



# WORLD FEDERATION OF NEUROSURGICAL SOCIETIES

## ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

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*President-Elect:*

**Luis Borba**

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## OFFICERS OF THE FEDERATION

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**David Adelson** (AANS)

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**Jose A. Soriano** (FLANC)

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*Historian:*

**Yong-Kwang Tu**

## WFNS CENTRAL OFFICE

Českomoravská 2510/19

190 00 Prague 9, Czech Republic

Website: [www.wfns.org](http://www.wfns.org)

September 15th, 2024

Dear Colleagues EC Members,

This is a Second Quarter Report of the State of the World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies (WFNS). As a reminder, First Quarter Report was presented in Prague, Czech Republic, during our first "In Person" Meeting of WFNS Administrative Council (AC) 2023-2025 and subsequently sent out to the Executive Committee (EC) in a form of letter communication.

Again, we report again that the overall State of The State of WFNS is very good. Although you may know many of the positive accomplishments achieved over the past and the current WFNS AC, let us briefly inform or remind you about the facts. Please note that this communication has been fact checked and approved by the AC. Here are the brief bullet points.

- The necessary changes in the WFNS started in 2015 after the letter signed by Dr. Harbaugh (then AANS President) and 3 other (then) Continental Societies Presidents demanding: term and age limits of serving of Officers, AC members and Honorary Presidents and strict financial responsibility, transparency, and accountability. These changes coincided with election of Dr. Franco Servadei as a WFNS president.
- The election and appointment of Coordinator, Chairs and Members of Committees became largely transparent, merit based, term limited (2 or 4 years) and approved by the AC as per Bylaw requirements. This produced unparalleled activity of Committees in the previous 2 terms and is also obvious in this term under the great leadership of Dr. Salman Sharif and appointed Committee Chairs as is visible from their current daily communications to the EC.
- The office switch from Nyon, Switzerland to Prague, Czech Republic yielded WFNS savings of almost \$200,000 per year (decrease from \$260,000 to \$69,000). The office has been modernized, easier to communicate with and definitely more professional than ever before.
- The Guarant Company will serve onward as our future Professional Congress Organizer (PCO). They will ensure \$250,000 per each next meeting revenue and full financial transparency.



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- Recent congresses delivered less than required customary amount of \$250,000 per Congress to WFNS (Istanbul \$125,000; Beijing \$150,000; Bogota \$8,000).
- A fantastic meeting was held in Cape Town, SA with great camaraderie, spirit and success. WFNS is still awaiting obligated transfer of **\$250,000** to be done by South African Neurosurgical Society.
- The savings on voting expenses went down from **\$25,000** (voting in September 2021 by Turkish Company-Mr Mettin, Company Look US) to **\$2,000** (voting in Cape Town by our company Guarant). This is a net saving of **\$23,000** per voting event.
- These strict financial measures enforced by the WFNS AC and Finance Committee yielded the final positive results last year compared to previous years (the WFNS balance in the last 3 years: 2021: **Negative \$198,000**; 2022: **Negative \$173,000**; 2023: **Positive \$117,000**).
- The recent changes in Bylaws empowered electronic voting (pending Dutch Court apostilling which is underway) so every member of EC can vote anytime and not just the ones who are physically present at the meeting or can afford to travel.
- Since the last election in Cape Town 5 month ago, the AC has met 16 times and the Finance Committee (FC) has met 5 times dealing with various operational issues. Whenever the AC meeting was not in executive session, all Second Vice Presidents, Chair of WFNS Foundation, Chair of Constitution and Bylaws Committee and WFNS Historian were invited and were actively involved in deliberations and problem solving- none of the decisions and resolutions so far were done against their counsel. The utility of Robert's Rule of Order has been further embraced and adopted for more efficient operational purposes. At all times, efforts were made to operate under "harmony of governance" as much as possible and all resolutions were delivered by unanimous vote when possible or by super majority of 7-8/9 votes after detailed analysis and deliberations.
- The WFNS Secretary is (per Bylaws) the WFNS chief communication officer. All official communications from the AC or approved by the AC are handled by him via Central Office official e-mail and letterhead to the EC. Please disregard any communication that was not sent out by the Central Office and consider it unofficial. As a reminder, AC



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Officers are free to send out any individual information from their e mail accounts to EC, but again, only communication vetted by AC and send out via Central Office is the official WFNS communication.

- The next WFNS Congress is planned to be held as scheduled in 2025.
- The WFNS FC and AC continued to carefully review organizational, financial and ethical issues with Madrid Congress. After 16 AC meetings and 5 FC meetings the WFNS Contract was offered for signature to SENEC and the deadline for their signature has been extended several times. Final deadline for signature was approved by 8 members of AC. Unfortunately, SENEC refused to sign the bidding contract with WFNS and thus relinquished the WFNS Congress organization in Madrid 2025.
- Subsequently, AC polled the EC membership to decide the new venue of the 2025 Congress. There were 3 pre venue bids presented in Prague (Dubai, UAE, Mumbai, India and Prague, Czech Republic) as Germany (venue runner up) passed on the potential opportunity. By 62% of the vote and with 108 delegated that voted, Dubai and Emirates Neurosurgical Society (ENS) has been selected as a new host for 2025 WFNS Congress.
- Emirates Neurosurgical Society (ENS) has signed identical contract for 2025 WFNS Congress Organization with WFNS that was previously and unfortunately refused by SENEC.
- Dr Muhammad Al-Olama has been presented and approved as a President of the 2025 WFNS Congress and a slate of ENS officers presented to and approved by both WFNS AC and Nominating Committee respectively. The EC is set to formally vote and confirm those officers soon.
- As approved in Prague earlier this year and unanimously by all 9 AC members, the registration of WFNS is being moved from the Netherlands to Czech Republic. Final paperwork is underway and this transition should be completed within next few weeks and subsequently formally approved by WFNS EC poll.
- Again, AC will continue to function, operate and represent the EC to our best abilities and possibilities acting together preferably in “harmony of governance” or if necessary at a minimum of 5 AC members acting jointly as indicated in the WFNS Bylaws.



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Hope this information you find helpful. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Best regards,

WFNS AC 2023-2025

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