

Helsinki, 8 November 2013

## **Foreword**

Some time ago I received the message from Dr. Swapnil Bumb to join the Advisory Board of the journal "International Journal of Scientific Study". In spite of my many commitments I was happy to respond positively. This is a good undertaking of younger generation in India to emphasize the importance of scientific studies and especially in the developing countries.

Our work for promotion and protection of health and wellbeing of our populations should be based on solid evidence from scientific studies. This concerns both the decisions that individuals make in their lives and the decisions that political decision makers take. There is an old wisdom: "Nothing is so practical as a good theory". We may do a lot of work, but if the evidence base is wrong, our work is not useful. Good science, international collaboration and publication of studies in journals with peer reviews is important.

During my recent visit to Delhi I was again impressed by the potential that India and many other countries of the developing world have for sustainable development – both in the field of health and in other areas. Obviously the future is in the young generation. Thus, I am particularly happy about the fact that there are students and young people behind the journal. I say this also, because in my youth I served as the President of the National Union of Finnish Students.

I want to congratulate Dr. Swapnil S. Bumb, the Editor in Chief of the journal and the whole editorial team. I wish them all success in this exciting undertaking and hope broad support from the international Scientific community.

Pekka Puska, Professor

Pelite Vante

Director General, National Institute for Health and Welfare (THL)

President, International Association of National Public Health Institutes (IANPHI)