Welcome to the latest edition of our Newsletter and the opportunity for me to update you with news from the World Federation. The Federation has a very clear objective which has remained unchanged since our formation in 1977 – to promote the highest standards of intensive and critical care medicine for all mankind, without discrimination. This is the essential standard against which all our activities are measured.

In keeping with this standard, I am pleased to report some significant progress in the publication of outcomes from our Task Forces which were developing global statements in several important areas:

- The final report on Ethics and end of life has been accepted for publication by the Journal of Critical Care (our Official Journal). The electronic publication is expected shortly.
- The authors of the report on Triage are incorporating some final inputs from Council and Task Force members. The submission of the manuscript is expected within two weeks.
- The reports on What is an ICU? and the ICU Specialist are both at an advanced stage of completion and will be submitted for publication before the end of next month.

The objective of these Task Forces was to develop statements about current knowledge and to identify challenges relevant to the global community that may inform regional and local initiatives. The World Federation endorses and encourages the role of our member societies in leading the debate regarding intensive and critical care medicine within each country. I’m sure the reports from our Task Forces will make important contributions to informing these debates.

Myself and my Council colleagues are now working to identify the next series of topics which will be addressed by new Task Forces. We hope to announce these new subject areas soon and then we want to draw on the talents and expertise of our society members and to empower individuals to get involved. More information will follow soon.

As I travel around the world and meet society members I am often asked, “What does the World Federation do for us?” I hope we can all agree that our Task Force reports will foster collaboration, generate consensus and encourage debate, each of which will directly assist in promoting the highest standards of intensive and critical care medicine. I recognise that we still have much more to do and with your continuing support, we can do much more. I leave you with the thought that perhaps a more relevant question is “What can you do for the World Federation?”

Kind regards and best wishes,

Professor Jean-Louis Vincent, President
Save the Date: 13th World Congress

The 13th World Congress of the World Federation of Societies of Intensive and Critical Care Medicine will be held November 8-11, 2017 in Rio de Janeiro Brazil. Dr. Álvaro Réa-Neto serves as the Scientific Meeting Chair and reports that planning is underway with updates forthcoming. Meeting Website: www.criticalcare2017.com.br

About Rio de Janeiro: Rio de Janeiro (Rio) is the second most populous municipality in Brazil and sixth largest city in the Americans. Rio is the capital of the state of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil’s third most populous state. Part of the city has been designated as a World Heritage Site, named "Rio de Janeiro: Carioca Landscapes between the Mountain and the Sea", by UNESCO on 1 July 2012 as a Cultural Landscape.

Founded in 1565 by the Portuguese, the city was a domain of the Portuguese Empire. Rio has the second largest municipal GDP in the country. It is headquarters to Brazilian oil, mining, and telecommunications companies, including two of the country’s major corporations—PETRONAS and Vale —and Latin America's largest telemedia conglomerate, Grupo Globo. The home of many universities and institutes, it is the second-largest center of research and development in Brazil.

Rio is one of the most visited cities in the Southern Hemisphere and is known for its natural settings, Carnival, samba, bossa nova, and beaches such as Barra de Tijuca, Copacabana, Ipanema, and Leblon. In addition to the beaches, some of the most famous landmarks include the giant statue of Christ the Redeemer atop Corcovado mountain, named one of the New Seven Wonders of the World; Sugarload Mountain with its cable car; the Sambadrome, a permanent grandstand-lined parade avenue which is used during Carnival, and Maracanã Stadium, one of the world’s largest football stadiums.

Rio will host the 2016 Summer Olympics and the 2016 Summer Paralympics – the first time a South American and Portuguese-speaking nation will host these events. The Stadium held the finals of the 1950 and 2014 FIFA World Cups, the 2013 FIFA Confederations Cup, and the XV Pan American Games.
Earthquake at Ecuador, South America

On April 16 this year at 18h58 Ecuador suffered one of the most catastrophic natural events in its modern history, when an earthquake of magnitude 7.8 on the Richter scale took place. The earthquake had a destructive impact of 4G (4 times the force of the gravity); with a devastating effect that in less than a minute reduced to dust more than 70% of Pedernales, which was the epicenter. It caused great destruction of villages near the northern coastline and center of the province Manabí, including Jama, Canoa, Bahia de Caraquez, Portoviejo (capitol of the province) and Manta (tourist port).

This disaster had gloomy statistics with the official report on April 29 of 660 dead, 33 missing, 22,420 homeless, 4,600 injured and 133 people rescued from the rubble. However, these statistics do not always match reality because many of the deceased do not appear in the lists drawn up for the purpose. It is striking that between Pedernales, Portoviejo and Manta more than 1,600 buildings and homes were destroyed and more than 1,000 buildings or homes were affected, including 5 hospitals, 4 private clinics and 3 medical centers; while among all affected provinces 6,998 buildings and 281 schools were reported affected.

While the southern part of the province of Esmeraldas was also affected along with other provinces such as Guayas and Los Rios, it should be emphasized that Manabí was by far the one that received the devastating impact of this earthquake.

This adverse event took the people completely by surprise and unprepared in every way; the immediate response was disorganized and given by volunteers untrained in disaster care. Two public hospitals and private clinics in Manta collapsed; with structural damage to others in Portoviejo impacting operational capacity. The two large private clinics were inoperative due to serious structural damage. The already insufficient number of intensive care beds and the total hospital beds were reduced significantly.

Now, more than 15 days after the catastrophe, begins the long and winding road of reconstruction and psychological recovery and reactivation of productive activity that characterized the province of Manabí. We must also embark on continuous training, as we are seated in a highly seismic zone, with regard to: prevention and mitigation-preparation (the first), response (the over), rehabilitation-reconstruction (after) which are the phases and stages of disasters.

Submitted by: Freddy Morales A. MD, Medicina Interna - Terapia Intensiva SOLCA Portoviejo - Ecuador
This increase in representation is a reflection of the growth and development of critical care medicine in the region.

The College of Anaesthesiologists and Intensivists of Sri Lanka was formed over 30 years ago, initially as the College of Anaesthesiologists. In 2014 it was reconstituted as the College of Anaesthesiologists and Intensivists. The College is responsible for curriculum development and the training of post graduates in intensive and critical care medicine and trainees in anaesthesia. Governance is provided by an elected Council and via a network of Regional Representatives. The current President of the College is Dr Kanishka Indraratna and the President-elect is Dr Ramya Amarasena.

The College has a membership of nearly 350 all of whom are Consultant Anaesthetists and these members are in charge of 70% of the 96 ICUs in Sri Lanka. The remaining ICUs are managed by Physicians (8.3%), Neurosurgeons (8.2%), Paediatricians (5.1%) and Cardiologists (3.1%)

The College has a proud record of hosting 32 Annual academic sessions without a break as the picture below illustrates. The annual academic sessions include symposia on critical care with the participation of an internationally reputed faculty. The 2016 meeting had over 30 international speakers and past contributors included World Federation President, Professor Jean-Louis Vincent, Professor Philip Dellinger and Professor Charles Gomersall.

If you would like to contact College of Anaesthesiologists and Intensivists or can contribute to the society’s growth and development, the email address is anascol@sltnet.lk More information about the society can also be viewed at the website www.anaesthesia.lk
**Member Society News**

**Chilean Society of Intensive Medicine**
Chilean Society of Intensive Medicine (Sociedad Chilena de Medicina Intensiva, SOCHIMI) together with Health Ministry of Chile (Ministerio de Salud, MINSAL), has worked intensively for a six months period to elaborate a National Consensus that clearly defines indications and rescue methods for patients requiring ECMO. This issue is of great importance for public health policies in Chile.

At the same time, we are elaborating regulations and clinical guidelines to establish a system of telemedicine across the country, concerning care of critically ill patients at regional, national and international levels. We think that this effort is a major advance in our field and with great benefits in Critical Care Medicine for our country.

**The Colombian Association of Critical Medicine**
The Colombian Association of Critical Medicine- AMCI celebrates 20 years Scientific Investigation, academic formation and the promotion and development of the critical medicine in Colombia. This has been the basis which has led the AMCI through the years and in this year, 2016; they permit us to celebrate with special joy our 20th anniversary. In the month of March in the middle of the 6th Intermediate Congress of Critical Medicine, our association commemorated with its members, scientific associations linked to the health cluster and area colleagues, the continuous work achieved all this years. We want to say thank you to them for their important management, company and presence in the AMCI. We invite you to learn more about the AMCI. [http://www.amci.org.co/slideshow/338-homenajeados](http://www.amci.org.co/slideshow/338-homenajeados)

**Canadian Critical Care Society**
The Canadian Critical Care Society will be holding a public webinar to highlight Sepsis in Canada. The goal is discuss how to recognize, treat and report sepsis. The webinar will be an accredited session that is open to both physicians and the public. It will be held on World Sepsis Day – September 13, 2016 (Please email cccs@secretariatcentral.com if you would like to RSVP for this webinar)

Key publications by CCCS members on behalf of the society:

- Mandate to obtain consent for withholding nonbeneficial cardiopulmonary resuscitation is misguided - [http://www.cmaj.ca/content/188/4/245.full.pdf+html](http://www.cmaj.ca/content/188/4/245.full.pdf+html)

**Neurocritical Care Society**
The Neurocritical Care Society is sponsoring Emergency Neurological Life Support (ENLS), which is a comprehensive educational program designed by the Neurocritical Care Society to help healthcare professionals such as physicians, physician trainees, nurses, pharmacists, and emergency medical technicians, to improve patient care and outcomes during the critical first hours of a patient’s neurological emergency. There are many ways to get involved with ENLS and bring this training to medical professionals near you. To become ENLS certified, purchase a bundle of online course codes, host a live course, or become a certified instructor, visit [www.neurocriticalcare.org/enls](http://www.neurocriticalcare.org/enls).

The Neurocritical Care Society is also preparing for its 14th Annual Meeting, which will be held in National Harbor, MD September 15-18, 2016. See: [http://www.neurocriticalcare.org/Meetings/2016-Annual-Meeting](http://www.neurocriticalcare.org/Meetings/2016-Annual-Meeting)
To maximize this great potential and increase communication among fellows and the society, a commission of intensive care fellows was officially founded under Turkish Society of Medical and Surgical Intensive Care Medicine in 2014. The society aimed to include fellows from different ICM education programs who were elected by member fellows in the executive committee of the commission.

Soon after, among intensive care fellows a brand new ICM initiative formed, and they called themselves the ‘Young Intensivists’. Last November, members of ‘Young Intensivists’ initiative was elected to the executive committee of the commission of intensive care fellows of Turkish Society of Medical and Surgical Intensive Care Medicine. Subsequently, Goksel Guven was declared as the president of the commission. This was a turning point for the ‘Young Intensivists’ initiative, since they gained official support as an active commission of the Society. The mission of the committee was to increase awareness of the ICM as a supraspecialty; share information on ICM, produce solutions for the problems of fellows and most importantly increase communication between fellows and senior intensivists. They aimed to create solutions to the problems that are currently faced during the process of standardization of ICM education and to the problems that may arise in the near future.

Social media is actively used by the ‘Young Intensivists’. They are sharing news, information and events actively through Facebook. The number of followers has increased rapidly to over a thousand. Their web page is currently under construction as www.gencyogunbakimcilar.org. A symposium on ‘Neurological Problems and Intensive Care’ is being organized in May 2016.

They are working actively to organize local monthly seminars, courses and sections dedicated to young fellows in the national congress for individual development of young trainees. One of their future projects is to assemble different working groups to plan and participate in national and international multicenter studies.

As the fellows of a rather young supraspecialty in Turkey, they believe they should pass across the borders and actively participate in European Society of Intensive Care Medicine (ESICM) and the NEXT committee, which inspired them during the foundation of their group. ‘We would like to participate in the process of shaping the future of intensive care in Turkey and in the world, through ESICM, combining the energy of our country and our brand new group’s great potential. I was selected for NEXT committee member elections by our commission and they are actively supporting me in the election process.’ Burcin Halaçlı, the only candidate of Turkey in NEXT committee member election, states.

As the Turkish Young Intensivists Initiative, they are offering to establish a working group under the World Federation of Societies of Intensive and Critical Care Medicine like theirs and NEXT which will absolutely reinforce WFSICCM for future works.
Congratulations

Congratulations to Jean-Louis Vincent, MD, PhD, FCCM on receiving the Society of Critical Care Medicine (SCCM)’s Lifetime Achievement Award at the SCCM Congress, held February 20-24, 2016 in Orlando, Florida, USA.

This award honors an individual who has demonstrated meritorious contributions to the field of critical care through the advancement of medical science, medical education, or medical care.

Dr. Vincent was recognized for his numerous contributions to the field of critical care medicine.

About WFSICCM

The World Federation of Societies of Intensive and Critical Care Medicine (WFSICCM) was established in 1977 and is a membership organization comprised of National Societies of Intensive and Critical Care Medicine. The principle objective of the World Federation is to promote the highest standards of Intensive and Critical Care Medicine for all mankind, without discrimination. The WFSICCM now has a membership of over 80 national scientific societies with a combined individual membership of over 80,000 intensive and critical care practitioners throughout the world.

http://www.world-critical-care.org/