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Dear IUPHAR Member Societies,

We hope this communication finds you well and staying safe during these challenging times.

As many are aware, IUPHAR has faced several governance challenges over the years due to its complex design. After the World Congress of Pharmacology held in Kyoto, Japan in 2018 the IUPHAR officers, along with the Executive Committee members, have been working to address these challenges to improve the organization. A governance review has been conducted by an independent contractor where many key stakeholders, including the IUPHAR officers, Executive Committee members and many member societies, were contacted and interviewed for input to the process. We sincerely appreciate everyone who offered feedback and support to this part of the process.

The outcome of this review has resulted in outlining IUPHAR's priorities and next strategic steps as an organization. We are eager to communicate with our member societies about the actions and progress being made to improve the IUPHAR organization, moving forward.

The three main proposed improvements from the review include:

- Strategy: define core objectives, agree on these with Members, agree on realistic activities and stick to them.
- Executive Committee: increase productivity by reducing size, clarifying roles (with corresponding responsibilities) and improving election processes.
- Overall Structure: simplify the groups below the Executive Committee and make it easier for Member Societies to communicate with each other (and with the Executive Committee).

Other areas to address include reforming the delegate system, improving communication, reforming the statutes to allow for more accountability and flexibility, implementing best practices for executive meeting management, developing standard operating procedures, spending to invest and optimizing all the resources available. There were many recommendations in the report.

In June, the IUPHAR Executive Committee members began kicking off 'working groups' to address the main findings of the governance review process. These include the following groups:

- Strategy
- Structure
- Executive Committee and Statutes
- Communications to Member Societies & External Constituents

These working groups are addressing the specific recommendations from the governance review process with the intent to make effective change by the end of 2020.

As stated, a major shift is to improve communication with our Member Societies. The IUPHAR leadership plans to inform and engage with you, our Member Societies, throughout this process to provide transparency and gain valuable input. We expect Member Societies to share all IUPHAR communications with their individual members, thus getting to the grassroots. Please send your input on any of the aforementioned areas to our Executive Officer, René Ciarametaro. Her email is admin@iuphar.org. We look forward to reporting further on our progress in the coming months and appreciate your continued feedback and support.

With kind regards,



Ingolf Cascorbi
President



Michael Spedding
Secretary General



James Barrett
Treasurer