

# Introduction I

For the past 13 years I have collaborated with IAPO, and I do not cease to be amazed by the strong willingness of the members of the organization to provide continuous medical education in the specialty. New knowledge produced in any corner of the world flows towards IAPO, where its forwarded to healthcare professionals: otolaryngologists, pediatricians, speech-language pathologists, audiologists, general practitioners and others, without exclusions. The aim is to support the care offered to children in Latin America and other parts of the planet with the best scientific standards. to support, with the best scientific standards. The Organization reaches places where access to information is limited and where this effort from IAPO has been received with open arms.

Through IAPO, the best worldwide representatives of Pediatric Otorhinolaryngology have the opportunity to share their expertise, their research results and their opinions. In the meetings, the large audience includes specially those who provide care for children with the greatest needs from all continents.

IAPO organizes congresses, Symposia and scientific meetings throughout the Americas and its members participate in congresses all over the world.

Every year a completely new manual is published in English, Portuguese and Spanish with different authors dealing with the main topics and issues in the Pediatric Otorhinolaryngology field. Many printed copies of the manual are distributed in dozens of countries, but they may also be viewed over the Internet and through the application available for iOS and Android mobile phone systems. Today, we are pleased to celebrate the 16th edition of this Manual.

Deep in the heart of this task, we always find Dr. Tania Sih, showing her relentless leadership, her warm friendliness, and her empathy which is enjoyed by all those who have the pleasure to know and meet her or those who benefit from her titanic work. She attends dozens of medical meetings around the world every year making IAPO be known, and recruiting colleagues who gladly collaborate with this extraordinary organization.

The IAPO community welcomes everyone, regardless of whether you come from a small country, or a poor country.

IAPO proves that wealth is expressed in different ways everywhere, and that we all may indeed help the world become a better place to live in.

## **Federico Murillo-González, MD**

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