

Dear Friends,

I would like to present my aim of serving as the Chairman of the Board in the following two years. My main goal, which I believe we all share, is for us to work together in an active and effective Board.

My main objectives are as follows:

- Initiate processes and activities that **promote WADEM** and make it a **significant entity** in the realm of emergency and disaster medicine management.
- Broaden participation of Board members in **expanding knowledge** in disaster medicine.
- Position board members as **global leaders** in emergency and disaster medicine by chairing collaborative projects and committees.
- Facilitate **networking** of world-wide researchers to promote the establishment of international research groups, including identification of potential funding.
- Design and disseminate **position papers** concerning current challenges in disaster medicine management.
- Increase significantly the number of WADEM members; specifically encourage **young investigators** and **practitioners** to join WADEM, by involving them in activities in the disaster medicine area.
- Assist in widening scope and participants of the **WADEM congresses**.
- **Review WADEM bylaws** to achieve consensus concerning their adaptation to our time and spirit.

I sincerely believe that a joint collaboration of the Chairperson with all board members will enable us to produce a strong and growing association. In tandem, I will make my utmost for a synergetic cooperation with WADEM's President. I feel it is important that we engage our networks to foster a meaningful cooperation with emergency medical organizations, trauma surgeons, public health officials, emergency nurses, intensivists, NGOs, official and governmental organizations and all other relevant stakeholders, as well as academics in the field .

I strongly believe in the value of an open and energetic Board, in which members are invited to share and explore ideas and suggestions to promote the field of emergency and disaster medicine. By working together, the board will serve as a platform for initiating and supporting new activities and collaborations.

I would be honored to have your support and trust,

Kobi

Kobi Peleg, PhD, MPH

Director, National Center for Trauma & Emergency Medicine Research
The Gertner Institute for Health Policy & Epidemiology
Head, Disaster Medicine Department &
The Executive Master Programs for Emergency and Disaster Management,
School of Public Health, Tel-Aviv University

Biographical notes

Prof. Kobi Peleg is the Head of the National Center for Trauma and Emergency Medicine Research in the Gertner Institute, a full Professor, the Head (and founder) of the Disaster Medicine Management Department, and the Head of the Executive Master Programs for Emergency Disaster Management in the School of Public Health, Tel-Aviv University. In this capacity, Prof. Peleg leads research and education activities in various fields of trauma, with special interest in Mass-Casualty Events, disasters and terror related injury, and Emergency Medical Services (EMS).

Prof. Peleg was the Head of the IDF military medical academy (col.). Prof. Peleg served as the Head of the Civil Defense - Medical Branch, in the 1st "Gulf War". He served in command positions in Israeli Field Hospital to the Armenian earthquake in 1988, the Rwanda civil war in 1995, the Haiti earthquake in 2010, and in the Philippines Typhoon in 2013. Prof. Peleg is one of the UNDAC experts and in this position served in the West Sumatra earthquake in 2009 and in Nepal earthquake in 2015 (in the WHO-EMT team). Prof. Peleg served as WHO consultant for national emergency system, and led Mass-casualty Management courses for several organizations and governments as the WHO, Italy, Vietnam, US, RAND cooperation and many more. Prof. Peleg served as consultant for Emergency and Disasters preparedness for private companies, organizations and ministries.

Prof. Peleg teaches disasters and MCI management, disaster medicine and EMS optimization along with additional related subjects at Tel-Aviv University, as well as in additional higher education institutions in Israel and abroad, including the European Master's in Disaster Medicine. Prof. Peleg is a faculty member and visiting Professor in several universities. He published more than 160 articles and chapters in leading journals and books and he is a popular speaker in the area of MCI management in prominent conferences world-wide. He is a member of Editorial boards of several journals, serves in the national MCI committee, and is a mentor in the EMT-WHO. Prof. Peleg served as a Senior Assistant to the Israeli Minister of Health, and as a member of the executive board of Magen-David-Adom (Israeli EMS).