

Report from Prof M I DIOMANDE. Vice-President of Africa, for the French Speaking Africa Division of the IAP- October 2010

The activities of the French Speaking Africa Division(FSAD) for the period 2009-2010 are as below :

The **main officers** of the **French Speaking Africa Division** for 2008-2010 are:

President : Jean-Marie DANGO

Secretary : Olga LOMPO-GOUMBRI and Mohamed Yahia DIOP

Treasurer : Marie-Thérèse AKELE-AKPO

The **Annual Scientific Meeting** for 2009, named "the **Xth Franco-African Days of Pathology**", was held on January 28-30, 2009 in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo. It was organized with the support and participation of the French Division of IAP and the Pediatric Pathology Society represented by Pr Liliane BOCCOND-GIBOD from Paris. Three main issues were discussed:

- Pathology of liver tumors (Prof. Brigitte le Bail from France)

- Perinatal and pediatric pathology (Dr Liliane BOCCOND-GIBOD and Prof Aurore COULOMB from France)

- Telepathology (Prof Martine RAPHAEL from France and Dr Agostino FARAVELLI from Patologi Oltre Frontiera, Italia, Tanzania)

Virtual slides seminars were also discussed along with oral papers presented by the participants about various topics.

Demonstration of the telepathology techniques was performed by Dr Faravelli in connection with his colleagues working in Tanzania.

Besides that, Dr Alain GAULIER, member of "Pathology-Cytology-Development", an NGO mobilizing for the improvement of pathology practice, informed the participants that a complete equipment for the laboratory of anatomic pathology of Nouakchott, Mauritania, has been sent via ship transportation and that a training module has been developed in immunohistochemistry techniques, to be taught in Cotonou, Benin within the coming months.

There was an excellent turnout of pathologists from member countries of the FSAD and the French Division of IAP. We were honoured by the presence of Prof KASCHULA from South Africa. A noticeable participation of clinicians has also been observed.

The meeting gave the opportunity to organize a general assembly of the FSAD which has discussed many issues related to the governance of the Division. Among the resolutions, focus has been made on the journal of the FSAD, i.e., the "Revue Africaine de Pathologie" that needs a more effective support in terms of funding, writing and reviewing articles by the members.

Concerning the XIth Franco-African Days of Pathology, they will take place in Lome, Togo in the first week of February 2011. The chosen issues are:

- quality insurance: guidelines for good practices in anatomic pathology

- cancer registries

- tumors of the digestive tract

- infectious diseases

The XIIth Franco-African Days will be held in Yaounde, Cameroon.

Pr M.I. DIOMANDE

