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Dear IADS Delegates, Leadership and Members,

It is with great pride and excitement that I submit my candidacy for the President-elect of the International Association of Dental Students. This would mark my third term with IADS, and as I reflect on my journey, I feel an overwhelming sense of gratitude for the experiences that have shaped my commitment to this remarkable organization.

My experience with student-led associations began with the Iraqi Dental Students Association, IFMSA-Iraq, and IFMSA. Each of these associations provided invaluable insights, laying a foundation that I was fortunate to build upon when I joined IADS as a member of the editorial board.

From that moment, I was driven by curiosity—curiosity not just about how IADS operates, but more importantly, how we could make it even better. That curiosity, paired with the experiences I gained both inside and outside student-led organizations, has enabled me to deliver on the expectations placed on me. I found myself moving beyond the day-to-day operations and thinking more on the broader strategy and vision for the association. My ambition has been to help solidify IADS's place within the international community and to contribute to its long-term potential, just as countless leaders have done before me since the organization's founding in 1951.

When we look back at the history of IADS, it is clear that we are standing on the shoulders of giants. The value of IADS lies not only in its successes or its challenges but in the wealth of knowledge and experiences passed down from one generation of leaders to the next. It is this history of trial and error, learning, and perseverance that empowers us to make better decisions each year.

In many organizations, change is often expected from those in higher positions. There is a sense of trust that positive change will come, though the "who," "how," and "what" may not always be clear. What sets IADS apart is the collective effort for good—from the students, the workforce, the delegates, and the leadership. Every individual, regardless of their position, contributes to driving change. This environment of collaboration, where borders and cultures dissolve in pursuit of a common goal, inspires innovation and pushes IADS forward. I am deeply proud to be a part of this diverse and dynamic organization.

As I outlined in my action plan, my ultimate goal for the upcoming term is to strike a balance between our ambitious aspirations and practical, actionable guidance. I want to ensure that when future generations of dental students take the reins of IADS, they will look back at our efforts with pride. Our history should serve as a source of inspiration, reminding them of the enduring strength of their association.

I look forward to continuing this journey with all of you, contributing in whatever way I can to ensure that IADS remains a beacon of excellence and unity in the global dental community.



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