

FERNÉY communiqué

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE The Importance of the Regions

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

Although the FDI is a federation of National and International Dental Associations, our Regional Organisations are very important to us. The need for Regional Organisations arose because dental associations from the same regions often face similar problems and the dental profession in this area have similar evolutions. Regional Organisations allow dental professionals facing common issues to share information and solutions for their particular region.

This concept became very evident when I took the opportunity to attend regional meetings of Latin America, Asia-Pacific and French-speaking Africa. In each of these meetings, the questions following my presentations were very specific and characteristic to the region. It is an indispensable experience for a President to meet the representatives in their respective environment. This is the only way to perceive the needs and be able to lead the FDI to the accomplishment of our Mission. I want to take this opportunity to thank each of you who gave me such a warm welcome.

In our Constitution, which was adopted after the review by the Governance Task Team, the rules for being recognised as an FDI Regional Organisation were changed. After a three-year period of flexibility, which will conclude at the end of 2006, the new rules in the Constitution will apply.

Starting with the Montréal Congress, the Council will now meet with the representatives of Regional Organisations in order to receive their input, proposals and expectations at Annual World Dental Congresses. This is an interactive role that Regional Organisations have to play.



L to R: FOLA/LARO President, Dr Adolfo Rodriguez, FDI President, Dr Michèle Aerden & ERO President Dr Font Buxo

Some ones in the Regional Organisations think they do not need the FDI, but if Regional Organisations want to serve its Member Associations well, then it needs to have a strong and healthy relationship with the global federation. The FDI is recognised by and collaborates with the World Health Organization and the United Nations. The FDI is a partner of the World Health Professions Alliance and works with the International Association of Dental Research and International Organization for Standardization. Bringing to the attention of the FDI an issue of a region can only lead to a meaningful outcome.

It is evident that a synergy needs to exist between the Member Associations, the Regional Organisations and the FDI in order to reach our vision, "Leading the world to optimal oral health".

Kind regards

Michèle Aerden
President
FDI World Dental Federation

Contents



The winners of the best communications with members of the communications jury, presided by Professor Samuel Gadegbeku of Cote d'Ivoire (5th from left). Also pictured, 2nd from left, Dr Georgette Akoui, President ACDT. See page 2.

- Shenzhen Congress Update 2
- FDI Co-Sponsors Congress and Education Workshop in Lomé 2
- FDI Mid-Year Meetings 2
- FDI thanks Dr Mouatt for his work with WDDHPC 3
- idm Elects New Board of Officers 3
- Translation of the Tobacco or Oral Health Guide 3
- Corporate Partners' Meeting Held in Chicago 4
- IDEM Singapore 2006 4

fdi 
FDI World Dental Federation
www.fdiworldental.org

FERNEY
communiqué
Sponsored by



Shenzhen Congress Update

2006 FDI World Dental Congress,
22-25 September, Shenzhen, China

Save by Registering Early

Did you know that you can save up to 40€ by pre-registering for the Shenzhen Congress? Please visit the Shenzhen Congress site at <http://www.fdiworldental.org/microsites/Shenzhen/congress2.html> for more information.

Hurry, offer ends 1 August 2006.

Special Interest Forums

In addition to our packed Scientific Programme, the Shenzhen Congress will include the following special interest forums, which are open to all registered delegates:

- Women Dentists Worldwide - Menopause for Thought
- Young Dentists Forum - Changing demands for young dentists in a changing society
- World Dental Development & Health Promotion Forum - Challenges for tobacco control in Asia – examples and solutions
- Science Committee Workshops - Professional Product Evaluation and Information Dissemination & Emerging infections in the Asia-Pacific: a challenge for Dentistry!
- Dental Practice Forum - Commonly acknowledged rights and responsibilities of dental professionals

For more information about these forums, please visit http://www.fdiworldental.org/microsites/Shenzhen/congress4_wks.html.

NOTE: For easy access to the Shenzhen Congress Website, visit FDI online at www.fdiworldental.org and click on 'Current Congress'.

FDI CO-SPONSORS CONGRESS AND EDUCATION WORKSHOP IN LOMÉ



Minister of Health of Togo Mme Suzanne Aho-Assouma and Dr Michèle Aerden.

The official opening of the Lomé 1st International Congress took place on 5 April 2006 in Togo and was held in the presence of the Representative of the President of the Republic and the Minister for Relations with the Establishments of the Republic.

In total, 210 attendees, representing 12 national delegations, took part in this Congress, which was held under the high patronage of His Excellency the President of the Republic of Togo, *Groupement des Associations Dentaires Francophones* (GADEF), the FDI, the World Health Organization and the French Embassy. FDI President, Dr Michèle Aerden, was the Honorary President for the Congress

The Congress activities, co-ordinated by the FDI Programme Manager for Africa, Prof Martin Hobdell, included lectures on HIV/AIDS and Dentistry, Paediatric Dentistry, Periodontology, Emergencies in Dental Practice, Infections, Prosthetics and Composites, as well 51 scientific communications on the general theme "Oral Health, General Health". Prizes were awarded on the two best communications to Dr Soukèye Dia Tine (Senegal) and Dr André Benetora (Togo).

A workshop for educators on oral health was held prior to the Congress. It was a part of the FDI World Dental Development Fund project, "The Prevention of Oral Diseases in schoolchildren aged 5 to 12 in schools of the Lomé district". It was attended by 90 teachers and 15 directors from the schools involved with the project.

Education materials, co-financed by Soroptimist International Club, Europe, were presented to the directors of the schools targeted by the project.

While in Lomé, the President of FDI attended the workshop, distributed education materials and visited one of the pilot schools in the project. She also met with the various national delegations attending the Congress, including Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Guinea, Mali, Niger, Senegal and Togo, the Prime Minister of the Republic of Togo, His Excellency Mr Edem Kodjo and Minister of Health, Madame Suzanne Aho-Assouma.

On behalf of the FDI, Dr Aerden sends her congratulations to the *Association des Chirurgiens Dentistes du Togo* and their President, Dr Georgette Akouvi, for their enthusiasm and their exceptional achievement with this 1st International Congress. "The media coverage was excellent and allowed the population and the authorities to become more aware of the importance of Oral Health and prevention," said Dr Aerden.

FDI MID-YEAR MEETINGS

The FDI Mid-Year Meetings took place at the FDI Head Office on 18-27 March 2006. About 60 committee members, task team members and councillors in all attended the meetings.

This year's meeting location allowed for increased interaction between committee members and the FDI staff. Meetings were also arranged so that committees shared their coffee breaks, lunches and dinners with at least one other committee as an effort to promote communications across committees.

FDI Executive Director, Dr JT Barnard, attended all standing committee meetings, where he gave committee members an update on the FDI. He further requested that all committees review and give the feedback on the new FDI Strategic Plan.

The next committee meetings will take place at the FDI Annual World Dental Congress in Shenzhen, China. For more

information about upcoming FDI-related meetings and events, please visit our online Calendar of Events at http://www.fdiworldental.org/federation/2_8_calendar.html.

FDI THANKS DR MOUATT FOR HIS WORK WITH WDDHPC

Dr Brian Mouatt has resigned as Chairman of the World Dental Development and Health Promotion Committee. His enthusiasm, knowledge and work ethics will be remembered by all at the FDI.

Dr Mouatt was a wonderful asset to our organisation. Under his chairmanship, the Committee has grown and developed over the last number of years into a significant and influential body in international health. The President and Council regret his decision and wish him well in his future endeavours.

Until the Shenzhen meetings, where a new Chairman will be elected by the Committee, Mr George Weber, will be the Acting Chairman.

idm ELECTS NEW BOARD OF OFFICERS

idm (International Dental Manufacturers) elected a new Board of Officers, during their General Assembly, which took place in Chicago this past February. The FDI would like to congratulate the newly elected officials and wish them every success in their terms of office:

President Mildred (Milly) Goldstein
Dental Trade Alliance

President Elect Haruo Morita
Japan Dental Trade Association

1st Vice President Massimo Bachi
Associazione Panamericana de Industria y Comercio Dentales

2nd Vice President Pam Clark
Australian Dental Industry Association

We would like to thank Dr Juergen Eberlein, idm's Immediate Past President, for his excellent cooperation with the FDI during his term of office.

On 15 May 2006, the FDI and idm Executive Committees held their annual meeting in Ferney-Voltaire. The discussions covered a wide variety of matters of mutual interest. The healthy relationship and collaboration between the FDI and idm is strengthened through these regular meetings.

TRANSLATION OF THE TOBACCO OR ORAL HEALTH GUIDE

The joint FDI and World Health Organization's (WHO) Tobacco or Oral Health guide, an advocacy guide for oral professionals, is currently being translated into Portuguese and Chinese.

The Portuguese translation, which is managed by the Portuguese Dental Association (PDA), *Ordem dos Médicos dentistas*, is in its final stages. The PDA is planning to launch the publication in Lisbon during a public event on World No Tobacco Day. World No Tobacco Day takes place every year on 31 May. This year's World No Tobacco Day will mark the one year anniversary of the Tobacco or Oral Health guide's initial launch in English.

The Chinese translation of the guide is being led by the Hong Kong Council on Smoking and Health. The FDI hopes to launch the Chinese version of the guide during the Annual World Dental Congress in Shenzhen in September.

Summary of the Tobacco or Oral Health guide:

- Provides tobacco facts
- Highlights the involvement of the FDI and the WHO in tobacco control initiatives
- Discusses the role of dentists and other oral health professionals in tobacco control
- Examines the role of advocacy
- Provides a number of wide ranging recommendations to move the tobacco control agenda forward

For more information about the Tobacco or Oral Health guide or to view an English version of the guide, please visit http://www.fdiworldental.org/public_health/5_5advocacy.html.

CORPORATE PARTNERS' MEETING HELD IN CHICAGO

The FDI Corporate Partners' meeting took place the day before the opening of the Chicago Mid-Winter Dental Meeting at the end of February. This is an important platform for dialogue and exchange between the FDI and its industry partners that has now been in place for a number of years.

We were privileged to welcome representatives from many companies that participate in the FDI Corporate Partnership programme, as well as Dr Michèle Aerden, FDI President, Dr Burton Conrod, FDI President-Elect, and Dr Bill Allen, Director of World Dental Partners.

Presentations were made by Mr Paul Wilson, FDI Events Director, and Dr Habib Benzian, FDI Development and Public Health Manager, on future Congress venues and Corporate Social Responsibility. These subjects were then discussed in-depth by the participants in small break-out groups, where attendees put forward interesting ideas and opinions on the subjects.

The FDI would like to express our thanks to all participants for giving their time and enthusiasm to make this meeting a success.

IDEM SINGAPORE 2006



Minister of Health of Singapore, Mr Khaw Boon Wan greets Dr Michèle Aerden at IDEM Singapore.

A record number of 5,682 trade visitors from 55 countries, attended the bi-annual International Dental Exhibition and Meeting (IDEM), which took place in April 2006, in Singapore.

This year, Koelnmesse and the Singapore Dental Association partnered with the FDI to ensure a high quality, world class scientific programme with a variety of information presented in an innovative format. More than 1,000 delegates took part in the congress, around 22 percent more than in 2004.

A unique aspect of IDEM Singapore 2006 was the combination of dental exhibition and meetings for the professions with the free dental screening and consumer-focused oral health products fair for the public. The free dental screening and consultation, jointly sponsored by the Singapore Dental Health Foundation, attracted more than 800 people.

"The FDI was delighted to partner with Koelnmesse and Singapore Dental Association," said Paul Wilson, FDI Events

Director. "As a team, we have all been working very hard together to ensure the aspirations from all three parties were fully met. It was great to see so many exhibitors at the exhibition with so many dental professionals in attendance. The exhibits and scientific sessions were of great interest and all of IDEM was an undoubted success. We all look forward to building on this year's IDEM and look forward to 2008 with great energy and anticipation."

Smile

because Wrigley is your partner in oral healthcare

Working for better oral healthcare

For over 25 years, The Wrigley Company has worked in partnership with the dental profession to help improve people's oral health. Our initiative, 'Wrigley Oral Healthcare Programs', operates successfully in 47 countries around the world.

As the world's leading manufacturer of chewing gum, Wrigley pioneered independent clinical research into the oral health benefits of sugarfree gum, helping the profession's understanding of the importance of the stimulation of saliva to help neutralise plaque acid after consuming sugar and starch in food and drinks.

Wrigley works closely with and supports dental professionals, dental associations and dental schools to help promote better oral healthcare by providing information and practical resources. Wrigley works in partnership with the profession to encourage patients to adopt a healthy oral care routine, which includes communicating that chewing sugarfree gum is proven to help prevent tooth decay by up to 40%. (published in the *Journal of Dental Research* in 2001¹) through an increase in salivary flow by up to a factor of 10².

So, as a dental professional you can confidently recommend sugarfree chewing gum, such as ORBIT, to your patients as part of their regular oral care routine.

For more information for you and your patients visit www.BetterOralHealth.info

References:
1. Szoke J, Binczy J, Prokin HM (2001) Effect of after-meal sucrose free gum-chewing on clinical caries. *Journal of Dental Research* **80**(8): 1725-29.
2. Edgar WM, Boley RG, Mundrath S, Kowley J (1975) Acid production in plaques after eating snacks: modifying factors in foods. *J Amer Dent Assoc*: **92**:418-25.

