merusletter 50th Anniversary

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF GERONTOLOGY

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Strategic Directions for the IAG

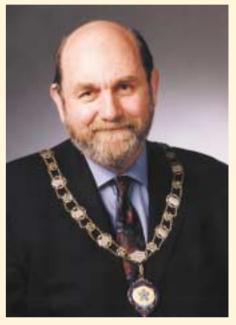
Why a Strategic approach

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the International Association of Gerontology (IAG).

The founders of the IAG were a small but highly dedicated group who saw the need for promoting the science of gerontology world wide. They recognised the importance of forming an international organisation made up of associations concerned with research and/or training in ageing to further these aims. Initially major emphasis was placed on fundamental biological, physiological and biomedical aspects of ageing, but from the beginning the need to consider research in behavioural, psychological and social arenas, as well as from the perspective of the humanities, was acknowledged. The Association, first known as the International Association of Gerontological Societies (IAGS), came into being at the First International Congress of Gerontology held in Leige, Belgium in July 1950. The Association's name was changed in the same year to the International Association of Gerontology (IAG). This last half-century has seen the IAG develop from a relatively small organisation formed to pursue the promotion of "gerontological research in biology, medicine, and social sciences" and the "cooperation between these sciences." Thus, the Association's essentially interdisciplinary nature was evident from the outset. The primary focus of the IAG has been the organisation and conduct of the now quadrennial International (World) Congress of Gerontology. More recently these have been complemented by a series of Regional conferences.

From time to time, such as when the 1982 United Nations World Assembly on Ageing was held, the IAG has had the opportunity to contribute to global considerations and debates on issues associated with individual and population ageing.

There have been great changes since the IAG was established. Ageing has become a far more prominent issue at all levels of organisation across the world. Scientific advances have contributed very significantly to greater understanding of ageing and its consequences Massive demographic shifts continue to change the population structures of all



IAG President, Professor Gary Andrews

countries. Further, the socio-economic and developmental implications of population ageing, especially in the developing world, have been increasingly recognised by the world's decision makers.

As a '...unique body of scholars dedicated to understanding the ageing of individuals and populations and to translating what they know in ways that will improve the well-being of the World's older adults...", the IAG needs to consider if its constitution, organisation and directions are appropriate to the challenges it now faces in striving to realize its mission in a rapidly changing world.

An important consideration is the need to take a strategic approach, critically reviewing the present situation and mapping the way forward to a more dynamic and effective global professional organisation.

Vision

The Association has from it origins pursued a vision wherein-:

 Gerontology is established as a highly developed multidisciplinary science;

- Gerontological training is available globally and provides high quality personnel working in all fields of ageing;
- An effective international network of gerontological organisations across the world has been established, is engaged in active communication and promotion of collaborative efforts in research and education; and
- High quality global and regional scientific meetings are regularly held to further promote the science and practice of gerontology world wide.

The ultimate vision is of a world in which individual and population ageing is substantially understood in scientific terms and its consequences are fully appreciated at all levels of public and private organisation. In addition, the vision is for the pursuit of further scientific knowledge on ageing to be continued with full vigour and foresight and for the fruits of these endeavours to be widely disseminated, making them known to all. This formulation of the Association's vision draws upon the constitution, the actions and the recorded activities of the IAG. It needs to be considered and debated and an agreed Vision statement needs to be formally adopted and promulgated to the Membership.

Values

The IAG through its first 50 years of existence has espoused a number of fundamental values that have been implicit in its activities and are consistent with the 1997 Adelaide Declaration. These include:

- Recognition of the importance of increasing longevity and the ageing of populations a critical challenges to society in both developed and developing countries.
- Acknowledgement of the fundamental contribution that can be made by scientific research in improving understanding and development of appropriate individual and societal responses to ageing.
- Commitment to sound education and training of all of those involved in provision of care and services to older persons as an important means of ensuring quality of care and support to older persons.
- Belief in the need for wider education of the whole of society to promote understanding of the:
 - implications of ageing populations and
 - the positive outcomes and benefits of longer life for individuals and societies.
- Support for the concept of the family as a central issue in the quality of life and well-being of older persons in both developed and developing societies.
- Commitment to promotion of the highest quality and standards for services provided for older persons.

- Recognition of the inherent diversity in the ageing process and among older persons, including socio-economic, educational and cultural variations.
- Respect for the rights and dignity of older persons in all circumstances. This statement also needs to be considered and to be endorsed or modified to reflect the collective values of the Association.

Mission

The IAG is an international organisation of national gerontological associations and in broad terms its mission has been enshrined in the official Bylaws of the Association, viz.:

Article 3 The Association has four main purposes:

- a) To promote gerontological research in the biological, medical, behavioral, and social fields (social psychological fields) by member organizations;
- b) To promote training of highly qualified personnel in the fields of ageing;
- c) To promote the interests of the gerontological organizations in all questions pertaining to foreign or international matters:
- d) To promote and assist in arrangements for holding the International Congress of gerontology at intervals determined by the Council.

Consideration needs to be given to more clearly defining the mission of the Association. The ultimate mission is to promote the achievement of excellence in scientific gerontological education, research and practice.

A suitable Mission Statement might be:

The Mission of the International Association of Gerontology is to promote the highest levels of achievement of gerontological research and training world wide and to interact with other international, inter-governmental, and non-governmental organisations in the promotion of gerontological interests globally and on behalf of its member associations. The Association pursues these activities with a view to promoting the highest quality of life and well being of all people as they experience ageing at individual and societal levels.

This too must be subject to consideration and debate so that an agreed mission statement can be formulated and ratified.

The above thoughts which were previously set out in the June 2000 edition of the IAG Newsletter are presented for discussion in the Salsomaggiore meeting and are intended to be considered along with other issues identified in the Salsomaggiore agenda.

Gary Andrews President

NEWS FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL



IAG Secretary General/Vice President, Professor Mary Luszcz

Looking Ahead to the 2009 World Congress.

Without detracting from the upcoming 2001 Congress in Vancouver or the one to be held in Rio de Janero in 2005, it is already time to start thinking about the 2009 Congress! At the time of writing, the IAG Secretariat has received three statements of intent to host the XIXth Congress of the IAG. The French Gerontological Society, The Hong Kong Association of Gerontology and The Swiss Society of Gerontology have expressed interest in submitting bids for this Congress. We look forward to receiving a full written proposal from each of these organisations.

Any other prospective host societies should notify the Secretary General as soon as possible of their intention to prepare a bid. The formal proposal from the intending Host Association should include information on the following six components:

- i. A description of the general approach to content and a possible theme;
- ii. An indication of the capacity of the host society to stage it;
- iii. Indication of a venue where the Congress would be held:
- iv. An indication of likely or actual sources of financial support necessary for holding a Congress;
- v. Letter/s of support from relevant professional bodies (e.g., the Host Association, Regional Secretariat or Member Societies) or government instrumentalities;
- vi. Peripheral, satellite or other special events that might be held in conjunction with the Congress.

The proposal to host a World Congress of the IAG should place emphasis on the scientific aspects of the Congress, as well as the infrastructure and capacity to support the Congress. Information regarding likely appeal stemming from local tourist attractions is secondary to the information that should be submitted with your bid.

Four (4) complete copies of all relevant materials should be provided to the IAG Secretariat no later than December 31, 2000.

A decision on the location of the 2009 Congress will be made during meetings of the IAG Council in Vancouver. Professor Gloria Gutman, President of the Vancouver Congress or Professor Norton Sayeg of Brazil, would no doubt be excellent sources of recent wisdom on preparing successful bids.

FROM THE

NORTH AMERICA

Regions

NORTH AMERICAN REGION



Chair of the North American Region, James T. Sykes

The North America Region has achieved, in a manner of speaking, a rebirth. After 40 years of following a style of leadership in which precedence largely dictated procedure, the three member societies agreed to a set of Bylaws that, with the IAG's approval, are now in effect. The initiative for formalizing the relationships among the American Geriatric Society, the Canadian Gerontological Association and the Gerontological Society of America was taken by GSA President Steve Cutler. A Task Force was established to review GSA's ties to the IAG, NARC and other national societies and to make recommendations to the GSA Council. The Task Force, comprised Toni Antonucci, Harvey Cohen, Roger McCarter and Jim Sykes (Chair), completed its work and the recommendations were adopted by GSA Council in November of 1998. Included in the report was a new structure for NARC providing equal representation of the three member societies.

Meeting in San Francisco during the 1999 GSA scientific meetings, the nine-member NARC (see below) elected Jim Sykes, GSA, Chair; Norah Keating, CGA, Secretary and Peter Whitehouse, AGS, Vice Chair. Consistent with other IAG Regions, the members will serve through the quadrennial Regional Congress. At the meeting IAG President Gary Andrews discussed issues before

the IAG. President-Elect Gloria Gutman, gave a comprehensive report on the status and expectations for the Vancouver 2001 World Congress. The members took particular interest in the report of substantial progress in planning for the Vancouver Congress and in President Andrews' discussion of the strategic planning meeting of IAG representatives in Italy in December, 2000.

Following a report by the 1999 Pan American Congress President Roger McCarter on the success of NARC and COMLAT's San Antonio Congress earlier in 1999, the members asked Miguel Acanfora of Argentina to discuss preliminary plans for the next Pan American Congress. Originally proposed by then Pan American Congress President Bravo Williams, the idea of a quadrennial Congress sponsored by the two regions received immediate strong support from Ernesto Chalita, Chair of COMLAT and Charles Longino, Chair of NARC. Brazil's offer to host the 1995 congress in Sao Paulo and Norton Sayeg's initial plans won solid support from North and South. The organizers from NARC and COMLAT agreed to rotate the venue for the congress between North and South and to take responsibility for the goverance of the Congress. (The 2003 Pan American Congress will be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina.)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE NORTH AMERICAN REGION

Chair	James T. Sykes,	GSA	USA
Secretary	Norah Keating,	CGA	Canada
Vice Chair	Peter Whitehouse,	AGS	USA
Members	Toni Antonucci,	GSA	USA
	David Espino,	AGS	USA
	Reva N Adler,	AGS	USA
	Carl Taillon	CGA	Canada
	Andrew Wister	CGA	Canada
	Roger J McCarter	GSA	USA

2001 CONGRESS TO BE HELD IN NORTH AMERICAN REGION



The International Association of Gerontology's 17th World Congress will be held in Vancouver, Canada from July 1-6, 2001.

Internationally recognised experts in gerontology will share their experience through invited symposia and plenary sessions. Topics will reflect current issues of the new millenium in research, policy and practice. Round tables symposia, posters and a trade show

will make for an exciting and comprehensive program. Networking opportunities will be numerous.

Please note that the deadline for abstract submissions is fast approaching (DECEMBER 31, 2000).

For more Congress information visit the website: www.harbour.sfu.ca/iag/

EUROPE

FROM THE

Regions

EUROPEAN REGION



Chair of the European Region, Dr. Mario Passeri

The IAG European Region was established together with the North American Region at the end of the 1950s, when Prof.Enrico Greppi was the President of the IAG. In 1959-60 two major executive committees were founded to better organise the activities of the national associations in these geographical areas. The membership of these committees comprised sections devised to cover the different aspects of ageing research: biological, clinical and socio-behavioural.

When the European Region was founded, it was decided that each Country should be represented by only one National Society, except France which had two and the United Kingdom having three national societies. In 1996 the two French societies joined together. Representatives from the member Societies constituted the European Council, which met every three years.

During the last 40 years the number of IAG European Region member countries has continued to increase. The number of member societies has grown from 15 in 1975 to 28 now. Some of this growth stemmed from the dissolution of the USSR; the Maltese association is the newest member. The member societies are listed below.

From its foundation, the Officers of the Region organised regional congresses approximately every three years in different cities of the continent in cooperation with the local national gerontological society member of the IAG. The First European Congress of Gerontology was held at Brighton, England in 1987, followed by Madrid, Spain in 1991, Amsterdam, Holland in 1995 and Berlin, Germany in 1999.

At first the meetings of the sections took place on an irregular basis however after a Congress of the Clinical Section, organised in Florence in 1994, it was decided to hold the meetings of the sections on a biannual basis.

In the last six years a new Regional Presidency and Secretariat permitted an evolution of the Region and gave the possibility of coordination and cooperation to the national societies. From 1994 a register of the National Societies was instituted in Parma, Italy, comprising the contact details of the Officers of all the Societies. The Register has been continuously updated to provide a complete picture of the Region.

At the European Congress in Berlin in 1999 the entire Executive Committee of IAG European Region was re-elected for four years. The present composition of the Executive Committee is reported below.

Other activities undertaken by the Region include:

 In 1996 a permanent secretariat and the Register of Societies was established in Madrid.

- In the same year a periodical bulletin was founded which continues to be published 3 times a year. In the future the bulletin will be available on the web-site of the European Region.
- Two web sites of the Society were created in Madrid; www.eriag.org; and Parma: utenti. tripod. it/eriag
- In 1995 the bylaws of the Region and of the sections were revised and approved.
- In 1995 Prof.J.Dall and the British Society of Gerontology prepared a "Charter of the Older's Person Standards", concerned with the rights of the elderly. This document was endorsed by the Region and was also received by the International Council at the Adelaide Congress in 1997.
- Besides the periodic meetings of the executive and of the delegates during the Congresses, two general meetings of all the European Region National Presidents took place in Parma in 1996 and 1998.
- Task forces were created to discuss issues such as Geriatric Assessment, Social Health Care Coordination, Dementia, Urinary Incontinence, Vaccination and Preventive Medicine, Osteoporosis, Geriatric Rehabilitation, Living Arrangements and Family Relations.
- In 1998 the "Declaration of Yuste "on the geriatric pre-and postgraduate teaching was drawn up by a group of European Geriatricians. It was endorsed and approved by the Region.

At present the European Region is involved in the organisation of the next European Congress which will take place in Barcelona in 2003, and in the Clinical Section meeting scheduled for 2002 in Moscow. The IAG European Region will continue to be a centre of information and collaboration for all the National Societies.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF IAG EUROPEAN REGION

President
Secretary
Treasurer
Chairman of the Biological section
Chairman of the Clinical section
Chairman of the Socio-behavioural Section

Prof. Mario Passeri (Italy)
Prof. Francisco Guillen-Llera (Spain)
Prof. Michel Lye (United Kingdom)
Prof. Dick Knook (The Netherlands)

Prof. José Manuel Ribera Casado (Spain) Prof. Ariela Lowenstein (Israel)

SALSOMAGGIORE, 2000

Program

DATE	TIME	MEETING
Sat. 9 December	10.00am - 12.30	Conference Program Planning Committee
	12.30pm - 1.45pm	Lunch
	2.00pm - 3.00pm	Conference Program Planning Committee
	3.00pm - 5.00pm	IAG Executive + Regional Chairs
	7.30pm - 8.30pm	Dinner
	8.30pm	Assemble for departure to concert
	9.00pm	Concert - Terme Berzieri
Sun. 10 December	10.00am - 12.30pm	Strategic Directions
	12.30pm - 1.45pm	Lunch
	2.00pm - 3.00pm	Input to World Assembly
	3.00pm - 4.00pm	Future Directions (Regional Chairs to give 10 min. presentation + discussion)
	4.00pm - 5.00pm	Manual of Operationg Procedures
	5.00pm - 5.30pm	IAG Finance
	7.30pm - 8.45pm	Dinner
Mon. 11 December	9.30am - 12.30pm	IAG & Research Agenda Meeting with NGO's in attendance. *Presentations followed by discussion.
	12.30pm - 1.45pm	Lunch
	2.00pm - 5.00pm	Regional Meetings. (Regional Chairs to convene).
	2.00pm - 5.00pm	NGO Summit Meeting. IAG Executive plus global NGO representatives.
		Research Agenda Group Discussions
	7.30pm	Celebratory Dinner (Suit, black tie optional)
Tue. 12 December	9.30am - 12.30pm	Research Agenda
	12.30pm - 1.45pm	Lunch
	2.00pm - 5.00pm	Background papers
Wed. 13 December	9.30am - 12.30pm	Research Agenda
	12.30pm - 1.45pm	Lunch
	2.00pm - 4.00pm	Research Agenda

LIST OF IAG PARTICIPANTS*

* List of Participants was correct at time of publication

Gary Andrews Mary Luszcz Charles Young Edit Beregi Gloria Gutman Gunnar Akner Vladimir Anisimov Jean-Pierre Baeyens Vladisalv V. Bezrukov Francisco Carrillo Castro Ho Chol Ryong Mladen Davidovio Elisa Dulcev-Ruiz Jean-Paul Emeriau Luis Carlo Estigarribia Bernard Forette Maria Georgescu Istvan Gergely Mary Gilhooly Malcolm Govns Francisco Guillen-Llera SM Herlambang Sutthichai Jitapunkul Roberto Kaplan Norah Keating Chen Keji Keun-Youl Kim Nodar Kipshidze Reshat Koci Jean Claude Leners Edward Leung

President - IAG Australia Secretary General - IAG Australia Treasurer - IAG Australia Past President - IAG Hungary President Elect - IAG Canada Swedish Society for Research on Ageing Gerontological Society of the Russian Academy of Sciences Belgian Gerontology and Geriatric Society Urainian Gerontological and Geriatrics Society Associacion Gerontologica Costarricense Costa Rica Korean Society of Gerontology and Geriatrics Gerontological Society of Serbia Associacion Federativa de Gerontolgia de Colombia Societe de Gerontologie de Bordeaux et Sud-Ouest - France Sociedad Paraguaya De Gerontologia Y Geriatria Societe Francaise De Gerontologie Romanian Association of Geriatrics & Gerontology Hungarian Association of Gerontology British Society of Gerontology British Society for Research on Ageing European Regional Secretary Indonesian Society of Gerontology Thai Society of Gerontology & Geriatric Medicine Sociedad Argentina De Gerontologia Y Geriatria Canadian Association of Gerontology Gerontological Society of China Federation of Korean Gerontological Society Georgian Society of Gerontology Albanian Association of Gerontology - Geriatrics Association Luxembourgeoise De Gerontologie/Geriatrie Hong Kong Association of Gerontology

Jacob Lomranz Felipe Martinez Arronte Kalŷani Mehta Zoltán Mikes David Nowogrodski Teruo Omae Hajime Orimo W.D Oswald Mario Passeri Wojciech Pedich Metka Pentek Ignat Petrov Indira Jai Prakash Jaroslav Prehnal Osvaldo Prieto Ramos Jose Manuel Ribera Rodolfo Sablich Palacios Norton Sayeg Monica Skalicky Barbara Squires Astrid Stuckelberger Cameron Swift James Sykes Heikki Takkunen Kirsten Thorsen Maree Todd Joseph Troisi Yung-Zu Tseng Andrus Viidik Meropi Violake-Pavaskeva

Fay Lomax Cook

The Gerontological Society of America Israeli Gerontological Society Sociedad De Geriatria Y Gerontologia De Mexico DF Gerontological Society of Singapore Slovak Society of Gerontology and Geriatrics Sociedad De Geriatria Y Gerontologia De Chile Japan Gerontological Society Asia Oceania Region - IAG German Gerontologcal and Geriatrics Society President European Region - IAG Polksie Towarzystwo Gerontologiczne Poland Gerontological Association of Slovenia Bulgarian Association on Ageing Association of Gerontology (India) Czech Society of Gerontology and Geriatrics President CÓMLAT Cuba Sociedad Espanola De Geriatria Y Gerontologia Sociedad De Gerontologia Y Geriatria Del Peru President Brazil Unberto Senin Societa Italiana Osterreichische Gesellschaft Fur Geriatrie und Gerontologie Australian Association of Gerontology Schweizerische Gesellschaft Fur Gerontologie Switzerland British Geriatrics Society President - NARC USA Societas Gerontologica Fennica Finland Norsk Selskap for Aldersforskning (NSA) Norway New Zealand Association of Gerontology Maltese Association of Gerontology & Geriatrics The Gerontological Society of Taiwan Danish Gerontological Society Hellenic Association of Gerontology & Geriatrics

STRATEGIC

Directions

Apart from considering the vision, values and mission of the Association (see opening article), it is proposed that IAG adopt a series of broad strategic directions during the next decade.

These are provisionally identified below:

1. The IAG will become more inclusive.

The Association originally consisted of a rather ill-defined and loose-knit group of individuals and organisations with a common interest primarily in research on ageing. Gradually in its formative years the notion of an organisation restricted to nationally constituted multidisciplinary bodies, with only one admitted per country, was evolved. A Council meeting held at the XI International Congress in Tokyo (July 1978) proposed that Article 4 of the Bylaws be reworded as follows:

'Membership in the Association shall be by gerontological organisations, with the exception provided in Article 6 (that allows individual membership under certain conditions). To be eligible for membership an organisation must "be national in its scope and multidisciplinary in membership." This was eventually incorporated into the revised Bylaws approved by the IAG Council July, 1985 in Article 5: viz

"Membership in the Association shall be by national gerontological organizations (societies) with the exception as provided in Article 7. To be eligible for membership an organization (society) must:

- a) be national in its scope and multidisciplinary in membership; unless otherwise approved by Council, only one national organization from any country shall be a member of the Association;
- b) have a primary orientation toward research and training in gerontology; and
- c) have at least fifty members (in good standing) with exceptions determined by the Council."

Recommendation:

Consideration should be given to amendment of the Bylaws to allow: More than one organisation per country to join the IAG; National Organizations that are not themselves multidisciplinary, but that do have an established interest in research, education or practice related to ageing, should be eligible for membership.

2. The IAG will become more interactive with its Membership.

To facilitate the work of the IAG and communication with member organizations, regions, special committees, and the Executive, it is proposed that sponsorship be sought for the establishment of a comprehensive intranet site that can support information posting, chat rooms,

bulletin boards, video-conferencing etc. This could substantially reduce the need for more expensive on-site meetings of Council and the Executive, though these would continue to be arranged in conjunction with other events as appropriate.

Recommendation:

Discussions should be entered into with Novartis Foundation for Gerontology regarding the possible complimentary hosting of an interactive intranet site for the IAG.

The IAG Calender of Meetings will be reviewed to ensure maximum coordination of its international meeting schedule and appropriate frequency of meetings.

The Congress of the International Association of Gerontology was originally held every three years. In the 1970's the view was put forward that this was too often as there was simply not enough scientific progress made in a three-year period to sustain a full world congress with that frequency. As a result the four-year cycle was introduced, including the transfer of Executive Offices at the beginning of each Congress to the incoming President, Secretary General and Treasurer, who then served until the next Congress. Council meetings are held during the Congress and thus take place only once every four years. In the interim communication is via post, fax or e-mail.

While this arrangement seems to have worked reasonably well over the past 30 years or so there are a number of consequences that now deserve attention:

- 1. The rate of development of gerontology in all respects including research, education, policy and programs is such that more frequent global meetings would now be easily sustainable.
- 2. It has become apparent that there is a certain amount of incongruity in the Executive of the IAG taking Office at the beginning of the Congress that they will generally have been implementing in the preceding years. In the lead up to the Congress it may be more appropriate for the Chair of the Congress Organising Committee to be the President of the IAG rather than President-Elect. This could improve communication between the Congress Organisation and the IAG Regions and Membership. It could also enhance the capacity of the Chair of the Congress Organising Committee to obtain sponsorship support for the Congress (as President of the International Association of Gerontology). The dynamics of the relationship between the Secretariat and the Membership might also be improved in this arrangement.

3. The infrequency of Council Meetings which are now held only every four years makes any continuity, concerted action, or global coordination of effort very difficult for the IAG as an organisation. Meetings held at least on a biennial basis would be substantially more effective in ensuring involvement of the Membership. The present lead time of 8 years for planning a future Congress is more protracted than it need be and 6 years would be adequate and more reasonable.

Such a change would have consequences for the currently planned 2005 and 2009 World Congress and also for the pattern of Regional Meetings. The individual regions could choose to continue to have their meetings every four years but would need to shift their cycle (e.g., to even numbered years) to avoid clashing with future World Congresses. Alternatively the regions could adopt a two-year cycle also. It could make some sense for the regions to retain a four-yearly pattern but to alternate so that meetings of two of the Regions (or three if the Pan American is included and Africa is incorporated) are held alternately, every four years, between the World Congress years.

If we were to go down this path then there would be a need to:

- 1. Seek Council endorsement (by correspondence) in principle as soon as possible with a view to having the decision ratified at the Vancouver Congress. Council would need to approve of the pattern of a World Congress being held every two years and for the Executive to transfer at the end of each Congress to the nominee of the host association for the succeeding Congress (i.e. in 2 years time). In this case the Executive and Secretariat would transfer every two years.
- 2. Shift the Congress planned for 2009 to 2007.
- 3. Propose the selection of the site for the 2007 Congress to be approved at the Vancouver Congress in 2001.
- 4. Plan for the next succession of the Executive to take place in 2003 and then in 2005 and at the end of the World Congress in 2007 and so on. Alternatively, if it is considered better not to move so quickly, the change could be delayed and introduced after 2005 (i.e., the Executive succession takes place in 2007) or after 2009 (in which case succession would take place in 2011.

Recommendation:

The frequency, timing and coordination of the World and Regional Congresses of the IAG should be revised and consideration given to any desirable change and revision of the current arrangements. Consideration should also be given to the impacts of any changes on the succession of the IAG Executive.

4. The IAG will become more active in interaction with International inter governmental bodies, including the United Nations and WHO.

The IAG has consultative status with the UN and informally collaborates with WHO and other international agencies from time to time. Members of the present Executive of IAG have been frequently engaged on an individual basis in these consultative links in recent years. While they have been involved generally on the basis of their individual expertise, the opportunity has generally been taken to give some prominence to their IAG affiliation and, of course, they are able to draw heavily on IAG experience in these roles.

A unique opportunity has arisen for the IAG to be involved in a more specific and practical way with the UN in relation to the upcoming Second World Assembly on Ageing.

The General Assembly decided in its resolution 54/262, to convene a Second World Assembly on Ageing in April, 2002 to be held in Madrid, Spain. In addition, the General Assembly in resolutions 54/262 and 54/24 invited broad participation in the preparatory process leading up to the Second World Assembly.

In this process interaction is needed with at least three major sectors:

- Non-Governmental Organisations concerned with ageing,
- · Private Sector, and
- Expert Gerontological Community (researchers, educators and practitioners; REPs) the academic and professional spheres.

The mobilisation of REPs on a global scale giving due recognition to the different academic, research and professional organisations and constituencies worldwide, while ensuring a prominent voice for those from the developing world, is an exercise of major proportions and complexity.

In the field of ageing the International Association Gerontology (IAG) is the principal player in these fields across the globe. I have proposed to the UN that IAG would be an excellent focal point, through its present President, to mobilise this element of the consultative process worldwide.

In order to facilitate this process a partnership could be formed with the Novartis Foundation for Gerontology, which has already extensively contributed along with the IAG, to the development of 'A Research Agenda on Ageing for the 21st Century'. This UN sponsored initiative is currently being undertaken and is scheduled to conclude in 2001. Indeed Novartis Foundation has agreed in principle to underwrite this new project so that the momentum gained by this enterprise

can be harnessed and the information refined and disseminated further at the WAA-2 and, hopefully, thereafter.

The Novartis Foundation has a high quality internet web site that currently attracts almost 1 million visitors per month. A mini-site could be established that would be devoted to the processes of global engagement and consultation on gerontology and this would be established and maintained by the Foundation throughout the process.

It is envisioned that a Steering Committee of approximately 9 members, with representation from all of the appropriate stakeholders, and including developing and developed country participation would be formed. The Steering Committee would meet at least 3 times prior to World Assembly (i.e. twice in 2001 and once in the first half of 2002).

Commencing two days prior to the convening of the World Assembly, and meeting throughout that event, a larger group would convene to undertake a series of discussions and debates on the development of a new World Plan of Action on Ageing formally feeding its deliberations into the World Assembly proceedings. Membership of this group would be determined in consultation with IAG Member organisations.

This activity, perhaps identified as Research Education And Practice Forum Supporting The World Assembly On Ageing, would be organised in International Congress format with a series of plenary and area-specific sessions incorporating individual invited presentations, symposia, debates, workshops and submitted contributions in the form of posters and short papers. It is anticipated that around 1,000 to 1,500 participants would be attracted to this event. A registration fee would be charged for attendance and the Novartis Foundation would be reimbursed up to level of the funds advanced (proposed as up to US\$350,000).

The discussions, debates, symposia and workshop outcomes within the REPs group at the Assembly would be progressively submitted by the Steering Committee to the Assembly through the Coordinating Committee of the Assembly.

The UN officer responsible for providing the Secretariat for the World Assembly on Ageing and the Spanish Government Representative in charge of the Host Country preparations have agreed to this arrangement in principle.

Recommendation:

a) The IAG formally agree, without any financial commitment, to be associated with and provide endorsement of the plan to convene a Research, Education and Practice

- Forum in association with the United Nations World Assembly on Ageing in Madrid, Spain 2002.
- b) Further, that Professor Gary Andrews be nominated as convenor for this event.
- c) Other avenues be pursued for increasing the IAG's level of interactivity with International inter governmental and non-governmental organisations.

The IAG will explore ways of more effectively pursuing global initiatives in research and eduction in gerontology at global level.

At various times in the past the IAG Council has attempted to initiate projects aimed at fostering global cooperation in the development of research and education in gerontology.

For example, at the 11th Congress held in Tokyo in August 1978, a proposal to 'establish a fund to foster research and training in gerontology' was considered and approved for action but no effective follow-up action was undertaken.

There is clearly a real need to consider ways in which the IAG may be more effective in fostering a coordinated global approach to achievement of its vision and mission.

Recommendation:

The IAG consider mechanisms that will allow it to more effectively undertake coordinated global action in fostering research and education in gerontology across the globe especially crossnational activities and initiatives related to developing countries.

6. The IAG will review and consolidate its status as a duly constituted and officially registered international scientific organization.

It is generally understood the formal legal incorporation and registration of IAG took place in Liège, Belgium on March 15, 1952. However the legal records have been lost. Attempts to have the Revised Bylaws, that had been approved by Council on July 14, 1985, duly registered proved both costly and complicated and were subsequently abandoned in favour of their endorsement by the IAG without full legal accreditation.

Recommendation:

The incoming executive of IAG should be authorized to have the legal basis and incorporation of IAG reviewed and a recommendation made to Council of steps to be followed to provide a firm legal basis for the IAG and the registration of an amended set of Bylaws based upon the 1985 revision and any subsequent amendments approved by Council.

IAG MANUAL OF OPERATING PROCEDURES: A Synopsis

The governance of the International Association of Gerontology is prescribed in a set of Bylaws. These were originally written in French and registered in Belgium in 1950, when the IAG was established. An English translation was approved by Council at the XIIIth Congress in New York (USA) in July 1985. This translation - referred to hereafter as "The Bylaws" - can be found as Appendix VII, prepared by E. Busse and G.L. Maddox, in N.W. Shock's: The International Association of Gerontology: A Chronicle - 1950 to 1986 (Springer, 1988).

According to Article 26 of the Bylaws:

A Manual of Operating Procedures of the Association will be submitted by the Executive Committee for Council approval and constitute an appendix to Association Bylaws. The manual is advisory only and is intended as a guide to desirable practice regarding the duties of the Officers of the Association, dissemination of information on actions by the Executive Committee, and planning and implementation of the International Congresses. The Council will periodically review and approve, by majority vote of those present and voting, changes in the existing Manual.

The 1997 - 2000 IAG Executive felt it was timely to mark the 50th Anniversary of the establishment of the IAG by reviewing and updating the Manual of Operating Procedures. Revisions are intended primarily to reflect practices that have evolved over time and become part of operational procedures. IAG Council, by majority vote, normally approves changes to the existing Manual. It is anticipated that this approval will be sought at the 2001 IAG Council meetings at the World Congress in Vancouver. Feedback on the draft is being sought through representatives of member associations present at the 50th Anniversary meetings, before preparing the final draft.

The Draft Revision of the Manual of Operating Procedures (MOP-DR) incorporates procedures devised in 1989 and 1993 and presented to Congresses in Acapulco and Budapest, respectively. Procedures have been re-written to make them more generic and to delete obsolete information. An attempt was made to consolidate all information about similar topics in a single section, to provide more comprehensive coverage and enable better access to it. Decisions taken during 1997-2000 have also been incorporated.

The MOP-DR also incorporates amendments agreed during Council Meetings of the IAG in Adelaide in 1997. Decisions were taken there to enhance IAG activities and to facilitate the smooth running of the IAG, its Secretariat and the World Congresses. It was decided that

- subscription rates would be increased.
- audited accounts of each Congress would be made publicly available.
- a start-up loan would be made from Congress to Congress.
- 25% of net surplus funds from each Congress would be paid to IAG for purposes of supporting the work of the IAG Secretariat.

These actions were initiated by the 1997 Congress Secretariat prior to the IAG Council decisions in anticipation of the changes proposed.

The MOP-DR begins with a brief history of the Association and description of the key IAG symbols, i.e., the logo, flag and presidential medallion, and protocol for their use. It then describes the role of the IAG in its consultative status to the United Nations NGO Committee on Aging. A representative for the IAG is charged with providing, in coordination with the Executive Committee, appropriate forms of collaboration with bodies of the General Assembly, the Program on Aging, or other agencies and networks of the UN system. This role of the IAG is complementary to its role as a potential co-sponsor or auspicing body for other major international activities on aging, e.g., participation in the Second World Assembly on Aging slated for 2002.

A central component of the MOP-DR is a description of the roles of the five honorary office-bearers of the Association. The President, Secretary General/Vice President, Treasurer, Past-president, and President-elect together comprise the IAG Executive. This team works together during and between World Congresses to promote gerontology on the international stage and communicate with the four Regions. International communication is achieved via the IAG newsletter, a regular column in Gerontology and the IAG website. The Executive also plays a vital role in monitoring and expanding the membership of the IAG, which currently stands at 63.

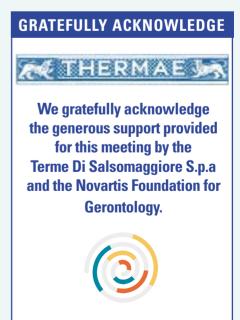
The MOP-DR outlines accepted practice on holding various meetings of the IAG and awarding

the Presidential and Busse prizes. It includes a section on the link with Gerontology, the IAG's principal professional journal outlet, which began in the mid-1980's and has been revitalised by the current President and Secretary General. A large component of the MOP-DR is concerned with planning and implementing World Congresses. Consistent with the Bylaws, matters pertaining to pursuing activities within the four Regions are not prescribed in the MOP-DR. Nonetheless it is expected that Regions report regularly to the President, have their Bylaws on the IAG website, hold a Regional Congress on a four-year cycle falling between World Congresses, and provide a conduit by which associations in their region communicate with, or consider joining, the IAG.

In summary, the Manual of Operating Procedures at once provides a record of key historical milestones of the IAG and a resource for those concerned with the day-to-day activities of the IAG. It also provides guidance for future Office Bearers and the Regions on how to approach tasks of concern to all engaged in promoting gerontology and geriatrics worldwide.

Recommendation:

That the MOP-DR be posted on the IAG website for comment and, subject to further amendments, be put to the council in Vancouver for approval.



FROM THE

Regions

ASIA/OCEANIA

ASIA/OCEANIA REGION



Chair of the Asia/Oceania Region, Dr. Hajime Orimo

The Asia/Oceania Region of the IAG was established in 1978, administrated mainly by Australia and Japan. As the recognition of the importance of population ageing in this region has grown, many countries have joined. Currently, the 12 member countries include Australia, China, DPR Korea, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand and the Philippines.

Since 1995 this Region has issued an annual newsletter of the Asia/Oceania Region to strengthen the linkage among each association and promote mutual understanding of members of various countries. It features reports from regional council members, information on member societies and conference news.

Regional Congresses have been held every 4 years. The first was held in Melbourne, Australia (December 1980), the second in Singapore (January 1983), the third in Bangkok, Thailand

(November 1987), and the fourth in Yokohama, Japan (November 1991). In the fourth regional congress held in Yokohama the Council of IAG, Asia/Oceania formed the following four sub committees: Biological Science, Clinical Medicine, Social and Behavioural Science, Social Research and Planning. The members of the current Committee and Chairs of the sub-committees are shown below. The proceedings of the 4th Congress held in Yokohama were compiled as a book entitled "New Horizons in Ageing Science".

The 5th Regional Congress was held in Hong Kong during November 1995 with the theme "Total Care of the Elderly - a Multidisciplinary Approach". This very successful conference was attended by about 1100 delegates from this region and 35 other countries outside the country including the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom.

Diverse topics were discussed in the areas of biological science, clinical medicine, social and behavioural science and social research planning. The conference provided a significant opportunity for academics, social scientists, practitioners, health care professionals and social workers to share their experience in the care of elderly people. This Hong Kong Congress was not only a scientific success, but also a financial success. Half of the surplus was donated to the Secretariat of the regional committee of the IAG according to the regulation of our regional association of the IAG.

The 6th Asia/Oceania Regional Congress of Gerontology was held in Seoul, Korea from June 8-11, 1999. Prof Keun-Yul Kim was the Congress President and Prof Sung-Jae Choi was the Chairperson of the organising committee. The theme of the congress was "Changing Family Systems and Care for the Aged in the 21st Century". This Seoul Congress was one of the most successful

regional congresses ever held. To make this congress successful, the host organisation, the Federations of Korea Gerontological Societies, established a local organising committee in March of 1998 and promoted the congress at major international gerontological conferences in the preceeding two years.

Many well known Gerontologists in the field of Biological Sciences, Clinical Medicine, Behavioural and Social Sciences, and Social and Research Planning were invited to this Seoul Congress. A memorial symposium was held to commemorate the late Prof Gene Yoon, former President of the Federation of Korean Gerontological Societies, who had dedicated himself to the development of gerontological studies in Korea and had served as a Chairperson of the sub-committee of Behavioural and Social Sciences. This congress also invited all Chairpersons of regional geriatric societies to meet and discuss their regional activities and important research agendas in the future. The proceedings of the Congress were published in 2000, including about130 papers.

The 7th Asia/Oceania Regional Congress of the IAG will be held in Tokyo, Japan in 2003. Other activities for the future include exploring the possibility of organising a workshop on how to develop training and gain experience working within a geriatric assessment team on a multidisciplinary basis.

Dr. Hajime Orimo, Chair of the Asial Oceania Region of the IAG, has produced an impressive booklet on the History of the IAG which was the summary of a special lecture he delivered at the General Assembly of the Japan Gerontological Society in 1997. For more information please contact the Asial Oceania region:

Fax: 39 521 290776 Email: orimo@tmig.or.jp

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE IAG ASIA/OCEANIA REGION

Chairperson Secretary/Treasurer Chairperson Elect Secretary Treasurer Elect Immediate Past Chairperson Executive Secretary/Treasurer Hajime Orimo (Japan) Yoshinosuke Fukuchi (Japan) Sung-Jae Choi (Korea) Myung-Hee Chung (Korea) Gary Andrews (Australia) Ruth Inall (Australia) Convenors and Co-convenors of Scientific Sub-committees

Biological Science Sataro Goto SC Park
Clinical Medicine Hajime Orimo Edwards MF Leung
Social and Behavioural Sciences IK Kim H Akiyama
Social Research and Planning Hal Kendig KO Rhee

COMLAT

FROM THE

Regions

COMLAT REGION



President of the COMLAT Region, Dr. Osvaldo Prieto Ramos

The participation of Latin America in the IAG had very modest beginnings. In 1945 a group of 14 members were organized in Argentina with Dr. B.A. Houssaiy as President and Dr. E.E. Krapf as Secretary. This group was invited to participate in the British Club for Research on Aging of the British Association of Gerontology.

Since the First World Congress held in 1951 there has been participation from Latin America, either individually or as members of their Associations. Between the 9th and 10th Congresses, the Associations of Gerontology and Geriatrics of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Uruguay and Venezuela joined together to create the Latin American Federation of Gerontology and Geriatrics. The first President was Dr. M.C. Lescalea of Argentina. The first Congress was held in Buenos Aires, November 10-16, 1973 and the second was held in 1976 in Puerto Alegre, Brazil.

Between 1972 and 1981 a provisional Latin American Commission was established presided over by Dr. Lorenzo Figallo Espinal of Venezuela, having in mind the creation of a Latin American Committee of the IAG (COMLAT) that was finally founded during the 12th International Congress held in Hamburg, Germany. The First Board of Directors was established on July 14, 1981. COMLAT participated in 3 Round Tables as a Region in New York during the 13th Congress in 1985.

Members from COMLAT - IAG participated in the preparatory meeting of the World Assembly on Aging held in Bogota, Colombia, 1981, and in the World Assembly on Aging. Vienna, 1982.

In 1985 the second Board of Directors was presided over by Dr. Joaquin González Aragón (Mexico), the third in 1989, by Dr. Flavio A. Cansado (Brazil) and in 1993 the fourth Board was presided over by Dr. Ernesto Chalita (Argentina).

The First Congress of the Latin American Committee on Gerontology (COMLAT) was held in Sao Paulo, Brazil, November 10-14, 1991. At this Congress the Statutes were approved and the Manual of Procedures was drafted. The second Congress of COMLAT was held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, November 1995 and the Third in Havana, Cuba, November 1999. Two Bi-regional Pan American Congresses have been held conjointly by COMLAT and NARC, the first one in Sao Paulo, Brazil in 1995 and the second in Texas in 1999.

The future holds a time of intense activity for Gerontology in the Region and the role for the Latin American Committee should be to guide this work. The celebration in the Region of the Pan American Congress of Gerontology in 2003 in Buenos Aires - Argentina, the IV Congress of the Latin American Committee of the IAG in 2003 in Chile, and the World Congress in Brazil, in 2005, are examples of the work ahead.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE IAG COMLAT REGION

President:	Dr. O. Prieto	Cuba
Secretary General:	Dr. E. Vega	Cuba
Director of Biology Area:	Dr. P. P. Marin	Chile
Director of Clinic Geriatric Area:	Dr. F. Morales	Costa Rica
Director of Physiology Area:	Dr. J. E. Mazzei	Venezuela
Director of Social Science Area:	Dr. F. Portocarrero	Peru
Director of Assistance Area:	Dr. F. Gómez	Colombia

MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS OF THE AG Regions

NORTH AMERICAN REGION

Canadian Association of Gerontology The Gerontological Society of America The American Geriatrics Society

EUROPEAN REGION

Albanian Association of Gerontology-Geriatrics (AAGG) Belgische Vereniging Voor Gerontologie and Geriatrie British Geriatrics Society British Society for Research on Ageing British Society of Gerontology Bulgarian Association for Active Aging Czech Society of Gerontology Danish Gerontological Society Deutsche Gesellschaft für Gerontologie and Geriatrics Societad Española de Gerontologia Societa Gerontologica Fennica Societe' Française de Gerontologie Georgian Geriatric Society Hellenic Association of Gerontology Hungarian Gerontological Association Irish Gerontological Society Israeli Gerontological Society

Societa'italiana di Gerontologia e Geriatria Association Luxembureoise de Gerontologie/Geriatrie Maltise Association of Gerontologie and Geriatrics Norvegian Gerontological Society Oesterreich Gesellschaft für Geriatrie und Gerontology Polish Society of Gerontology Societade Portugueisa de Geriatria e Gerontologia Romanian Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics Russian Scientific Society for Gerontology Society of Gerontology of the Republic Serbia Slovac Society for Gerontology and Geriatrics Gerontolosko Drusto Slovenije Svedish Society for Research on Ageing Schweizerische Gesellschaft für Gerontologie The Netherlands Society of Gerontology Ukranian Society of Gerontology and Geriatrics

ASIA/OCEANIA REGION

Australian Association of Gerontology
Gerontological Society of China
Hong Kong Association of Gerontology
Association of Gerontology (India)
Indonesian Society of Gerontology
Japan Gerontological Society
Korean Society of Gerontology and Geriatrics
New Zealand Association of Gerontology
Philippine Association of Gerontology Inc
Gerontological Society of Singapore
The Gerontological Society of Taiwan
Thai Society of Gerontology and Geriatric medicine

COMLAT REGION

Association of Geriatrics and Gerontology of Mexico
Association of Geriatrics and Gerontology of Uruguay
Association of Geriatrics and Gerontology of Paraguay
Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics of Argentina
Association of Geriatrics and Gerontology of Brazil Federative
Association of Gerontology of Colombia
Association of Geriatrics and Gerontology of Venezuela
Association of Geriatrics and Gerontology of Chile
Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics of Peru
Association of Gerontology of Puerto Rico
Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics of Cuba



WALTER DOBERAUER SCHOLARSHIP FOR RESEARCH INTO OLD AGE

The Austrian Society for Geriatrics and Gerontology will present the Walter Doberauer Scholarship for Research into Old Age in 2001.

Prize money of ATS 60.000 will be presented for work in the fields of - Experimental Gerontology/ Biology - Social Gerontology - Clinical Geriatrics

Applicants must be under 40 years of age and include with their application - a short C.V. - a description of their research project - a list of publications

The closing date for applications is 15th November 2000

Applications are to be addressed to: Austrian Society for Geriatrics and Gerontology C/- Prim. Dr. Franz Bohmer SMZ Sophienspital Apollogasse 19 A - 1070 Wien.

In Memory

Mr. Leo Abisch died on 27 July 2000, he was the Executive Director of the Sandoz Foundation for Gerontological Research for several years and a great contributor and supporter of the IAG. He will be sadly missed.

Amendment

Amendment: If you are planning to take advantage of the Tour to the IAG 17th World Congress in Vancouver, Canada, organised by the Asia/Oceania region, please note that the telephone number for NORTHBRIDGE TRAVEL as stated in the brochure is incorrect. The Correct number is (02) 9958 5666

IAG Website

VISIT THE IAG WEBSITE AT: www.cas.flinders.edu.au/iag

The documents for the 50th Anniversary meeting in Salsomaggiore and the MOP-DR are all soon to be posted on the IAG website.

Copy Deadline

Copy for the May 2001 Edition of the Newsletter of the International Association of Gerontology is due by Friday 9th March 2001. All submissions are greatly appreciated. Please email to penny.edwards@flinders.edu.au or fax +61 8 8201 7551

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF

Gerontology

INTERNATIONAL GERONTOLOGICAL MEETINGS

2001

January 12-14

Gerontological Society of Singapore Regional Conference

Into the Millenium of the Older Adult: Releasing Potentials and Erasing Prejudices

This conference will provide a platform for the exchange of knowledge, skills and ideas between academics, practitioners and policy-makers with the final aim of improving policies and services for older persons in Asia. Participation by interested individuals outside the Region is actively promoted.

For more information contact:

Mr. Allan Choo, Administrative Officer Gerontological Society of Singapore 19 Tao Payoh West Singapore 318876 Email: kkljmehtas@pacific.net.sg Fax: 3444553

February 4-7

International Psychogeriatric Association (IPA) Section of Psychiatry of Old Age (SPOA)

Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists

Lorne, Victoria, Australia Secretariat: C/- ICMS Pty Ltd 84 Queensbridge Street, Southbank,

Victoria 3006 Australia

Tel: +61 3 9682 0244 Fax: +61 3 9682 0288 Email: ipajm@icms.com.au

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Email: orimo@tmig.or.jp

Secretary Dr Yoshinosuke Fukuchi

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EUROPEAN REGION

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Email: m.passeri@rsadvnet.it Secretary Dr Francisco Guillen Llera Secretary, European Region of IAG Permanent Secretariat, PO Box 9191 2080 MADRID SPAIN

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Ph: 780 492 4191
Fax: 780 492 3012

IAG CONGRESS CALENDAR

2001

THE 17TH CONGRESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF GERONTOLOGY



VANCOUVER, CANADA JULY 1-6, 2001

THEME GLOBAL AGING working together in a changing world

KEY DATES

Call for papers: June 1, 2000 Abstract deadline: Dec 31, 2000

CONGRESS SECRETARIAT
Gerontology Research Centre
Simon Fraser University at Harbour Centre
Facsimile +1 (604) 291-5066
E-mail iag_congress@sfu.ca
Web www.harbour.sfu.ca/iag/

2003

European Congress of Gerontology

Barcelona, España, Junio 2003 Sociedad Española de Geriatría y Gerontología Email: segg@segg.org

Pan American Congress of Gerontology

Buenos Aires, Argentina
Argentine Medical Association
Argentine Society of Gerontology and Geriatrics
San Luis 2538 C1056AAD
Buenos Aires ARGENTINA
Fax +54 11 4961-0070
Email: sagg@connmed.com.ar
Website: www.sagg.org.ar

2005

June 24-29

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

18th World Congress of Gerontology

For more information contact: Av Europa 722 Jardim Europa - CEP 01449-000 Brazil, Sao Paulo - SP Tel: 55 11 3082 8596 55 11 3088 4751 Fax: 55 11 3083 0473

Email: nortonsa@uol.com.br