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WPA Scientific Section on Psychiatry of Intellectual and Developmental Disorders (SPIDD): Triennial Report, June 2026

WPA SPIDD has remained highly productive. The Section has more than 50 members across WPA regions. SPIDD organized two symposia each at Vienna, Prague, and Mexico City, and SOAP co-delivered with Prof. Gregorio Katz, the founder of IDD psychiatry in Mexico. The chair was reinstated for a second term following a first term disrupted by COVID-19. Following the death of Dr. Bakare from Sickle Cell Disease, Dr. Bello-Mojeed of the Federal Neuropsychiatric Hospital in Nigeria was elected Secretary. The next election is in 2027.

For the WCP in Stockholm, SPIDD is scheduled to contribute five activities:

- NDD Difficult Case Series with Early Career Psychiatrists (with ECP)
- Borderline Intellectual Functioning/Gullibility (SOAP)
- Global Mental Health/Vulnerable Populations (with Section on Developing Countries)
- Specialist Corner Ethical/Legal Issues (IDD Module) (with Prof. Neeraj Gill and Silvana Galderisi) sponsored by President Wasserman)
- Symposium on Closing the Gap in NDDs.

The Section produced major educational and training outputs:

- WPA Global E-Handbook on IDD
- Springer Textbook on Autism/IDD (new 2nd ed. in preparation) (with WG Autism)
- Educational Podcast (with Prof. Ashok Roy, UK, WPA WG IDD)
- WHO Rehabilitation 2030 (IDD/Autism Modules)
- SPIDD Editorial Board Membership (Global) on Journal of Mental Health Research in Intellectual Disability (Dr. Munir, EIC, strengthening WPA-linked scholarly dissemination)

Section membership and publications are being updated for the WPA website; no COI or financial gain reported. The Section has also worked closely within WPA's broader global mental health mission, emphasizing training, human rights, and equitable access to psychiatric care for individuals with IDD and autism.

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Reference:

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