2nd ILDS World Skin Summit
Skin Health for the World

Final Report
Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
10-12 June 2018

Local Collaborating organisations:
The Vietnamese Society of Dermatology and Venereology
The Ho Chi Minh City Hospital of Dermato-Venereology
I am delighted to share this report on the ILDS’ 2nd World Skin Summit (the Summit), held 10-12 June 2018 in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.

The ILDS is in a unique position to provide strategic leadership and representation to dermatologists on a global scale. The Summit provided an opportunity for our Members to discuss how to achieve our collective vision of Skin Health for the World.

Ho Chi Minh City provided a vibrant backdrop for lively discussions and, as the Summit unfolded, it became clear that whilst every country has its own unique context there are many common challenges which we all face.

We were pleased to welcome the leaders of so many ILDS Members to what was a truly global event. The 113 participants were from 40 countries. Almost 70% of the delegates were from Asia Pacific, Latin America, and the South Asia, Middle East and Africa regions.

The programme revolved around five plenary and four workshop sessions. Through the Summit, members shared information on dermatological issues relevant to them and provided useful insights and shared learning on how challenges could be addressed. The ILDS also launched our “Directory of ILDS Member Society Initiatives” publication during the course of the Summit. This collection of specific projects and programmes is now available on the ILDS website.

This report shares highlights of the Summit and a summary of the themes and topics addressed during the event along with delegates’ reflections on the Summit. The many recommendations that delegates brought forward at the Summit will now be carefully considered by the ILDS for inclusion in our future plans.

We would like to thank everyone who contributed to making the Summit not only possible but also stimulating and dynamic. Our Partners and Sponsors are highlighted on page 14 of this report.

Special thanks go to Professor Trần Hậu Khang and the Vietnamese Society for Dermatology and Venereology for their wide ranging support in the Summit’s development as well as for treating us to a cultural spectacle of music, singing and dancing from Vietnam’s different regions.

We extend our sincere thanks to ILDS Members who gave generously of their time and expertise to chair and present during the event.

And last, but certainly not least, our thanks to all the delegates for sharing your experiences, expertise and perspectives. Your enthusiasm, energy and commitment to our collective vision of skin health for the world will be an inspiration to your colleagues.

Professor Harvey Lui
ILDs President
In preparation for the 2018 ILDS World Skin Summit we surveyed ILDS Members regarding the challenges and issues they face. We also sought to learn more about Members’ expectations for the Summit.

Priority challenges/issues:
- Visibility of dermatology
- Shortage of dermatologists
- Lack of recognition of the specialty
- Problems with access
- Training
- Rare/neglected diseases
- Non-dermatologist practitioners

Top three Summit expectations:
1. Develop common strategies to improve global skin health
2. Meet with fellow dermatology leaders, share experiences and strengthen networks
3. Learn more about ILDS strategies, projects and collaborations

These survey results helped shape the Summit Programme.

The Programme Committee comprised all ILDS Board Members along with two regional representatives: Trần Hậu Khang (President, Vietnamese Society of Dermatology and Venereology) and Steven Chow (Secretary-General, Asian Academy of Dermatology and Venereology). The Committee was chaired by Harvey Lui, ILDS President with the support of Jean Bologna, ILDS Secretary-General, and Brigitte Dréno, ILDS Treasurer, as co-chairs.

100% of Summit evaluation respondents indicated that the Summit met their expectations; 69% considered that it exceeded their expectations.

The Summit Programme was designed to provide a collegial forum for delegates to meet fellow dermatology leaders and healthcare stakeholders from around the world, while sharing experiences and strengthening networks.

Specific objectives for delegates included:

- Identifying challenges and developing skills and knowledge for tackling challenges in their own countries and/or disease areas
- Solicit updates on current challenges in skin health around the world, including how the ILDS and peers can support each other to address them
- Provide educational examples of successful strategies in different areas of dermatology
- Define common philanthropic activities in dermatology
- Exchanging experiences and case studies

Developing common strategies for the ILDS and its Members to assume leading roles in improving global skin health
- Increase the awareness and understanding amongst Members of the ILDS’ Strategic Plan
- Stimulate engagement in current initiatives such as World Skin Health Day
- Develop new projects and collaborations to be launched at the World Congress of Dermatology 2019 in Milan

100% of Summit evaluation respondents indicated that the Summit met its objectives; 65% felt that the objectives were exceeded.
Programme Summary: Plenaries

Themes and Topics
The Programme focussed on key issues and strategies relevant to ILDS Members with the goal of working together towards a vision of attaining the best possible skin health for all people around the world.

The programme took delegates on a journey to explore different relevant issues which had been identified by members in the planning of the event. These ranged from exploring the evolving role of dermatologists and the scope of service delivery for skin conditions through to the priority issues in humanitarian dermatology, such as rare and neglected diseases and under-served patients in resource-poor settings.

Each session was designed to highlight the knowledge and expertise of representatives from dermatological societies. The interactive programme of plenary and workshop sessions benefited from the contributions of over 30 member representatives as speakers and chairs. Originating from over 20 countries, their varied knowledge and experiences stimulated much dynamic discussion and debate.

Plenary Sessions
The first plenary session, Getting to know the ILDS: What we do and why provided an introduction to the aims of the ILDS and the scope of ILDS’ work. Core activities and projects highlighted included: ILDS’ work with the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Foundation for Dermatology (IFD) as well as key initiatives such as World Skin Health Day and the Global Psoriasis Atlas. Societies expressed great interest in learning to get involved in these and other ILDS projects.

The introductory plenary was followed by four theme-based plenary sessions

1. The future of dermatology: Threats and opportunities
This session considered the future of dermatology focussing on the global challenges that it faces due to changing demographics, developing technologies and evolving environments in the context of chronic diseases. It considered the challenges dermatology societies face in different regions of the world in implementing policies and standards of care and the availability and use of new technologies and research. The practical presentations shared strategies and tools that member societies can use to develop or analyse approaches in the following areas: the use of online platforms in dissemination of educational information; engaging the public via different media outlets; the use of imaging-based technology for skin health; and the emerging role of artificial intelligence in dermatology.

2. What are the truly unmet needs in dermatology? From neglected to rare diseases and beyond
This session considered unmet needs in dermatology ranging from neglected tropical diseases to rare diseases and other factors leading to gaps in treatment and care. Examples from around the world were highlighted: treatment for leishmaniasis in the Middle East; leprosy management in India and Vietnam; building dermatology capacity during political instability in Mali; and addressing the unique needs of paediatric dermatology. Presenters shared information on the challenges and opportunities for dermatologists in these diverse areas along with proposals for solutions and tools to address these challenges.

3. Preserving and promoting the discipline of dermatology: What can the ILDS do?
This session reviewed the current worldwide landscape of dermatology as a discipline. It considered the differences and similarities between the practice of dermatology in Europe, the United States, Asia, and Latin America including how to address the role of non-accredited skin health providers and promoters. This session also shared ideas on approaches for the ILDS to lead and/or assist members to preserve and promote the speciality.

4. Feedback from workshops and defining a go-forward programme
The concluding plenary was an opportunity to hear back from the four workshop sessions. Each group summarised the key discussion points from their groups followed by suggested actions for ILDS and/or members to consider.

Presentations are available on WorldSkinSummit.com
Programme Summary: Workshops

**Workshop Sessions**

Four workshop sessions provided opportunities to explore issues in depth. Through dialogue and debate, actions items for the ILDS and/or members to consider were proposed.

**Workshop 1: Removing barriers and increasing access to dermatological care**

Delegates in this workshop acknowledged that access to dermatological services varies around the world and within countries but that there are also common patterns. Presentations highlighted these issues in different parts of the world. From the UK, the focus was on workforce planning. Belarus, Nigeria and Nepal highlighted a range of access issues, the role of teledermatology, the need for training and education and the cost of medication. The final presentation, from Australia, dealt with the challenges of access to dermatologic care in rural versus urban settings.

**Actions proposed:**
- Integrate teledermatology with dermatologists at the local level.
- Advocate to governments alongside partners such as patient groups; and share educational programmes.

**Workshop 2: Training and education: needs and solutions**

This workshop considered unmet needs with respect to training and education in different areas of the world and issues around global access to educational and training resources. Presentations highlighted the Asian experience of improving dermatology residency training; how much dermatology needs to be taught to generalist physicians and other health professionals; and how the ILDS can play a role in facilitating the access to/sharing of educational resources worldwide.

**Actions proposed:**
- Foster regional dermatology fellowship training programmes and digital platforms for easy access to education; to define the minimal criteria for being a board-certified dermatologist (applicable worldwide); to update the definition of a ‘dermatologist’; to develop a core curriculum in dermatology for generalist physicians.

**Workshop 3: The scope and challenges of evidence-based care**

This workshop focussed on the lack of information on the prevalence of important dermatological diseases; the need to record outcome measures and their application to guidelines; and the use of evidence-based care for better treatment. Presentations considered what epidemiologic information currently exists for important dermatologic diseases, evidence-based medicine from a global perspective and the role of the ILDS in the governance of guidelines. The majority of participants considered that the ILDS should promote and recognize the use of high quality recommended guidelines for important diseases, but to avoid duplication, the ILDS should not necessarily prepare its own set of guidelines.

**Actions proposed:**
- Recommended guidelines should be chosen by a committee of experts of the ILDS; individual societies should become more involved in registries of rare non-infectious skin diseases; and ILDS should facilitate information sharing.

**Workshop 4: Global Volunteerism: Addressing the challenges in global and national skin health**

This workshop considered how dermatological societies can undertake humanitarian work and dermatological volunteerism at all healthcare levels in disadvantaged communities. Presentations considered the role of volunteerism in the Regional Dermatology Training Centre (Tanzania) and volunteerism after a long-term war (Cambodia). It also examined the potential for developing strategies to support dermatologists who work with refugees and to consider collaborative programmes between institutions from different regions of the world.

**Actions proposed:**
- Develop an online database to match centres requiring aid with volunteers; to collate data on the impact of volunteer engagement and document how to develop a sustainable programme; to promote the inclusion of a global perspective on skin health in dermatology curricula; and to build awareness of how health needs assessments of countries can change with the entry of refugees.

82% of Summit workshop evaluation respondents considered that the workshops were very good or excellent

"It was useful to share strengths and weaknesses - to learn the pitfalls of the programmes that have been tried by other Member Societies"

"Interesting to observe most countries have the same problems and that we need to discuss them together so that we can find solutions for us all"

"The moderators were excellent in stimulating discussion"

"The discussion was uninhibited and focused on an area of dermatology (Global volunteerism) unfamiliar to me"
“The whole program was interesting; I especially enjoyed having enough time for great audience participation - it was so interesting listening to the diversity of views”
Tim Wills
Australasian College of Dermatologists

“All the sessions were outstanding”
Valeria Aoki
Brazilian Society of Dermatology

“A forum to meet face-to-face with ILDS Board Members and other colleagues from other societies and exchange ideas and experiences”
Farhad Handjani
Iranian Society of Dermatology

“Seeing dermatology issues from many different perspectives through the experience of various developed and resource-limited countries”
Carlo Pincelli
European Dermatology Forum
Summit Bursary Programme

As part of our commitment to encouraging the participation of Members from all ILDS world regions, the ILDS initiated a Summit Bursary Programme to support six Member representatives who would otherwise not have been able to attend. Here are excerpts from the reports of three Summit Bursary recipients.

Uladzimir Adaskevich
President, Belarusian Society of Dermatovenereologists and Cosmetologists

“All topics of the Summit were related to the most significant and urgent problems of dermatology. Dermatological societies have many problems in common and cooperation between dermatological societies is needed to overcome them. In this respect, communication within the global dermatological community plays a decisive role in strengthening the authority of dermatology and ensuring its future as an important discipline for the health of nations.

I was very interested in the topic of teaching and education in dermatology. In our Eastern European country, there are many students from Africa, India, Sri Lanka and the Middle East. It was very useful to listen to the reports of colleagues from these countries and to obtain first-hand information about the most urgent dermatological problems in their regions. It will ensure that we will pay special attention to the treatment and care of the corresponding diseases as part of the lectures and practical classes for our foreign students.

I am going to inform my colleagues in Belarus about new approaches for access to dermatological health and medical skin treatments, including opportunities of mobile teledermatology, which were presented and discussed at the Summit and which are of great interest to the members of the Belarusian Society.

In general, I was greatly impressed by the organization of the Summit and inspired by it to engage in further activities related to improving dermatological education, clinical care and research in my country.”

Shristi Shrestha
President, Society of Dermatologists, Venereologists & Leprologists of Nepal

“When I first read the email regarding the 2nd ILDS Summit I was unsure whether or not to attend. The thought that it was being held in an Asian country not too far away, and the fact that at the next summit I would not be the President of our national society made me think twice. Besides, my colleagues had shared wonderful experiences of the 1st ILDS Summit in Berlin. So, I thought I should attend the summit with the aim of meeting and interacting with dermatologists from developed countries, learning from their experiences and looking for opportunities to collaborate, especially in research. Receiving the bursary made my planning easier and when I was asked to give a presentation on “Access to Dermatological care in Nepal”, I thought this visit is a must. I thought this would be a perfect opportunity to present the real scenario of dermatology care in an underdeveloped country like ours.

There was a feeling of nervousness when I entered the hall the first evening. But I was overwhelmed by the friendly environment present there. Interacting with the distinguished dermatologists from around the world was the greatest achievement. They were so humble and congenial. We talked about the challenges we are facing and the chances of collaboration. In the workshop on “Removing barriers and increasing access to dermatological care” I listened to the presentations made by representatives from other societies and I realized that the scenario of dermatology care even in developed countries is somewhat similar to ours - like the concentration of dermatologists in the urban areas and the attraction of the younger dermatologists to cosmetology.”

You can find articles from other Bursary recipients on WorldSkinSummit.com

Grace Chita Okudo
President, Nigerian Association of Dermatologists (NAD)

“I wanted to attend the ILDS World Skin Summit because I felt that my association and I would benefit from the experiences of the leadership of other Sister Societies associated with ILDS. The Summit would likely bring all these organisations together and would be a good platform to network.

Rare tropical dermatological disorders have been areas of focus in our association and I was happy to learn that the ILDS was also looking into these conditions and exploring ways to tackle these disorders.

The shortage of dermatologists is not peculiar to my country, although highly relevant. From the shared experiences of members from Sister Societies, I learned that the distribution of dermatologists tends to cluster in cities, leaving the rural areas unattended. We have to think outside the box and find the solution; the NAD has started doing this.

The impact the Summit had on me is immense. The ILDS is interested in the success of the NAD and all its Members. It is a good platform for networking and linkage. The Bursary Award is also a good innovation that is highly commendable.”

“It was enlightening that many of problems we face in our country are globally experienced problems”

Maria Encarnacion Legaspi
President, Philippine Academy of Dermatologic Surgery Foundation Inc
A wide spectrum of ILDS Members and their leaders attended the Summit.

Overall delegates’ experiences of the Summit were very positive with 95% rating it very good or excellent. 100% of delegates stated that the Summit met or exceeded their expectations.

“Overall a very unique and interesting meeting”
“An opportunity to connect/network and share/learn about joint issues that challenge us all”
“Excellent interactions of different leaders. A good venue for dermatology update and what is happening around the world. The speakers were great!”

For some there was not enough time, and there were suggestions that future Summits should be extended or held on a more regular basis.

The Summit was a great opportunity to meet people face to face. It was suggested that future meetings could be live streamed or recorded in order to reach more people around the world.

Legend: ILDS Regions
- Asia Pacific
- Europe
- Latin America inc Caribbean
- Middle East, South Asia & Africa
- USA & Canada
- International (ILDS Affiliated Members)
Thank You
We extend our sincerest thanks to our Partners and Sponsors for their generous support of the 2nd ILDS World Skin Summit.

Conclusions and Next Steps
The Summit was successful in its aim to provide a collegial forum for sharing knowledge, identifying challenges, and through discussion and debate, proposing tangible actions attaining our common goal of Skin Health for the World.

There was general consensus on the following:

• Now, more than ever, in a world with so many changes (demographic, technologic, economic, political and environmental), there are threats and opportunities for the profession of dermatology which the ILDS is uniquely able to address.
• Progress towards our common aims cannot be made by any one person or society; the ILDS and its member societies must work together and with other key partners.
• There is a strong desire within the ILDS membership to grow and to contribute to build the work of the ILDS in order to provide a coordinated approach to address and progress global dermatological issues and, thereby, achieve the ILDS vision of skin health for the world.
• Sharing resources and information is an important role that the ILDS can undertake to support dermatologists around the world and particularly in under-served regions.
• Advocacy and influencing global health policy work (for example with the World Health Organization) is a core strategy for the ILDS.

Next steps
Throughout the Summit plenary and workshop sessions, delegates shared concrete proposals for how ILDS and dermatological societies can work towards a vision of skin health for the world.

The Summit has provided ILDS with rich information on the issues affecting Members around the world as well as feedback on existing ILDS activities and ideas for new ILDS activities. This information has been recorded and will be considered in the context of ongoing activities. In addition, it provides valuable information which will feed into our plans for 2019 and into the development next year of the ILDS Strategic Plan for the period 2020-2023.

A Supplement to this Summit Report outlines the recommendations proposed during the Summit along with ILDS current activities and future plans.
One of the ways that the ILDS supports Members is through provision and sharing of resources. Below is a list of some relevant resources.

- **2nd ILDS World Skin Summit: Skin Health for the World Programme** where you will find the full agenda and session details.
- **Addressing Challenges in Global Skin Health: A Directory of Member Society Initiatives** - A special compendium of initiatives undertaken by ILDS Member Societies to support and enhance dermatology around the world. This publication was launched in conjunction with the 2nd ILDS World Skin Summit on 11 June 2018.
- **2nd ILDS World Skin Summit Presentations** from all sessions are available to view on the WorldSkinSummit.com website, providing a substantial source of information on the work of the ILDS and Member Societies from around the world.
- **Videos of the Summit** are available online to share the atmosphere and spirit of the event while highlighting key points and topics.
- **ILDS Strategic Plan 2015-2019** outlines the ILDS goal to increase impact of the ILDS on skin health worldwide along with the specific objectives and activities currently being undertaken to address this goal.
- **ILDS Website** - our new website was launched in 2018 and provides comprehensive information about the ILDS and IFD and current activities and projects.
- **ILDS Glossary for the Description of Cutaneous Lesions** originally published (open access) in 2015 has now been translated and is available online in the ILDS Resource Centre www.ilds.org/resource-centre in French, Spanish and Portuguese with translations in further languages to follow shortly.
- **The Community Dermatology Journal** (soon to be relaunched as "Community Skin Health") is a dermatology resource for healthcare workers in resource-poor areas, and provides up to date, relevant information on the diagnosis and treatment of skin diseases. This journal is available online on the IFD website as an open access journal. It is also published in print form twice a year with over 10,000 copies distributed to nearly 200 countries, free of charge.