Dearest APEC members,
Greetings!
I am back again to Amman after attending the 16th Biennial Congress of the European Society of Endodontology (ESE) that was held in Lisbon, Portugal, with huge participation exceeding 2000 dentists representing more than 70 countries from all over the world.

Our booth in the exhibition venue to launch the Asian Pacific Endodontic Confederation (APEC) Amman 2015 Conference worked during the 3 days of the Congress (Fig. 1). More than 1000 flyers of the first announcement were distributed to the attendees in addition to other advertising material and Jordanian dates provided by the Jordan Tourism Board through their office in Madrid (Fig. 2).

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the organising committee of the ESE Lisbon Conference for their support to APEC and congratulate them on this successful event.

The esteemed official support to Amman APEC Conference gained by the government, the Jordanian Dental Association and the Jordanian Endodontic Society (JES) reflects the great interest and desire in Jordan to make this event special and different.

I was also promised full support by sponsoring companies, pronounced speakers and dentists from well-known and prestigious universities as a result of formal personal contacts to invite them to our upcoming event that will form a Pan Arab and international gathering.

Back to Amman, our preparations in JES will speed up to finalise the PDF file of the 4th Jordanian and 18th APEC Conference that will include more detailed information to be distributed to all APEC members and friends in due time.

Before and during Amman conference, APEC family members will witness new initiatives that will materialise the goals, vision and decisions of previous Biennial General Meetings and will constitute a turning point to be added to the bright and rich history of our organisation and glory of the event.

Aspired by the history and constitution of our organisation and the support of all APEC family members, we will move forward to compete in raising the

Figure 1 A photo taken from the APEC booth in ESE Conference in Lisbon, Portugal, in September 2013. Left to right: Participant doctor from Saudi Arabia; Dr Ibrahim Abu Tahun, the President of APEC; Dr Antonis Chaniotis, an endodontist from Greece; and Dr Walid Nehme, the President of Pan Arab Endodontic Society.

Figure 2 Flyer of the 18th Scientific Congress of APEC and 4th Jordanian Endodontic Conference.
bar for new values and quality in endodontic science and practice in our country and the entire Asia Pacific region.

Ibrahim Abu Tahun
President, APEC

I received the above letter from our APEC President, Dr Ibrahim Abu Tahun, after the Biennial Scientific Meeting of the European Society of Endodontology in Lisbon. I feel that this is a new and fresh way to make this APEC Report as a joint letter style because this kind of report is very realistic for APEC members and friends. I thank Dr Tahun and appreciate his tireless effort for APEC.

Luke Sung Kyo Kim
Immediate Past President, APEC

MEETING REPORT

Report on the European Society of Endodontology meeting in Lisbon, Portugal, 12–14 September 2013

Every day we read in the newspapers and hear on the television about the diabolical state of things in Europe. While the economies of many European countries are not good, endodontics is certainly alive and well. I recently had the privilege of attending the European Society of Endodontology meeting in Lisbon, Portugal. The Conference itself was a great success, with over 2000 attendees, many of whom were young researchers endeavouring to take endodontics to even greater heights. The mood of the Conference and the delegates I spoke to was very positive. No doubt, the highlight of the Conference was the induction of Daag Ostervic to life membership of the Society. Many of our members will remember when Daag toured Australia as the Federal Australian Society of Endodontology (ASE) lecturer. He has been intimately involved in endodontic research for over 40 years and most will be familiar with his work on the classification of periapical radiolucencies.

A number of Australians had been invited to present at the Conference. Professor Paul Abbott gave a most interesting and stimulating lecture titled ‘That root filled tooth has a periapical radiolucency – what next?’. Dr David Figdor’s presentation was ‘The life and times of a successful endodontic pathogen’. This provoked a very lively discussion session. Dr Chankhrit Sathorm’s lecture was titled ‘Monitoring and follow up of teeth after root canal retreatment’. The subject was extremely well covered and again a number of questions followed. Quite a number of the sessions were themed, which allowed the subject to be investigated at a deeper level than can usually be achieved in a single lecture. One such session focused on the work of a study group led by Professor Gunnar Bergenholtz from Gothenburg, Sweden. This group has been assessing the outcomes of endodontic treatment, as well as its cost-effectiveness. Aspects of this were taken up by a number of speakers and this led to a most interesting discussion by the panel. This discussion centred on diagnosing apical periodontitis and evaluating its treatment long term. As is often the case at such gatherings, questions concerning success and failure were aired. In this instance, the topic was included with an endodontic treatment (and retreatment) versus implants discussion, ably led by Professor Syngcuk Kim and Dr Analdo Castellucci. The general outcome seemed to be that wherever possible, it was worthwhile trying to retain the tooth, only replacing it with an implant when conventional treatment was no longer practicable. Generally, the outcome of the conservative treatment was better than that of the implant. The microbiology of the infected root canal was discussed at length and importantly, how the bacteria could be eliminated. There was a strong emphasis on how difficult biofilms of bacteria were to remove. The focus of most previous research had involved planktonic bacteria, which react quite differently to biofilms. Professor Markus Haapasalo drew a full house for his presentation on endodontic irrigants.

The scientific aspects of the Congress were supplemented by a most comprehensive trade exhibition. Many new and exciting materials and equipment were there to be investigated. As is always the case, discussions away from the formal lectures can be extremely interesting and informative. There was a huge poster display showing research at the very cutting edge, usually by extremely innovative and enthusiastic individuals. The Conference also featured an extremely interesting social programme.

The site of the venue adjacent to the majestic Tagus River and the most impressive Twenty-fifth of April Bridge was stunning. Lisbon is a very beautiful city, steeped in amazing history. I would thoroughly recommend it as a destination to anyone who might be considering going there. I would like to thank ASE for helping to fund my attendance at this Conference.

Ralph Reid
Editor-in-Chief

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