



## Letter from the President

Celebrating progress and looking ahead

*This month brings important milestones, opportunities for collaboration and preparations for key events that will help shape the future of oral health.*



## Members Briefing: Connecting with our global membership

On 24 June, we held our latest members' briefing, providing a valuable opportunity to connect with representatives from across our membership and share updates on FDI's recent activities.

During the briefing, we reported on our engagement at the 79th World Health Assembly (WHA79), where FDI continued to advocate for the integration of oral health within broader health and development agendas. We also highlighted the launch of our Oral Health at Work report, an important contribution to ongoing discussions on the relationship between oral health, well-being and productivity.



Moreover, as reported in my last update, WHA79 also provided us with the opportunity to contribute to several key policy discussions, including noncommunicable diseases, antimicrobial resistance, immunization and well-being, primary healthcare, and more. During a side event organized by the World Health Organization, we also welcomed the launch of the WHO Global Coalition on Oral Health, which will help accelerate implementation of the Global Oral Health Action Plan 2023–2030 and strengthen international collaboration in support of oral health.

During the members' briefing, we also provided members with updates on preparations for the FDI World Dental Congress and key milestones in the lead-up to our gathering in Prague. I would like to remind all member associations that the registration deadline for the General Assembly is **15 July** and encourage those who have not yet registered to do so before this date.

These briefings play an important role in ensuring that our members remain informed, engaged, and connected to the work of FDI. I thank everyone who joined us and contributed to the discussion.

We now look forward to coming together in Prague and continuing our shared efforts to advance oral health worldwide.



**A milestone for the International Dental Journal**

I am delighted to share some excellent news for the *International Dental Journal* (IDJ). The journal's impact factor has risen to 5.2 in 2025, up from 3.7 in the previous year.

This achievement reflects the growing influence of the IDJ as a trusted source of scientific knowledge for the global oral health community. It is also a recognition of the dedication and hard work of all those who contribute to the journal's continued success.

I would like to extend my warmest congratulations to the IDJ Editor-in-Chief, Prof. Lakshman Samaranayake, whose leadership and commitment have played a central role in guiding the journal's development and strengthening its international standing.

I also wish to thank the members of the Editorial Board, our authors, reviewers, and our publishing partner, Elsevier, for their ongoing contributions and support. Their collective efforts have helped establish the journal as a leading platform for dental science, policy and practice.

On behalf of FDI, I congratulate everyone involved in reaching this important milestone and look forward to the journal's continued success in the years ahead.



### **Join us for the FDI World Dental Congress in Prague and the FDI Regional Congress in Mombasa**

As we prepare to gather in Prague for the FDI World Dental Congress, I am pleased to share that **we have extended the FDI members' 10% registration discount, which will be available from 24 June to 24 July.**

In addition, **AI-powered live translation will be available across all scientific sessions in more than 16 languages.** This new feature reflects our commitment to making the Congress more inclusive and ensuring that knowledge can be accessed by an even broader international audience. Participants will also have the opportunity to earn 8 Czech Continuing Education points and 5 ADA-CERP credits per day, further supporting their professional development through attendance at the Congress. For more information, please visit <https://2026.world-dental-congress.org/> or contact the FDI Head Office.

Looking beyond Prague, I am also pleased to share that FDI will hold its Regional Dental Congress in partnership with the Kenya Dental Association in Mombasa, Kenya, from 21–23 October 2026.

The return of an FDI Regional Dental Congress to the African continent is a significant moment for our organization and for the global oral health community. This congress will bring together dentists, members of the dental team, academics and researchers from across Africa and beyond. Through a comprehensive scientific programme, participants will have the opportunity to exchange knowledge, discuss emerging developments in dentistry and build connections that support both professional advancement and improved oral health outcomes. For more information, please visit: <https://www.fdi-regional-congress.org>.

I look forward to seeing many of you in Prague and Mombasa in the months ahead.

#### **Upcoming working visits:**

**Odontotech 2026 – Bogotá, Colombia, 28–31 July** – The President will participate in Odontotech 2026 at the invitation of the Colombian Dental Federation. The event will provide an opportunity to engage with colleagues from across the region and will also mark the centennial anniversary of the Colombian Dental Federation, celebrating 100 years of service to the dental profession.

#### **FDI World Dental Federation**

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