**ISSFAL BOARD NOMINATION 2012**

**Candidate Statement**

**Professor Berthold Koletzko**

# Berthold Koletzko, MD PhD is Professor of Paediatrics and Head of the Div. of Metabolic and Nutritional Medicine at Hauner Children’s Hospital, University of Munich Medical Centre, Munich, Germany.

**Training:** After attending Univ of Muenster Medical School, Bert worked in Paediatric Departments at Baragwanath Hospital, Johannesburg-Soweto, South Africa; Kili­manjaro Christian Medical Centre, Moshi, Tanzania; Detmold, Germany; University of Düsseldorf, Germany; and The Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, Canada, before joining the faculty of University of Munich.

**Research work:** Bert has worked in lipid research since the mid 1980ies, with a particular focus on the role of polyunsaturated fatty acids in pregnancy, lactation, and childhood. The work of his group encompasses clinical trials as well as laboratory based analyses, including stable isotope methodology, analysis of fatty acid binding and transport proteins, gene polymorphisms relevant to fatty acid metabolism, and lipidomics. Bert is the coauthor of some 610 scientific articles with 8263 Cited Items and a Hirsch Index of 47. He has received many scientific honors, including Honorary Memberships of the Swiss Society of Pediatrics and the Polish Society Society for Paediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition, the Konstantin-Horemis-Award of the Greek Society for Paediatrics, a Honorary Chair, Medical Faculty, Free University of Brussels, the Jean Rey Prize of the European Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition (ESPGHAN), the Sreemanta Banjerjee Memorial Award f the Bengal Obstetric and Gynecological Society, the Freedom to Discover Award of the Bristol Myers Squibb Foundation, the ESPGHAN Infant and Toddler Nutrition Research Award, and the Honorary Medal of the Children’s Memorial Institute, Warsaw, Poland.

Bert serves as Coordinator of the Research Consortia “EarlyNutrition” (EU FP7), “Multidisciplinary Early Modification of Obesity Risk” (BMBF) and “Malnutrition in Hospitalized Children in Europe” (ESPEN) and is partner of further international research projects.

**Editorial work:** Bert serves as Editor in Chief of the Annals of Nutrition and Metabolism (the journal of IUNS and FENS) and as section editor of Monatsschrift Kinderheilkunde (Journal of the German Society of Paediatrics) and Current Opinion in Clinical Nutrition and Metabolic Care.

**Scientific advisory roles:** Bert is Chair of the Committee on Nutrition of the German Society for Paediatrics, Chair of the charitable Child Health Foundation, and Managing Director, Early Nutrition Academy. He serves as member of the Central Grant Review Board of German Research Council (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft) and has served as Scientific Advisor to the European Commission, the European Parliament, and the German Government.

**Perspectives for ISSFAL:**

Bert has served for one term on the ISSFAL Board of Directors and wishes to continue working towards strengthening ISSFAL’s role as a science based organisation that serves as a key global platform for exchange and discussion of information in the multidisciplinary area of fatty acid and lipid research. Particular emphasis should be put on attracting and encouraging young investigators in related areas of research. Continued development and strengthening of electronic communication platforms will be of key importance for ISSFAL’s future impact, given the global nature of the organisation. Consideration should be given to further emphasis on developing educational activities, such as e-learning projects and postgraduate courses or summer schools for young investigators. The activities of the society should also result in enhanced visibility of fatty acid and lipid research, its importance and its strengths vis a vis national and international funding bodies.



**Professor Berthold Koletzko**

**University of Munich, Germany**

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