Prospect of Biomedical Research in Developing Countries – Role of Al Ameen Journal of Medical Sciences

Dear Editor:

Please accept my congratulations for the first issue of the *Al Ameen Journal of Medical Sciences*. This is a great achievement by yourself and your active group of faculties at Al Ameen Medical College in Bijapur. I am sure that this is the first step of a long and successful life of this scientific Journal and I am also convinced that you and the members of the Editorial Board of the *Al Ameen Journal of Medical Sciences* are aware about the responsibility to keep a scientific journal in a high standard level in a very competitive field of the scientific publications at international level. This implies that a new Journal should provide to the readers not only a vehicle for scientific publication at national level but mainly to impact the scientific community beyond the borders of its respective country.

Considering that these days the growth of the economy is part of the agenda of Brazilians and Indians and also that science and technology will play a key role in the sustained development of our nations, I am convinced that the scientific community of emerging economies are facing a huge challenge in order to make our scientific production really competitive at the international scenario. In Brazil we are debating several important aspects related to the biomedical sciences, in my case mainly related to the Physiology, which I wish to share with you and the readers of the Al Ameen Journal of Medical Sciences in order to enrich this discussion. I believe that these issues pointed out below are important for Brazilian and Indian researchers: a) What are the challenges that physiologists in general and especially those working in Brazil will face in the near future. Our discussion should not be the economical and/or administrative limitations imposed on the scientific community in Brazil but rather the intellectual and conceptual strategies required to by-pass all these limitations; b) How to promote a good Department of Physiology in Brazil to the level of a very good Department of Physiology in countries with well developed science and economy? c) Considering that in countries like Brazil contemporary technologies and approaches are not easily available, what are the alternatives to by-pass these serious limitations? d) It is reasonable to consider new models for scientific activity in developing countries based on original concepts, techniques and approaches? e) What are the intellectual and conceptual challenges to be faced in training new generations of physiologists required to provide wisdom to explore the edge of complex biological problems? f) It will be possible in a period of one generation of physiologists to produce regularly a high impact physiological science in Brazil? g) Discussion of the topics above presented ultimately will lead us to another simple question: What are the chances for the Brazilian Physiologists to become top leaders at the international scenario on their respective areas of investigation in the next few decades?

The answers to all these points requires our deep involvement in the discussion about the perspectives for the biomedical research in countries with economical and development characteristics of Brazil and India. In this context, I believe that the *Al Ameen Journal of Medical Sciences* may play an important role in terms of publishing not only outstanding scientific articles but also in terms of providing the scientific community of developing countries with the discussion about the conceptual challenges required to elevate the biomedical sciences produced in these countries to the top of the ranking at the international scenario.

Benedito H. Machado

Department of Physiology School of Medicine of Ribeirão Preto University of São Paulo, Ribeirão Preto, SP, Brazil ©Al Ameen Charitable Fund Trust, Bangalore