

FERNÉY communiqué

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear colleagues and friends,

The tsunami catastrophe that recently struck many countries in the East Asian Region shows us how fragile we are. After such an unparalleled disaster, one feels shocked and speechless. We have sent our deepest sympathy to our members in the region and told them to inform us if there is anything we can do at a later stage when the oral health systems need to be rebuilt. For the time being my plea to all of you is to lend a helping hand. We must all work together and help one another in our global society. The rebuilding process in the affected countries and communities can be supported through the World Dental Development Fund. It will consider applications related to the disaster as a priority and take decisions quickly. I encourage applications to the Fund addressing the disaster.

You have now been informed that the 2006 Annual World Dental Congress will take place in Shenzhen, China between 22 – 25 September. I am delighted with this decision as this will be the first congress to take place in China and it opens new and exciting possibilities for the FDI, for the Chinese Stomatological Association and its members and the global dental industry. We know already that there is a huge interest from to take part in the congress from our Chinese colleagues and from dentists from around the world. Shenzhen is a modern city with a long history and it is close to Hong Kong. From Shenzhen it is easy to explore China further.

I look forward to some important meetings at the World Health Organisation during the 115th session of the Executive Board in January. Our joint objectives and the working plan will be discussed with the



Chief of the Oral Health Unit, Prof Poul Erik Petersen, and the Director for Health Promotion, Disease Prevention, Management and Surveillance, Dr Robert Beaglehole. The follow-up of the Nairobi Conference will be at the focus when we meet with the new WHO Regional Director for Africa, Dr Sambo. A short meeting with the Director General, Dr Lee, has also been scheduled.

2004 was by any measure an eventful and important year for the FDI. We faced and experienced many challenges. I would like to thank all of you for your participation, support and wisdom and look forward to working with you this year as well until my term comes to an end in August.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Heung-Ryul Yoon
President
FDI World Dental Federation

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FDI ADDRESSING EARTHQUAKE AND TSUNAMI DISASTER

The devastating tsunami has touched the hearts of millions of people worldwide and also colleagues in the dental family. Experts of the FDI World Dental Development and Health Promotion Committee will assist Member Associations, dental and medical NGOs in providing technical advice, particularly on infection control, needs assessments and grant development. For more information see 12 January press information on the FDI web site http://www.fdiworldental.org/federation/7_1latest.html

ANNUAL WORLD DENTAL CONGRESS 2006

The 2006 Annual World Dental Congress will be held in Shenzhen, China during September. It will be the first major international medical congress to be held in Shenzhen and the first FDI Congress to be held in China. The Congress will be organised by the FDI in close collaboration with the Chinese Stomatological Association and the International Health Exchange and Cooperation Centre of the Chinese Government. For more information see 10 January press release on the FDI web site http://www.fdiworldental.org/federation/7_1latest.html

ORAL HEALTH IN AFRICA

Without any doubt the Planning Conference for Oral Health in the African Region, organised by the FDI in April 2004 in Nairobi, was a catalyst for numerous activities related to oral health on the continent. During her visit to the FDI Head Office in December 2004, the Regional Advisor for Oral Health in Africa, Prof Charlotte Ndiaye, reviewed the progress in the eight months after the conference. Some examples are:

- 7 countries requested technical assistance from WHO, either to develop or to implement an oral health policy on the national level
- 2 support missions have already taken place
- 2 additional countries are establishing a

national Noma programme

- 1 country has - for the first time - created a budget for oral health at the disposal of the chief dental officer
- There is one new member association to the FDI (Niger) and another application has been submitted
- The developments in Rwanda (see separate feature)
- Generally improved communication between Chief Dental Officers, FDI members and WHO

These are just the very first and immediate results and all remain optimistic that there is significantly more to follow. The French version of the conference report was released before Christmas and will be distributed shortly. It is also available for downloading from the FDI website at

http://www.fdiworldental.org/public_health/2_1nairobi.html

RWANDA TO DEVELOP A NATIONAL ORAL HEALTH POLICY

Several years of engagement and involvement of the FDI will soon have a tangible result: the very first national oral health policy for the Central African country Rwanda. A national workshop jointly organised by the Ministry of Health in Rwanda, the WHO Regional Office in Congo and the FDI will be held on 17-19 February 2005 in the Rwandan capital Kigali.



Kigali Panorama.

For the FDI as an international health organisation it is of particular importance to give special support to the deprived, marginalised and poorest of the poor. This was the background for choosing a simple national oral health survey in Rwanda as one the first four projects supported by the World Dental Development Fund back in

1999. The early engagement of the FDI for oral health in this war-torn country was the nucleus for the idea of assisting the country to move a decisive step further. As a result of several meetings with the Minister of Health and other government officials in Rwanda, during the Nairobi Planning Conference and in Geneva, and in close consultation with the colleagues from the Rwanda Dental Association and WHO/AFRO it was suggested to embark on the process of developing a comprehensive National Oral Health Plan. Such a plan would be the basis for any future activity with regards to oral health in the country.

Ten years after the genocide where almost a million people were killed the country is trying to rebuild all aspects of society, including the health care system. Based on the principles of primary health care the government aims at bringing health care to all communities, particularly to the rural areas where 90% of the population live. The whole country counts only 16 dentists for a population of 8 million and about 1 million refugees from neighbouring countries.

"I am very happy about the excellent relationship between the WHO and the FDI and the numerous substantial results of the Nairobi conference" said Prof Charlotte Faty Ndiaye, Regional Advisor for Oral Health at the WHO Regional Office during a recent visit to the FDI Head Office. The planned workshop in Rwanda will bring

together various stakeholder groups, the government, NGOs and experts to discuss a first draft of a national oral health policy for the country. Experts from the World Dental Development and Health Promotion Committee will participate and facilitate the process.

FDI/IADR SCIENCE TRANSFER

This seminar will be held in Baltimore this year. As in the past it is organised in conjunction with the annual IADR meeting and it is again kindly sponsored by Nobel Biocare. A report on the first two science transfer meetings will be published in the first issue of the International Dental Journal (IDJ) in February. The results of these seminars are very valuable to the FDI's Education Committee which uses the information about cutting edge developments reported at the seminars for determining the scientific programmes of the Annual World Dental Congresses.

HEAD OFFICE NEWS

We are pleased to announce the appointment of a new Finance Manager, Lance Fennell, at the Head Office. Lance has worked for the FDI on a consultancy basis during 2004 and will take up his responsibilities on a more permanent basis from January 2005.

Lance is a painting graduate from Bath Academy of Art, started as a book-keeper in 1986 and was elected a Fellow of the Institute of Certified Book-keepers in 1997. He worked as a freelancer until 1997 when he set up his own company, Frontline. Lance's involvement has already had a significant and positive impact on the FDI's financial management systems.

PROJECT PROPOSALS

If any member would like to submit a proposal to the Science or Dental Practice Committees for a subject to consider as part of their working programme please submit them to the FDI Head Office. A project proposal form can be downloaded from the web site:
http://www.fdiworldental.org/federation/2_3standingcoms.html

MEDAL BESTOWED ON FDI PRESIDENT ELECT

The most important medal of the city of Paris, "Médaille Vermeil" has been bestowed on the FDI President Elect, Dr Michèle Aerden, for her contribution to the advancement of the science and practice of dentistry. The ceremony took place at the "Hotel de Ville" (City Hall) in Paris during the Annual Congress of the

French Dental Association in December. Congratulations Michèle!



Dr Aerden and the Deputy Mayor of Paris, Mrs Cohen-Soial.

NEW EDITOR – IN - CHIEF OF THE BRITISH DENTAL JOURNAL

Dr Stephen Hancocks, editor of the International Dental Journal, has been appointed Editor-in-Chief of the British Dental Journal from 2005. Stephen will in addition to this also take on a wider editorial role involving other BDA publications. This appointment will not influence the excellent work that Stephen is doing for the IDJ.

WORK SCHEDULE 2005

Below are some of the FDI meetings taking place from February until August. The committee meetings will this year be conducted by e-mail and will start at the dates indicated below. Please feel free to contact any of the committee members or the Head Office if you have a question or a suggestion with regard to these meetings.

28 February, World Dental Development and Public Health Committee

1 March, Dental Practice Committee

2 March, Communications and Members' Support Committee

4 – 5 March, Executive Committee (meeting at Head Office)

12 March, Science Committee

20 April, Executive Committee (meeting at Head Office)

21 April, Finance Committee (meeting at Head Office)

22 – 24, April Council (meeting at Head Office)

A meeting date for the Education Committee has not yet been decided.

World Dental Parliament in Montréal

21 August Open Forum 1

22 August General Assembly A

23 August Open Forum 2

24 August Open Forum 3

26 August General Assembly B

The President, DR Yoon; the Executive Director, Dr Barnard and the Public Health Manager, Dr Benzian will take part in the WHO 115th Executive Board Meeting which takes place in Geneva between 17 and 25 January.

New oral care website

www.BetterOralHealth.info

is a new oral care website for patients and the profession alike. You'll find clinical abstracts & articles, plus key facts on all the major oral health topics.



www.BetterOralHealth.info



WRIGLEY
ORAL HEALTHCARE
PROGRAMS

THE FDI APPLAUDS THE RATIFICATION OF THE FRAMEWORK CONVENTION FOR TOBACCO CONTROL (FCTC) AND CALLS FOR ACTION ON WORLD NO TOBACCO DAY

With the 40th country ratifying the FCTC this groundbreaking treaty is set to become international law on 27 February 2005. The FDI applauds all countries that have ratified the FCTC for taking a major step forward in the worldwide battle against tobacco.

continued overleaf

The FDI, as part of the international group of non-governmental organisations working together in the Framework Convention Alliance, has actively participated in all consultations and meetings that led to the drafting of the treaty.

"We are delighted about the success of the FCTC, the first international public health treaty negotiated by the WHO. The FDI remains committed to implementing the regulations of the treaty on country level as soon as possible by supporting our member associations in political advocacy" said Dr HR Yoon, President of the FDI.

The promotion of the important role of health professions in tobacco control has high priority for the FDI since, "dentists have proven to be as effective as physicians in tobacco control activities" said Dr Habib Benzian, co-coordinator of the FDI's anti-tobacco programmes. "Dentists need to play an active role in smoking cessation with their patients and dental associations need to become effective public health advocates", added Dr JT Barnard, Executive Director of the FDI.

This year's theme for World No Tobacco Day on 30 May 2005 will be focussing on the role of health professionals in tobacco control. The FDI invites all members to develop and report activities on this occasion.

More information is available from the FDI website

http://www.fdiworldental.org/public_health/4_0tobacco.html

MONTREAL CONGRESS

On line registration



The on-line registration is now up and running at www.fdiworldental.org. You can as always also register by faxing your registration form to +33 4 50 40 55 55. If

you have any questions with regard to registration you can e-mail them to congress@fdiworldental.org. The cut off date for the reduced "early bird" registration fee is 15 April. To take advantage of the lower fee, please, remember to register before this date.

Hotel booking

Please, book early to be certain to get the hotel of your choice. You can book on-line at www.tourisme-montreal.org/housing/dentist.

Free communications and Posters

The cut off date for submitting an application for a free communication or a poster is 1 March and the application forms can be found on the web site.

World Dental Parliament

Please check the web site later for the dates for the business meetings as these have not yet been finalised. At this stage the dates of the General Assembly and Open Fora are firm

CONFERENCES HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ANNUAL WORLD DENTAL CONGRESS

Third ADEA International Women's Leadership Conference

This Conference will be held on August 28-30, 2005 in Montréal, Canada. It is being held back to back with the FDI Annual World Dental Congress. The First ADEA International Women's Leadership Conference was held in Cannes/Mandelieu, France, in June 1998 and the Second Conference was held in Göteborg, Sweden, in June 2003.

The theme for the 2005 ADEA International Women's Leadership Conference is "Global Health through Women's Leadership". It will build on the successes of the first two conferences that addressed global issues affecting women's health through education, research and service (practice). For more information, please, see: <http://www.fdiworldental.org/microsites/montreal/congress1.html>

Oral and poster abstracts will be presented in nine conference themes. The Call for Papers is available in electronic format at the ADEA website, www.ADEA.org under "conferences and meetings". The abstract submission deadline date is March 4, 2005.

The International Society for Dentistry, Sport and Trauma

The International Society for Dentistry, Sport and Trauma will host the "Fourth International Symposium on Sport Dentistry and Dental Trauma" to be held in association with the Montréal Congress.

Following three previous International symposia in Cologne, Berne and Kyoto, the International Society for Dentistry, Sport and Trauma will team with the FDI in Montréal, Canada for four days of General and Sport Dentistry.

Participants will be able to attend two days of presentations exclusively devoted to Sport Dentistry, and as well participate in the scientific programme of the FDI Congress.

The Sport Dentistry Symposium will feature the top global clinicians and researchers discussing the latest advances in the diagnosis, management and prevention of trauma in the sporting milieu. Sessions will be devoted to such topical areas as Concussion, Performance, Imaging, Paediatric Sport Trauma, Olympic Dentistry and the Management of the Elite Athlete, Doping in Sport and other subjects.

For regular updates please contact the International Society for Dentistry, Sport and Trauma by e-mail at ISDSMontreal2005@aol.com.