Dear Member Society President,

As you know, the World Allergy Organization (WAO) holds its biennial Congress in conjunction with one or more of its Member Societies. In the past, we have requested all Member Societies to apply to host this event. Beginning with our 2013 Congress, our Congress Council recommended that we solicit proposals from specific world regions, on a rotational basis. This will ensure a fair, worldwide representation over the years.

With that being said, we are happy to announce that the 2017 World Allergy Congress will be held in the North America region. We, therefore, warmly invite <<SOCIETY>> to consider co-hosting this event with WAO. WAO fully recognizes that <<SOCIETY>> holds an extremely successful annual scientific meeting and WAO wants to support the continuing success of this meeting. With this goal, WAO proposes for your consideration that its Congress and <<SOCIETY's>> Annual Meeting be combined as one event rather than having an additional scientific meeting that year in North America.

Historically, based on WAO "Guidelines for Partnering with WAO to support the hosting of the World Allergy Congress," the partnering society is involved in various aspects of Congress planning, such as venue selection, scientific program development and social event coordination. When WAO partners directly with a Regional Society (rather than a National Society), these Guidelines are modified after discussions and mutual agreements. WAO would do the same with <<AAAAI / ACAAI>> and its leadership.

To express your Member Society's interest in co-hosting the XXV World Allergy Congress in 2017, kindly submit a letter of interest from the President of <<SOCIETY>>. If you are able to address some of the following features in the letter that would be extremely useful:

- Proposed city to host the Congress. If possible, we request that you kindly identify the headquarters hotel and convention center
- A brief summary of the attributes of the city which will make it attractive to a global audience.
- Proposed dates/time of year for the 2017 Congress. As you know, the usual time for WAO's Congress is in the first week of December. However, WAO understand that AAAAI Annual Meeting is in <<time of year>>. Please know that WAO is quite open to a compromise on this issue
- Proposed society (if any) that could also co-host the Congress in partnership with you

WAO requires ONLY a letter of interest at this time.

However, if after consideration <<SOCIETY>> finds that it is not interested in partnering to co-host the World Allergy Congress at this time, then we request that you kindly let us know that you will not be providing a letter of interest.

After receiving a response – either indicating interest with a letter or declining the invitation – from the AAAAI, the American College of Allergy, Asthma, & Immunology, and the Canadian Society of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (the

three North American allergy societies that are WAO members) and reviewing any letters of interest received, the WAO Board of Directors will request a complete proposal from those Societies invited to participate in the final bid. Invitations to bid to selected societies and details for the proposal requirements will be provided in January of 2011.

The final decision as to where the 2017 congress will occur and in partnership with which society it will be hosted will be made by the WAO House of Delegates during its biennial meeting at the World Allergy Congress in Cancun, Mexico in December of 2011. Selected applicants will be invited to Mexico to make a presentation at the meeting.

Please, if you are interested, kindly send your letter of interest to the WAO Secretariat, Attn: <<>>, by <<>>. If you have any questions regarding the letter of interest for the XXV World Allergy Congress, please feel free to contact <<>> at: tel: +1 414 276 1791, <<email>> or fax: +1 414 276 3349.

We welcome your letter of interest and look forward to hearing from you.

Yours Sincerely,

Richard F. Lockey
President
World Allergy Organization