DEAR ELSA MEMBERS AND COLLEAGUES,

THE 2016 WILL BE AN EXCITING YEAR FOR ELSA AND ASIA AS WE WILL BE HOSTING THE

15TH WORLD CONGRESS OF ENDOSCOPIC SURGERY
“ EAST MEETS WEST: MIS PLUS”
SUZHOU, CHINA NOVEMBER 9-12 2016

ELSA WE WILL CO-HOST THE WCES AND WILL BE STRONGLY INVOLVED IN ALL EDUCATION AND SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES.

A NEW ELSA LEADERSHIP HAS BEEN ELECTED FOR THE 2015-2017 TERM, AT THE LAST 12TH ASIA-PACIFIC ELSA CONGRESS:

- PRESIDENT: HJ KIM, SOUTH KOREA
- VICE-PRESIDENT: ZHANG ZHONG TAO, CHINA
- SECRETARY-GENERAL: D. LOMANTO, SINGAPORE
- TREASURER: ROLF HARTUNG, UAE

A TOTAL OF 7 NEW GOVERNORS HAVE BEEN APPOINTED IN THE BOARD (PLEASE VISIT THE ELSA WEBSITE FOR THE UPDATED LIST) AND 2 NEW COUNTRIES ADDED (NEPAL AND SRI LANKA) WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL THE PAST GOVERNORS FOR THEIR FRUITFUL WORK AND CONTRIBUTION.

THE ELSA ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARIAT HAS BEEN MOVED TO SINGAPORE AND MRS EMMA WILL SUPPORT AND ASSIST IN MANAGING THE ELSA MEMBERSHIP AND OTHER RELATED ACTIVITIES.

A NEW MIS ELSA TRAINING CENTRE HAVE BEEN ENDORSED AND BECOME PART OF THE ELSA ENDORSED TRAINING CENTERS ADDING TO A TOTAL OF 8: THE PHILIPPINES CENTRE FOR ADVANCE SURGERY (PCAS) IN MANILA, PHILIPPINES.

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ELSA OUTREACH PROGRAMME

THE ELSA OUTREACH PROGRAMME UP TO DATE HAVE ORGANIZED A TOTAL OF 31 WORKSHOPS SINCE 2012 AND TRAINED MORE THAN 1500 SURGEOINS IN THE 11 COUNTRIES INVOLVED.

In 2015, a total of 11 Workshops has been conducted and for 2016 the plan is more ambitious with a list of 16 Workshops lined-up. Moreover an educational grant, for participants of the countries involved in the Programme has been setup, to support their travel to China and we hope that the local organizing committee will help with local logistic.

A Facebook page has been created for keeping the members update on the ongoing activities.

A GREAT SURPRISE WILL WAIT FOR ALL OF YOU IN SUZHOU.

OUR MISSION IS TO DEVELOP AND PROMOTE MIS IN ASIA

Under the leadership of Dr. Allen A Buenafe. This new facility, equipped with state-of-the-art equipment, will widen the opportunity for surgeons' fellows that want to learn MIS or improve their skills in Philippines and in the region.

During the last ELSA Congress in Daegu, the Executive Committee and the Board of Governors conferred the ELSA Honorary Membership to two pioneer of laparoscopic surgery in the world that contribute actively to the development of MIS Prof. L. Michael Brunt, USA Past-President of SAGES and Prof. Mario Morino, Italy, Past-President EAES, During the same ceremony the ELSA awards for the best presentations were also conferred.

Lastly, a brief update on the upcoming WCES. The 3-days Congress will have more than 80 scientific sessions from Flexible Endoscopy to Upper GI, HBP, Colorectal and Obesity Surgery, Urology, Thoracoscopic and Pediatric Surgery, Abdominal Wall and Endocrine Surgery and more. More than 200 International Faculties have been invited, that will take role in 3-D Live Surgery, Keynote Lectures and Symposia. Several Awards will be given to the best oral, poster and video presentations. The Congress venue will be at Suzhou International Expo Centre. Suzhou is very close to Shanghai, free shuttle bus to and from Shanghai-Pudong International Airport will be organized. The Congress Centre is a newly open, high-tech facilities with wide spaces to host several concurrent Scientific Sessions and Exhibitions as it is needed for the World Congress of Endoscopic Surgery. Please feel free to contact me or our Governor and President of the Congress Prof. Zheng Min-Hua for any suggestion or assistance.

Follow us on the ELSA Website, register on our Social Network MD Pie, and update your email to be in touch with all ELSA News.

Looking forward to meet all of you in Suzhou, I remain

Friendly

Davide Lomanto,
ELSA Secretary General and Chief-Editor