MEPS held a successful Congress in Dusseldorf with very good attendance by members. The German military hosts were very welcoming and generous in their support of the activities, both social and business. They hosted the Meet and Greet in a typical old brewery which catered well to the members’ needs. The host nation day was exceptionally well planned and valuable for the learning experiences. Senior Colonel MC (Pharm) Krappitz presented a services showcase at the military base in Cologne-Wahn, detailing the skills and abilities of the pharmacy medical officers of the GAF. The international audience was given the opportunity to take a rare glimpse behind the scenes and to learn about the range of services provided both at home and on foreign deployments. Members were able to see a pharmacy container in which medicines for soldiers in the deployment country can be manufactured directly on site following the same formulas as a conventional civilian pharmacy. In addition, members visited the German Aerospace Centre (DLR), the German Air Force’s MEDEVAC Airbus which had been flown in for visitors to take a look at. The flight surgeon on duty explained the aircraft’s duties and equipment to the assembled guests.

MEPS ran two sessions focusing on emergency management and on pharmacologistics.
- Session: E6: Disaster Situations: Dealing the Personal Aftermath
- Session: E7: Creating Progress through Innovative Policy Decisions in Emergency Situations
These sessions were a mixture of presentations and a panel of experts discussing different approaches to the topic of Pharmacy Health Policy. The members enjoyed the variety and were very active in their participation.

MEPS had a joint session with the CPS: Breakfast Session continuing the focus on the work of pharmacists in humanitarian work. This continued with the success that previous years had shown.

MEPS joint sessions:
- IPS: C4: Medicines for all - what is hindering progress?
- CPS, Red Cross and FIP: E5: Violence in community pharmacies

MEPS has a working group reviewing pharmacologistics within the emergency role and is exploring the possibility of running a Masterclass in 2017 based on preparing for emergency.

The pictogram program continues. As part of the work on the migrant advisory more languages have been added to the database to help pharmacists communicate with the displaced persons.

MEPS Board members have participated in 4 FIP/BPP working groups.
- Dawson / Vaillancourt: (Co Chairs) Pharmacy Emergency Management Guidelines
- Dawson: (Lead) FIP Migrant Advisory
- Walker: Pharmacy Supply Chain
- Grenier: Pharmacy Workforce

Members represented MEPS at other congresses / publications:
- May 2015: At the NATO/COMEDS/MMMP-EP (the Military Pharmacy Medical Material Expert Pannell) in GOTHENBURG/SWE a presentation about MEPS FIP and the upcoming FIP congress in Düsseldorf has been made by Col. Hans Joachim MAAS.
- Publication: Medical Corps International Forum (ISSN 0179-1826)Issue 4/2015 (NATO publication, issued through NATO HQ, Belgium) Report on FIP Congress by Sen. Col. KRAPITZ.

Dawson: (Lead) FIP Migrant Advisory

The FIP Advisory on Pharmacists Treating Migrants had very strong MEPS’ participation. This was aligned with the FIP objective of ‘Deliberate and recommend policy relating to the safe and effective use of medicines, for adoption by the Council’. This policy was proposed at the FIP Council and accepted as a course of action. The whole focus of this advisory was on enabling pharmacists to provide medicines safely to the migrant population – especially as they are unlikely to have a language in common.
**Section goals for the 2016 calendar year**

- Goal #1: Help pharmacists prepare to cope with a natural disaster by exploring the possibility of delivering a Masterclass at the Seoul Congress.
- Goal #2: Deliver a strong programme at Buenos Aires to encourage and support our members as they strive for continuous improvement.