



Commonwealth Nurses Federation

Newsletter

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BIENNIAL MEETING IN MALAYSIA BREAKS NEW GROUND



The opening of the Biennial Meeting, left to right, Michael Stubbings (Executive Secretary), Susie Kong (President), Dr Noorimi Haji Morad (Deputy Director-General of Health, Malaysia), Ramziah Ahmad (President, Malaysian Nurses Association) and Ann Keeling (Director, Commonwealth Secretariat)

The CNF held a ground-breaking Biennial General Meeting at the Cititel Mid Valley Hotel in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 24/25 May 2007. Representatives from 19 member countries attended. An interim review of the implementation of the CNF's Strategic Directions 2006-2010 was carried out. As a result some important future directions were agreed, which included increased activity at Commonwealth ministerial meetings, improved involvement with the Commonwealth Steering Committee for Nursing and Midwifery, more collaboration with other organisations, the development of in-country projects and a review of financial arrangements.

In conjunction with the Meeting a lively workshop took place on the theme *Achieving the Millennium Development Goals - the Commonwealth nursing and midwifery contribution*. A Board Meeting was also held on 22-23 May.



The CNF Board in team mode

The dedicated work and excellent hospitality of the Organising Committee of the Malaysian Nurses Association, led by Ms Dayang Annie Abang Narudin, ensured the success of the Meeting. We extend our grateful thanks to the Association for making the Meeting and the social events so memorable.



Officers and organisers

Continued over



Ms Ramziah Ahmad, President of the Malaysian Nurses Association, welcomed the delegates, who numbered in excess of 100, with over 40 from the host country. Susie Kong, President of the CNF, then delivered her address to the Meeting. She referred to the relevance of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) to the CNF's work, progress made in implementing the CNF's Strategic Directions and the importance of collaboration with other bodies in future work.

Dr Noorimi Haji Morad, Deputy Director-General of Health, Malaysia, delivered the keynote address indicating that much progress had been made in Malaysia in recent years in respect of both health and nursing services. Ann Keeling, Director, Social Transformation Programmes Division, Commonwealth Secretariat, then outlined the work of her Division and particularly the Health Section and stressed the importance of the annual Commonwealth Health Ministers Meetings in Geneva, Switzerland, in which civil society organisations have the opportunity to participate.



Ms Ann Keeling, Director, Social Transformation Programmes Division, Commonwealth Secretariat

Decisions

The following new directions were agreed at the Meeting:

1. Commonwealth Heads of Government Meetings (CHOGMs) – there should be more members' involvement in input and selecting speakers for future workshops at the Commonwealth People's Forums. Members should also be urged to attend and participate in these events in order to raise the nursing profile. Efforts should be made to get government financial support for the appropriate regional Board member to attend each event.
2. Commonwealth Health Ministers Meetings (CHMMs) – there should be more CNF activity at these meetings and members should be encouraged to send representatives. The process should be coordinated to ensure participation of experts on the selected theme. The CNF can usually get three observer places at the meetings. Representatives should have more involvement in the roundtables. As the CNF has the current representation on the Commonwealth Advisory Committee for Health, the opportunity should be taken to influence the sub-themes of the roundtables for CHMM 2008.
3. Commonwealth Steering Committee for Nursing and Midwifery – efforts should be made to get more effective CNF involvement in the work of the Committee (through Board members' input) and communication should also be made with the Commonwealth Secretariat to assist in achieving this aim. The CNF should make representations for regular meetings/teleconferences.
4. Collaboration – there should be more work with other organisations such as WHO, other NGOs, charities, regional nursing organisations, migrant nursing groups, commercial organisations etc.
5. Projects – the CNF should concentrate on in-country activities involving capacity building and training instead of expensive regional workshops. These should be in association with partners such as national nursing groups and focus on sharing expertise. Visits involving a number of neighbouring countries could be arranged.
6. Financial model – this should be reviewed including charging for administrative work carried out, charging fees when the CNF name is used for events, funding Board members to attend meetings, fees/subsidies for Biennial Meetings etc.
7. Membership campaign – a campaign should be carried out with emphasis on the new directions.

With regard to CHOGM, it was noted that the CNF, the Commonwealth Dental Association, the Commonwealth Pharmaceutical Association, the Commonwealth Medical Association and the charity, Basic Needs were collaborating to organise a workshop at the Commonwealth People's Forum prior to the next meeting in Uganda in November 2007. The theme of the workshop was "*Prioritise Health – Realise Potential*". There would be five sub-sections to the workshop

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covering human resources; maternal and child health; lifestyle diseases; safe health practices; and mental health and development.

It was also agreed at the Meeting that:

- the CNF subscriptions should remain unchanged and that the situation should be reviewed prior to the next Biennial Meeting in 2009
- the CNF should continue its involvement with the HIV/AIDS Action Group
- the continuation of a comprehensive Website is essential to the future development of the CNF
- the Emergency Contingency Fund should be continued
- the publication of the Directory of Nursing and Midwifery Associations and Chief Nursing Officers should be discontinued (but details of member associations would continue to be collected and disseminated)
- the next CNF Board Meeting and Biennial General Meeting would be held in Gaborone, Botswana in June 2009.

Workshop



A working group deliberates

As previously mentioned, a Workshop was held with the Meeting on the theme *Achieving the Millennium Development Goals - the Commonwealth nursing and midwifery contribution*.

The following papers were presented at the Workshop:

1. *The Role of the Nursing Board in nursing and midwifery services in Malaysia* - Ms Zainooriah Zakaria, Secretary, Ministry of Health, Malaysia.
2. *Strengthening nursing and midwifery in the management of HIV/AIDS in the South Pacific* – Mrs Alumita Bulicokocoko, Fiji Nursing Association and CNF Board Member.
3. *Caribbean initiative aimed at preparing nurses to provide evidence-based HIV/AIDS care* - Mrs Marion Howard, Barbados Registered Nurses Association and CNF Board Member (paper presented by Mrs Prescola Rolle, President, Nurses Association of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas, on behalf of Mrs Howard).
4. *Nurses and midwives' contribution in improving maternal and child health in Malaysia* - Ms Dayang Annie Abang Narudin, Past President, Malaysian Nurses Association.
5. *The MDGs – the Commonwealth Secretariat's health work programme* - Mrs Peggy Vidot, Adviser, Health Section,

Commonwealth Secretariat.

6. *Strengthening nursing and midwifery in sub-Saharan Africa, strategies* - Mr Donald Epaalat, National Nurses Association of Kenya and CNF Board Member.

After the presentation of these papers four working groups convened to consider the following topics and make recommendations:

1. Achieving the Millennium Development Goals - the Commonwealth nursing and midwifery contribution
2. E-health (the theme of the next CHMM) – proposals for roundtable topics
3. CHMMs – proposals for the future scope and themes of meetings
4. Commonwealth Steering Committee for Nursing and Midwifery – proposals for the work and programme.

These groups presented interim reports at the conclusion of the Meeting and representatives of the groups were requested to send their final recommendations to the Executive Secretary in accordance with a given timetable.

Social events

On the evening of 24 May the Malaysian Nurses Association hosted a magnificent cultural show and Chinese dinner. Many members of the local Association participated in the memorable entertainment, which included folk dancing and singing. On the evening of 25 May the delegates were treated to a tour of the main attractions of Kuala Lumpur and an excellent dinner at Lake Titiwangsa. This was sponsored by the Ministry of Tourism, Malaysia. Thanks once again to the Malaysian Nurses Association for their wonderful organisation and hospitality!



Board Members and Officers – Changes and Presentations

At the Biennial Meeting it was reported that Mr Ioannis Leontiou (Cyprus) had been elected as the new Board member for Europe and that Mr Arvind Kulkarni (India) had been elected as the new Board Member for South Asia. They took office immediately after the Biennial Meeting. Mr Leontiou has replaced Mrs Corinne Ward (Malta) and Mr Kulkarni has replaced Mrs Saramma Samuel (India).

President, Susie Kong, offered her congratulations to the new Board members, neither of whom was in attendance. The President also thanked Mrs Samuel (8 years) and Mrs Ward (4 years) for their services and presented them with inscribed glass mementos.

It was also reported that the contract of the Executive Secretary, Michael Stubbings would expire at the end of July and that he did not wish to renew it. He had offered to stay on for a few months until the appointment of a replacement and this offer had been accepted. It was also noted that the Treasurer, Douglas Beattie, wished to stand down at the same time as the Executive Secretary.

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The President thanked the officers for their dedicated services to the CNF – Mr Stubbings (8 years) and Mr Beattie (12 years) – and presented both of them with inscribed glass mementos.



Leading Role at People's Forum in Uganda

The CNF played a leading role in advocating for health at the Commonwealth People's Forum (CPF), which was held in the wings of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) in Kampala, Uganda last November. It collaborated with the Commonwealth Dental Association, the Commonwealth Pharmaceutical Association, the Commonwealth Medical Association and BasicNeeds Trust to organise a workshop on 19/20 November entitled *Prioritise health – realise potential*, which reflected the theme of CHOGM, *Realising people's potential*.

The workshop looked at five areas of health - human resources; maternal and child health; lifestyle diseases; safe health practices; and mental health and development. It was attended by around 100 people and was the subject of much intense debate. It made a number of recommendations on the areas covered including the following:

- that Governments, together with civil society and other agencies, need to make renewed efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) related to health and other international health targets.
- that Governments have a responsibility to be self sufficient in their health workforces and to educate sufficient health workers for their needs.
- that Governments need to make an extraordinary commitment to maternal and child health to meet MDG targets.
- that Governments should refocus their health systems on primary health care services, which give health information, promote healthy lifestyles, and provide health screening, early detection and early intervention services in order to reduce lifestyle diseases.
- that Governments have a responsibility to provide health workers with the resources, equipment and infrastructure so that they can be safe at work.

The Civil Society Statement from the CPF to CHOGM reflected most of the workshop's concerns and recommendations. In their Declaration on Transforming Societies to Achieve Political, Economic and Human Development the Heads of Government reaffirmed their commitment to intensify efforts to meet the MDGs and urged the UN Secretary General to convene a meeting in 2008 of Governments with the private sector and other interested parties to accelerate action to attain the MDGs. In their Final Communique Heads of Government again reiterated their commitment to attaining the health related MDGs and identified needs in respect of human resources, strengthening of health systems, primary health care services, non-communicable diseases and affordable medicines.

In addition to carrying out much of the organisational work, the CNF provided a number of speakers for the workshop and Jill Iliffe, Federal Secretary of the Australian Nursing Federation, was the Rapporteur. In addition, the partners combined to hold a health session for the public in the People's Space. This was also lively and well attended. All in all – a commendable and worthwhile effort!



Commonwealth Health Ministers Meeting

The 2007 Commonwealth Health Ministers Meeting (CHMM) took place at the Ramada Park Hotel, Geneva on 13 May 2007. The theme of the meeting was *Lifestyle Diseases: Health Systems Approaches*. The CNF delegation at the meeting comprised Corinne Ward, European Board Member and Jeannett Martin and Sue Thomas from the Royal College of Nursing, UK.

Don McKinnon, Commonwealth Secretary General, spoke about health challenges, the importance of primary care, international migration issues, national AIDS strategies and the key areas for future focus - women, poverty, conflict and social exclusion.

Dr Shanthi Mendis of WHO drew attention to the rise in non-communicable diseases (NCDs), the need for long-term care in respect of NCDs in low/middle income countries and the need to provide leadership at government level to address NCDs. She identified the major areas as coronary heart disease, cancer, chronic lung disease and diabetes, which shared the risk factors of diet, physical inactivity and tobacco.

Dr Margaret Chan, Director General, WHO, in her address to the meeting, referred to major health achievements such as increased child vaccination and combating new diseases from animal sources. She also indicated that the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) are not being achieved. Furthermore, she pointed to the poor progress with regard to malaria and the fact that there are still three countries with polio. She also endorsed the importance of addressing NCDs.

There were four roundtables involving Health Ministers and civil society representatives covering:

1. Integrated approaches to health, sport and physical activity
2. Using best practice in lifestyle diseases to strengthen the health system
3. The impact of nutritional changes on lifestyle diseases
4. Promoting a healthy lifestyle through the lifecycle approach.

The Ministers issued a statement which said that national health systems needed to be strengthened in order to cope with an increase in non-infectious diseases like diabetes, cardio-vascular disease and cancer. It highlighted the link between these NCDs, poverty and slow economic growth and indicated that health systems in many Commonwealth countries were struggling with the double burden of both infectious and non-infectious diseases. "There is need for action to strengthen national health systems, including meeting commitments on financing, service delivery and promoting

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a healthy lifestyle,” the statement concluded.

Key messages that came out of the roundtables relating to nursing that were reported back to Ministers included:

- the important role that nurses have in NCDs;
- the value of the specialist nurse role;
- the need for the involvement of national nurses associations in the development of health policy in order to get the support of ground level practitioners.

It was decided that the theme of Commonwealth Health Ministers Meeting in 2008 would be eHealth.



The Commonwealth Recruitment Code

The Commonwealth Code of Practice for the International Recruitment of Health Workers was approved in 2003 by the Commonwealth Health Ministers. The Code provides a framework within which international recruitment should take place, whilst being sensitive to the needs of recipient countries and the migratory rights of individual health professionals. The Health Section of the Commonwealth Secretariat has been working with Ministries of Health and other partners to disseminate the Code.

At the Commonwealth Health Ministers' Meeting in Geneva in May 2006, the Ministers called for better implementation of the Code. The Secretariat is aware that many health professionals are not fully cognisant of the Code and is, therefore, seeking to further its dissemination. The Code is available for downloading on the Secretariat's website www.thecommonwealth.org/health.



Past President – Mrs Reena Bose



Mrs Bose receives her award from President of India, Dr Kalam.

Past President of the CNF, Mrs Reena Bose received the Florence Nightingale Award from His Excellency, Dr A P J Abdul Kalam, President of India, on 12 May 2007 at Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi. She was presented with a certificate and 50,000 Rupees (£620). The Minister of Health, the Health Secretary and many distinguished dignitaries were present at the ceremony.

The citation for the award said that during the last 50 years Mrs Bose had served the nursing profession with utmost care and dedication. She had been associated with the formulation of policies and the monitoring and evaluation of programmes at national and international levels. During 2001-2005 she served as the President of the Commonwealth Nurses Federation. Following the tsunami in 2004 she was the only lady member of the relief team sent to Nicobar Island by cargo ship. She has recorded these experiences in a book entitled "Tsunami and the Archipelago of Emerald Island".



West African College of Nursing

The 9th Biennial General Meeting and 18th Scientific Session of the West African College of Nursing (WACN) took place in Freetown, Sierra Leone from 9-16 March 2007. The Keynote Address entitled "Strategies for the reduction of infant and maternal morbidity and mortality in the sub-region" was delivered by Professor Angela Sawyer, Director, Regional Prevention of Maternal Mortality Network, Africa.

At the Scientific Session three papers were presented on the following topics:

- *Current trends in the management of obstetric emergencies in Sierra Leone: the role of the nurse/midwife* by Christiana Williams
- *Management of malaria in the under fives: the role of the nurse* by Warn Lahai
- *The end of AIDS* by Olufela Adeyemi, Director Human Resource and Administration, Celtel, Sierra Leone.



It Pays to Have a Sense of Humour

Due to the critical shortage of staff in our health institutions, nursing has become a serious business. This has led nurses to forego social manners like laughing or smiling. There is nothing to smile about, many would say.

Researchers have persistently maintained that benefits can be derived from having a sense of humour. Humour creates a common denominator that draws us together and persuades us to change our mood.

The benefits of a good sense of humour are as follows but are not restricted to these. It takes more muscles to frown than to smile. Therefore, one uses more energy when



frowning than when smiling. The other documented benefit of humour is that laughing releases endorphins with the same exhilarating effect as doing strenuous exercises.

A good sense of humour can add an additional eight years to your life and burn up to 3.5 calories each time used. It increases oxygen intake, thereby replenishing and invigorating cells. Laughter also increases the pain threshold, boosts immunity and relieves stress.

Therefore, find something to smile about.

Chisupa Eric, Chairman, Editorial Committee, Zambia Nursing News.



National News Round Up

The **Zambia** Nurses Association has succeeded in its efforts to become a Trade Union and was registered as such on 20 June 2007 with the name Zambia Union of Nurses Organisation (ZUNO). ZUNO will be both a committed professional and socio-economic welfare organisation for nurses and midwives in Zambia.

The Organisation is excited about this new development because for the first time in Zambia the nursing profession possesses legal powers to become a strategic partner at the negotiation and collective bargaining table with nurse employers for improved social and economic justice in addition to its traditional role of upholding professional values.

In May 2007 nurses in **Ghana** took part in a second ten-day strike in thirteen months in protest over their country's version of *Agenda for Change*. The system was brought in to combat Ghana's high attrition rates and to give equal value for equal work for all health professionals. However, nurses called a strike when they learned that, following a job evaluation, doctors would continue to earn almost triple their pay. Other health professionals, including radiographers and dieticians, joined in the protests. The nurses agreed to accept a pay rise payable from 1 July, although it is not as high as the job evaluation had originally calculated. President of the Ghana Registered Nurses Association, Alice Darkoa Asare-Allotey said "We will not receive what we deserve, but we have agreed to go back to work for the sake of our patients' health."

In response to a recent critical article about nurse prescribing in the medical magazine *Pulse* Peter Carter, General Secretary, RCN, **UK** said that such prescribing has proved to be an important part of the solution in improving access to medicines and cutting waiting times for patients. He added that research shows that the majority of nurses who prescribe have at least ten years nursing experience before starting their prescribing training and must have either degree or masters level education. "Ultimately, every single nurse prescriber has to

be signed off by a doctor before they can begin prescribing," he said.

Congratulations go to Thembeke Gwagwa, General Secretary, Democratic Nursing Organisation of **South Africa**.

Thembeke has received an award from the CEO (Celebrating Excellence Organisations) Magazine recognising her as one of the most influential women in business and government in South Africa. She was nominated in the category "Agencies, Statutory Bodies and Associations". She said "I didn't even know that I would make it to the finals. I guess when you are dedicated to what you do and put your heart into it, it pays off at the end of the day. I just wish the youth could adopt that culture."

The first step in the direction of realising the Trained Nurses Association of **India's** dream of having a Central Institute of Nursing and an Elderly Care Home was taken last November when trees were planted at the site of the twin projects at Knowledge Park, Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh. The function was presided over by the Government's Nursing Adviser, Mr T Dileep Kumar and attended by a TNAI team, led by President and CNF Board Member, Mr A B Kulkarni, Council Members and representatives of branches from all over the country.



CNF Snippets

In September 2007 the Executive Secretary, Michael Stubbings, met Anna Glasgow, Collene Hicks and Annette Jones, nurses from Guyana. They were in the UK on Commonwealth Fellowships to receive training in sickle cell disease. They were hosted and sponsored by the Association of Guyanese Nurses and Allied Professionals (UK). Discussions covered the work and the future directions of the CNF, working conditions in Guyana and the retention of nurses.

Also in September Juliana Lunguzi, a member of the Malawi Nurses Association working as an adolescent sexual reproductive health officer for the UN Population Fund in Malawi, visited the RCN. The RCN has a partnership with the Norwegian Nurses Association to support the development of the Association. Ms Lunguzi was in the UK principally to speak at a seminar on the impact of international aid on addressing global health issues, including the chronic shortage of nurses. She made a presentation to RCN staff about health developments and difficulties in Malawi. The Executive Secretary took the opportunity to ask Ms Lunguzi about the possibility of the Malawi Nurses Association rejoining the CNF.





NEW PUBLICATIONS

A Health Handbook for Women with Disabilities

2007. Hesperian Foundation, 1919 Addison St, Suite 304 Berkeley, California 94704, USA. Tel: (1) 888 729 1796. E-mail: bookorders@hesperian.org Website: www.hesperian.org Download from website or order copy from online store or by email or telephone - USD 20 plus shipping.

This groundbreaking handbook was developed with the help and experience of women with disabilities in 42 countries - women whose disabilities include blindness, deafness, amputations, paralysis, learning difficulties, small stature, epilepsy, arthritis and cerebral palsy. It is full of useful advice on organising for disability - friendly health care, caring for daily needs with limited access to equipment, having healthy and safe sexual relationships, choosing family planning methods, preparing for pregnancy and childbirth and defending against violence or abuse.

The book captures the real life situations of women with disabilities and their issues, their experiences and their desires. It is designed for health professionals, international development organisations, international women's organisations and anyone who believes in equality for women with disabilities.

Community Health Programmes

2007, Third Edition. T.Lancker. Macmillan, Oxford, UK. ISBN: 978 1 4050 8602 8. £5.50 plus postage and packing. Available from TALC, P O Box 49, St Albans, Herts AL1 5TX, UK. Tel: (44) 1727 853869; Fax: (44) 1727 846852; E-mail: info@talcuk.org

A detailed yet simple manual designed to equip and empower health workers in both rural and urban locations. This edition has been revised and expanded based on the latest research, best practice and guidelines. It covers the basic principles of community-based health care, starting programmes, setting up specific programmes and managing programmes. It addresses the needs of field workers, programme managers and those in front line health care as well as administrators, health planners and students.

New Family Planning Wall Chart

2007. Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, WHO and USAID. Individual copies can be ordered at <http://www.inforhealth.org/ccpOrderForm/index.php>. Click on the Orders link and then on the Global Handbook link. The wall chart is the first item listed. Also included with each, a copy of the companion Family Planning Handbook. For multiple copies send request to Download PDF versions at <http://www.inforhealth.org/pubs/WallChart/Wallchart.shtml>

The new wall chart, entitled *Do you know your family planning choices?* offers a brief overview of eleven contraceptive methods. It was prepared through unique collaboration between the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, technical experts from WHO and USAID, and many other organisations around the world.

TB/HIV: A Clinical Manual

2004, Second Edition. World Health Organization, Geneva, Switzerland. ISBN 92 4 154634 4. 210 pages. CHF 15.00/USD 13.50. Developing countries CHF 10.50. Ordering details from <http://www.who.int/bookorders>.

Developments since 1996 have prompted a second edition of this popular manual, which provides a pocket-sized guide to the clinical management of TB, particularly in patients suffering from co-infection with HIV. Designed for use by busy clinicians, the manual aims to promote the best possible diagnosis and treatment in low-income countries where the prevalence of TB and HIV infection is high, case loads are heavy and laboratory support may be limited. With these needs in mind, the manual combines the latest scientific knowledge about TB and HIV with authoritative advice based on extensive field experience in several of the hardest hit countries.

Throughout the manual tables, flow charts, lists of do's and don'ts, questions and answers and numerous practical tips are used to facilitate quick reference and correct decisions. Information ranges from advice on how to distinguish TB from other HIV-related pulmonary diseases to the simple reminder that in sub-Saharan Africa, anyone with TB is in a high-risk group for HIV. Though primarily addressed to clinicians working at district hospitals in sub-Saharan Africa, the manual is also suitable for use in other areas where the problem of TB and HIV co-infection poses a growing clinical challenge.

Nursing Leadership

2007. International Council of Nurses, Geneva, Switzerland. Order through ICN's online bookshop at <http://www.icn.ch/bookshop.htm>; from Blackwell Publishing at <http://www.blackwellpublishing.com/book>; and from the Amazon UK site: <http://www.amazon.co.uk> or the Amazon US site: <http://www.amazon.com>

This book addresses the principles of effective leadership that promote successful and sustainable outcomes across many different settings, including within resource-limited health systems. The author is Sally Shaw, former Director of the ICN Leadership for Change (LFC) programme. It is illustrated with examples from the ICN experience with its LFC programme, designed to help nurses acquire the knowledge and skills needed to lead in an era of reform. ICN has implemented the LFC programme in more than 50 countries and in a variety of socio-political and cultural contexts.

The book is equally applicable for other professional groups. It explores the importance of balancing leadership theory and knowledge with the development of leadership skills based on action-learning. The author recommends using a framework of three integrated components: the person who is the leader, the setting of leadership and the followers. She also highlights the importance of preparing nurses for leadership in a global context in the light of the challenge of changing health services and nursing roles.



C O N F E R E N C E

2 0 0 8

25 - 26 February

Commonwealth Steering Committee/CNF Workshops

Theme: Human resources and influencing skills.

Venue: Labadi Beach Hotel, Accra, Ghana

Details: Commonwealth Nurses Federation, c/o Royal College of Nursing, 20 Cavendish Square, London W1G 0RN, UK. Tel: (44) 20 7647 3593; Fax: (44) 7647 3413; E-mail: cnf@rcn.org.uk

4 - 5 April

7th CNF European Conference

Theme: Unity through the Commonwealth – present challenges in nursing.

Venue: Golden Sands Hotel, Golden Bay, Malta

Contact: The Malta Union of Midwives and Nurses, Tel: (356) 21499947; Fax: (356) 21448542; E-mail: mumn@maltanet.net

1 - 5 June

ICM 28th Triennial Congress

Theme: Midwifery: a worldwide commitment to women and the newborn.

Sub-themes: Women's voices; The appropriate use of reproductive and birth technology in maternal and newborn health; Strengthening midwifery; Promoting the health of women, the newborn and families.

Venue: Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre, Glasgow, Scotland

Contact: Concorde Services, 4b, 50 Speirs Wharf, Port Dundas, Glasgow G4 9TB, UK. Tel: (44) 141 331 0123; Fax: (44) 141 331 0234; E-mail: registration@midwives2008.org; Website: www.midwives2008.org

11 - 13 August

The East, Central and Southern African College of Nursing's Biennial Scientific Conference

Theme: Transforming nursing and midwifery in ECSA: visions for the future.

Sub-themes: Enhancing innovation in practice and education; Facilitating continuous professional development; Strengthening strategic workforce planning; Strengthening response to the current and future challenges: rights based approach to care, empowered consumers of health, advocacy and political processes.

Venue: Zimbabwe

Contact: East, Central Southern Africa- Health Community, Plot 157 Oloirien, Njiro Road, P. O. Box 1009, Arusha, Tanzania. Tel: (255) 27 250 8362/3 or 250 4105/6; Fax: (255) 27 250 8292; Website: www.crhcs.or.tz

17-21 August

15th International Conference on Cancer Nursing

Theme: Creating partnerships, championing progress and celebrating practice.

Venue: Suntec International Convention and Exhibition Centre, Singapore.

Contact: ICCN Conference Secretariat, 375 West 5th Avenue, Suite 201, Vancouver, BC V5Y1J6, Canada. Tel: (1) 604 630 5516; Fax: (1) 604 874 4378; E-mail: info@isncc.org

