Dear Colleagues and Guests,

It’s a real pleasure and a great honor for me, President of the Organizing Committee, to invite all of you from May 12th to 15th, 2015, for the next Pan African Congress of Burns in Abidjan, the economic capital of Cote d’Ivoire.

I’m very happy because it’s the first time that a French speaking country from West Africa has the opportunity to gather both Anglophone and Francophone burn communities from North, South, West and East Africa and even from other continents.

Being all together at one time in the same place, to share similar but such different experiences from different countries, with one common goal – to give better quality of life for burn victims – seems to be a dream!

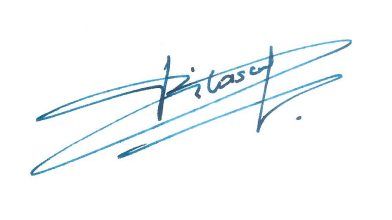
« *Côte d’Ivoire is back* » after a long and painful period of crisis; it’s coming back, multicultural, multiethnic and multi-religious, land of hospitality where the economic stakes are high and where everyone, wherever he comes from, is welcomed with open arms, in tolerance and peace. What a beautiful message broadcast to the whole world, through such profound words of Abidjanaise, our national hymn: *“Hi, O land of Esperance, country of hospitality… Our duty will be to be a model of the promised hope to Humanity by forging, united in the new faith, the homeland of the true fraternity…”*

We’ll welcome you in a living city where, alongside the scientific activities of the congress, you’ll visit Abidjan, “the pearl of lagoons”, a boomtown with modern architecture that contrasts with the remains of colonial time that you’ll discover just at a few minutes from Abidjan, in the old town of Grand Bassam along the seaside. Our beaches are beautiful on the coast, but a few miles away, in Yamoussoukro, the birthplace of Felix Houphouët Boigny, father of the Ivorian nation, to discover the jewel of Christendom: the stunning Basilica of Yamoussoukro, the replica of St Peter in Roma. His dream, a reality, in a modern city in the heart of the forest.

The topic of the 6th Congress of PABS, « Compassion and Education, A New Horizon for Burns in Africa » will symbolize a new hope, which, beyond the community of burns in Africa, will be open worldwide. Indeed, the Organizing Committee includes African colleagues in charge of burns in Côte d’Ivoire, Togo, Ghana, Nigeria, Egypt, and South Africa but also an international panel of experts from Europe, North America and many other countries including India in particular.

We strive to present to you an interesting and innovative scientific program but also to offer you entertaining and original social activities so that when you go back home, you'll retain excellent memories of PABS 2015 and Côte d'Ivoire.

So dear Guests and Colleagues, note in your diary the dates of May 12th to 15th, 2015. The Organizing Committee and it’s President, wish to welcome all of you very soon to Abidjan for the 6th Pan African Congress of Burns.

Best regards,

Brigitte VILASCO