

## **Vote of Thanks**

Honorable Dr. Syeda Hamid – Member - Health, Planning commission of India,

Honorable Minister of Health, Peoples Republic of Bangladesh, Prof. Dr. AFM Ruhul Haque,

Honorable Mr. Prem Narain, Secretary, Ministry of women and child development, Government of India,

Honorable Mr. Homme Ervind, Ambassador of Norway,

Madam Suzanne Lokrantz from Sida,

Dr. Arun Gupta,

Ms. Joyce Chanetsa,

Distinguished Guests; Ladies and Gentlemen

I deem it a great honour and privilege to propose the vote of thanks on behalf of the organising committee of the World Breastfeeding Conference 2012.

We are extremely thankful to Dr Syeda Hameed, Member Health, Planning Commission of India for her gracious presence and her ever available support for issues related to maternal and child health and breastfeeding.

We are honored by the presence of honorable health minister of Peoples Republic of Bangladesh Prof. Dr. AFM Ruhul Haque in this conference. We appreciate the good work government of Bangladesh is doing in the field of infant and young child feeding under your leadership.

We are extremely happy with august presence of Shri Prem Narain, Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India. Sir, your ministry has provided great strength to us in the form financial, logistic and moral support as a partner to organize the conference. We are extremely grateful to you sir.

I like to express sincere thanks to Mr. Homme Eivind, Honorable ambassador of Norway for accepting our request to participate in the function . Here, we would like to put on record, our appreciation for the continued support extended by Norwegian Agency for Development, NORAD for the GBICS programme.

We are delighted to have Ms.Susanne Lokrantz, Team Coordinator for health Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency ( SIDA) in this function. We express our

heartfelt appreciation for support which SIDA is extending for breastfeeding programmes of IBFAN and WABA.

I take this opportunity to extend our most sincere thanks to Ministry of health and Family welfare, government of India for every possible support which we got from the ministry as a partner in organizing this conference.

We wish to express our sincere gratitude for support rendered by WHO headquarter as a co-sponsor and Dr. Francesco Branca, Director Nutrition, WHO HQs for his valued participation in the conference.

We are humbled by presence of Mr. Nicholas Alipui, Director Programmes, UNICEF HQ in the conference.

Dr. Nune Magasrayan and Dr. David Clark from UNICEF HQ have provided valuable support in enriching the conference programme. We are thankful to them.

We would like to acknowledge contribution towards success of this conference by WHO-SEARO, World Bank, UK aid, USAID, Aus aid, Save the children, Maria Brady Tucker Foundation and FAO without which it would have been difficult to organise the conference successfully.

We are thankful to the members of Apex Advisory committee of the conference - Dr. Shreerajan, Joint secretary, MWCD, GOI, Dr. Rakesh Kumar Joint Secretary, MOHFW, GOI, and Ms. Deepika Shrivastava, OSD, Nutrition in Planning Commission of India, Dr. Dinesh Paul – Director NIPCCD, GOI and Dr. Ajay Khera – Deputy Commissioner Child Health, MOHFW, GOI.

We express our sincere gratitude to a galaxy of resource persons – Chairs, Moderators, Facilitators and Speakers from all across the world who helped us to present to you a rich conference programme through 12 plenary sessions, 29 concurrent sessions, two group discussion and display of posters spread over three days. We are indebted to each one of them.

My special thanks goes to the regional offices of IBFAN and WABA secretariat for their guidance, continuous help and support for making the conference a success. The committee for drafting the declaration deserves special mention for creating a wonderful document and I thank all the members of committee for their expert inputs.

We are thankful to partners in local organising committee IAP, FOGSI, NNF, ACASH, IMA, CMAI, CWDS, IHES, IACR, TNAI, PHRS and JSA for their support and participation in the conference.

Ladies and gentlemen, this conference has proven to be a unique celebration of cultures of 82 countries from all the continents of the world, we are thankful to all of you

for your enthusiastic and meaningful participation in the conference. I hope you will return to your homes with good memories of this conference.

I think, I am failing in my duty if I do not mention contribution of media towards success of the conference. We are grateful to Media for participation in the conference and spreading the message.

I believe, this is the right moment to acknowledge creative inputs provided by RABBITHOLE for this conference. We are thankful to the team.

At this moment, I wish to acknowledge untiring efforts of young, vibrant, enthusiastic team of BPNI and IBFAN Asia towards success of the conference and I extend a special thanks to each one of them. They have worked hard and deserve a special round of applause.

I would like to thank the team of young volunteers, students from AJK MCRC – Jamia Millia Islamia for working with great dedication in the conference.

We are thankful to the faculty and students of the College of Arts, University of Delhi for organizing a wonderful display of sculptures and paintings in the conference venue.

Lastly, my thanks to the event management team of ATTITUDE for making wonderful arrangements for the conference. They handled conference arrangement with utmost professionalism.

Ladies and Gentleman, I would like to stop here.

Thank you all once again.