



**DEPARTMENT OF NEUROSURGERY
JICHI MEDICAL UNIVERSITY**

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Dear colleagues,

I am honored having the opportunity to be a candidate for member of ILAE-AO, ILAE 2021-2025, with support from my chapter, Japan Epilepsy Society (JES). I respect the successful achievements of the current management committee of ILAE-AO chaired by Prof. Akio Ikeda, that include ASEPA, AOEC activities and the global campaign against epilepsy.

Locally I have been working as an epilepsy surgeon but at the same time I have been tackling with legal issues in epilepsy, particularly driving and epilepsy, as a committee chair of JES. Currently I serve as the vice-president of JES. Internationally I organized a volunteer project that started in 2010 to support epilepsy care in Indonesia. In 2017, I joined ILAE-AO as a co-chair of the epilepsy surgery task force. The task force has been promoting epilepsy surgery in Asian Oceanian region, where treatment gap remains as an unsolved big issue. To achieve the goal, we have to develop collaborations and share a sense of mission among as many epilepsy doctors as possible. Fortunately, the task force is getting the support from colleagues of Asian Epilepsy Surgery Congress (AESC) where I have been a board member. I would like to contribute to the activity of ILAE-AO with these experiences and networks.

I am pleased to have Prof. Helen Cross as a new president of ILAE for the next term. I fully agree to the sincere statement by the next CAO chair, Dr. John Dunne. It will be a great pleasure if I could help them and contribute to improvement in patient care, education, clinical and basic research, and social issues for people with epilepsy.



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Due to the covid 19 pandemic, on-site international activities were much restricted in the past year. Meanwhile new measures like web seminars are being introduced. The next term will be a very important term to resume and further develop international collaboration for better management against epilepsy in Asian Oceanian region. Our task may be tough but I believe we can do it if we work together.

Yours sincerely,

Kensuke Kawai, MD, PhD

Vice-president of JES

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