Dear Friends

A brief report from the Continental Division of Asia is presented herewith. The highlight of this quarter has been yet another highly successful SIOP 2019 meeting at Lyon, again breaking all records of attendance! Asia was well represented in attendance and paper presentations. The Annual General business meeting was held on the 24th October 2019 at Lyon, being presided by myself and Dr Chi Kong Li. Bids were presented for the SIOP Asia 2021 meeting, member representatives from Yerevan, Armenia and Guangzhou, China. The same has just recently been put to an online voting process. Plans were discussed to expand a working committee for the continent with regional Asian representatives as well as working groups in focused areas. Earlier at Lyon, a smaller meeting was held by the steering committee of the Asian Pediatric Hematology Oncology group to develop and fund collaborative projects across Asia. Dr Akira Nakagawara & Dr Godfrey Chan presented plans for the same.

SIOP Asia as a stakeholder was invited to participate at the Rare Cancers ESMO-Asia meeting at Singapore in November 2019; any members interested in participating may please write in to us. The WHO-SIOP-St Jude Global Initiative for Childhood Cancer (GICC) held a workshop in the Phillipines under its aegis. We hope other Asian countries in need will also become focus countries for the same to make access to cancer care available to all and improve survival to 60%.

Preparations are underway for the Mumbai meeting of SIOP Asia 2020 from 26-29 March next year. An exciting scientific and social program awaits you all. Over 250 abstracts are already under review, and members are invited to avail themselves of the early bird registration at the website [www.siopasia2020.com](http://www.siopasia2020.com). Practical and useful preconference workshops are also planned. The conference will also play host to the 1st Asian childhood cancer stakeholder’s workshop under the aegis of the WHO-SIOP-St Jude GICC. Do catch us on Twitter! Do join in.

The SIOP Board and the Continental Presidents have been engaged over the past year in discussions wrt the vision and mission of SIOP in the present era; as also, how best our unique continents can benefit from SIOP and vice versa. We invite your views and inputs for the same.

As we wind down a busy year 2019, we wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy and academically vibrant year ahead through 2020.

Dr Rashmi Dalvi

Continental President SIOP Asia (2018-2021)