



CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

26th Congress of the World Association for Sexual Health, 2023

The World Association for Sexual Health (WAS) is calling for expressions of interest for organizing and hosting the 2023 Congress of the World Association for Sexual Health.

INTRODUCTION OF WAS

Since 1978, the World Association for Sexual Health (WAS) has been the pre-eminent global organization concerned with sexual health and rights. Our membership represents thousands of experienced & trainee sexologists from a variety of disciplines. With biennial congresses held in different regions of the world, WAS has facilitated sexual health through education, health promotion and networking for three decades. In recent years, WAS constituency has become involved in advocating for changes in public policy to recognize sexual health and rights as key ingredients in overall health and social justice. Financial support from individuals, foundations, corporations, and governments has sustained this work around the world.

WAS works to promote sexual health for all. Sexual health is a goal not only for clinicians. It is the common goal of many disciplines. Sexuality education is meant to foster human development and facilitate sexually healthy lives for people at all stages of the life cycle. Interventions in clinical sexology have the goal of promoting, maintaining and restoring sexual health. Sex research is involved in the creation of evidence-based knowledge that supports others to attain and maintain sexual health.

WAS MISSION STATEMENT

The World Association for Sexual Health (WAS) promotes and advocates for sexual health and sexual rights throughout the lifespan and across the world by advancing the field of sexology, sexuality research, comprehensive sexuality education, and clinical care and services, all of these informed by evidence and scientific enquiry.

WAS CONGRESS BOARD

President	Pedro Nobre
Vice President	Esther Corona
Secretary General/Treasurer	Itor Finotelli Jr
Past President	Kevan Wylie
Scientific Committee Chair	Alain Giami and Erick Janssen
Congress Committee Chair	Jaqueline Brendler

HISTORY OF WAS CONGRESS

Date	City	Country	Attendance
2021	Cape Town	South Africa	1500
2019	Mexico City	Mexico	1 460
2017	Prague	Czech Republic	650
2015	Singapore	Singapore	380
2013	Porto Alegre, RS	Brazil	1 100
2011	Glasgow	United Kingdom	1 250
2009	Göteborg	Sweden	1 000
2007	Sydney, NSW	Australia	800
2005	Montreal, QC	Canada	1 200
2003	Havana	Cuba	2 500
2001	Paris	France	3 000
1999	Hong Kong	China , Hong Kong, SAR	1 000
1997	Valencia	Spain	2 000
1995	Yokohama	Japan	730
1993	Rio de Janeiro	Brazil	1 500
1991	Amsterdam	Netherlands	1 200
1989	Caracas	Venezuela	1 800
1987	Heidelberg	Germany	1 200
1985	New Delhi	India	1 000
1983	Washington, DC	United States	1 600
1981	Jerusalem	Israel	1 000
1979	Mexico City	Mexico	1 600
1978	Rome	Italy	3 000
1976	Montreal, QC	Canada	n/a
1974	Paris	France	n/a

*estimated; n/a= not available

DATES

It is planned that the WAS Congress held in **June** or **September** for 4 days, usually on **Saturday, Sunday, Monday and Tuesday**. The date might be changed upon agreement between WAS and the local host. The conference anticipates 800 - 1500 participants.

The proposed dates shall avoid clash with the following events:

- Congress of the European Society for Sexual Medicine (ESSM);
- Congress of the Latin American Society for Sexual Medicine (SLAMS);
- Annual Meeting of the International Academy of Sex Research (SSTAR);
- Annual Meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality (SSSS);
- Biennial Meeting of the Asia Pacific Society for Sexual Medicine (APSSM);
- Congress of the International Union Against Sexually Transmitted Infections (IUSTI);
- Congress of the International Society for Sexually Transmitted Diseases Research (ISSTDR);
- European Congress on Menopause and Andropause (EMAS).

REQUIREMENTS

Scientific aspects

A recognized local active community/society/institution, WAS member organization in the field of sexual health and sexual rights with at least one member based in the proposed city is necessary. In addition, it is necessary that the entity present a history list of scientific events held by them.

City

- Well organized and supportive convention bureau;
- Support from city authorities, convention bureau;
- Easy accessibility for international participants (international airport and other means of transport);
- No other major events taking place on preferred dates.

Hotels

- Availability of diverse accommodation options and proximity to the congress venue and the city center;
- Competitive rates.

Venue

- The number of rooms required for the congress will depend on the program which will be decided by the WAS usually at the site visit;
- There must be main room for plenary sessions able to seat at least 800 – 1000 participants (theatre style), and a number of smaller rooms (50 – 200 participants, theatre style) for more interactive sessions as determined by the program and space for 250 posters and exhibition.

Venue for Social Events

- Welcome reception for all participants paid by the Congress or Sponsored (Sunday night);
- Gala Dinner: Seated dinner for 200 – 300 participants (purchase seats) (Monday night);
- Presidential Dinner paid by the Congress or Sponsored – for 100 participants (Local Organizing Committee, Local Scientific Committee, WAS Scientific Committee, WAS Advisory Committee and Special Guests).

Rooms

All rooms should have:

- Good sight-lines to the screen and speakers and good acoustics;
- A computer able to project all recent versions of PowerPoint, which accepts data on USB Flash Drives;
- A projector and screen clearly visible from all seats in the rooms;

- A laser pointer;
- A remote control for the slide presentation;
- A slave monitor on which the speaker can see the presentation without having to look back at the screen. In the smaller rooms the lap-screen might be sufficient for this purpose;
- A technician who is immediately available in case of problems. This does NOT imply the need for one technician per room;
- A table and seats for all speakers and chairs of the session – unless the chair of the session specifically request otherwise;
- Water, glasses, for the chair and each speaker;
- Free WIFI Internet access for all participants.

Where necessary rooms should also have:

- A sound amplification system (may not be necessary in rooms seating fewer than 50 people);
- A microphone for the speaker – preferably with an wireless connection to the sound system to allow the speaker to move about – (this is compulsory for interactive sessions);
- Microphones for session chairman or members of panels where necessary;
- A “roving microphone” or sufficient static microphones to allow the audience to ask questions immediately.

Additional information

- The WAS does not have a Professional Conference Organizer (PCO) and the entity is open to negotiations with a PCO that best meets the needs of the event.
- Bid applications can be submitted only by WAS members;
- Successful applicants will fully address and demonstrate compliance with the following specifications and criteria as requested in the attached files;
- The venue, hotels and other local suppliers including potential sponsors and exhibitors will be contracted by PCO;
- The WAS has right not to select any venue/destination in case the venues/destinations will not meet the desired criteria for any of the above mentioned years;
- Shortlisted candidate cities will be visited by representatives of the WAS. The expenses related to the site inspection shall be borne by candidate cities.

Program Structure

	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
08:00 - 08:30	Workshops	Parallel Sessions	Parallel Sessions	Parallel Sessions
08:30 - 09:00		Plenary Sessions	Plenary Sessions	Plenary Sessions
09:30 - 10:00				
10:00 - 10:30	Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break
10:30 - 11:00	Opening Ceremony	Plenary Sessions	Plenary Sessions	Plenary Sessions
11:00 - 11:30		Parallel Sessions	Parallel Sessions	Parallel Sessions
11:30 - 12:00	Plenary Sessions	Plenary Sessions	Plenary Sessions	Plenary Sessions
12:30 - 13:30	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
13:30 - 14:00	Plenary Sessions	Parallel Sessions	Parallel Sessions	Plenary Sessions
14:00 - 14:30		Plenary Sessions	Plenary Sessions	
14:30 - 15:00				
15:00 - 15:30				
15:30 - 16:00				
16:00 - 16:30	Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break
16:30 - 17:00	Parallel Sessions	Parallel Sessions	Parallel Sessions	Closing Ceremony
17:00 - 17:30				
17:30 - 18:00				
18:00 - 18:30	Welcome Cocktail	Plenary Sessions	Plenary Sessions	
18:30 - 19:00				

DEADLINES AND SUBMISSION

Bids should be submitted to WAS Congress Committee at congress@worldsexualhealth.net no later than **May 31st, 2020**.

Any questions concerning the bidding procedure shall be sent to WAS Congress Committee at congress@worldsexualhealth.net no later than **May 21st, 2020**.

Please find below a model document for the application. Use the topics to describe the information need it. Create your own proposals using the topics and return it by e-mail to WAS Congress Committee: congress@worldsexualhealth.net (**deadline May 31st, 2020**).

Application for hosting the 26th Congress of the World Association for Sexual Health, 2023

1. Name of the bidding organization/body/entity.
2. Contact details including a named contact person.
3. Proposed:
 - a. Local Scientific Committee;
 - b. Local Organizing committee.
4. Number of sexologist in country/city, expected number of participants from country at the WAS Congress.
5. Proposed city/country, accessibility for international participants.
6. Describe venue and its compliance with WAS requirements.
7. Availability of accommodation in the city/country, accessibility from the city center.
8. City support, city authorities or convention bureau subventions or donations.
9. Provide information on relation with sponsorship and expected support for the WAS Congress.
10. Please include any additional information relevant to this offer below.