

Declaration of Sharm El Sheikh 2000:

Declaration of the Founding of the Eastern Mediterranean Association of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Allied Professions (EMACAPAP)
February 8, 2000

To promote the development of children and adolescents we join together to create the Eastern Mediterranean Association of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Allied Professions (EMACAPAP). The EMACAPAP is committed to enhancing the prevention of psychiatric disorders and difficulties, the early intervention for vulnerable children, and the treatment of children and adolescents with emotional, behavioral and developmental disorders. EMACAPAP will facilitate the training and continuing education of child psychiatrists and allied professionals; the creation and improvement of services and systems of care; the priority placed on children's welfare, education, and health in national policies; and research on prevention, intervention and treatment. EMACAPAP will include child and adolescent psychiatry and the associated mental health and child-oriented professions (psychology, social work, pediatrics, education and special education, pediatric nursing, speech and language, etc.). EMACAPAP will work in collaboration with other national organizations with shared commitments to child and adolescent mental health, services, training, and advocacy. EMACAPAP will also work in collaboration with the International Association of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Allied Professions (IACAPAP) and the European, Latin American, and Asian regional organizations of child and adolescent psychiatry and allied professions.

The founding members of EMACAPAP are individuals who gathered together at the first Regional Congress of Eastern Mediterranean Child and Adolescent Psychiatry in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, convened by the International Association of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Allied Professions (IACAPAP), World Health Organization, Egyptian Society of Psychiatry, the World Psychiatric Association, and the Telefono Azzurro Foundation for Education and Research. The founding members signed this Declaration to affirm their belief in promoting the development of children and adolescents, improving care and treatment, supporting families and communities, strengthening national and regional commitments to meeting the needs of all children and families, and enhancing the work of professionals and the programs that are engaged in these missions.