

FDI communiqué

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

In October I had the unique opportunity to participate in the Women's Forum for the Economy and the Society which took place in Deauville, France and which had as a subheading – The New Dimensions of Power and Influence. It is a new forum for international leaders with the objective of building a future with women's visions, influence and impact. During the three days, 500 men and women with varied backgrounds – business CEOs, political leaders, major actors in intellectual, media, academic, and artistic spheres - and from both developed and developing countries shared their experiences in business, education, environmental and leadership issues.

I attended with the objective of bringing health into the picture, in line with my Opening Ceremony speech in Montréal. I said that it is important to make all and everyone conscious of the fact that Oral Health is an integral part of General Health and that this goes far beyond the dental community.

During the Forum, in each session or workshop I had the opportunity to intervene and address the assembly. I strongly affirmed that:

- Health is a basic human right
- Oral health is part of general health and oral disease can kill
- Oral disease is preventable
- Defining economic or social strategies is not possible without health strategies
- Every company in the world has an interest in developing an Oral Health Disease Prevention strategy for their employees; it is a win-win situation
- Integration of career breaks' planning for women is a social and financial advantage for the companies and the society.

The output was positive with new approaches to very pertinent issues in the political and business arena as well as society as a whole. There will be a comprehensive report of the forum.



And what are the benefits for the FDI?

- To have the opportunity to put Oral Health and General Health in the picture at a forum with top leaders whose main tasks and interests are not health oriented
- To interest the media in health related issues; I gave one television, one radio and three newspaper interviews
- Creating personal contacts and global networks beyond the dental world.

In Deauville, the global network created in a non-dental environment gave FDI a place on the business and social world chess-board.

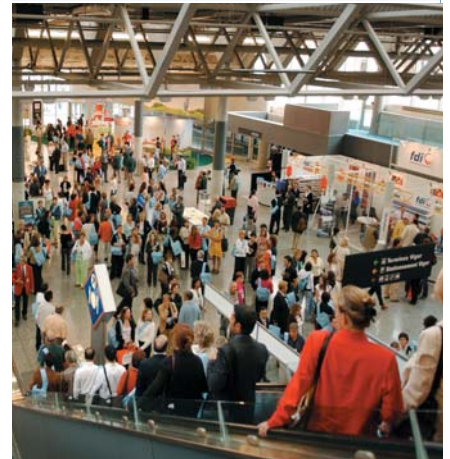
In the same way I would like to invite you to take every opportunity that you get in your daily life to promote interest in Oral Health as part of General Health.

Good luck!

With my personal best wishes for a very good year end.

Michèle Aerden
President
FDI World Dental Federation

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REPORTS FROM WORLD DENTAL PARLIAMENT MEETINGS IN MONTREAL

Please see the previous issue (5/2005) of the Communiqué for statistics from the Montréal Congress, a short report from the General Assembly and information on the election of office-bearers. The minutes from General Assembly A and B are now being translated and will soon be sent to all Members.



Council

Council had three meetings as usual; the two first with the outgoing President, Dr Yoon, as Chairman and the last with the new President, Dr Michèle Aerden, as Chairman.

One of the more important issues that Council considered and discussed was the reports from the five Committee Chairmen; see below for short reports. Council considered the suggestions made by a member of a committee to increase the Head Office staff to assist them in their activities and decided to make budgetary provisions to be presented to the Council mid-year meeting.

The General Assembly established a "Members Subscription and Formula Task Team" to report back to the mid-year meeting. Council further appointed the "Organisational Structure Task Team" which will also report back in May 2006.

During the Montréal Congress, Council had a meeting with officers from all the Regional Organisations and a meeting with Affiliate and Supporting Members.

Communications & Member Support Committee

The committee has primarily focused on the member support aspect of its mandate during the past year. The main activities have centred on making personal contacts with as many National Liaison Officers (NLOs) as possible, organising an interactive workshop for NLOs in Montreal and examining the FDI policy with respect as to which languages the organisation should use for printed documents and for simultaneous interpretation.

Approximately seventy NLOs took part in the workshop. The main topics of the discussion were: improving communication between members and the FDI and between the members themselves, improving and creating new services and defining the language policy. The report regarding the language policy will be submitted to Council in May 2006.

Dental Practice Committee

The linking of the Ethics and Dental Legislation Working Group to the committee was seen as valuable and beneficial and it is expected that several new projects in this field will be undertaken.

The committee submitted one Policy Statement to the 2005 General Assembly, one article on workforce planning and a series of articles on the rights and responsibilities of dental professionals which is being published in the IDJ.

The Committee is considering the undertaking of new projects and has asked Member Associations to submit topics for consideration.

Education Committee

The attendance of most workshops in Montréal was low and the Committee suggested that in future, workshops would be promoted as part of the scientific programme. The posters and free communications had been excellent and well attended.

The Shenzhen programme has been finalised in cooperation with the scientific representative of the Local Organising Committee and the preliminary programme will be published by the end of the year.

The committee pointed out that it is important to maintain close links with the Science Committee in order to ensure that the latest science was included in future congress programmes. The Committee made proposals regarding an international CERP to be implemented and coordinated by the FDI. These will be considered by Council at their May 2006 meeting.

Science Committee

FDI/IADR science transfer sessions have been held during the last three years of IADR meetings. They are valuable in promoting the FDI at the IADR and they also provide useful input to the Education Committee in structuring the scientific programmes for the Annual World Dental Congresses.

The committee is currently dealing with approximately twenty projects and submitted six Policy Statements to the 2005 General Assembly. Two peer reviewed reports will be published in the IDJ: Monitoring vital signs in dentistry, and Sucrose substitutes.

World Dental Development & Health Promotion Committee

The committee presently supports three ongoing projects – in Rwanda, Namibia and Togo. New projects have been commissioned in Senegal and Pakistan. The committee further works with the evaluation of and approval of the Live Learn Laugh country projects.

The tangible impact of the 2004 Nairobi Oral Health Planning Conference was reported. A few examples are: Oral health planning activity in twelve new countries, three African countries have asked to join the FDI and organisation has started for a workshop and planning forum for Rwanda. The organisation is undoubtedly stronger in Africa after the Conference and there is more effective representation by Africans themselves.

Chairman Liaison Meeting

The purpose of this meeting, which was held for the third time, was to coordinate unavoidable overlaps between the work of the committees and to find synergies.

To begin with, the statements that are out of date were discussed and it was decided that the Science Committee should identify which other committees would be involved before revisions began.

The most important part of the meeting was the discussion on which public health, science, education and practice issues the FDI should focus on in the years to come. Some of the suggestions were:

- To focus on the oral health of the ageing populations, seen today in so many countries
- The implementation of new global oral health goals; they need to be monitored as well
- Collaboration with the WHO
- Making prevention affordable (basic oral care, affordable toothpaste)
- Strengthening the FDI's links with governments and civil societies – through Public Health networks and CDOs and the World Health Professionals Alliance
- To build coalitions to advocate for raising the priority of oral health as a vital component of overall health
- To put more resources into science
- Gerodontology – there should be a workshop on this in the near future
- Mobility/credentials i.e. a more uniform undergraduate dental education is an important item for the future. This has been achieved within the EU and there is an advocacy role for the FDI internationally.

The Science, Dental Practice and Education Committee chairmen said that the lack of a manager for the Committees at the Head Office level had a serious impact on their work and that it was aggravated year by year.

WORKSHOP ON ETHICAL RECRUITMENT

The World Dental Development Forum in Montréal urged the FDI Council to adopt a Declaration on Ethical International Recruitment of Dental Professionals. This policy has been further endorsed by the Commonwealth Dental Association. These actions were in response to a rising concern that industrialised countries were recruiting valuable medical and dental staff from developing countries that could ill-afford to lose such valuable contributors to health.

To this end, the forum agreed on a draft declaration. The most important point of this declaration was that: "Each country should assess its dental workforce needs and ensure it trains sufficient numbers to meet those needs, and the right of individuals to obtain dental care."

Wrigley – your partner in oral healthcare

Wrigley Oral Healthcare Programs operate across 47 countries to help improve oral health, via research and the provision of educational resources.



Chewing sugarfree gum has been proven to help prevent tooth decay by up to 40%*



* Szoke J, et al. J Dent Res 2001

PAHO BOOK LAUNCH ON SALT FLUORIDATION

The Pan American Health Organisation launched a new book Promoting Oral Health. The use of Salt Fluoridation to prevent Dental

Caries in Montréal during the FDI Congress. Dr Saskia Estupinán-Day, Head of PAHO's Oral Health Programme is the author of the book.

In launching the book, the FDI Executive Director, Dr JT Barnard, said: "This book is a valuable asset to dental public health. I am confident that it will assist in validating salt fluoridation as an effective method of preventing dental caries and to promote its wide application". He continued by saying:

"FDI is keen to promote affordable fluoride for all and supports all efforts to increase the number of countries using salt fluoridation. Furthermore, the FDI is proud to serve as promoter, facilitator and information hub for all interested in fluoridation and salt fluoridation. In 2006, the FDI will organise, together with among other organisations, the WHO and the IADR, a high level consultation on Fluorides for Oral Health with special emphasis on making fluorides available in developing countries."

The book shows how salt fluoridation has proven to be one of the most cost-effective public health interventions in history and how countries can implement programmes of their own. According to the book, salt fluoridation can reduce the prevalence of dental caries up to 84 %. For further information, please, go to the PAHO website: <http://www.paho.org>

SPLENDID CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAMME IN VIETNAM

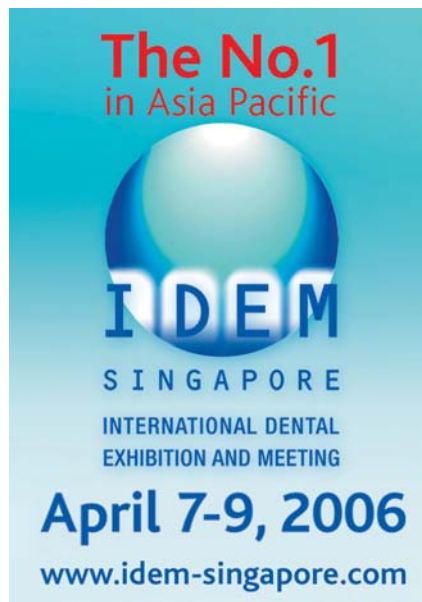
The FDI and the Vietnam Odontological Association (VOSA) organised a well attended Continuing Education Congress in Hanoi, Vietnam, during October 2005. The event which included a three day scientific programme and a trade exhibition attracted around 1,500 dentists from Vietnam and neighbouring countries. The FDI's Programme Director for Asia Pacific, Dr Choo Teck Chuan, compiled a high class scientific programme with renowned speakers from around the globe. Lectures by the international

speakers covered topics such as:
The role of the FDI in developing countries, Endodontics, Periodontology, Saliva and oral health, Automation in dental practice, Perfection in esthetical restorations, Orthodontics and Maxillo-facial trauma.

At the Welcome Ceremony which was attended by the Honourable Deputy Prime Minister of Vietnam, Mr Pham Gia Khiem and the Minister of Health, Prof Tran Thi Trung Chien, the FDI Executive Director, Dr JT Barnard handed a certificate to the VOSA stating that "The FDI World Dental Federation acknowledges the Vietnam Odonto-Stomatology Association as one of its highly valued Regular Members and wishes the Association every success for the future": Prof Chien said "Through extensive international cooperation and the FDI's precious assistance over the years, dentistry in Vietnam has made rapid developments to the benefit of our children and the population as a whole".

The FDI, through the great work of its Programme Managers, organises on average one CE programme every third week of the year around the globe, in collaboration with FDI Member Associations. The FDI is grateful to all speakers participating in these programmes. They are sought-after scientists, yet they contribute to the FDI's programmes receiving only a fairly insignificant or no honorarium at all. We thank these speakers who so willingly sacrifice their valuable time and share their extensive knowledge with colleagues in developing countries around the globe.

More information about the FDI's CE programmes is available on the FDI website: www.fdiworldental.org



PREVIEW ON IDEM SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

The IDEM (International Dental Exhibition and Meeting) 2006 exhibition and conference will take place from 7 – 9 April at the Suntec Singapore International Convention and Exhibition Centre. The scientific programme has been discussed in cooperation with the FDI Programme Director, Dr. Choo Teck Chuan.

Excellence in Restorative Dentistry

Professor David A. Felton

- The Art of All-Ceramic Restorations and Fixed Prosthesis – Seeking Perfection and Avoiding Clinical Pitfalls
- Management of the Mutilated Dentition
- Fabrication of Provisional Restorations for Dental Auxiliaries

Perfecting the art of Endodontics

Professor Pierre Machtou & Dr. Patrick Tseng

This one-day series of lectures will address many of the controversies in Endodontics with an evidence based approach as well as draw attention to some of the misconceptions in Root Canal Irrigation.

Dental Implants: A Recipe for Success

Professor Robert L. Schneider

- Aesthetic concerns with dental implants
- Present status of immediate placement implants
- Steps to ensure success with dental implants
- Auxiliary Programme – open to all auxiliaries and dentists

Infection Control – The Challenge of New Diseases

Dr. Michael V. Martin

The last two decades have been unprecedented with a large number of new diseases. The purpose of this presentation is to review what dentists do and what they need to do to keep themselves, their staff and their patients safe from the newly discovered diseases.

Fabrication of Provisional Restorations for Dental Auxiliaries

Professor David A. Felton

Rules, Tools & Strategies for Successful Cosmetic Dentistry

Dr. Christopher Orr

- Getting it right from the start
- Foundational skills for indirect aesthetic dentistry
- The other important factors in aesthetic dentistry
- Veneers – putting theory into practice

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