



# WSA F.Y.I

World Subud Association

June - Sept 2021

## MESSAGE FROM THE WSA EXECUTIVE

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

We are back featuring the recent news and articles from the WSA.

In this edition, we will be sharing with you the activities of the World Subud Council at the WSC quarterly meetings, the Zone 8 virtual meeting, and the MSF's 30th anniversary. We will also be featuring an article on the guideline for drafting Subud national constitution. This article was prepared following Y.M. Bapak Muhammad Subuh's advice on the democratic structure of the Subud organization.

On this occasion, we would like to announce that the WSA 2020 Annual Report is now available in four different languages on the annual report page of [www.subud.org](http://www.subud.org). We thank all the contributors to this report and hope that the annual report can reach all the Subud members. .

Lastly, we are grateful to Almighty God for His Grace, allowing all the council members to continue their work despite the circumstances happening around the world.

May God bless you all.

Best wishes  
Suyono Sumohadiwidjojo

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## WSC PERIODICAL MEETING – 24<sup>TH</sup> AND 25<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2021

The second WSC Periodical meeting for 2021 was held Saturday, 24 and 25 July. The meeting was held virtually via Zoom, and broadcasted live on You Tube for members to observe.

The meeting was attended by 40 participants. On YouTube, until this date we noted 136 viewers watched the session.

**Day 1: Saturday, 24 July 2021 at 08:00 hrs. EST**

<https://youtu.be/wvO7JeB7BUs>

**Day 2: Sunday, 25 July at 08:00 hrs. EST**

<https://youtu.be/0ISKHiWFgRM>

In consideration of the past experience that a one day session usually take more than two hours for updates from the members, and which leaves little time to discuss topic of interest, this meeting was held in two consecutive days; the first day was for sharing updates from the members of the council, and the second day to discuss topic of interest. The topic for discussion this time was World Congress proposals.

A few days before the meeting brief updates from the Zones, IH, Wings and Affiliates were uploaded onto a shared Google drive, which makes it possible for members to read the updates prior to the meeting. Materials for discussion were also shared.

Day one: The time allotted for the council members reports was not enough. We started with the WSA Archives Sub-Committee report, considering the late hours of Matthew Moir (Sub-Committee Chair) residing in New Zealand. Followed by the Zone Representatives, the International Helpers, then last the affiliates.

Day two: We continued with reports from the wings, the executive office and its services. And focus our discussion on World Congress proposal; how to prepare the member countries and other officers on the process and procedures of the World Congress.

Of major interest is the report from Elisa Sanchez Caballero – WSA Translation Services Coordinator. She reported about the project of producing Bapak's Talk in the format of subtitled video, which has attracted positive comments from member viewers. A transcript of her verbal report is feature in this newsletter.

Other reports of the council members are available on demand. Please email to [wsa.secretary@subud.org](mailto:wsa.secretary@subud.org) for a copy.

## WSA TRANSLATION SERVICES

Reported by Elisa Sanchez Caballero

On the second day of the WSC Periodical Meeting 25 July 2021, the WSA translation coordinator, Elisa Sanchez Caballero made a verbal report about the video subtitle project in addition to her written report. The subject (Subtitled Video of Bapak's Talk) of her report has attracted discussion and positive comments from members. Here is an adapted and adjusted transcript.

She updated in the meeting about the subtitled video of Bapak's talk (70 BCN 2) in English, Spanish, French and Indonesian. In the Talk 70 BCN 2, the highlight was that Bapak reminded us that SUBUD is a spiritual association, the first aim is spiritual, that's the priority. All other things come as second or third or fourth priority. The Talk was at the Spanish National Congress in 1970, Bapak is asking where are the helpers. Because after witnessing so many national meetings, and international meeting, it is good that we keep this in mind – we tend not to put the spiritual aspect as the first priority. She asked everybody to help her share this information because it is very difficult for her to reach everybody, and to let them know that this new subtitled video is available.

Suyono asked a question: The Subtitled Videos of Bapak's Talks are very popular and attracts many members, (he mentioned that even Ibu Ismana Haryono when she watched it for the very first time was very deeply moved) as we hear Bapak's Talk in its original language with the subtitle in a language which the viewers can understand. In that context how can the WSA be more engaged in helping your work so we can have more available subtitled Talks?

Elisa explained how the subtitling work was initially started. It started with the need to have Spanish subtitles, because Bapak speaks in Indonesian and then we have an English interpretation. So, there is no point for Spanish speaking members to hear languages that they do not understand! The only possible way is to subtitle the video. When she asked Ibu Siti Rahayu if it was allowed to subtitle Bapak's talks, Ibu Rahayu agreed and said that the team could subtitle but it should never dub the Talks.

That was the beginning. The first subtitled Talk was in Spanish, then French, then Japanese, Dutch, Russian, Serbian, the seventh language was English. Indonesian is always done to synchronize. SPI was very generous at that time, the video of the Talks needed to be transcribe from the real recording, SPI produce for this project a volume with 12 video Talks (out of 23 available videos). These 12 Talks have been subtitled in six languages.

This year there was one more subtitled video for the Australian Congress (82 MEB 2). While waiting for more video talks (that needs to be transcribed, translated, proof checked, etc.), slide photo videos are being done as there are demands from members. Pictures of Bapak are selected and used for the videos. The photos of Bapak are selected from the time and place Bapak did the particular Talk in the video. But sometimes pictures of a particular place and time cannot be found. As an example, in the subtitled video of 70 BCN 2, Elisa could not find a picture of when Bapak gave the Talk in Barcelona in 1970, so she picked pictures from Bapak in Barcelona 1977, at the end of the Talk there is a short video from 1970 where Bapak was coming out of the Hotel. All this is explained at the end of the video.

How can this process be quicker? It looks like the progress is not fast. For an English-speaking member, there is only 4 or 5 Talks per year, but that is actually multiplied by 4 languages subtitles which is 16 or 20 videos. Spanish Subtitled Video Team did already 100 or more.

If there is a request she will try to provide it, e.g the helpers have asked for a subtitled video for Ramadhan next year, it will be prepared for them. Elisa said that if there is no feedback, she will not know if people are happy with it or not.

Suyono said that it is important for Elisa to share the process so the WSA board will understand and the board would love to support if support is needed. The subtitled video has a very big impact directly to the members, and there is a lot of positive comments from the members, even if there seems to be no feedback coming to her.

When doing the project, Elisa works very closely together, with Ami in the Cilandak audio Archives (for the best audio, the Memnon audio Talks), SPI, the translators, and Subud Library. She thanks everybody for helping in the process of the subtitled video Talks.



Day 1 WSC Periodical Meeting – July 2021

## Letter from WSC to Ibu Siti Rahayu on YM Bapak's Birth Date



WORLD SUBUD ASSOCIATION, Inc.

Jakarta, 22 June 2021

To:

**Ibu Siti Rahayu Wiryohudoyo**

Wisma Bharata

Jalan Surya Kencana No. 70

Pamulang Barat

Email: [ibu.letters@gmail.com](mailto:ibu.letters@gmail.com)

Dear Ibu Rahayu, who we love and respect,

Today marks the 120 years of the day our beloved Y.M. Bapak Muhammad Subuh Sumohadiwidjojo was born. On this day, most Subud members worldwide will be organizing activities such as latihan, gathering, and listening to Bapak's talks to commemorate Bapak's birth date. It will be a special occasion for all of us, especially those who have experienced the Latihan Kejiwaan, as Bapak is the first human in this world to receive it from Almighty God, which he has graciously shared with all of us.

On behalf of the World Subud Council, we wish to express our gratitude to you and the entire Bapak family for all Y.M. Bapak Muhammad Subuh Sumohadiwidjojo has given us. We all feel grateful and blessed for God's guidance received through the Latihan Kejiwaan. We would also like to thank you for your endless support to the Association.

With love,

**The WSA Team:**

Nahum Harlap, Rosario Moir, Suyono Sumohadiwidjojo, Hannah Baerveldt, Pudji Wahjuni Purbo, Elwyn Waugh;

**The International Helpers Dewan:**

Area 1 International Helpers: Hermina Flynn, Isti DaSilva, Rochmana Friend, Hussein Rawlings, Sudarmaji Sumohadiwidjojo, Suryadi Sumohadiwidjojo;

Area 2 International Helpers: Harina Easty, Kamilia Konrad, Miriam Tikale, Alan Boyd, Howard Ray, Valentin Pizzi;

Area 3 International Helpers: Halinah Rizzo Busack, Illene Pevec, Joan Fromme, Benedict Herrman, Humphrey Williams, Kohar Parra Bustillo;

**The Zone Representatives:**

Zone 1& 2 Representative – Muchtar Rawlings;

Zone 3 Representative – Hannah deRoo;

Zone 4 Representative – Salama Gielge;

Zone 5 Representative – Lutfiya Murray;

Zone 6 Representative – Mendes Lemba Mente;

Zone 7 Representative – Uraidah Hassani;

Zone 8 Representative – Helen Muñoz;

Zone 9 Representative – Ana Sofia Mazzini;

**MSF, SDIA & SICA:**

MSF Chair, Mauricio Castillo;

SDIA Chair, Evan Padilla;

SICA Chair, Rusydah Ziesel

## ZONE 8

### Vitual Meeting – 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> August

With the help of an interdisciplinary team made up of members from our countries, this year we took on the task of holding a virtual meeting that would bring together our brothers and sisters of Zone 8 around the practice of the Latihan, discussing topics that are of interest to our Subud Brotherhood.

Always trying to follow the guidance of the Almighty, the International Helpers of Area 3, together with the Helpers of the Zonal Council, the National Helpers and the representative of Zone 8, we tested if it was correct to hold the Zone Meeting in 2021 and if it was positive, what should be its "Content", giving as a result that the center of it should be the Kejiwaan.

In our understanding, to speak of Kejiwaan content is to keep the Latihan alive, to express how it has manifested in our daily lives, and to take advantage of YM Bapak's legacy through listening to and feeling his advice in the correct inner state. So with this in mind, we made it a point that all our activities during the Encounter were connected to receiving the Latihan, feeling the inner Guidance in the testing sessions led by our beloved Area 3 Helpers, after listening to YM Bapak's advice at the beginning of the day.

According to the general evaluation of many members, this was the means by which we were able to feel filled and surrounded by an atmosphere of inner stillness, harmony and unity among all of us. It did not matter the physical distance, because we felt close, we felt like brothers...sisters. We felt as YM Bapak said in some of his talks: as one nation, the nation of Humanity....

We felt that the topics discussed, related to the Organization, were the other side of the same coin. Subud is a whole. That is why it is good to remember that YM Bapak pointed out in a talk given in Barcelona, Spain, on September 3, 1970, that in the Subud Association spiritual matters are the most important, the Latihan is central, without neglecting the administrative, the Organizational, which corresponds to the responsibilities of the Committees

In a very clear and concrete way, our brothers and sisters Nahum Harlap, Rosario Moir, Suyono Sumohadiwidjojo, Matthew Moir, Mauricio Castillo and Amanda Rivera, reminded us of the objectives and spirit of our world Subud Organization, its structure, the importance of taking care of the good name of Subud, of taking care of the legacy of YM Bapak and Ibu Siti Rahayu with the conservation of the International Archives, the contribution and work of the Muhammad Subuh Foundation, as well as other topics of key importance for the good development and growth of our Association.

We were also very pleased with the presentations of SICA Latin America, coordinated by Paloma Muñoz Yañes, with its large number of talented members in various spheres of human culture. We were enriched with his admirable and careful work as a volunteer archivist, Sharif Marcks, who has compiled very valuable material that allows us to preserve the historical memory of Subud Zone 8.

Likewise, it was of supreme importance to know how Subud is projecting itself in Zone 8, with activities that our members are doing in the field of entrepreneurship, in the social-

humanitarian field with the Susila Dharma feeling and what our Youth representatives are doing and plan to develop.

It should be noted that there was also a space for the treasurer of Zone 8, Arsad Medina, to report on the donations collected in the solidarity campaign undertaken in association with the national committees and Susila Dharma of Colombia, Ecuador, Costa Rica, Panama, to support members of our Zone in calamity.

Finally, I just want to say a big thank you to our respected and beloved Ibu Rahayu, our Area 3 Helpers and the other areas that connected, Thank you Officers, WSA Executive Council members, Zone Representatives, Thank you dear participants, speakers and attendees.

Helen Muñoz Pardo  
Subud Zone 8 Representative  
2018-2024

### **IBU RAHAYU : MESSAGE FOR THE 2021 MEETING ZONE 8**

*Sent by email in response to the invitation sent by Z8 Representative, Helen Muñoz*

Pamulang, 6 August 2021

To the Zone 8 Congress

I have received your email safely. I thank God that the members of Zone 8 are able to hold their zonal congress during this difficult time.

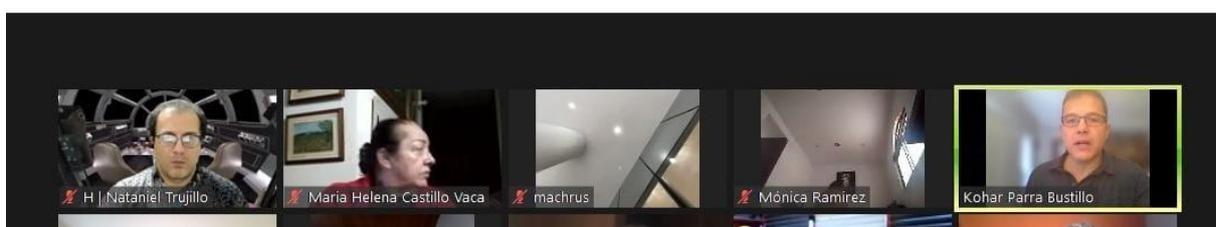
I am old now, I am 93, so I am not able to be with you in person. But if my health permits, I will join you for the opening, just to greet you, not to give a talk.

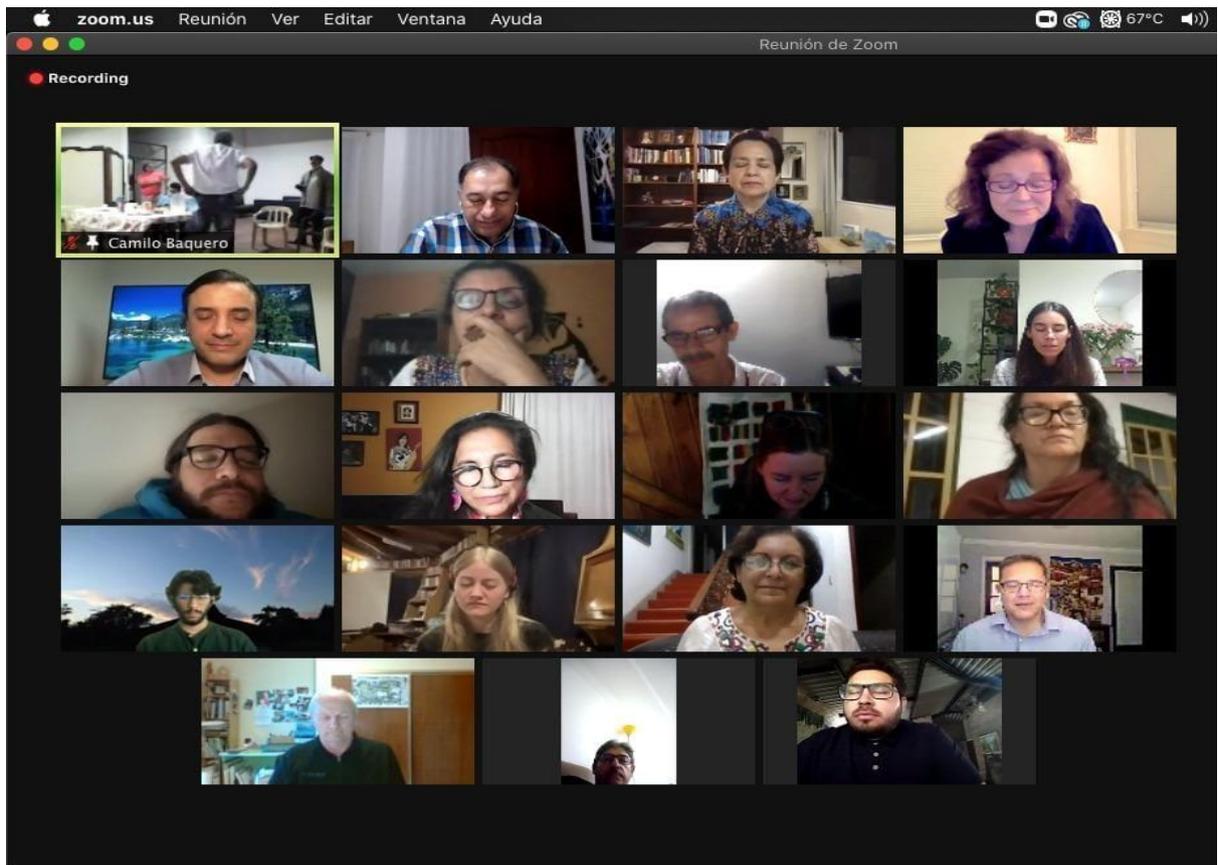
We have experienced the opening and received a contact between the power of God and our souls that want to worship God through the latihan. So, even though we cannot meet physically because of the pandemic, we are still connected through the power of God.

I pray that this meeting will go well, and that you will respect each other, love each other, and get along with each other. And, if that is the case, may God give you the way to achieve your aspirations.

Ibu,  
Siti Rahayu Wiryohudoyo

Zone 8 Virtual Meeting – 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> August





MSF 30<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

## The Muhammad Subuh Foundation 30<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary

On Friday, 13 August 2021, at 20:00 pm EDT The Muhammad Subuh Foundation celebrated its 30th year anniversary.

The commemoration started with a quiet moment led by Harlina Rizzo Busack, International Helper from Area 3, followed by a welcoming speech from Mauricio Castillo, the MSF Chairperson. Among the invitees joining through Zoom were past MSF trustees, including Ibu Siti Rahayu who was accompanied by Tuti and Sharif Horthy.

Elaina Dodson, Muchsin Silva, MSF Trustees and Amanda Rivera MSF secretary read Varindra Vittachi's letter written in 1991, the year MSF was founded by World Subud Association. Former trustees recounted their experience during their term. Marzuki Juan Andujar, who was among the first trustees in 1991 who helped Varindra in 1991 to draft the MSF Constitution, was present for the commemoration. Other former trustees who attended the commemoration and shared memories were Rohana Mitchel, Ibu Ismana Haryono, Marston Gregory, and Sulaiman Penseny.

Participants were encouraged to write messages and wishes for MSF that will be put in a time capsule as a legacy to the next generation to be opened and shared on 14 August 2026 with the Trustees at that time.

The event was then closed with a quiet moment led by Suryadi Haryono, International Helper from Area 1.

To view the video of the event [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1\\_Ukunx-tUo2yDVWpX1L6u6XAqh3nyG7v/viewr](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_Ukunx-tUo2yDVWpX1L6u6XAqh3nyG7v/viewr)

With the permission of MSF we share the letter that was written by Ibu Siti Rahayu for MSF's 30th Year Anniversary.

Friday, 13 of August, 2021

Dear assembled Brothers and Sisters,

I have received your invitation to join you in celebrating the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the Muhammad Subuh Foundation, which was established to provide management for the assets of the international Subud community.

The Subud community consists of human beings who have experienced the opening and received a contact between the power of God and their souls that want to worship God through the latihan.

From the time of the first Subud World Congress in 1959, Bapak continuously reminded us that, besides worshipping God in the latihan, as human beings living in this world our bodies require food and shelter and we therefore need to take responsibility for the material needs of our life in this world, as well as that of our families and communities. Therefore, even though the Subud community exists to support our worship of God, its organisation needs to pay attention to the material requirements of doing the latihan together, of meeting each other, and helping our Subud brothers and sisters in developing their lives through enterprise, developing a living culture, and caring for the welfare of all human beings.

I would therefore like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Muhammad Subuh Foundation for their hard work and their achievements over the last 30 years, and to pray that it may be blessed and guided in the future by the power of Almighty God to enable it to continue to support the development of Subud around the world for current and future generations. Amen.

Ibu,  
Siti Rahayu Wiryohudoyo

## A Guide for Creating a National Subud Organisation.

In different cultures and different legal systems, the formal structure of the organisation may differ. The form should be such that it allows for official registration of the national organisation in the relevant country.

Our advice below addresses the content, the intention of a national Subud organisation.

### Preamble

It is strongly recommended that a national constitution will include Bapak's preamble to constitutions (64 MLG 1), where Bapak articulates the need for such organisation;

*"However, since we are human beings living in this world, who need food and clothing and who need to look after ourselves so that we are at peace and secure in society, as well as worshipping God we need to create an organisation, so that we can organise ourselves in the way people normally do in this world.*

*Of course the way we organise ourselves needs to be adjusted to the conditions of our local society, and also to the laws and regulations of the country we are in. Therefore we need to formulate statutes that do not go against the laws and regulations of our country, nor the principles and aims of Subud."*

### Aims of the organization

Currently ten (10) aims of the organisation are stipulated in the constitution of the WSA. These ten aims fall into either of the two following categories;

1. To continue Bapak's mission of making the latihan available to everyone seeking it in its pristine form;
2. To provide support for projects that manifest the guidance received through the latihan.

### Structure

Local, national, and international organisations are similar in shape and function, and select their officers in much the same way. At each level, the organisations have a committee comprised of at least a chairperson, treasurer, and secretary.

The first thing to decide on in a country is the minimum number of members required to form a group. At the very least there should be enough members to form a committee of a Chair, a secretary and a treasurer, and at least one lady and one man helper. Beyond these five (5), the minimal requirement may vary depending on the number of members in the country.

In a country with many members the recommendation is that there would be at least as many non-office holders in a group, so a total of ten (10) members. If unrealistic, this number may drop to eight (8) or six (6), but always with a minimum of the five (5) office holders.

The Chair will be tested to their role by the helpers. The treasurer and secretary may be tested by the helpers if the group wishes.

In countries with large membership (currently valid for very few countries):

The Chair of each such well-constituted group will be a member of the regional council. The regional council would also have a lady and a man helper from each group in the region, test in a regional Chair, and nominate a secretary and a treasurer. The Chair of each region and a lady and a man helper of each region would be nominated to the national council.

In countries with small membership:

Here, it would make more sense to skip the regional level so that the Chairs of the groups form the national committee, together with a national secretary, treasurer, and a committee councilor (CC). The national council will include the members of the national committee plus the national helpers (NHs).

The required number of NHs would be defined according to the size of the country. Usually there would be at least two (2) ladies and two (2) men and up to four (4) ladies and four (4) men national helpers. The NHs will select at least one of them, but if possible one lady and one man, to be kedjiwaan councilors (KCs).

The CC and KCs are the representatives of the national committee and national helpers, respectively, in international gatherings - zone meetings and international congresses. It is common, but not required, for the national chair to accompany them to international gatherings.

#### Decision making

At each sphere, group, region or nation, we aim to reach decisions by consensus.

When, for some reasons, matters become particularly contentious, it is recommended to ask the helpers of the wider sphere for support in testing (regional or national helpers in case of difficulty in the group, international helpers in the case of disagreements at the national sphere). While the national constitution may stipulate that when we cannot reach consensus, a significant majority may suffice, we really should aim for consensus.

#### Tenure

For every role, every office holder in Subud, other than group helpers, it is strongly recommended (Ibu Rahayu, on number of occasions) that a person shall not fill the same role for longer than two consecutive terms, and while the length of one term may be defined locally, it should not be longer than the time between two world congresses.

