From the desk of Lawrence S. Finegold, Congress Co-chair

Dear Colleague,

For over 40 years, the International Commission on the Biological Effects of Noise (ICBEN) has been the premier global forum for the exchange of scientific, technical, and practical knowledge about noise as a public health problem. Every three years, ICBEN holds an eagerly-awaited, week-long International Congress in a different region of the world. 2011 was the last meeting which was held in London. We want to extend an invitation to the Hong Kong Institute of Acoustics.

Next June 1-5, 2014, ICBEN will assemble 400–500 of the world’s top experts on noise and health in Japan’s ancient capital city, Nara. The Nara Congress is a particularly important meeting about a topic of growing concern worldwide.

Please inform your members and colleagues about this landmark meeting by: (1) posting this letter on your website and (2) emailing this information to your members and colleagues.

ICBEN provides the only truly global forum for influential, concerned noise researchers, government agencies, and concerned businesses and industries to discuss noise issues. Participants engage with and learn from each other. ICBEN Congresses are well-known for providing fresh, new and authoritative information on the effects of noise, proposing useful concepts for governmental noise regulators, guiding future research and legislation on a variety of noise issues, and supplying research information that is ready for government and industrial use.

Detailed information about ICBEN’s Nara Congress is available here: http://www.icben2014.com/. For additional information, contact the organizing committee at secretariat@icben2014.com. You can also click on this link to view the announcement flyer: link for announcement flyer.

I look forward to seeing you in Nara. In the meantime, if you have questions, please contact Darlene Kilpatrick MS, my Executive Assistant at dekilpatrick@icben2014.org.

Sincerely,

Lawrence S. Finegold,
Congress Co-Chair, ICBEN 2014,
Chair, ICBEN Team 9– Noise Policy and Economics
Organizing Committee
Congress chair: Prof. Takashi Yano
Proceeding editor: Dr. Shigenori Yokoshima
Publicity chair: Dr. Makoto Morinaga
Sponsorship manager: Prof. Yasunao Matsumoto
Subsidy manager: Prof. Tetsumi Sato
Environmental management representative: Dr. Takashi Morihara
Congress treasurer: Dr. Masaaki Hiroe
International manager: Lawrence S. Finegold
Advisor: Dr. Ichiro Yamada
Secretary General: Dr. Keiji Kawai

Registration
The registration fee will cover welcome and farewell parties, attending the opening, closing ceremonies and all sessions, coffee breaks and lunch as well as a CD-ROM of the full papers. The registration fees have been set as:

**Early Registration**
- Delegate 60,000 JPY ~600.00 US*
- Student 30,000 JPY ~300.00 US*

**Late Registration**
- Delegate 70,000 JPY ~700.00 US*
- Student 35,000 JPY ~350.00 US*

The online registration page will be available January 2014.

*Currency exchange may vary.

Important dates (tentative):
Abstract submission web page: available October 2013
Registration web page: available January 2014
Paper submission web page: available February 2014

Deadline for abstract submission: December 15, 2013
Notification of acceptance: February 1, 2014
Deadline for full paper submission: April 1, 2014
Deadline for early registration: April 15, 2014

Technical Program
International Congress Venue
Commission on Biological Effects of Noise (ICBEN) consists of 9 International Noise Teams under the executive committee:
- Team 1 (Noise-induced hearing loss)
- Team 2 (Noise and communication)
- Team 3 (Non-auditory effects of noise)
- Team 4 (Influence of noise on performance & behavior)
- Team 5 (Effects of noise on sleep)
- Team 6 (Community response to noise)
- Team 7 (Noise & animals)
- Team 8 (Interactions with other agents & contextual factors)
- Team 9 (Policy & economics)

ICBEN officers & the team chairs will establish the program.