



# WSA F.Y.I

World Subud Association

September 2022

## MESSAGE FROM THE WSA

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We are at the last quarter of 2022.

Preparation for the in-person World Council Meeting in February 2023 and the World Congress in January 2024 are gaining acceleration. A survey on World Congress interest was conducted by WCOT, which results are used to quantify congress budget and expenses.

In person meetings are happening. This issue feature the IHS' travels to Canberra in Australia, to England and Scotland and the Dewan meeting in Porto

Please enjoy our September 2022 FYI Newsletter.

With love and respect  
Suyono Sumohadiwidjojo  
WSA Executive Chair

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## INTERNATIONAL HELPERS SECTION

### International Helper Dewan Meeting in Porto

13<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> of June

The full IH Dewan met in Porto, Portugal, from June 13<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> in the comfort of Isti and Hamid da Silva's apartments. Our gathering was truly harmonious, marked by latihan that somehow enabled us to work in a quiet, connected way that felt satisfying, moving us into a good place to work together. WSA Chair Nahum Harlap and Zone Representative for Zone 3 Hannah de Roo also joined us for part of the time.

We spent time talking and testing about the upcoming World Congress in 2024. Testing made clear that the content of the congress must be the *kedjiwaan*, and that the location in Kalimantan was meant to highlight Bapak's guidance about the development of a true Subud culture, as if the congress itself were a kind of petri dish in which our culture could develop and grow.

We also held a world-wide Zoom session with at least 250 helpers from many countries, discussing several topics, answering and testing questions and making connections. The comments later were overwhelmingly positive, and another such session is planned for a future time. It was clear that the isolation imposed by the pandemic has had an effect on us all, and that as conditions improve, it was important to go "back to basics," doing latihan twice a week, have regular helper/committee latihan, and ensure that the organizational structures in place conform to Bapak's guidance.

We discussed the current situation of the Subud Archives, talked about SDIA-WSA, and the ongoing MOU process, and also met virtually with the World Congress Organizing Team, relaying our collective receiving about the importance of the congress content and our feelings about Kalimantan.

We were later joined by Paloma De La Vina, Carla Moreno, who are working on what's being called The White Book ("Bapak's Guidance for Organizational Structure") and Elisa Sanchez, who is facilitating translation. All three drove to Porto from Madrid, Spain, to share and explore about their work.

The dewan took time to examine ourselves as well, testing how we are performing our roles and our attitudes. The harmony that grew between each of us was both gratifying and profound, and we all came away from the meeting feeling that something special had happened within us.

After the meeting, we were driven by bus to Bucelas to do latihan, and share lunch with the Lisbon group.

We thank Isti and Hamid for their enormous generosity to Subud and to us in housing and feeding us all. They created a warm, harmonious, and welcoming place for our meeting.

Submitted with love and gratitude,  
The Dewan of International Helper

## INTERNATIONAL HELPER DEWAN GUIDANCE FOR WORLD CONGRESS

The International Helper Dewan met together 14 June - 26 June 2022.

During our gathering, we received the latihan together and explored aspects of our kedjiwaan practice and developments within Subud. One of our focuses was looking toward the World Congress in Kalimantan. Through God's guidance we were able to understand various needs and benefits for our Subud family which we wish to share with you:

- The content of the Congress is the opportunity to worship Almighty God as one.
- We felt the general Latihan should take place every other day, simultaneously if possible. If not, women should do Latihan first, followed by men. This is because of the special character of the place. It seems that every activity will have a deep feeling of worship.
- Bapak talk to be scheduled as a main part of the Congress programme, not as a separate activity.
- Saturdays and Sundays to be set aside for kedjiwaan and wings activities. There is the opportunity to feel the essence of God in every activity we undertake during Congress. Not only in the Latihan.
- The aim of Congress activities is for convergence, not separate and competing options. It is very important that we have one Congress and not many.
- Kalimantan is truly a special place. It is land selected by Bapak for the purpose of developing Subud activities and enterprises guided by God. It is correct that through the hosting of the World Congress, the attention of our organisation has a focus there at this time. There is an element of necessary prihatin in the implementation of the Congress.

With love

The Dewan of International Helpers

## International Helpers Area 1 Visit to Canberra

18<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> of March

During Matthew and Rosario Moir's stay in Canberra, working at the Archives in Canberra, IHs Hermina and Rohmana from Australia, and Suyono, WSC Exec Chair, from Indonesia, travelled there to meet in person. On Friday night we celebrated this reunion, after such a long time, at a dinner held by our generous hosts, the Mackays.

As there was a helper/committee Latihan on Saturday morning, we IHs attended and joined in testing for the newly appointed Chair, Frances Kuhna, about her role, and around interaction with the Canberra Archives and how its development in Canberra could be supported.

In the afternoon, with Suyono, we visited the Moir's apartment and were shown an old video of S Widjojo, and other current "work in progress" of the digitization process. We also discussed what was needed to support the finalizing of the History of Subud project, Vol 3.

Later that evening we joined the Canberra group for dinner followed by Bapak's talk in the Subud Hall.

Sunday began with Latihan and kedjiwaan. The women tested the significance of the Archives, what Canberra has to offer to this endeavor, and how each of us can assist. We also did a Latihan to connect to that place of deep Inner peace within and tested how this affects the world around us.

An impressive lineup of visual presentations took up the afternoon. Before lunch, Irwan Whyllie (CEO) updated everyone on Dharma Care, a charitable enterprise which runs a 100 bed Rainforest Retreat called Sine Cera in regional NSW. A member of Susila Dharma Australia and Susila Dharma International, Dharma Care supports families in need in Australia and also provides assistance to projects in Java, Kalimantan, Congo, Cambodia, and Nepal.

After lunch, Suyono gave a power point presentation of how the WSA functions, entitled "What is the Purpose of the WSA?" and then an update on the activities of the World Congress Organizing Team (WCOT) in preparation for World Congress 2024. Suyono explained the effect of the pandemic in Indonesia and the ongoing Government work to overcome this matter and Ibu's recommendation on the World Subud Congress delay. He also presented a visual overview of Kalimantan, Palangka Raya and Rungan Sari showing currently researched logistics of transportation, venues and accommodation, introducing the working team and their roles and explaining their ongoing work on the registration system and program.

Matthew Moir gave the objectives of his and Rosario's visit to Canberra. He gave an Archives Subcommittee presentation explaining the current priorities of providing a facility for the WSA Archives, digitizing the video collection and digitizing the WSA Archives internationally. Matthew updated the status of the pilot digitization project at DataCom IT and the WSA video collection digitization with Damsmart. He also provided an exploration of the Archive Facility plans, including a modular building on the Canberra property and other options for WSA Archives Canberra.

Late Sunday afternoon Hermina and Rohmana paid a social visit to Harlinah Longcroft who resides in Canberra, and discussion came up around ideas to aid her to complete the History of Subud Vol 3.

On Monday, we briefly visited the Australian KCs, Liliana and Rasjad Johnson, then met Suyono, Matthew and Rosario at the DataCom IT office to see how the digitization process works, and then everyone met over coffee for our final informal meeting before heading home the next day.

We would like to thank our hosts and the Canberra group for taking such good care of us.

## International Helpers Area 2 visit to England and Scotland

20<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> of May

Valentin, Harina and Kamilia travelled to UK from 20<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> of May to attend the British Helpers` meeting and visit some groups in the North of Great Britain.

### May 21<sup>st</sup> - Great Hucklow

Helpers meeting in Great Hucklow (approximately 50 helpers of UK).

A good chance to meet and stay with Alan and Howard for the time of the meeting. There was latihan and helper`s meeting (men and women separately) to discuss the further program.

After lunch, the women helpers decided to part in three groups - each group did latihan and testing (about the meaning of being Bapak`s Helper, about the work of a local helper, how to talk about Subud, how to react to the present worldly situation, where in us is the place of worship God Almighty, and what is the grace of the latihan).

The men also split into three groups. Testing was, among others, about the meaning of being Bapak`s helpers, the confidence and trust we have in the latihan, the trust we have in Bapak, what we promised to God before we came on this earth, and how we carry on our work of helpers. The men, in the afternoon, tested about the role of the helper, from as local, national to international helper.

In the evening the IHs were invited to talk and share about their work and answer questions. That evening I felt that we were talking and answering as a Dewan. Important to be together!

### May 22<sup>nd</sup> - Great Hucklow

Latihan and testing.

The women tested about the significance of being a helper on the local, regional, national and international level and about the love of Almighty God for us.



Another topic was the decreasing numbers of members in Britain and how to support Subud Britain. Harina and Kamilia also took part in some personal testing which some British helpers did.

After lunch men and women met in a closing circle and shared a bit. The feeling was happy, grateful and looking forward.

### May 23<sup>rd</sup> - Travel to Perth in Scotland during the day.

In the afternoon, we were warmly welcomed by the group. After tea and some cake, we did

latihan and later we enjoyed a wonderful dinner together. How wonderful to come back to Perth!

### **May 24<sup>th</sup> - Perth**

After breakfast, we did latihan and personal testing with two members.

In the afternoon men and women met together for talking and sharing. It was agreed to do kedjiwaan meetings together on a regular basis.

Latihan and testing about trust (in the latihan, to Bapak and Almighty God and how we can bring the latihan in our daily life) followed. One member wanted to ask about our contribution to the harmony in the region of Scotland and North East England. Then some personal testing with a member was done.

A last latihan with a member who could not come earlier closed the day. We sat together with the group sharing a quiet family feeling in any moment, and had dinner.

### **May 25<sup>th</sup> - Thirsk**

The IHs travelled the whole day to Thirsk and checked in to a hotel near the latihan place.

### **May 26<sup>th</sup> - Thirsk's Group/ Sheffield**

After breakfast in the hotel a sister picked us up and brought us to a quakers' house where it is possible to do latihan regularly.

We met with the members, some isolated members also joined for the latihan. Women sat in a circle, introduced themselves and shared experiences.

The testing afterwards was again about trust, about how was our soul before and after we received the latihan. After latihan and testing the men talked about acceptance, patience, and submission and how to bring the latihan in the daily life. An interesting participation by all the men and a feeling of satisfaction and gratefulness to God for being together and experience those moments.



After lunch, we were brought to our new hosts near Sheffield and in the late afternoon we went to Sheffield in the Subud house where we did latihan with the group. We had tea and a delicious cake afterwards and we enjoyed being together and the usual warm welcome!

## May 27<sup>th</sup> - Manchester Group

Next morning our host drove us to the Subud House in Manchester. What a day!!



We did latihan and tested about forgiveness, patience, acceptance, trust, and surrender.

The group invited us for lunch and then we said goodbye and drove to our first host where we spent the night.

The men tested awakening testing and for some members it was the first time. Afterwards, we sat and talked knowing each

other better especially with the new members. A feeling of deep closeness.

## May 28<sup>th</sup> - Back to our countries.

Departure day

We were looked after so well by our brothers and sisters in Great Britain.

Doing latihan together, connecting with the members, reminding us of Bapak, sharing bliss and thankfulness. Helping and getting to know each other, trying to be positive, accepting and being thankful

Next August 12 Harina Kamilia and Valentin, God willing, will come back to UK for the National congress in Loudwater Farm. After that they will continue to visit the groups in the south of England.

Thanks to God Almighty for all the moments we could experience during this blessed time in UK and Scotland. Thanks to Subud Britain for inviting and supporting us in any way, for the caring, love, respect and trust they always showed to us during our journey.

It is a blessing when we meet our Subud Family here in UK and Scotland!

## International Helpers Area 3 –

### Subud Western Canada Regional Gathering and group visits

16<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> of September

We had a delightful visit with our Canadian sisters and brothers on the Pacific coast from September 16 to September 23. The ferry ride to get to the retreat center in Nanaimo on Vancouver Island leaves behind the city bustle and takes you smoothly to the island's peace and quiet.

The Bethlehem Retreat Center sits on the edge of a quiet lake bordered by a beautiful evergreen forest of red cedars and Douglas firs. The round, windowed chapel where the

women did latihan and had group meetings looks out on lake and forest, promoting a feeling of calm and quiet. Fifty members from age 22 to 80+ enjoyed the beauty, communal worship and the good food served up by the kind and attentive staff.

This is Western Canada's second regional gathering this year, bringing together the isolated members from British Columbia's interior with the people who live in Vancouver, Victoria, rural Vancouver Island and Fraser Valley. Everyone is quite happy to be together after the long Covid isolation. Latihans were scheduled three times daily with testing after and in between. Awareness and other tests were done, as well as personal testing with the regional helpers who organized and ran the event. There are four women regional helpers and one man, but the male helper could not attend due to health concerns. There is a need for more regional men helpers but so far none are willing to test for the position.

Patience and Lawrence, a couple who had joined Subud in Calgary, Alberta in 1967 used to drive all the way to Vancouver to be with Bapak but had quit doing group latihan 30 years ago, returned for the first time thanks to a phone call from another former Calgary member who lives on the Island. This was cause for great gratitude.

Tuesday was our travel day to the mainland and Wednesday was a dinner and latihan with the Vancouver helpers. We discovered that most helpers do not have the new helpers' guide so we've asked the Vancouver committee to order the books. Thursday morning, we did latihan with the Fraser Valley group and had a delicious potluck lunch at the Beck's home. An elder member asked for testing regarding aging and so we all tested about the latihan when we are young, middle aged and old which was quite delightful receiving for us.

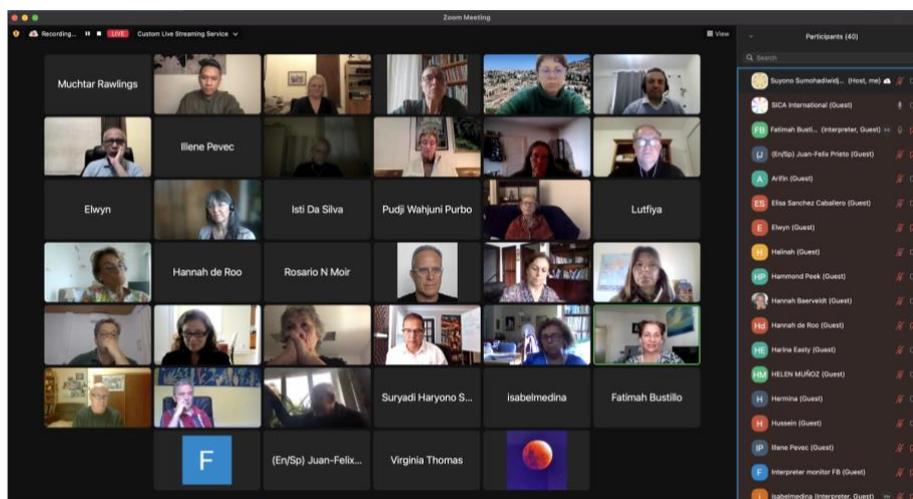
Thursday night was a dinner at the Vancouver Subud hall followed by a large latihan with the members. Again, we did a lot of general awakening testing and questions regarding inner harmony and the development of the individual and Subud. Quite a few of the members were able to attend at least two of these events over the week and it became very clear the need for return to men and women dewans meeting regularly and attention paid to the Helper's Guide once they receive it.

We thank all the committee, helpers and members who welcomed and hosted us with so much love in all these places. Even the weather welcomed us warmly.

## WORLD SUBUD COUNCIL

Periodical Zoom Meeting – 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> of September

The second WSC periodical Zoom meeting was held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> of September. The first day was dedicated to sharing activities of the International Subud organizations by the council members and the wings and sub-committees.



On the second day of the WSC Zoom meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2022, the Executive Chair presented the result of the Pre- Congress Survey conducted during the month of June- July 2022. On June 15<sup>th</sup>, the WSA Executive Committee and the World Congress Organizing Team (WCOT) Office launched a survey. The WSA Executive Committee and the World Congress Organizing Team (WCOT) invite individual Subud members from around the globe to participate in this short survey about world congress attendance. The survey was closed in July.

The COVID-19 measures, enacted and imposed by governments worldwide, have caused material and significant uncertainty regarding the estimated number of Congress attendants. Due to these circumstances, the WSA Executive Committee and the WCOT conducted a survey that can feed the planning team regarding the number of participants to expect at the 16th Subud World Congress. All individual Subud members, whether they plan to attend or not, are invited to participate in this survey.

Besides understanding the number of attendees, the WSA Executive Committee and the WCOT also wanted to take the opportunity to check in with the members and find out where the members, their priorities, and what WCOT can do to facilitate members' participation at the congress. the survey provided adequate information to set up multiple world congress scenarios for the World Subud Council (WSC) to decide.

The summary of the survey result can be accessed [here](#)

The discussion on the result of the survey during the second day of the WSC periodical Zoom meeting can be viewed on YouTube online at the following [link](#)