

FERNEY communiqué

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

Great momentum for Oral Health!

In January, for the first time in 26 years, Oral Health was on the agenda of the Executive Board meeting of the World Health Organization (WHO). The focus was on oral health in integrated disease prevention and health promotion.

Here, we have a very good example of the effectiveness of collaboration between the WHO and the FDI. As you might recall, the FDI decided to move from London to the Geneva area in order to strengthen our relationship with the WHO. When the position of Responsible Officer of the Oral Health Unit became open at the time, the WHO envisaged closing the Unit. The FDI strongly intervened, in collaboration with all its Member Associations, to maintain this Oral Health Unit. We felt that it would be very damaging to the world population's oral health if the Oral Health Unit was to be diluted in the different WHO departments.

Fortunately, the Unit and position was maintained and Prof Poul-Erik Petersen was appointed. The FDI now promotes the policies and approaches of the WHO, participates on a regular basis in meetings and consultations and gives input to the WHO on papers and reports.

This year, the report, "Oral health: action plan for promotion and integrated disease prevention" was submitted by the WHO's Global Oral Health Programme. The FDI collaborated actively by advocating in favour and motivating the WHO board members to give their support to this report. Consequently, during the debates, numerous country delegations gave their input on the gravity of the state of oral health and were keen to see more resources invested in improving the situation.

As President of the FDI, I underlined, by a statement to the WHO Board, during their meeting, the important strategic principles mentioned in the report and in the joint oral health resolution that was proposed, which urged all countries to take action to improve oral health as an issue of major impact on the well being and economic development.



The FDI supports the integration of oral health into general health promotion and is keen to involve the dental profession as active and responsible partner in integrated disease prevention. In addition, the FDI offered its support and expertise in the field of oral health. The resolution was adopted and this was the first step in the WHO process.

The next step is the World Health Assembly (WHA) in May in Geneva, where the more than 190 member states of the WHO will convene and consider final adoption of the resolution. From now, the FDI and each Member Association in its country have a lot of work to do. Each and all of us have to advocate in favour for the report with our respective country's delegate to the next WHA.

The FDI will once again make a strong case for oral health on this occasion. Oral health must no longer remain a neglected area of international health!

With kind regards,

Michèle Aerden
President
FDI World Dental Federation

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PRESIDENT'S ACTIVITIES: SEEKING THE RIGHT BALANCE IN THE TRAINING OF DENTISTS

During her visit of FDI member associations, the FDI President sought ways to inform the authorities she met that it was necessary to find the right balance in the training of dentists in terms of the number of dentists needed and the quality of diplomas issued.

CHILE – The FDI President was received by the President of Chile, Mrs Michelle Bachelet, during her visit to Chile last November, where the quality control of diplomas was discussed. There has indeed been an explosion of dental universities in Chile in the recent years and, for the protection of the population, this explosion must be accompanied by a quality control of diplomas, ensuring that the basic requirements for quality dental education has been met before awarding a diploma.



FDI President (Ctr) meets with Dr Mauricio Rudolph (L), President of the Sociedad Odontologica and Mrs Michelle Bachelet (R), President of Chile.

Congratulations to both the *Colegio de Cirujano Dentistas* and the *Sociedad Odontologica* of Chile for organising this important visit.

BURKINA FASO - Congratulations to our colleagues for organising the *Premier Congrès International du Burkina Faso*, which was attended by delegates from 17 different countries.

During a meeting with the Prime Minister and the Minister of Education of Burkina Faso, the FDI President advocated for the education of more dentists, as the 65 dentists who currently practise in the country are unable to face the needs of a population of 12 million. The meeting

resulted in a promise from the Prime Minister to provide the College of Medicine with a two-year doctorate in dentistry in order to educate more dentists in the country.

2007 CORPORATE PARTNERS MEETING

23 February, Chicago, USA

The annual Corporate Partners meeting took place at the end of February in Chicago, U.S.A. Participants from ten different partner corporations and organisations attended the meeting. Representatives from the FDI included the President, President-elect, Councillors, Committee members and head office staff.

The topic of this year's meeting was future congress venues. The meeting started with a welcome speech from the FDI President, Dr Michèle Aerden, who gave the FDI Corporate Partners a brief summary of the FDI's recent achievements.

Then Dr JT Barnard, FDI Executive Director, presented to the audience the results of the recent Corporate Partners Survey, which aimed to understand the kind of venues and aspects of Annual World Dental Congresses (AWDC) that Corporate Partners deemed to be of importance to them.

Other presentations included that of Dr Habib Benzian, FDI Development and Public Health Manager, who presented to the Corporate Partners an update of various aspects of the FDI's work in development and also that of Mr Paul Wilson, FDI Events Director, who shared with the audience bids that the FDI received for possible 2011 congress venues.

The attendees also participated in a breakout session, moderated by FDI President-elect, Dr Burton Conrod. During the breakout session, participants discussed their thoughts on the proposed 2010 and 2011 congress venues, increasing participation to the 2008 FDI Stockholm Congress and on a side note, their thoughts of a possible World Oral Health Day.

"The FDI Corporate Partners meetings are of great importance to the FDI. It not only enhances our relationships with our

esteemed Corporate Partners, but it also allows our Corporate Partners to give valuable input on the planning of FDI Annual World Dental Congresses. This year's meeting was a great success and we appreciate all the Corporate Partners who were able to join us in Chicago," said Dr Barnard.

In addition to the Corporate Partners meeting, the FDI Council and staff took advantage of their time in Chicago to meet with members of the American Dental Association and other FDI member associations, who were present to attend the Chicago Dental Society's Midwinter Meeting. FDI staff were also on hand at the Midwinter Meeting to promote the upcoming AWDC in Dubai.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY TRAVEL GRANT



Participants at the FDI Corporate Partners meeting in Chicago

Now accepting 2007 applications

In 2006, the FDI offered, for the first time to low income and least developed countries, a travel grant to attend the General Assembly. In total, the FDI was able to assist 8 delegates attend the General Assembly in Shenzhen, China.

The FDI is once again offering the General Assembly Travel Grant to low income and least developed countries in 2007. Applications are now being accepted for the grant.

For more information about the 2007 General Assembly Travel Grant and whether your country qualifies for grant consideration, please contact Christina Lee Thorsen, FDI Communications Coordinator, at cthorsen@fdiworldental.org. Grant applications and information are available in English and French.

FDI MID-YEAR MEETINGS

26 March-2 April Ferney-Voltaire,
FRANCE

The FDI Committee Mid-year meetings will take place at the FDI Head Office in Ferney-Voltaire. Committee members will meet face-to-face to review their work since Shenzhen, China, and the activities to come from now until the 2007 Annual World Dental Congress in Dubai, U.A.E. Each committee will have meeting days that overlap with other committees, which will foster an environment for networking between members of the different FDI committees.

A schedule of these meetings and other FDI-related activities can be found online on the FDI Calendar of Events at http://www.fdiworldental.org/federation/2_8calendar.html.

14TH FDI/MDA SCIENTIFIC CONVENTION & TRADE EXHIBITION

FDI CE Circuit in the Pacific and SE Asia

The 14th FDI and Malaysian Dental Association (MDA) Scientific Convention and Trade Exhibition took place in January in Petaling Jaya, Malaysia. Organisers reported a total number of 488 delegates who registered for the annual event. There were 90 booths at the Trade Exhibition, which boasted an estimated number of 770 exhibition participants.

Amongst those present was the Honourable Director of Oral Health, Ministry of Health Malaysia, Datin Dr Norain Abu Talib, who opened the Scientific Convention with a gong ceremony and the Trade Exhibition with a ribbon cutting ceremony.



The official opening of the FDI/MDA Scientific Convention.

A hands-on course on "Advances in Preparation Technology and Caries Control" was conducted by Dr George Freedman. Other speakers and topics included Prof Ray Williams' lecture on "Chemotherapeutic strategies for the treatment of Periodontal diseases" and "Oral Disease as a Risk for Systemic Diseases" and Dr Fay Goldstep's presentation on "21st Century Dentistry – Rediscovering the Healing Art."

The FDI/MDA Scientific Convention was one of the five stops on the FDI CE Circuit in the Pacific and Southeast Asia. The other circuit cities included Fiji, Brunei, Myanmar and Cambodia. In addition to Dr Freedman, Prof Williams and Dr Goldstep, Dr Chung Kong Mun and Dr Bertrand Chew also joined the lecturers for certain cities of the Circuit.

Congratulations to the organisers of the participating national associations, its organising committees, speakers and also the FDI Programme Director & Manager of Asia Pacific, Dr Choo Teck Chuan, for the excellent work in the FDI CE Circuit in the Pacific and SE Asia.

The next FDI CE Programmes to take place are in:

Ukraine, 4-7 April
Singapore, 14-15 April
Benin, 10-13 April
Slovakia, 10-12 May

For more information about these and other FDI CE programmes, please visit the FDI Online CE Calendar at http://www.fdiworldental.org/federation/4_0calendar.html.

NEW DENTAL PRACTICE COMMITTEE MEMBER

Dr Howard Jones, American Dental Association

The FDI is happy to announce that Dr Howard Jones, former President of the American Dental Association, has been elected as the newest member to the Dental Practice Committee.

Dr Jones has 37 years of private practice experience with patients and other members of the dental team, which he feels will prove beneficial to his participation in the Dental Practice Committee. He has been exposed to various levels of organised dentistry, ranging from local to national, and has

through the years, transferred this experience to the international level.

"Facilitating governance changes, presenting at a Dental Practice workshop at the annual session, chairing the Finance Reference Committee and serving on the Organisational Structure Task Team has given me a valuable understanding of the goals and mission of the FDI as well as the opportunities we face," said Dr Jones in his application letter to the FDI.

Congratulations to Dr Jones on his election. The FDI is excited to have him on board and look forward to his expert participation within the committee. Dr Jones's term on the committee is effective immediately and his term of office will end in 2009.

LIVE.LEARN.LAUGH. PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

Morocco and Algeria

MOROCCO – The Moroccan *Live.Learn.Laugh.* country project was launched on 06 February. *L'Association Marocaine de Prévention Bucco-Dentaire* (AMPBD), the oral health promotion branch of the national dental association in Morocco, will work closely with the FDI and Unilever on this project to provide effective dental care, to raise awareness for the importance of good dental hygiene and to educate children in the rural areas about oral health.

The focus of the project in 2007 is to implement an Information Learning Communication programme (ILC), "ILC and Oral Care", within a deprived rural population in Médiouna, an area 20 km from Casablanca. The project will target children, their social environment and their families.

ALGERIA – On 04 February, the partnership between the FDI and Unilever was launched in Algeria. Dr Habib Benzian, FDI Development and Public Health Manager represented the FDI at the launch event in the capital Algiers. While there, he met with the Ministry of Health and the Public Health Institute of Algeria to discuss improving oral health policies in the country. The project activities will include an expansion of the existing school oral health programme run by the Ministry of Health and Unilever.



Children learned about the importance of oral health during the launch of the Live.Learn.Laugh. partnership in Algeria.

The launch event was covered in more than 20 newspapers and on national television, recognising with high appreciation the involvement of the FDI in this oral health promotion activity.

DUBAI SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

Dental Diversity in the Land of Tomorrow!

The FDI 2007 Dubai Scientific Programme is now available on the FDI website at <http://www.fdiworldental.org/microsites/dubai/congress4.html>. Get a day-by-day look at what is being offered and find out more about our Limited Attendance Courses.



FDI will offer Limited Attendance Courses in Dubai

LIMITED ATTENDANCE COURSES-

The FDI has added Limited Attendance Courses this year to our Scientific Programme in Dubai that is sure to spark your interest. Below is a schedule of the Limited Attendance Courses:

Wednesday, 24 October – A.M.

"Identifying and Treating Medical Emergencies in the Dental Office"
Robert R. Edwab, USA

Wednesday, 24 October – P.M.

"Current Concepts in Accelerated Implant Treatment and Bone Grafting"
Live Surgery Telecasted from Germany
Fouad Khoury, Germany & Charles Khoury, Lebanon

Thursday, 25 October – A.M.

"Right Fact... Wrong Conclusions"
Ben Johnson, USA

Thursday, 25 October – P.M.

"The Comprehensive New patient Experience: From "Thank You for Calling" to "When Can We Start?"
Debbie Castagna, USA & Virginia Moore, USA

Friday, 26 October - A.M.

"Piezoelectrical Surgical Procedures"
Eric Normand, France & Jean-Marc Chamoux

Friday, 26 October – P.M.

"Implants as Anchorage in Orthodontics
Microimplant Anchorage for Various Tooth Movement"
Hee-Moon Kyung, Korea

Saturday, 27 October – A.M.

"New Technologies in Orthodontic Therapy
Maximizing the Efficiency and Effectiveness of Invisalign for Minor to Moderate Malocclusions in Dentists Experienced in Orthodontic Treatment"
Robert Boyd, USA

Seats for these courses are provided on a first-come first-serve basis, and as places are limited, please register early to ensure a seat.

REMINDER - Early registration is available until 01 July. Register early and benefit from the reduced fees! To register, please visit <http://www.fdiworldental.org/microsites/dubai/congress2.html>.

FDI ANNOUNCES 2009 SINGAPORE AWDC

Representatives from the FDI and the Singapore Dental Association officially announced the 2009 Annual World Dental Congress (AWDC) at a press conference in Singapore.

According to the Singapore Tourism Board director, Catherine McNabb, a direct economic impact of US\$11.8 million for the local economy is expected as a result of the AWDC. The last time the FDI selected Singapore to host the AWDC was in 1990, when 12,600 delegates attended the event.

"This event will be key in projecting the image of Singapore as a hub for dental services," said Dr Teo Choo Soo, Chairman of the local organising committee. He further expressed that as a result of the 2009 FDI AWDC, more foreign visitors will get to know Singapore's dental services.

When asked why Singapore was selected as the hosting city, Dr JT Barnard, FDI Executive Director, told the press that it was because of its excellent business environment, geographical accessibility and convention infrastructure.

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www.BetterOralHealth.info

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