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● REPORT ON THE INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL PHOTOTHERAPY ASSOCIATION (IPTA), JUNE 30th – JULY 3rd, 2006

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I was delighted to be able to host the inaugural meeting of the International Phototherapy Association (IPTA) in the excellently appointed Rako Hananoi Hotel, Suwa City beside beautiful lake Suwa, one of the true jewels in the crown of Nagano Prefecture which nestles in the middle of the Japanese Alps. With Suwa City being 750 meters above sea level, the air there has a quality completely different from the major Japanese cities, and the light has a totally different quality which has inspired many artists to come to this region to capture that special light. It was very appropriate then, I thought, for us to hold the first IPTA meeting bathed in this special light, because phototherapy is the central idea of the association, and phototherapy is of course 'treatment with light', from the two Greek roots which make up the word.

The pure air, wonderful natural hot water resources from the many hot springs and the clear light were among the main reasons why what is now the Shinano Handicapped Children's Hospital was founded in the mountains overlooking Suwa City. As Prof Ohshiro, the Editor-in-Chief of the journal, has often said, 'Light is life: without light there can be no life', and it is up to us, the pioneers of the new frontiers of phototherapy, to make full use of the wonderful clinical phototherapeutic tools which have been discovered, and all those yet remaining to be developed, for the great good of our patients.

In this newsletter, I should like to give you a brief report on the IPTA meeting, in the hopes that it will inspire more people to join IPTA, and to come together again in 2008 when the 2nd IPTA

meeting will be held in New Zealand under the Presidency of Professor David Baxter, no stranger to Laser Therapy readers.

Twenty symposiasts presented 40 papers over the 2 days of the scientific part of the IPTA meeting, which was held in collaborative cooperation with the 18th annual meeting of the Japan Laser Therapy Association (JaLTA), one of the oldest societies dedicated to laser therapy and photobiomodulation. More than 250 attendees participated in the joint meetings from both Japan and overseas, and enjoyed a very strong scientific program, tempered with an equally diverse social program including a full program for those persons accompanying speakers and meeting attendees.

June 30th

On the evening of Friday, June 30th, 60 national and international members and their significant others participated in the Welcome Reception in the Restaurant Parie, located on the mountainside over Suwa City and affording wonderful views of Lake Suwa and the surrounding mountains. One of the most well-known pioneers of the laser in surgery and medicine, Professor Isaac Kaplan, together with his wife Masha, was due to attend the meeting as Honorary President of IPTA. Very sadly, due to ill health, Isaac and Masha had to cancel their attendance. However Professor Kaplan sent a message to IPTA members written in the form of an 'Ode to IPTA', which was delivered in fine dramatic style by Professor Narong Nimsakul of Thailand, another well-recognized pioneer in laser surgery and medicine.

I was also honored in being able to address the attendees and welcome them to the reception, and Professor Ohshiro also said a few words. To the accompaniment of beautiful vistas over Lake Suwa, very tasty French cuisine and bountiful draughts of excellent wine, we were able to celebrate the formation of the IPTA in grand style. Following the reception, we returned to the hotel where we continued the celebrations vocally in the excellent *karaoke* bar within the Rako Hananoi Hotel. Many participants well-known for their oratorical skills demonstrated equally strong talent in the vocal fields, with an international array of songs from the countries of the overseas guests.

July 1st

The proverbial worm was certainly not safe from the IPTA early birds, as we gathered at 06:40 in the Bellevue room for the opening remarks of the congress over breakfast, chaired and delivered by myself as the Congress President. This room was aptly named, 'Bellevue' in French being translated into English as 'beautiful view', as this was the only room in the hotel to offer panoramic views over the entire Lake Suwa and its environs. The meeting then adjourned to the main meeting hall under the co-chair of Professor Leonardo Longo of Italy and Prof Masahito Kawatani of Japan with the first symposium on basic research into pain control. Speakers included Drs Hosokawa, Kataoka, Hanaoka and Kawatani, all from Japan.

Symposium 2 was on wound healing, and was moderated by Professor Mary Dyson from the UK, one of the world's internationally-recognized authorities on wound healing, and Prof Toyoshi Hosokawa from Japan. The speakers comprised an international flavor, with contributions from Prof. Dyson (UK), Prof Mario Trelles (Spain) and Dr Junichiro Kubota (Japan). Due to a previous unbreakable engagement, Dr Trelles was unable to attend and was represented by Dr Glen Calderhead, who has been the international research coordinator at Dr Trelles' Instituto Médico Vilafortuny since 1987.

Symposium 3 continued after the coffee break, on the subject of Pain Control, Chaired by Professor David Baxter of New Zealand who is internationally renowned for his research into physiotherapeutic interventions for pain and injury, and exploration of practical modalities to treat pain. Dr Calderhead for Prof Trelles talked on the use of LLLT and LED phototherapy for postsurgical pain, and Prof Baxter gave a very comprehensive overview on pain control in physiotherapy and sports medicine. Photodynamic therapy (PDT) is an extremely important application under the phototherapy umbrella, and this was the subject of Symposium 4, moderated by Drs Nakamura (Japan) and Shick (Korea) centering on basic research. Five presentations, including international talks from Korea (Jong-Ki Kim and Ahn-Woong Shick) comprised this important section.

Symposium 4 presented an international overview of LLLT and phototherapy, looking at the national picture. Countries represented were Italy (Prof Leonardo Longo), Viet Nam (Prof Tran Hau Khang), Korea (Prof Jin Wang Kim) and Thailand (Prof Narong Nimsakul). No time during this meeting was wasted, and lunchtime was used for three special lectures on CO₂ laser applications, the history of the IPTA and the history of clinical PDT.

Symposium 6 continued on maxillofacial applications, chaired by Professor Luciana Lopes from Brazil. Interesting presentations in treatment of tinnitus (Dr Miroslav Prochazka), phototherapy in gingival and periodontal pathologies (Dr Rozana Vieru, Romania) and from Dra Lopes on the evolution of phototherapy in the field of oral medicine gave attendees a great deal of food for thought.

The final symposium of the day, No. 7, presented an a-la-carte on circulatory problems, heart disease, bronchial oncology and vitiligo including speakers from India, Russia and Egypt. The Moderator was Prof Krishna Rau from India. That concluded the scientific part of the day's program.

While the attendees were being scientifically educated, their wives and accompanying persons were having some cultural education during their own program, which commenced at 10:00 with a tour of places of historical and cultural interest around the area organized by Shimosuwa Tours, including lunch. At 16:00, all attendees and accompanying persons boarded buses for a bus tour around Lake Suwa. The Grand Hall *Paruke* in the Hotel Rako Hananoi was the milieu for the Presidential Banquet, to which all attendees were welcomed in grand style by the sounding of the

great Alpenorn. A series of welcome remarks were given by dignitaries including Mr. Tanaka, Governor and Head of the Nagano Prefecture Local Government; Mr. Aoki, the Mayor of Suwa City; Professor Atsumi, Tokyo, Japan, Honorary IPTA President; and Prof Leonardo Longo, Firenze, Italy, who delivered words of welcome on behalf of Professor Kaplan. We were all treated to a video of the traditional 'Onbashira' festival. This is one of Japan's most unique festivals, held at Suwa Grand Shrine every seven years. Immense logs are cut in the mountains and brought up an extremely steep hill to the shrine where they are erected with sacred white paper attached to the top. This is a test of strength, bravery and endurance and surprised and delighted all international guests, and a not a few of those Japanese attendees who were not Nagano natives.

Having had the intellectual senses fulfilled with this cultural demonstration, our gustatory senses were delighted by an excellent multicourse dinner, featuring many specialities from the area and washed down with Japanese rice wine (sake) from the local breweries. The evening was rounded off with karaoke at which international talent was again displayed, in addition to the home-grown Japanese variety, and in traditional form by the forming of a grand circle, and the singing of 'Auld Lang Syne' (translated in Japanese as 'The Light of the Firefly'). Many of us moved to the karaoke bar in the hotel, and continued the festivities until the wee hours.

June 2nd

Bright and early again, the day's program started in the same room as the previous day, 'Bellevue', although it might be said that some of the participants were not so bright due to their efforts on the previous evening! The first program consisted of a video of the tour of the grand highlands, Kamikochi, scheduled for that afternoon and which I presented just to whet everyone's appetite. At 07:00 the hands-on workshop was held, run by myself on LLLT in cerebral palsy and Prof Ohshiro on his proximal priority method in LLLT. This was followed by Symposium 8 on sports medicine, chaired by Prof Baxter and Prof Ohshiro. A selection of home-grown and international excellent presentations were given on many aspects of the role of phototherapy in different facets of sports medicine.

After the coffee break, I was honored to give the Presidential Lecture on 15 years of experience in using LLLT in children with cerebral palsy. Prof Kengo Yamamoto was the moderator. This was followed by Prof Kazuhiko Atsumi who gave the 5th Special Lecture on how biomedical engineering could provide a bridge between modern Western medicine to traditional Chinese medicine, to allow the most fruitful aspects of each to be combined for the good of the patient. Prof Narong Nimsakul moderated. We moved on to Symposium 9, which was on the very important subject of LLLT for infertility, chaired by Dr Shinji Fujii, himself a leading proponent of LLLT for female infertility. The advances made in this field in Japan were well-presented, with a success rate which requires further study and application.

This was followed by the IPTA General Assembly, chaired by Drs Asagai and Ohshiro. The

formal foundation of the Association was ratified, as was the official journal, Laser Therapy. After discussion, the 2nd IPTA meeting was agreed to be held in New Zealand in early 2008 with Professor David Baxter confirmed as meeting president and as President-elect of IPTA. Ratification of the IPTA Bylaws, which already existed in draught form, was postponed till a later date under an *ad-hoc* committee to be formed to deal with them. The post of IPTA Secretary-General was awarded to Prof Leonardo Longo, who accepted the post and promised to give his best efforts to the Association.

The Lunchtime Meeting was another a-la-carte offering, with Penny Smalley and Premysl Fryda as the Moderators, Dr Fryda is the CEO of the European Medical Laser Association, and was extremely interested in strengthening ties between IPTA and EMLA. While Ms Smalley dealt with the regulatory maze from the nursing aspect, Dr Fryda gave an excellent explanation of why ISO certification was a really necessary consideration for all modern laser clinics. To round off the session, Professor K.A. Samoilova presented a condensed version of her vast experience in blood photomodification, backed up by very sound and interesting clinical and basic scientific data. While we were having our morning meetings and lunch, the ladies were touring the area and visiting more sites of interest (*Kirigamine*). We all came together at 13:00, when I was very proud and happy to make the closing remarks to what had been a really excellent inaugural IPTA meeting. The final act of the meeting was the obligatory group photograph of the principal attendees and Organizing Committee, seen in **Figure 1**.

I am the Chairman of the Board of the Shinano Handicapped Children's Hospital, and it was my great pleasure to host all attendees for a tour of the facilities. I am extremely proud of our facilities, and we can offer levels of care for all children, no matter how mildly or how severely they are handicapped: what I consider most important is that we not only look after the children, we also look after their parents, so that we can educate the latter on how best to cooperate with the work we do in the Hospital when they are looking after their children at home. What surprised our visitors most was the unique comprehensive care concept we offer in the hospital, which combines a state with a private component. In line with the World Health Organization's goals, we aim to provide for our patients' total well-being, not only physical and mental, but also spiritual, through including full educational facilities as well as our primary role as a hospital. Many of our patients are profoundly handicapped, and not a few of the visitors were moved to tears by their plight. This was completely counterbalanced by the obvious level of care we offer, and I am extremely proud of our ever-increasing efforts to care for all aspects of the life of the handicapped child, in pleasant, bright and as natural as possible surroundings.

Following the tour, invited guest adjourned to a traditional-style Japanese inn, the Hotel Yakko, where we all donned *yukata* (a light cotton kimono used for relaxing). The hotel features the outdoor natural hot bath, the *rotemburo*, and we all participated of this warming, relaxing and satisfying ritual. Bathed and suitably relaxed and rosy, 35 of us then attended the farewell party,

served on low tables in a traditional Japanese *tatami* (rush matting) room where we enjoyed a typical Japanese multi-course dinner, served with several examples of the locally-brewed sake, of which we locals are justifiably proud. All international members gave a brief speech, following the toast given by Prof Baxter, and several of the Japanese luminaries were also called on to give a brief speech. The dinner complete, we all adjourned (the more adventurous of us still in *kimono*) to the '*nijikai*', the 'second party place', in the Hotel Sannokaku where we sang *karaoke* (yet again), danced and made merry. However, it was not too late a night, as we had an early start for the full day tour the following day.

June 3

Monday, June 3rd, dawned bright and cheerful, a little change from the rather dull and sometimes wet weather of the previous two days, and we were able to set out for our coach trip to Kamikochi, the Great Highlands, one of the most attractive and favorite beauty spots in the Japanese Alps. Once there, we could enjoy refreshing riverside walks in Hodakadake, with the sun filtering through the trees, and with temperatures several degrees below those of Tokyo which is what makes this area so popular for visitors in the summer. A grand lunch was served and enjoyed at the Kamikochi Imperial Hotel, and then we set off for the railway station and our fond farewells. As the coach made its way down through the wonderful scenery, yet more *karaoke* was enjoyed on board! Bidding each other a fond farewell, we all agreed and promised to meet again in New Zealand for IPTA 2008. It was a great ending to a great meeting.

My own feeling is that this meeting was a 'hand made' congress, organized completely within and with cooperation between IPTA and JaLTA. A great deal of support was received from the Japan medical Laser Laboratory, through Prof Toshio Ohshiro, and I would like to acknowledge his enormous contribution, and that of his staff, to the successful organization and smooth running of the meeting. I also owe an enormous debt of gratitude to my own staff and colleagues at the Shinano Handicapped Children's Hospital, whose help with the logistics of the meeting was invaluable. At the end of the day, all parties who participated in or who helped with the organizing of the inaugural IPTA meeting were very happy, and that's the way it should be. The most important point for me is that we have strengthened international friendships and relationships, through meeting together to study and discuss light, and that phototherapy certainly has an extremely bright future. In conclusion, may I say how proud I have been to host this IPTA/JaLTA meeting in Suwa City, and I would like to thank most sincerely all those who participated in any way in the meeting's success, not the least my own wife and family! See you all in New Zealand, 2008!!!



Figure 1: The inaugural meeting of the International Phototherapy Association

The Background and Recent Situation of WALT

The 6th Congress of WALT will be held from Oct.25th to 28th in Cyprus.

As Honorary President of WALT, General Secretary of World Federation of Societies for Laser in Medicine and Surgery (WFSLMS), and Past General Secretary of International Society for Laser Surgery and Medicine (ISLMS), I would like to explain briefly the background and recent situation of WALT.

The 5th Congress of WALT was held from Nov. 25th to 27th of 2004 in Brazil.

President was Prof. Kazuo Hanaoka, Congress President of WALT was Prof. Aldo Brugnera, General Secretary (GS) was Prof. Junichiro Kubota, and Treasurer was Dr. Kevin Moore. General Assembly (GA) was started on Nov. 27th. From the left to right, GS Kubota, President Hanaoka and President Elect Brugnera seated at the top table.

However, as soon as the meeting was started, Dr. Pinhiero came up to a speaker's platform and presided over as General Secretary Elect. The position of General Secretary Elect doesn't exist in By-laws of WALT. From this moment, this GA was conducted illegally and undemocratically. All the attendees could prove the situation of this GA.

The cities in Australia, Cyprus and South Africa were nominated as a site of the 6th Congress of WALT. Because these applications weren't official, Executive Committee was due to decide the conference site within 6 months. But it was decided without consulting with General Secretary Kubota. Treasurer's report wasn't released by Dr. Kevin Moore.

Please refer to the following information to recognize these backgrounds and the present situation of WALT.

Information 1: A letter from GS Kubota to President Brugnera on Aug. 25th, 2006.

Information 2: A letter from President Brugnera to GS Kubota on Sept. 15th, 2006.

Information 3: A letter from GS Kubota to President Brugnera on Oct. 13th, 2006.

Information 4: A letter from Attendees of the 1st congress of IPTA to Executive Committee Member of WALT on Sept. 13th, 2006.

< INFORMATION 1 >

August 25, 2006

Dear Professor Brugnera and WALT Members

WALT business

As you know WALT was born when the International Laser Therapy Association (ILTA) and International Society for Low Power Laser Application in Medicine (ISPLAM) joined hands to form a new society devoted to low level laser therapy. Since then, academic meetings and general assembly were held biannually and I believe that it was at the second meeting of WALT, 8 years ago held in Kansas City, where it was decided that all problems in the association will be solved democratically by the Executive Council and the General Assembly, the organ of highest level of decision making. This became a tradition and functioned well at the following meetings at Athens and Tokyo. However I believe that this tradition was lost at the last meeting at Sao Paulo, Brazil.

As secretary general of WALT, I appreciate your working toward the next meeting. It has now been some 18 months since I wrote to you in December of 2004 following the WALT meeting in Brazil, but nothing seems to have happened since then to alleviate any of the serious worries I expressed in that letter. I would like to repeat that the list of the Executive and Council you presented us with remains unacceptable, as some of these posts were not formally proposed, seconded and voted on at what passed for the AGM at your meeting

1. According to the Bylaws, candidacy for the next congress venue (in this case the meeting planned to be held at Cyprus 2006) must be sent to the Secretary-General prior to the planned meeting(in this case the meeting at Sao Paulo 2004). I have received no such request. A convention center in Sydney, Australia had sent me some material and a request to run for candidacy but I had to reject it for technicalities being that the request came from a company. I requested a letter from the person willing to run for the presidency of that meeting but received no further reply.

2. During the congress, no formal Executive Council meeting was held but at an informal luncheon for Executives, there was a request and a presentation from Australia for candidacy for the next congress venue. We did not decide whether or not to accept this presentation as a formal request but as a fact, there were no other

request for candidacy from any country at that time what so ever.

3. I presented you the correct formal agenda for the General Assembly and also the detailed association financial accounts for the Executives and the summary for the General Assembly. It was absolutely your duty as Congress President to get these duplicated and delivered to members as I requested, but you failed to do so.

4. At the General Assembly, we only received a list of the new *de facto* Executive and Council members which included positions that do not exist in the Bylaws. The agenda of the assembly was not formally presented and there was no discussion of accounts. As for the next congress venue, Australia was completely ignored and from out of no where, plans for Cyprus meeting appeared. Even at this time no votes were taken. I recall Professor Ohshiro stating that the Executives should decide on the next congress venue with in the next 6 months. I and others asked why the assembly was held in such horrid fashion but we did not receive any clear answer. My schedule did not allow me the time to clarify the situation and I left the country as such.

These are all serious breaches of the democratic process and the Bylaw of the association. Therefore I conclude that all decisions made at the Sao Paulo meeting are invalid. We are in limbo since the Tokyo meeting in 2002. The decision to hold the meeting in Cyprus is also void. I want clarification on how and who chose the next congress president and venue.

I repeat, as Secretary-General of WALT, if WALT were to continue its existence, I sincerely hope all decision making are made through democratic proceeding following the due process of the Bylaws. My term of office as Secretary-General will end this year and I feel these serious transgressions associated with WALT must be brought out into the open before the Cyprus meeting and be rectified. I ask for answers on these issues that have been unaddressed for too long.

Professor Brugnera, and WALT members, I await your reply.

With kind regards, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

Junichiro Kubota MD PhD

WALT Secretary-General,

WALT Secretariat

< INFORMATION 2 >

Brazil, September 15, 2006

Dear Dr. Kubota:

Greetings! I am compelled to convey the following information given the recent unanimous vote

of the Executive of the World Association for Laser Therapy (WALT) authorizing me to remove you immediately as Secretary General of WALT for the following reasons.

1. You have failed to maintain your membership of the association by paying your dues. Our record shows that you have not paid for the past two years, which means that you are not a valid member of the association.
2. You have taken up the job of Secretary General of a competing organization. This raises a significant concern about your loyalty to WALT. In this regard, our concern is heightened by your recent communications with members of the executive committee.
3. You have grossly neglected your job of Secretary General for the association ever since you became Secretary General. Of concern is that you never communicated with the President during the past two years until just a few weeks ago.

For these reasons the Executive Committee requested your immediate removal as Secretary General. However, as President, I prefer that you resign by yourself on or before September 22, 2006.

I look forward to your written letter of resignation on or before the due date.

Sincerely Yours,

Aldo Brugnera Junior, DDS, PhD
President of WALT

< INFORMATION 3 >

Oct. 13th, 2006

Dear Dr Brugnera,

Thank you for your e-mail of September 15th. It has taken me some time to compose my reply, mostly because I was extremely surprised and shocked by both the tone and content of your message. First of all let me state that I will not accept any such decision of 'The Executive', since a move of such severity can only be approved by the vote of the members at a *properly conducted* WALT General Assembly, that is, if WALT is still being run in a proper democratic manner. Let me also state now that I am not seeking re-election at the forthcoming WALT meeting, so you are free to elect whomsoever you choose as Secretary-General.

Let me first deal with your points in order.

1: I am sure that if you ask Jan Tuner, you will find I have always maintained my WALT

membership fees. I would be really interested to see how this applies to other members of the Executive. Your statement is thus totally incorrect.

2: Of which 'competing organization' am I the Secretary-General? It is certainly not IPTA, whose Secretary-General is Prof Leonardo Longo. I think you have been misinformed, probably deliberately. You all in the WALT Executive might want to ask yourself why the 'competing organization' was formed in the first place.

3: I absolutely refute this. I believe I have done as well as possible given the very strained circumstances over the past 2 years since the Brazil WALT meeting. The Secretary-General must take his lead from the President, and in your case, leadership has been very sadly lacking. I draw your attention to the letters I sent you, for your personal attention, in October 2003 following the WALT Extraordinary Executive Meeting held in Edinburgh on the occasion of the joint ASLSM/BMA/IALSM meeting, and then again in December 2004, after the Brazil WALT meeting. It is my fault that I did not copy these messages to everyone, and of course you never took either the time or trouble to reply to either of them. They are attached to this message, and I am copying this to all interested parties so they can see exactly what the situation was following the Brazil meeting: particularly my concerns regarding the so-called Executive Council, which turned into a friendly chat with many observers, and the incorrectly held General Assembly in which the WALT finances were not even shown, never mind discussed.

During the run-up to the vote on which Journal should be the official journal of WALT, no-one can ever say that I did not fulfill my role as Secretary-General, and it took you and Prof Pinheiro so long to reply we wondered if you were still alive, so please do not point the finger of blame regarding 'gross neglect' of our duties.

I am very seriously considering legal action following careful consideration of your letter and its content, but I am still a WALT member, and am very much of the opinion that WALT should not be seen, in public at least, to be so divisive. I have been a strong supporter of WALT, and its forerunner ILTA, for many more years than you, and I was until the Brazil meeting proud to be associated with WALT because the business aspect of every meeting from the ILTA first Okinawa meeting in 1990 to the 2000 WALT meeting in Greece was conducted in a truly democratic manner, with a proper Executive Board meeting and a proper General Assembly. A glance at the letter I sent to you in December of 2004 will let everyone see just how irregular the Brazil GA was.

In conclusion, Dr Brugnera, and all colleagues on the WALT Executive, I shall not follow the instructions of your letter. I am the legally elected Secretary-General, and I *will* serve out my term

till the General Assembly in Cyprus later this month. For your information I still hold the Hon Treasurer's report from Dr Kevin C Moore, which *should have been* presented in Brazil, and I fully intend that it *must be* presented in Cyprus otherwise the Association will not have been conducted in a legal and proper manner.

Sincerely,

Junichiro Kubota MD PhD

Secretary-General, WALT

< INFORMATION 4 >

Dear Professor Brugnera and WALT Members

September 13, 2006

We, the undermentioned members, suppose you have already received the letter from Dr. Junichiro Kubota. We will inform you the following issues that we had agreed in the joint-meeting at Suwa city, Japan, on July 1, 2006.

- (A) The Executive committee meeting and the General Assembly of WALT at Brazil, 2005 should be in-valid, because of the un-democratic and un-constitutional way of the organizations.
- (B) The present officers of WALT should clarify and seek approval from the members, and the other National and International Societies concerned, in order to legalize the situation, otherwise further action will be considered by the International bodies.

We are expecting WALT should return to democratic society as soon as possible.

The members are

1. Prof. Kazuhiko Atsumi
Honorary president, WALT.
President, World Federation of Societies for Laser Medicine & Surgery
2. Prof. Toshio Ohshiro
Honorary president, WALT
Secretary-General, World Federation of Societies for Laser Medicine & Surgery
Representative, Japan Society for Laser Medicine
3. Prof. Kazuo Hanaoka

Immediate Past president, WALT

4. **Dr. Junichiro Kubota**
Secretary-General, WALT

5. **Prof. Mary Dyson**
Past President, ILTA

6. **Dr. Glen Calderhead**
Representative, EMLA
Past Secretary-General, WALT

7. **Prof. Krishna Rau**
President, Asian-Pacific Association for Laser Medicine & Surgery
Representative, Indian Society of Laser Medicine

8. **Prof. Narong Nimsakul**
Honorary president, International Society for Laser Surgery & Medicine
Representative, Thailand Society for Laser Medicine & Surgery

9. **Prof. Yoshimi Asagai**
President, International Phototherapy Association
Immediate past president, Japan Laser Therapy Association

10. **Prof. Leonardo Longo,**
President, International Society for Laser Surgery and Medicine
President, International Academy for Laser Medicine and Surgery

11. **Prof. David Baxter**
President-elect, International Phototherapy Association

Prof. Kazuhiko Atsumi
Honorary president, WALT.

Prof. Toshio Ohshiro

Honorary president, WALT

**Dr. Junichiro Kubota
Secretary-General, WALT**

**Prof. Kazuo Hanaoka
Immediate Past president, WALT**

**Prof. Mary Dyson
Past President, ILTA**

**Dr. Glen Calderhead
Past Secretary-General, WALT**