## Dear Colleagues and friends

It is an honour to be nominated among the candidates to represent the Caribbean in the ILAE for the 2021-2025 term. Over the past years, I have been a member of the Epilepsy Society of the Caribbean, and as a paediatrician on a small island without a paediatric epileptologist, I have been able to forge a pathway for epilepsy specifically in the pediatric population through good organization, coordination, and optimization of resources. As coordinator of postgraduate training in Paediatrics at the Cave Hill Campus of the University of the West Indies I have also focused efforts on the training of paediatricians to manage neurological disorders and epilepsy in the region, especially at the primary care level, and increase awareness of the importance of adequate epilepsy care for the general population.

In addition, I strongly believe in the importance of our continued work together with the International Bureau of Epilepsy, the World Health Organization, the Pan-American Health Organization for a better allocation of human and financial resources to improve the lives of people with epilepsy is of utmost importance. I am also aware that these alliances especially in the Caribbean will improve not only the lives of children and adults with epilepsy but will also ensure that the essential drugs for better control are more easily available.

I believe that I can contribute positively to the work of the ILAE in the areas of improvement of access to care, education, research, advocacy as well as the integration of the different regions of the world.

Sincerely

Dr Paula Michele Lashley MBBS, DCH, DM, FRCP, MRCPCH

Consultant Paediatrician

Epilepsy Society of the Caribbean

Mashe