

Dear Professor Stephan Achenbach
Chair of the ESC Nominating committee
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Dear Members of the Nominating Committee

Subject: Application for the position of Representing National Cardiac Societies

Dear Sir,

I am Professor Ahmed Bennis, I am honored to hold fellowships with both the European Society of Cardiology and the Heart failure Association. Previously, I had the privilege of serving as the president of the Moroccan Society of Cardiology, and notably presided over the World Congress of Echocardiography.

My involvement extends across prestigious organizations such as the HFA, ESC and the National Cardiac Heart Society. In my former role as the president of the Moroccan Society of Cardiology, I played a crucial role in establishing collaboration with the European Society. This led to joint sessions between the Moroccan Society of Cardiology and the European Society at various international locations.

Furthermore, I contributed as a reviewer for the 'Heart Failure Guidelines' in 2021 and the 'Grader Abstracts' from 2021 to 2023. A significant highlight is my role as the principal investigator for the Heart Failure 3 registry, where Morocco enrolled over 400 participants. Additionally, I take pride in being the principal investigator and representative for the national heart failure registry HF III ESC Registry.

It is with great pleasure that I submit my candidacy for the esteemed position within the National Society. This application represents not only my homeland, Morocco, but also underscores the significance of the entire African continent.

Recognizing the notable under-representation of Africa in therapeutic trials, registries, and consequential scientific investigations, I am compelled to assume the role of spokesperson for a continent that has been regrettably overlooked in scientific discourse. Africa's contribution to global scholarly output, irrespective of calculation methodologies, remains disproportionately minimal, hovering around 0.3% as of 2000. Yet, the African continent harbors a wealth of scientific talents yearning for expression.

Having chaired the Moroccan Society of Cardiology with pleasure and honor for two consecutive terms from 2001 to 2005, I extended a welcoming embrace to French-speaking and English-speaking nations. Our National Cardiology Congress, transformed into an annual rendezvous for African cardiology, saw a historic shift this year with the entire event conducted in English, featuring speakers from Europe, Asia, the USA, and Africa.

As a former president of the Moroccan Society of Cardiology, FESC, and FAHA, I stand ready to serve as a conduit, particularly in collaborative studies and registries, fostering synergy with various African countries, whether ESC members or representing the entirety of Africa. A comprehensive set of proposals, aimed at enhancing the integration of African cardiology into ESC scientific activities, will be presented to the ESC Board. This endeavor also strives to actively involve young African cardiologists, encouraging their participation in

presenting abstracts at the ESC and propelling them into the currents of modern cardiology endorsed by the ESC.

Furthermore, we intend to advocate to the ESC for the promotion and increased visibility of national societies, fostering improved collaboration across continents and barriers. The envisioned inclusion of Africa in the realm of scientific endeavors is conceived within the framework of a mutually beneficial, win-win partnership.

Africa represents the future that starts today.

Sincerely

Pr Ahmed Bennis FESC FHFA