Dear WFMH Members and Friends,

As we come to the end of 2014 it is customary, for us to look back towards the events of the year, and then forward to the New Year with optimism and hope.

Many of our activities focused on raising awareness for the 2014 World Mental Health Day campaign. I particularly want to note the conference at the EU Parliament in Brussels that was organized by The Economist in London. This high-level conference drew many other dignitaries. At the close of the Congress a Declaration of Athens was issued, endorsed by eleven organizations, to set out key facts about the illness and treatments.

Planning for activities in 2015 has already begun. The Federation has selected Employment and Care as the theme for the next World Mental Health Day campaign and proposes to employ employers to address it.

Kofi Annan and the Ministers of Health of the UK and France, 28-30 April 2015

The Federation launched its global observance with a three-day International Congress on the theme in Athens, Greece, that was attended by more than 400 participants from 30 countries. The conference program included the official launch of the 14-point Action Plan in the role of the University of Athens and attended by the Deputy Minister of Health and Gender Equality, Dr. Vasiliki Tsakri. At the Congress, the new WFMH Declaration was issued, endorsed by eleven organizations, to set out key facts about the illness and treatments.

Many of our activities focused on raising awareness for the 2014 World Mental Health Day campaign and proposed to have three conferences with international and local partners in 2015 to allow World Mental Health Day, Education & Mental Health Information, Ethics, Meetings, Scientific Activities, Prevention & Promotion, Constituency Development, Financial Policy & Sustainability, By-laws, the Great Push for Mental Health Campaign, and the Past President’s Board.

In 2014 we moved forward with the 14-point Action Plan I presented when I took office as President in August 2013. Twelve committees of Board members, former Board members and staff were formed to activate the Action Plan. These committees covered the following areas: Public Impact, World Mental Health Day, Education & Mental Health Information, Ethics, Meetings, Scientific Activities, Prevention & Promotion, Constituency Development, Financial Policy & Sustainability, By-laws, the Great Push for Mental Health Campaign, and the Past President’s Board.

Dear WFMH Members and Friends, if you want to support our advocacy work are always welcome.

Please consider making a contribution to the World Federation for Mental Health by visiting to our website at www.wfmh.org (there is a “donate” button on the home page), or contribute by mail to:

WFMH
Box C07
Mill Street
Piscataway, NJ 08854
USA

Cordially,

Yours sincerely,

Prof. George Christodoulou

WFMH President