

WFNMB - News from the World Federation of Nuclear Medicine

01 - Wishes from the leadership

As we approach the New Year, the President and the leadership of the World Federation of Nuclear Medicine and Biology extend their warmest wishes to our global community of members, partners, and colleagues. This moment offers an opportunity to reflect on our shared achievements and to look ahead with renewed optimism and purpose. In the year to come, we remain committed to strengthening international collaboration, fostering innovation in science and clinical practice, and advancing education and knowledge exchange across all regions. Through our collective efforts, we aim to further the development of nuclear medicine and biology, support the next generation of professionals, and ultimately enhance patient care and outcomes worldwide. We thank you for your continued dedication and engagement and look forward to working together in the New Year to build a stronger, more connected, and forward-looking global community.



02 - 14th WFNMB Congress, Cartagena, February 13-16, 2026

The **14th World Congress of Nuclear Medicine of WFNMB** will take place in **Cartagena, Colombia** from **13 to 16 of February of 2026** and will be the perfect frame to connect with experts from around the world and explore the latest in equipment, therapy, research, and emerging trends in Nuclear Medicine.

The Colombian association of Nuclear Medicine immediately had the honor of receiving the Congress in Kyoto during the closing ceremony of 13th World Congress started hard work of

organization looking to make an outstanding scientific meeting focused on each one of you with several objectives:

1. Firstly, to Discover cutting-edge innovations in imaging and treatment.
2. Secondly, Learn from world-renowned speakers across all continents.
3. Learn about the latest techniques and technologies.
4. and lastly, offer the opportunity to Network with top researchers, industry leaders, and professionals.

And all of this in Cartagena – a top tourist destination known for its beautiful colonial streets, warm tropical weather, and safe, welcoming atmosphere!

With its rich history, stunning beaches, and vibrant culture, Cartagena is the perfect place to combine professional growth with an unforgettable travel experience.

Don't miss out on this incredible opportunity to advance your career and enjoy the best of Colombia.

See you in Cartagena!

More information regarding the WFNMB Congress can be found on the WFNMB 2026 Congress website!

[Learn more](#)

03 - Road to Cartagena

Another 4 stops were successfully performed with great interest from the audiences:

GREECE

8-11 May 2025: 17th Panhellenic & 12th Balkan Congress of Nuclear Medicine

Round Table - Road to Cartagena (WFNMB)

- “WFNMB and Next Congress of NM” Savvas Frangos
- “Current status of NM in Balkans” Venjamin Majstorov
- “NM education and the future of NM” Agni Tsangaridi

AUSTRALIA

23-25 May 2025: The 55th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Australian and New Zealand Society of Nuclear Medicine

Global Directions in Nuclear Medicine - Road to Cartagena

- “Australia and New Zealand – Future Directions” Andrew Scott
- “EANM Perspective” Felix Mottaghy
- “SNMMI Perspective” Cathy Cutler
- “WFNMB - the Global Representation of Nuclear Medicine” Savvas Frangos

USA

21-24 June 2025: SNMMI Annual Meeting

The Role of WFNMB in education and Nuclear Medicine development around the World

- “Introduction: Road to Cartagena and the World Congress” Patricia Bernal

- “Establishment of Nuclear Medicine around the Globe: The role of WHO and WFNMB” John Prior
- “The Lancet Oncology Committee as tool for the further development of Nuclear Medicine” Andrew Scott
- “Global access to Education material for Continuing Medical Education” Gopinath Gnanasegaran
- “Round table about expanding Nuclear Medicine with examples around the world” Savvas Frangos, Gisela Estrada, Akram Al-Ibraheem

CYPRUS

6-9 November 2025: 20th International Conference on Radiopharmaceutical Therapy

Road to Cartagena

Thyroid Cancer Therapy: The Foundations of Nuclear Medicine

Chairpersons: Anca Avram, Siroos Mirzaei

- 14:30-14:50 John Buscombe Simply the best; Why after 80 years I-131 is still king
- 14:50-15:10 Isabel Melero Defining Iodine-131 activity in Thyroid Cancer: Revisiting the guidelines
- 15:10-15:30 Michael Kreissl Radioiodine refractory thyroid cancer: the role of new targets and theranostics
- 15:30-15:50 Haris Haralampous TKIs for RAI negative DTC: evidence, timing and management of toxicity

04 - Meetings during EANM'25

Traditionally, the EANM congress has been the central venue for the activities of the World Federation of Nuclear Medicine and Biology, and Barcelona was no exception. Between 5 and 8 October 2025, the leadership of WFNMB had the opportunity to hold several meetings highlighting the Federation and to exchange ideas on advancing Nuclear Medicine with other organisations.

Executive Board Meeting

During this meeting, the core leadership and representatives from ANZSNM, AOFNMB, EANM, SNMMI, IAEA and WHO had the opportunity to be informed about WFNMB activities, the financial situation, and future plans. The members of the Executive Board coming from other organisations also updated everyone on their recent and upcoming initiatives, all sharing the common goal of advancing the field of Nuclear Medicine.

EANM Presidential Reception

The President and other members of the WFNMB leadership, following the kind invitation of the EANM Congress President, had the opportunity to attend the Presidential Reception. In a relaxed atmosphere, they were able to exchange ideas with other Nuclear Medicine leaders. As expected, the main topic of discussion was the future of Nuclear Medicine and the various ways in which our field can continue to grow and expand.

Other Meetings

The core leadership also held several separate meetings with various partners and stakeholders:

World Congress of Nuclear Medicine 2026, Cartagena, Colombia

The organisers briefed the leadership on progress, challenges, and difficulties related to the preparation of the Congress. The WFNMB leadership provided guidance on several matters to support a smoother and more effective organisation, which was received with great appreciation.

Brazil, Proposal for the 2030 World Congress

Brazil presented its proposal to host the 2030 World Congress just a few hours before the formal presentation during the General Assembly, where the venue was ultimately selected.

AOFNMB

A meeting was held with Prof. Akram Al-Ibraheem, President of AOFNMB, to discuss the expansion of Nuclear Medicine in Asia and to strengthen cooperation to achieve this shared goal.

WARMTH

A very productive exchange of ideas took place with the World Association of Radiopharmaceutical and Molecular Therapy (WARMTH). It was agreed to strengthen our collaboration, with the intention of enabling WARMTH to become an Associate Member of the World Federation.

IAEA

The leadership met with representatives of the IAEA, during which Mr. Anikitos presented proposals for synergies between the OECD NEA, the IAEA and WFNMB, particularly regarding radioligand therapy and the supply of medical radioisotopes.

Nuclear Medicine Europe

An excellent meeting was held with Nuclear Medicine Europe, the industry association representing leading pharmaceutical and imaging equipment companies across Europe. Discussions focused on promoting Nuclear Medicine and tackling challenges related to the distribution and use of new radiopharmaceuticals.

SNMMI

SNMMI remains a key strategic partner of the Federation. Discussions centred on joint projects, particularly in radioligand therapies, as well as shared challenges, opportunities, and future directions.

Nuclear Medicine Global Initiative

The Past President of the Federation, Lizette Louw, participated on behalf of the World Federation of Nuclear Medicine and Biology in the NMGI meeting. The meeting addressed two key topics: the management of pediatric neuroblastoma patients and the global radiopharmaceutical supply chain. The Federation is actively participating in initiatives related to both areas.

General Assembly

In addition to the Executive Leadership, representatives attended from the following countries: Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Estonia, Greece, Israel, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mexico, Philippines, Romania, Slovakia, South Africa, Switzerland, Türkiye, United Kingdom, United States of America.

Two major decisions were made during the General Assembly:

- *Egypt was approved as a new member of WFNMB.*
- *Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) was selected as the host city for the 2030 WFNMB World Congress.*

05 - Other Activities

- The President, Savvas Frangos, and the President-Elect Gopinath Gnanasegaran, represented the World Federation of Nuclear Medicine and Biology at the 17th Asia Oceania Congress of Nuclear Medicine and Biology (AOCNMB 2025) in Chennai, India, held from 4 to 8 December 2025.
- In cooperation with the IAEA, a survey on the status of Nuclear Medicine in Balkan countries will be conducted.
- Together with the Asian Regional Cooperative Council for Nuclear Medicine (ARCCNM), a conference will be organised in Mongolia from 25 to 28 June 2026, with the main aim of promoting Nuclear Medicine in the country.

06 - Elections 2026

Election of the President-Elect (2027-2028) to be President (2029-2030).

- February 2026: Information for upcoming elections in October 2026 with positions and explanations will be sent out
- May 2026: Call for candidates
- October 2026: Regular GA and election (during EANM'26 in Vienna)

07 - Brazil to Host the WFNMB World Congress for the First Time in 2030

Rio de Janeiro has been officially chosen to host the World Congress of the World Federation of Nuclear Medicine and Biology (WFNMB) in 2030, marking Brazil's debut in organizing one of the leading global events in Nuclear Medicine.

Beyond this unprecedented opportunity to host the Congress, Brazil celebrates a historic milestone: in 2030, the WFNMB will mark its 60th anniversary. At that time, the then-president of SBMN, Dr. Ted Eston — founder of the Latin American Association of Societies of Biology and Nuclear Medicine (ALASBIMN) — joined efforts with Dr. Joseph Sternberg, founder of the Committee on International Relations of the Society of Nuclear Medicine (SNM), to establish the World Federation of Nuclear Medicine. This alliance solidified an international collaboration dedicated to advancing Nuclear Medicine.

The WFNMB 2030 program aims to bring together thousands of specialists to exchange knowledge and boost Latin America's production of radioisotopes and supplies, to increase the population's access to cutting-edge diagnostics and therapies.

The proposal to host the World Congress of the WFNMB was presented by the President of the Brazilian Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging (SBMN) during the World Federation Assembly held at the European Association of Nuclear Medicine (EANM) Congress in Spain on October 6.

08 - WHO Update

WHA Resolution "Strengthening Medical Imaging Capacity"

WFNMB has played a major role in the proposal of a Resolution aimed at promoting access and availability of Nuclear Medicine, and Medical Imaging, to all World Health Organisation (WHO) member countries. As the only Nuclear Medicine Organisation which has official Non-State Actor status with WHO, WFNMB along with the International Society of Radiology (ISR) was involved in the promotion of a Resolution on "Strengthening Medical Imaging Capacity" (https://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA78/A78_R13-en.pdf), which was approved by

the WHO Executive Board in February 2025, and then considered at the 78th World Health Assembly (WHA)) in May 2025.

Prof John Prior and Prof Andrew Scott represented WFNMB in a number of side-event meetings in Geneva, with Prof Scott also reading the Constituency Statement to the WHA member countries prior to the vote on behalf of 16 Non-State Actors (<https://imagingcommission.org/wha-resolution-2/>).

This Resolution was formally adopted, which is major breakthrough in establishing country-based government policy aimed at improving access to Nuclear Medicine and Medical Imaging. There will be a number of international programs established to implement this Resolution, involving the WHO Global Diagnostics Coalition (see below), as well as major national and international professional organisations, philanthropic groups, industry and funding groups. A number of editorials have been published to outline these initiatives (<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41591-025-04007-9>), and WFNMB will play a major role in all of these activities, and will keep the global Nuclear Medicine community updated on a regular basis.



Prof John Prior (WFNMB), Prof Andrew Scott (WFNMB), and Dr Adriana Velazquez-Berumen (WHO), in Geneva during the 78th WHA meeting in May 2025.

Advancement of the Global Diagnostics Coalition

The WHO-driven initiative entitled “Global Diagnostics Coalition” (G Dx Co) was launched during the last 78th World Health Assembly (WHA) last May 21, 2025, in Geneva (<https://www.who.int/initiatives/global-diagnostic-coalition>).

This WHO-managed collaborative platform aims to (1) provide strategic direction; (2) coordinate diagnostics capacity strengthening efforts globally among stakeholders (Non-Governmental Organization, such as the WFNMB and the International Society of Radiology); and (3) strengthen networking and knowledge sharing. Several steps will be needed such as raising the awareness of the important role of diagnostics capacity, and its role towards case

management, monitoring, and treatment of communicable, noncommunicable, neglected tropical and rare diseases, injuries, and disabilities.

It is foreseen to apply a WHO-successfully applied global accelerator method through an ecosystem approach uniting the private sector, regulators, funders, civil society and communities, countries, and healthcare professionals.

The Steering Committee and 5 Workgroups (national diagnostics strategies, affordability, workforce capacity, access, and communication advocacy) are being constituted and the WFNMB has already applied to be an active member. The first reports from the Global Diagnostics Coalition are due in the WHA 2027, 2029 and 2031. We will keep you posted on the future developments by regularly reporting on this important “Global Diagnostics Coalition” initiative in our next Newsletters.

09 - The WFNMB at the 2025 RSNA

On December 4, 2025, the WFNMB participated to a session entitled “Medical Imaging at the Nexus of Global Health: An IAEA Perspective”, which was also broadcasted live online and recorded. It was masterfully chaired by **Dr. Diana Paez**, from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Vienna, Austria. The first talk of the session was by **Prof. Hedvig (Hedi) Hricak**, Emeritus Chair of the Department of Radiology at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, USA, who reported on the journey to the WHA78.13 resolution on strengthening medical imaging capacity and its significance for global health. She was followed by **Prof. John Prior**, Head of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging at Lausanne University Hospital, Switzerland and **WFNMB Treasurer and Focal Point for Technical Collaboration with WHO**, who discussed the current global health initiatives and the essential role of imaging. Then **Prof. Satoshi Minoshima**, Chair of the Department of Radiology and Imaging Sciences at the University of Utah, USA, provided a global perspective on imaging availability and strategies to improve access.

The session concluded brief panel discussion with two additional experts, **Prof. Wei Yang**, Robert D. Moreton Distinguished Chair in Radiology at MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, USA and **Prof. Dr. Shilpa Surasi**, Associate Professor in the Department of Nuclear Medicine at MD Anderson, Houston, USA, who reflected on the practical implications of the resolution and how imaging can be leveraged to improve health outcomes globally. This session was well-attended and thought-provoking on the way to address challenges on how imaging will help global health in the future.

10 - Open-access webinars on Nuclear Medicine

The World Federation of Nuclear Medicine and Biology (WFNMB) is thrilled to announce the upcoming launch of its open-access webinars on Nuclear Medicine topics, along with beginner's booklets designed for medical students, young doctors and newcomers to the field. These resources will be available globally, aiming to promote nuclear medicine especially in low and middle-income countries. The tentative launch date is set for June 2026. Gopinath Gnanasegaran will serve as the series editor for this Global initiative Project.

World Federation of Nuclear Medicine and Biology

Schmalzhofgasse 26, 1060, Wien

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