

DRA. THELMA S. SANCHEZ VILLANUEVA

Dear Members of the Executive Committee, Members of the Board, and Members of the World Psychiatric Association (WPA):

I am running for the position of Secretary for Finance with the firm conviction that transparent, responsible, and forward-looking management of our resources is essential to strengthen our efforts, overcome our challenges, and expand our impact.

As a woman and as a Latina, I offer not only my experience and technical commitment, but also a perspective that enriches decision-making. I strongly believe in the value of integrating ethnic and gender diversity into leadership spaces within our organization.

Vision and Priorities

- **Financial Transparency and accountability:** I will work to optimize clear and accessible processes for budget management, with periodic, understandable reports available to all members societies, ensuring full transparency in the use of association funds. Trust is built on open and verifiable information.
- **Resources optimization and growth:** I will review current income and expenditure flows to identify opportunities for savings and strategic investment. It also includes, maintain accurate and timely follow-up on outstanding accounts to ensure up-to-date membership records, strengthen partnerships with allied sectors, including the pharmaceutical industry, based on ethical collaboration and mutual benefit and actively pursue additional funding opportunities through international partnerships, sponsorships, and grants. My goal is to safeguard our essential activities while opening pathways for sustainable programs.
- **Long-term planning:** I will develop a multi-year financial plan to anticipate needs, support expansion projects, and build reserve funds for contingencies. Institutional sustainability requires looking beyond the immediate cycle.
- **Inclusive budgeting:** I will promote participatory mechanisms that allow committees and working groups to have a voice in resource allocation, prioritizing initiatives that enhance equity and access.
- **Technology and Security:** I will seek to Implement secure, modern digital tools for financial management, monitoring, and reporting to enhance both operational efficiency and data protection.

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About my profile

Gender perspective

As a woman, I approach this candidacy with the responsibility of demonstrating that women can and should occupy decision-making roles in financial governance. Breaking the glass ceiling is not only symbolic; it is about transforming institutional culture and priorities. My leadership aims to inspire more colleagues to pursue and occupy management roles with preparation, confidence, and authority.

Ethnic contribution and diversity

My Latina identity brings a perspective shaped by diverse, resilient, and resourceful communities. This allows me to design financial solutions that consider structural inequalities and promote community-based approaches, fostering the participation of historically underrepresented groups.

Personal commitment

I am firmly committed to the mission of the World Psychiatric Association and to the ethical, effective, and transparent administration of its resources. I am confident that my experience, dedication, and collaborative approach will serve to further strengthen the excellence and integrity of our organization

I respectfully ask for your trust to lead a financial management approach that is more transparent, inclusive, and future-oriented. Together, we can strengthen the WPA to become more just, efficient, representative, and inclusive.

With respect and commitment,

Dr. Thelma Sánchez Villanueva.