



Editorial, LEAD Action News volume 19 number 3, December 2018 – The 6th annual Lead Week of Action is a big success! (Part 2)

By Elizabeth O'Brien, instigator of ILPPWA, co-Founder of The LEAD Group Inc.

The International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week of Action (ILPPWA) 2018 was so successful, and so many organisations sent us their reports for publication in *LEAD Action News*, that we have extended our reporting on this year's Events to this second issue of *LEAD Action News* (vol. 19 no. 3): **The 6th annual Lead Week of Action is a big success! [Part 2]**

We begin this issue with an important article written by one of The LEAD Group's Technical Advisory Board (TAB) members, Dr Perry Gottesfeld, and by Jonathan Ongking, titled: *Opinion: Eliminating lead paint would save millions of lives* – which includes: "The Lead Safe Paint Certification has now certified paint companies in three Asian countries". The LEAD Group fully endorses anything set up by Perry's organisation Occupational Knowledge (OK) International, and to help spread the word more widely, our volunteer translator Orlando Aguirre-Lopez has translated the article into French and Spanish.

Lead paint is a major leaded consumer product causing lead exposure but other leaded consumer products are discussed in the next article which includes a lead sinker ingestion case and a question about whether candles with leaded wicks are still sold anywhere.

In The 6th annual Lead Week of Action is a big success! [Part 1] (*LEAD Action News* vol. 19 no. 2) we published ILPPWA event reports (click on the country name to read the article in English) from [Zambia](#), [Somalia](#), [Saudi Arabia](#), [Madagascar](#) ([in French](#)), [Kenya](#), [Kazakhstan](#), [Indonesia](#), [Iraq](#), [Gambia](#), [Colombia](#) ([in Spanish](#)), [Benin](#) ([in French](#)) and [Australia](#).

I'd like to reiterate my plea for any organisation with the capacity to do so to assist Somalia in creating lead poisoning awareness and organising some events for ILPPWA 2019.

This issue of *LEAD Action News* has reports of 3 more ILPPWA 2018 events from Australia, including an [interview on lead-safety](#) which is now on Facebook.

When I invited each of the 74 ILPPWA 2018 event organisers to submit a report, I was delighted that Queen Zakia Rafiq Shabazz, co-founder of United Parents Against Lead (UPAL) responded, and even sent photos of our first meeting – at the Alliance to End Childhood Lead Poisoning first International Lead Poisoning Prevention Conference in Washington DC in May 1994. If you can identify the ? in the photos below, please write in!



At left: L to R: possibly Ann Carroll (?); Sharon Johnson, head of UPAL'S Philadelphia Chapter, Elizabeth O'Brien, co-founder of The LEAD Group Inc in 1994.



At right: L to R: someone (?) from UPAL; a Conference attendee (?); Elizabeth O'Brien and Queen Zakia Rafiq Shabazz in 1994.

Queen Zakia Rafiq Shabazz's ILPPWA event report is quite unique in that UPAL launched #LeadLadenVoices in response to the administration's reduced funding to the US EPA and UPAL are asking people to speak with a lead poisoned child (whether they were poisoned by leaded paint, dust, soil, water, a consumer product, swallowed a sinker, etc) and share highlights of their conversation with UPAL in readiness for Lead Poisoning Awareness Month in April 2019 in the USA. We can all read the results on www.upal.org next year.

Center for Public Health and Environmental Development (CEPHED) in Nepal is one of the 8 organisations in the world which has held an ILPPWA event for 5 consecutive years, along with The LEAD Group in Australia, BaliFokus in Indonesia which both reported in Part 1 of this ILPPWA 2018 series. CEPHED's is the next report in this, Part 2 of the series.

And the final country report comes from Sri Lanka's CEJ (Center for Environmental Justice).

Thanks so much to all the contributors to this series of ILPPWA 2018 success stories.

Following these event reports is a short summary of each event as it was planned to be held during the Lead Week of Action in 2018, from the World Health Organisation's webpage: http://www.who.int/ipcs/lead_campaign/events/en/

Corrections to *The 6th annual Lead Week of Action is a big success! [Part 1]:*

I received the following correction from Michael Musenga of CEHF Zambia: the name of our Permanent secretary for Southern Province is Mwangala Liomba (and not Mwanga).

And I noticed that I left the word **Prevention** out of International Lead Poisoning **Prevention** Week of Action on the front page of **Part 1**!!