V Message from the President of the Cuban Society of Cardiology: Our main current commitments

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The Cuban Society of Cardiology begins 2014 with a new and difficult goal, perhaps the most important and complex one that a scientific institution of its kind can face during one of its mandates: its National Congress. On this occasion, while we are all immersed in a difficult global economic situation, it is really difficult to organize and conduct an event of this nature that gathers a significant number of cardiovascular health Cuban specialists from all around the country and with a decent yet essential foreign participation, that makes feasible the realization of our national meeting in the Palace of Conventions, the center of this kind with the highest quality level in the country for these scientific events. Only with the help of each and every one of its members, particularly with the ongoing work and efforts of the members of its Board of Directors, which to an appreciable extent make up the Organizing Committee, we could carry out a work of this nature.

Cuban cardiologists, cardiovascular surgeons and related specialists have welcomed the organization of this Congress in Havana from June 3 to 6, 2014. An irrefutable evidence of the latter is the large number of abstracts submitted to the Scientific Committee to be included in the program as free themes or posters, as well as the large number of other scientific activities, including pre-congress courses, which have been proposed by specialists from various medical centers in the capital and other cities. From the international point of view, a large number of foreign professionals have also expressed their intention to attend this Cuban congress of cardiology in order to, in many cases, actively participate in the different modalities considered in the scientific program; we should observe how many of them will finally confirm their attendance to assert the rightness or wrongness of our efforts in this regard. The participation of 400 Cuban professionals, mostly active members of the Cuban Society of Cardio-

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logy and 150 foreigners, has been the goal set to our organization to consider feasible its implementation. Therefore, the active individual and collective participation is a commitment of all members, to strengthen the quantitative and qualitative fulfillment of this task.

Another commitment not yet fulfilled but on the eve of being so, is the restoration of the Cuban Journal of Cardiology and Cardiovascular Surgery, which after several years of successful publication was interrupted due to various known reasons. After nine months of interruption and thanks to the interest and selfless effort of a group of young specialists, who have taken on the essential and complex editorial work, an upcoming issue of the journal will be published in a few days to continue immediately after with its serial publication, which has been a longing, and even more, a demand of the Cuban community of cardiology. Fortunately the empty and transitory space left by our publication was amply covered by another Cuban cardiology journal, CorSalud, edited by Cardiocentro Ernesto Che Guevara, Villa Clara, whose diligent work has achieved national and international recognition and has also served as a publishing space for the research experiences of Cuban and foreign professionals.

Both the celebration of the eighth Cuban Congress of Cardiology, which also includes Cardiovascular Surgery, and the restoration of the serial publication of the Cuban journal on the specialty, are facts that indisputably favor the development of the health care organization in Cuba, particularly regarding the development of the prevention, medical, surgical and interventional treatment and rehabilitation of patients with cardiovascular disease or at risk of suffering them in our country.

These are the major current and immediate commitments of the Cuban Society of Cardiology and only with a tenacious and cohesive work of its members we will be able to achieve them, for the benefit of our patients and our national health system.

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