

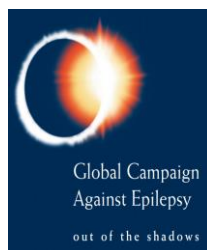
On 16 July 2021, ILAE and IBE hosted a **virtual roundtable discussion** with over 160 participants from 50 countries including representatives from Ministries of Health, Education and Employment to **Inspire a Decade of Action** guided by the **Intersectoral Global Action Plan on Epilepsy and Other Neurological Disorders**. Highlights and additional information are available below. Full recording of the Roundtable, including the interventions by representatives from the Ministries of Health/Missions of **Lesotho, Russia and Uruguay** can be accessed at <https://youtu.be/6hcD9jpMu08>

### Past, Present, Future – Action to Address Epilepsy

#### Road to the Resolution and Action Plan

**Prof Alla Guekht, ILAE Vice President**

Prof Guekht gave a presentation on the progress and major milestones since the launch of the Global Campaign in 1997. [Watch her presentation](#) and learn more about [the 2020 Resolution](#) and [the Out of Shadows campaign](#).



#### Road to the Resolution

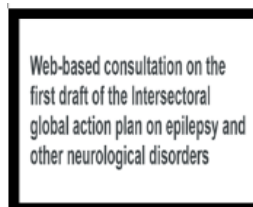


Click here to [View interactive timeline](#)

#### Draft Intersectoral Global Action Plan on Epilepsy and Other Neurological Disorders

**Dr Tarun Dua, Head Brain Health Unit, WHO**

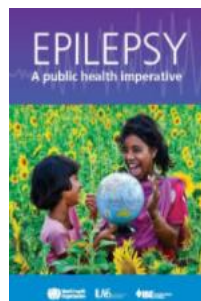
Dr Dua provided an overview of the draft Global Action Plan and the process from now to the Executive Board in early 2022 and the World Health Assembly in May 2022. She invited contributions as part of the consultation ending 5 August. [Watch her presentation](#). [Access the draft plan and WHO's consultation portal](#).



#### Hopes for the Coming Decade

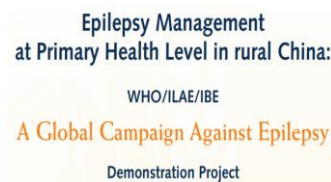
**Francesca Sofia, IBE President-elect**

Francesca gave a heartfelt call for action as she expressed her hopes and the urgent need for improved access to treatment, more investment in research and stronger approaches to address stigma and discrimination. [Watch her presentation](#) To learn more about why epilepsy is a public health imperative, [read the 2019 WHO/ILAE/IBE report](#).



### Strengthening Access to Services (Global Action Plan Objective 5.1)

**Dr Li Shichuo**  
**Founder, China**  
**Association Against Epilepsy**



**Dr Li Shichuo** gave an overview of the 2000-2004 project to strengthen access to essential anti-seizure medicines for over 3 million people living in rural China. The project resulted in many millions of people living seizure free. 358 specialist epilepsy centres have now been developed and the project extended to the whole country. [Listen to his presentation](#) and [read the full project report](#).

**Dr Symon Kariuki**  
**National Epilepsy Coordination Committee,**  
**Ministry of Health, Kenya**



**Dr Kariuki** provided a detailed presentation on the importance of national coordination and collaboration to ensure intersectoral action on epilepsy and to provide effective and empowering means for people with epilepsy and their family to engage in designing care pathways. [Listen to his presentation](#) and [visit the NECC website](#).

## Support and Engagement of People with Epilepsy (Global Action Plan Objective 5.2)



**Valentina Khan** took us on an enlightening journey through the childhood hurdles she had to overcome living with epilepsy and onto her remarkable achievements today. Learn more about the importance of **neurophysiology** and [Watch her inspiring presentation.](#)

[Learn more about IBE and the IBE Golden Light Awards.](#)



[Publication available on ILAE website:](#)

**Being allowed to go to school is a fundamental right for all children.**

For so many young people with epilepsy stigma, bullying and discrimination prevent this from happening.

**Dr Roberto Caraballo, Regional Chair for ILAE** showed what can happen when teaching and health professionals come together to learn and share knowledge and support children in accessing education and appropriate health care. [Watch his presentation on this successful programme in Argentina.](#)



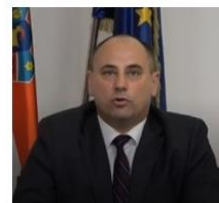
**President of the Philippines League Against Epilepsy (PLAE), Dr Jean Marie Ahorro**, provided many examples of how PLAE is reaching out to address stigma and improve care, even during the pandemic. [Watch her presentation](#) and [visit the PLAE website.](#)

## Epilepsy as an Entry Point for Strengthened Care and Treatment for Other Neurological Disorders (Global Action Plan Objective 5.3)



**Dr Zarine Mogal, specialist neurologist from Pakistan**, showed what can be achieved through taking a combined community and primary health care approach to strengthening care for epilepsy. She explained

how this model can benefit other neurological and synergistic chronic conditions. [Watch her presentation](#) and [visit the Pakistan National Epilepsy Centre website.](#)



**President, Croatian League Against Epilepsy**

**Dr Silvio Basic, State Secretary, Ministry of Health, Croatia** outlined the importance of the Global Action Plan for promoting epilepsy treatment. He also highlighted the opportunities it presents to strengthening services for all neurological disorders. [Watch his presentation.](#)

## Children and Adolescents



[Visit the International Child Neurology Association website](#)

The prevalence of different neurological disorders changes across the life course. **Dr Jo Wilmshurst, President of ICNA**, provided a comprehensive and excellent presentation on the specialized needs of children and adolescents with epilepsy and other neurological disorders including during their transition to adulthood, emphasizing the importance of reflecting these needs appropriately in the Action Plan. [See her presentation.](#)

## Epilepsy During the COVID-19 Pandemic

**ANNUAL REPORT 2020**



[ILAE COVID-19 web pages](#)

**Prof Helen Cross, ILAE President-elect**, provided a summary on the outcomes of the work of the ILAE/IBE Task Force on COVID-19, including a position statement in multiple languages on COVID vaccines and epilepsy and a survey of the physical and psychosocial impact of the pandemic on people with epilepsy. [Watch her presentation.](#) Learn more in the ILAE 2020 Annual Report and ILAE COVID webpage.