

Welcome to the IAPO Newsletter for January 2010. This month we would like to share changes to the IAPO staff and provide more information on the 4<sup>th</sup> Global Patients Congress.

### **Happy New Year from the IAPO Governing Board and Staff!**

We would like to wish you all a Happy New Year! Thank you for your support during 2009, we hope to develop our relationship and continue to effectively work together in 2010 and beyond. To read some highlights of our key achievements in 2009 and plans for 2010, please [click here](#).

### **IMPORTANT NEWS**

#### **4<sup>th</sup> Global Patients Congress– Istanbul, Turkey – 23-25 February 2010 - Session update**

With less than six weeks until our Congress in Istanbul, the planning is going well and we are delighted to have many delegates registered to attend. If you would like to register to attend the Congress please contact [info@patientsorganizations.org](mailto:info@patientsorganizations.org). We would like to share more details on some of the Congress sessions on patient safety, strategies for sustainability and IAPO's Patient Advocate Learning and Exchange Programme (PALEP). To read more, please [click here](#).

### **IAPO NEWS**

#### **IAPO staff changes**

On 1 January 2010, Jeremiah Mwangi began his new role as Policy & External Affairs Director at IAPO. Jeremiah's new role will encompass developing and managing the implementation of IAPO's policy strategy as part of IAPO's new Strategic Plan (2010-2014), coordinating IAPO's policy activities, communicating IAPO's policy to a wide audience and building cross-sector collaborations. We would like to congratulate Jeremiah on this promotion and thank him for all his hard work since he joined IAPO in October 2006.

We are also pleased to announce that Rebecca Buckley, IAPO's Administrative and Information Officer has become a permanent member of staff, as of 1 January 2010. Rebecca has been working with us for the past six months and her role includes administration and support to IAPO's policy and capacity building work, office management and management of the IAPO volunteer programme.

After nearly two years working at IAPO, we are sorry to say goodbye to Anna Lee, part-time IAPO Project and Finance Officer. Anna has left to work full time for Patients for Patient Safety (PFPS) at the World Health Organization (WHO). As IAPO is a member of the Steering Group for PFPS we are pleased that we will continue to work with Anna in the area of patient safety. We would like to thank Anna for all her hard work and wish her luck in her exciting role at the WHO.

#### **IAPO welcomes Carmen Diaz as a Spanish speaking volunteer**

We would like to welcome and introduce Carmen Diaz, who is working for IAPO as a Spanish speaking volunteer. Carmen's work will enable us to give greater support to our Spanish speaking members and develop our regional work in Latin America. To read a message from Carmen, please [click here](#).

## EVENTS ATTENDED

### **The Cultures of Involvement – Exploring the Impact of Public Involvement: Understanding the role of theory, practice and culture - Helsinki, Finland – 27 November 2009**

IAPO's Administrative and Information Officer, Rebecca Buckley, attended the Cultures of Involvement seminar in Helsinki, Finland. The seminar brought together a range of experts on public involvement from different backgrounds spanning healthcare, the nuclear industry and local regeneration. For more information, please [click here](#).

### **Daily Challenges of Patients' Lives Exhibition – Brussels, Belgium – 8-10 December 2009**

On 8–10 December 2009, the International Alliance of Patients' Organizations (IAPO) took part in the "Daily Challenges in Patient's Lives Exhibition" at the European Parliament, facilitated by Sanofi-aventis and held under the patronage of Madame Françoise Grossetête MEP. This exhibition provided a number of European and international patient groups with the opportunity to join together and present their work to Members of the European Parliament (MEPs). For further information, please [click here](#).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **World Health Organization Executive Board 126<sup>th</sup> Session – Geneva, Switzerland – 18-23 January 2010**

Jeremiah Mwangi, IAPO's Policy and External Affairs Director, will be attending the 126<sup>th</sup> session of the World Health Organization's (WHO) Executive Board in Geneva. The Executive Board is composed of 34 national member representatives technically qualified in the field of health. During this board meeting, the agenda for the forthcoming World Health Assembly will be agreed upon and resolutions adopted for forwarding to the World Health Assembly. To find out more about the Executive Board, please [click here](#).

### **World Health Organization Patients for Patient Safety Meeting – Geneva, Switzerland – 26-27 January 2010**

IAPO will be participating in an upcoming meeting of Patients for Patient Safety. A number of IAPO member representatives are Patients for Patient Safety Champions and undertake valuable work on patient safety issues around the world. Further information about Patients for Patient Safety can be accessed [here](#). A session reviewing the progress of patient involvement in patient safety and considering next steps will be held during the Global Patients Congress. For further information, please [click here](#).

If you have information about an event or would like to advertise your own events that you think would be useful for other members and are relevant to the work of IAPO, you can post them on our website. Use the form [here](#) to submit your event to our Events listing.

Best wishes,

Jo, Ella, Jeremiah, Caroline, Becky and Carmen

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