

**Congratulations Speech**  
**By... Associate Professor Dr. Tassana Boontong**  
**in the Opening Ceremony of the 8<sup>th</sup> WANS - 5<sup>th</sup> INNA International Conference**  
**on 21 August 2024 at Prime Park Hotel, Lombok, Indonesia**

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Governor of West Nusa Tenggara, the Chief Guest

Dr Harif Fadhillah, President Indonesian National Nurses Association

Professor Dr Elsi Dewi Hapsari, Chief of WANS Congress in conjunction with the 5<sup>th</sup> ICINNA.

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen

On behalf of the World Academy of Nursing Science (WANS), I would like to express my sincere congratulations to the Indonesian Nurse Association for being the main professional pillar in overseeing nursing education and services for good health of the Indonesian people and bringing nurses around the globe to share knowledge and experiences in this International Conference on “Nursing Around the World: Bringing Excellence in Global Health” and also special thank for inviting WANS to be a co-host. We’re grateful for this honour.

The State of the World’s Nursing 2021 Report, provides clear global picture that nursing across the world faces similar critical challenges. Especially in the area of workforce issues. Therefore, the WHO Global Strategic Directions for Nursing and Midwifery, 2021-2025, was developed and later it was endorsed for the first time in the 74<sup>th</sup> World Health Assembly in 2021. In addition the Member States of the World Health Organization also endorsed the Resolution on Strengthening Nursing and Midwifery: Investment in Education, Jobs, Leadership and Service Delivery. In May 2024, the Global Partner Meeting organized by WHO, ICN, ICM was held in Geneva to follow up on countries’ actions in implementing/adapting the Global Strategic Directions. It was found that some countries have developed and implementing their evidence-based national strategic directions based on the Global Strategic Directions and country contexts but some have not started yet.

I encourage nursing leaders around the world to create evidence-based policies and strategies and innovations to advance nursing education and practice to effectively tackle global health issues. It is of utmost importance to advocate the Governments to implement the commitments they made at the World Health Assembly. Without adequate and sustained investment in nursing, many countries will not reach the national health goals and the Sustainable Development Goals. Of course, evidence from research is needed to support the formulation of policies, strategies and plans in which nurses can play their part.

The World Academy of Nursing Science or WANS is a network of research and education institutions aiming to build knowledge through research and innovation to improve nursing practice, policies and health of people. It has started by a group of nurse leaders in Japan, Thailand and others with the belief that sharing and collaboration in knowledge building is one of the way to advance nursing profession and better health. Members of WANS are organizations that have similar purpose in knowledge development and utilization as WANS. I would encourage any organization whose purpose is similar to WANS to apply for membership which is free.

I earnestly believe that in an era of technological progress, rapid changes of health care delivery system and global health, new nursing knowledge and a large number of innovations is needed. Exchanging of research and innovation will help us move faster and stronger in responding to the future challenges of global health issues. This conference is organized at an appropriate time.

Once again, Congratulations. I wish a Conference on a success.

Thank you very much.