
Editorial

This first issue of 1993 provides the opportunity for our newly elected President to address all members of the Association.

Message from the President

Chris Hann

First of all I hope you and your families have a happy 1993. I wish the very best for you and the organizations you represent.

In 1992 I enjoyed organizing the XIX World Poultry Congress in Amsterdam, The Netherlands on 20–24 September. My colleagues and I in the Dutch Branch of the WPSA were delighted that 2500 people from 95 countries were able to participate in the Congress and that there were, in addition, over 500 accompanying persons. The organizing Committee contributed travel expenses for about 500 participants from areas of the world where adequate funding was not available – especially developing countries and those of the former Soviet Union. This assistance was made possible by having such generous sponsorship, mainly from industrial companies associated with the poultry industry. I am most grateful to all our sponsors without whom this world event would not have been possible.

Organizing a World Poultry Congress involves a great deal of work by many people. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who contributed to it in one way or another – colleagues, organizers, speakers, chairpersons and others – and, not least, all the participants and accompanying persons. So many participants wrote ‘thank you’ letters that it has not been possible to reply personally to them all. I thank the writers of these letters here.

In evaluating the Congress the Youth Programme should not be forgotten. Coming from 30 countries in both the developing and developed parts of the world, 60 students (the sexes were more or less equally represented) participated in the Congress and in a series of visits to Dutch companies and other organizations during the ensuing week. This was a valuable exercise in which many ideas were discussed and lasting friendships established. After my visit to the concluding banquet for the students in Amsterdam I had the feeling that the Youth Programme was probably the most successful part of the whole event.

In an initiative sponsored by the Dutch Government, the Organizing Committee also provided the means by which people from developing countries could participate in the Congress and afterwards train for two weeks in work related to their own jobs. For example, a processing plant manager from a developing country was provided with training in a processing plant in the Netherlands. The 30 people taking part in this very successful programme came from Bangladesh, Brazil, China, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Lesotho, Mauritius, Nigeria, Philippines, Uganda, Yemen and Zimbabwe.

Finally, in my Presidential installation speech on 22 September I promised to do my very best to be a good President for all WPSA members, and especially those in countries where resources are inadequate. In relation to this, much work needs to be done and I will develop some ideas in the next issue of the Journal.

Piet Simons