Introduction to the InterAcademy Partnership (IAP)

Volker ter Meulen
President of IAP
IAP: The global network of academies of science, medicine and engineering

- 140 member academies
- 4 regional networks
- >30,000 leading scientists, engineers and health professionals in over 100 countries
Strategic Priorities

• **Build the capacity** of, and empower, regional networks of academies and their national members, who represent excellence in science, engineering and medicine in their countries;

• **Empower academies and regional academy networks to provide independent, authoritative advice** on global, regional and national issues through synthesis reports, consensus statements, foresight studies, critiquing public policy processes and outputs, and convening key stakeholders;

• **Communicate the importance of science, engineering and medicine** in terms of research, education, literacy, public discourse, and outreach;

• **Build IAP as a progressive and more resilient global academies network** by strengthening governance, empowering the secretariat, and designing and implementing cohesive policies.
Strategic Priorities

• **Build the capacity** of, and empower, regional networks of academies and their national members, who represent excellence in science, engineering and medicine in their countries;

**The IAP COVID-19 Advisory Group** brings together a wealth of multi-disciplinary expertise nominated by its member academies. It has been established to respond to inquiries and requests for advice related to the ongoing pandemic. The multi-disciplinary nature of the Group will allow IAP to respond to a broad range of health, social, environmental and other direct and indirect consequences of the pandemic.
Strategic Priorities

• Empower academies and regional academy networks to provide independent, authoritative advice on global, regional and national issues through synthesis reports, consensus statements, foresight studies, critiquing public policy processes and outputs, and convening key stakeholders;

IAP Communiqué on the Development and Distribution of Vaccines against COVID-19: no corners should be cut in assessing the safety and efficacy of any candidate COVID-19 vaccines. We must oppose the misinformation espoused by the vocal anti-vaccine lobbies. Any successful vaccine must be made available on the basis of equity, ethics and public health needs.
Strategic Priorities

• Communicate the importance of science, engineering and medicine in terms of research, education, literacy, public discourse, and outreach; IAP Science Education Programme: Food! is a freely available community research guide developed by the Smithsonian Science Education Center (SSEC) in partnership with IAP as part of the Smithsonian Science for Global Goals project. These guides use the SDGs as a framework to focus on sustainable actions that are defined and implemented by students.
Strategic Priorities

• **Build IAP as a progressive and more resilient global academies network** by strengthening governance, empowering the secretariat, and designing and implementing cohesive policies.

Following the 2019 General Assembly IAP initiated the development of a new set of statutes that codify how IAP will operate as one unified network of academies to more effectively work together to ensure science serves society in an inclusive way.

Academies from Algeria, Rwanda and Tunisia are the newest IAP members.
Strategic Priority 2 - Empower academies and regional academy networks to provide independent, authoritative advice.

Reports – Extended, fully researched documents (usually more than 100 or 200 pages).

May take a long time (2-3 years) to prepare. May be commissioned by major international organisations, e.g. UN.
Thank you!

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Check the IAP website: www.interacademies.org