

Therefore, in the next issue, we plan to introduce a new section entitled "African Voices", with papers written by scientists from different parts of Africa, introduced by Lebo Gafane-Matemane.

Finally, sincere thanks to the deputy editor Dylan Burger and the lovely Hypertension News team. We plan the

publication of the next issue of the Newsletter (Opus 69) for March 2022.

Enjoy a good read!

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## Update from the Executive Committee

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It has only been 2 months since my last update from the executive, but that does not mean that I am short on information for our members. First and foremost, the ISH report to the UK Charity Commission for the 2020 calendar year was filed and is now available [here](#). The report summarizes our annual returns and key activities/initiatives.

Many readers will also be aware that the 2021 edition of May Measurement Month has now come to a close. As a reminder, "May" Measurement Month was extended until November for the 2021 campaign. This was to allow for screening at the safest times in line with local public health recommendations. All data has now been submitted and we look forward to the result of the 2021 campaign as well as an update on the soon to launch 2022 campaign from Professor Neil Poulter and the MMM team in the near future.

There has also been significant activity on the research and education front with several key opinion/position papers now in development. Most immediately, several ISH members, led by Prof Alta Schutte, have been working on a global review of the epidemiology of hypertension that highlights regional-specific challenges and seeks to identify strategies to improve hypertension awareness and control. This work is expected to be submitted in early 2022. In addition, professors George Stergiou and Nadia Khan from the Research and Education Committee are overseeing a number of ISH position papers in development and we hope to have an update on progress in the new year. Finally, ISH President

Maciej Tomaszewski, Dr. Erika Jones, and myself recently contributed to a statement from the Global Coalition for Circulatory Health titled "[Preventing the next pandemic: The case for investing in circulatory health](#)". This statement served as the foundation for lobbying efforts at the recent WHO World Health Assembly. Going forward the ISH is presently working to establish status as a "non-state actor" which would give the ISH a platform to more effectively advocate for hypertension in global health policy. If you are interested in details on these and other ISH activities be sure to check out the President's blog" which can be found [here](#).

As 2021 comes to a close I think that it is worth taking a moment to appreciate all that the ISH has accomplished in the past year. One year ago the New Blood campaign had just concluded and 70 new leaders from more than 40 different countries had just joined ISH committees. The impact of this injection of talent, energy, and fresh perspectives has been felt throughout the society. New initiatives abound: notably the #ISHLive series from the New Investigators, Workshops organized by the Mentorship and Training Committee, and the many partnered seminars from the Women in Hypertension Research Committee. The Regional Advisory Groups have also been reinvigorated and new partnerships are emerging such as our involvement in the Global Coalition for Circulatory Health. As chair of the Communications Committee I have been particularly pleased with our new website, the growth of the monthly E-bulletin, and the launch of the Café ISH video series. These are just a handful of significant advances that ISH has made in the

last 12 months and they build upon existing strengths such as Hypertension News which had its highest readership to date in 2021.

It is incredible to think that all of this growth and expansion has happened in spite of the fact that our society has not had an opportunity to meet in person in more than 3 years. Certainly, the very successful joint ISH/ESH virtual meeting in April provided an opportunity

to reconnect, but I think we all are looking forward to the Kyoto 2022 meeting and the possibility of an in person program. I have recently seen a very preliminary draft program and have to say that it looks truly outstanding and innovative.

Best,

Dylan

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## Merry Christmas and Happy New 2022

FROM ALL ON THE HYPERTENSION NEWS EDITORIAL BOARD

