



**International
Pediatric
Association**

Every Child · Every Age · Everywhere

IPA Officers and Executives

President

Joseph Haddad, Lebanon

President-Elect

Carlos G A Rivera, Mexico

Executive Director

Naveen Thacker, India

Deputy Executive Director

Adamos Hadjipanayis, Cyprus

Treasurer

Bakul Parekh, India

IPA Executive Committee

(also members of Standing Committee)

Joseph Haddad, Lebanon

Carlos G A Rivera, Mexico

Naveen Thacker, India

Adamos Hadjipanayis, Cyprus

Bakul Parekh, India

Sara Helen Goza, USA (North America)

Marcela María Fama Pereira (Latin America)

Elif N. Özmert, Türkiye (Central Asia)

Leyla Namazova-Baranova, Russia (Europe)

Aman Pulungan, Indonesia (Asia Pacific)

Basim Al-Zoubi, Jordan (Middle East and North Africa)

Ekanem Ekure, Nigeria (Sub Saharan Africa)

IPA Standing Committee

Kimihiko Oishi, Japan (APPA)

Niroshini Kennedy, Australia (APPA)

Selva Kumar Sivapunniam, Malaysia (APPA)

Catherine Farrell, Canada (CPS)

Ruben Ruiz Santa Cruz, Guatemala (ALAPE)

Stella Maris Gil, Argentina (ALAPE)

Mariam Sylla, Mali (UNAPSA)

Ndeye Ramatoulaye Diagne, Senegal (UNAPSA)

Ann de Guchteneere, Belgium (EAP/PS-UEMS)

Berthold Koletzko, Germany (EAP/PS-UEMS)

Doina Anca Plesca, Romania (EAP/PS-UEMS)

Erkin Rahimov, Azerbaijan (UNPSTR)

Hassan Afilal, Morocco (UAPS)

Amy Gray, Australia (IPALA)

Barbara Rubio, Spain (ISSOP)

Rajeshwar Dayal, India (ISTP)

Jonathan D Klein, USA (IAAH)

Jose Vicente Spolidoro, Brazil (FISPGHAN)

Lisine Tuyisinge, Rwanda

Administrative Office:

1555 N Dearborn Parkway #22A

Chicago, Illinois 60610, USA

Admin Email id: adminoffice@ipa-world.org

No: 1017/IPA/VIII/2026

11th Aug 2026

To,
Sociedad Colombiana de Pediatría

Dear Dr. Gilda Zuñiga, Dr Angela Giraldo, Dr Marcela Fama

Statement of Solidarity with the People of Colombia Following the Earthquake

On behalf of the International Pediatric Association, we wish to express our deepest solidarity with the people of Colombia following the devastating earthquake that has affected families, children, communities, and healthcare facilities.

Our thoughts are especially with the children and families who have been displaced, injured, or separated from their homes and loved ones, and with all those facing fear and uncertainty in the aftermath of this tragedy.

We extend our heartfelt support to the healthcare professionals, pediatricians, nurses, emergency responders, and hospital teams who are working tirelessly under extremely difficult circumstances to protect and care for children and their families. We recognize the enormous challenges faced by hospitals and health services when essential infrastructure and resources are disrupted.

In times of disaster, children are among the most vulnerable. They need protection, medical care, psychological support, safe shelter, nutrition, and above all, the reassurance that they are not alone. Every effort must be made to ensure continuity of essential pediatric and maternal healthcare and to safeguard children from further harm.

The International Pediatric Association stands in solidarity with our colleagues, our pediatric community, and the people of Colombia during this difficult time. We salute the courage and resilience of the Colombian people and the dedication of those providing assistance on the ground.

Our message is clear: children must remain at the heart of every emergency response. Their lives, health, dignity, and future must be protected.

To the children and families of Colombia, and to all those working to help them: you are in our thoughts, and you are not alone.

With deepest sympathy and solidarity,

Dr. Joseph Haddad
President, IPA

Dr. Carlos G. Alonso Rivera
President-Elect, IPA

Dr Naveen Thacker
Executive Director, IPA