CNMF 23rd Biennial Meeting 2018
Leading the way: nurses and midwives for a safe, healthy and peaceful world

Royal College of Nursing 20 Cavendish Square London W1G 0RN
Friday 9 March 2018
hosted by the CNMF and the Royal College of Nursing

DRAFT MINUTES

Present
(Please see attachment 1 attendance list)

Apologies
Barbados, Fiji, Grenada, Kenya, Kiribati, Lesotho, Zimbabwe

Opening and welcome
Ramziah Binti Ahmad, President, CNMF, welcomed delegates and observers to the 23rd CNMF Biennial Meeting of Members. Ms Janet Davies, Chief Executive Officer and General Secretary, Royal College of Nursing UK welcomed delegates and observers to the RCN.

Introductions
Mr Paul Magesa Mashauri, CNMF Board Member for the East, Central and Southern Africa Region introduced the CNMF Board to delegates and observers and then facilitated the introduction of delegates and observers to each other.

President’s Report
The CNMF President gave her report (see attachment 2) which was accepted by delegates.

Executive Secretary’s Report
The CNMF Executive Secretary gave her report (see attachment 3) which was accepted by delegates.

Treasurer’s Report
The CNMF Treasurer gave his report (see attachment 4) which was accepted by delegates. The CNMF Auditor, Mr Peter Wesley, was introduced to delegates and observers.

Board Member Reports
CNMF Board Members each gave a verbal report from their regions.

Election of President and Deputy President
The CNMF Executive Secretary shared with delegates and observers the result of the election for CNMF President. As there was only one nomination, Professor Kathleen McCourt from the UK (the current Deputy President of the CNMF), Professor McCourt was declared elected.

An election by secret ballot was held for the position of Deputy President of CNMF. The two candidates were Mrs Rosemarie Josey from the Bahamas and Mrs Evelyn Kannan from India. At the close of counting, Mrs Rosemary Josey had the most votes and was declared Deputy President of the CNMF. The CNMF Board 2018-2020 was then introduced to delegates and observers.
Constitutional changes
There were four minor constitutional changes recommended by the CNMF Board which had been sent out for comment with no changes requested. Proxy votes had been received. The constitutional changes proposed by the CNMF Board were endorsed. There were four minor changes:

- Changing the term Vice President to Deputy President.
- Inserting a clause that clarified when terms of office began and ended.
- Inserting activity requirements for Regional Board Members.
- Inserting a clause to remove an elected officer who was not performing in the role.

Moved: Jamaica, Seconded: Bahamas (Carried unanimously)

Endorsement of policy statements

- Policy statement on career structures for nurses and midwives
  Moved: Ghana, Seconded: Jamaica
  Following discussion about the headings of the various positions (Carried unanimously)
- Policy statement on nursing and midwifery work
  Comment made that it is important to note the definitions of nurse and midwife in the CNMF constitution.
  Moved: Malta, Seconded: United Kingdom (Carried unanimously)
- Policy statement on professional and industrial representations for nurses and midwives
  Moved: Tanzania, Seconded: Malaysia (Carried unanimously)

Policy discussion 1: The relationship between nursing and midwifery: how is education and practice linked across the Commonwealth?

Discussion on the policy issue was led by delegates from Ghana, South Africa, and Tanzania. Across the Commonwealth, there are different options for gaining nursing and midwifery qualifications. In most countries, there are two routes to obtain a midwifery qualification: a direct entry midwifery course or a post registration course in midwifery following a nursing qualification. In some countries of the Commonwealth, there are no direct entry midwifery courses and it is still a requirement to be registered as a nurse before doing a subsequent midwifery qualification. All speakers recognised the close links between nursing and midwifery education and practice and felt those close links were an essential part of comprehensive health care. There was support for nursing and midwifery regulation, codes of ethics and conduct, and standards etc to be consistent where possible to allow transition across the professions. This was seen to be especially important for nurses and midwives working in rural or remote areas. The CNMF Executive Secretary was asked, based on the discussion, to prepare a draft policy statement for endorsement at the 24th CNMF Biennial Meeting of Members.

Policy discussion 2: Continuing professional development for nurses and midwives: what is the status of CPD across the Commonwealth?

Discussion of the policy issue was led by delegates from Botswana, Trinidad and Tobago, and Australia. There was general agreement that CPD was an important factor in the provision of quality care; that a mechanism to ensure that all nurses and midwives participated in CPD was important; and further that mandatory CPD linked to re-licensure, imposed by nursing and midwifery regulatory bodies, was one way regulatory bodies could demonstrate they were meeting their prime responsibility to safeguard the public from incompetent or negligent care. There were two main issues regarding mandatory CPD linked to re-licensure. The first issue was that the mandatory requirement had to be reasonable and able to be met by all
nurses and midwives no matter where they were working; that CPD was both geographically and financially accessible; and that what counted as CPD was broad and flexible and could be tailored to each individual’s self-assessed learning needs and career goals. The second was how compliance to the mandatory CPD was to be measured and what penalties would apply for failure to meet the mandatory requirement. The CNMF Executive Secretary was asked, based on the discussion, to prepare a draft policy statement for endorsement at the 24th CNMF Biennial Meeting of Members.

Presentation from RCNi: Graham Scott (Editorial Director)
Mr Graham Scott explained a little about RCNi with delegates and observers and the publications they produced. Mr Scott shared with delegates a current RCNi initiative to provide free access to CPD through national nursing and midwifery associations who successfully applied to be part of the scheme.

Regional planning 2018-2020
The meeting separated into regional groups to discuss issues common to the region and share ideas about CNMF activities which could be conducted in the region. The group work was led by CNMF Regional Board members.

The 23rd CNMF Biennial Meeting of Members closed with comments from delegates and observers and was followed by a reception.
# ATTENDANCE LIST

## CNMF BOARD
- **Ms Ramziah AHMAD**
  - Malaysia
  - Professor Kathleen McCOURT
  - UK
- **Ms Jill ILIFFE**
  - Australia
  - Mrs Rosemarie JOSEY
  - Bahamas
- **Mr Keerthi WANASEKARA**
  - Sri Lanka
  - Mr Paul Magesa MASHAURI
  - Tanzania
- **Mr George SALIBA**
  - Malta
  - Ms Annie BUTLER
  - Australia
- **Mr Brian CHRISTOPHER**
  - Australia
  - Mr Peter WESTLEY
  - UK

## DELEGATES AND OBSERVERS
- **Ms Angela NEUHAUS**
  - Australia
  - Ms Minnesha YASMINE
  - Australia
- **Dr Paulette CASH**
  - Bahamas
  - Mrs Lyndianna RAHMING
  - Bahamas
- **Mr Obonolo RAHUBE**
  - Botswana
  - Ms Rebecca JOHNSON
  - Bahamas
- **Mr Joseph NKWAIN**
  - Cameroon
  - Ms Keopetse PAHANE
  - Bahamas
- **Mr Dimitris LOIZOU**
  - Cyprus
  - Mrs Maria PANAGIOUTOU
  - Cyprus
- **Dr Kwaku ASANTE-KROBEA**
  - Ghana
  - Mrs Netta Forson ACKON
  - Ghana
- **Dr Santhamamma SASANKAN**
  - India
  - Mrs Evelyn KANNAN
  - India
- **Miss Laverna CAMPBELL**
  - Jamaica
  - Mrs Annemarie EDIE-WEST
  - Jamaica
- **Mrs Grace SMART-SMMS**
  - Jamaica
  - Mrs Patsy EDWARDS HENRY
  - Jamaica
- **Ms Camille WILLIAMS**
  - Ghana
  - Ms Carmen JOHNSON
  - Ghana
- **Ms Sharipah Binti ALJUNID**
  - Malaysia
  - Ms Sapiah Binti ABDUL HADI
  - Malaysia
- **Mrs Maria CUTAJAR**
  - Malta
  - Mr Colin GALEA
  - Malta
- **Mr Noel CAMILLERI**
  - Malta
  - Mrs Resty MULENGA
  - Namibia
- **Dr Sabina DAVID**
  - Namibia
  - Mrs Esty MULENGA
  - Namibia
- **Mr Abdrafiu ADENIJI**
  - Nigeria
  - Mr Cassim LEKHOATHI
  - South Africa
- **Ms Anne Rosie BISTOQUET**
  - Seychelles
  - Mrs Peggy Mona AZEMIA
  - Seychelles
- **Mr Senesie MARGAO**
  - Sierra Leone
  - Ms Heather SAM
  - South Africa
- **Mr Cassim LEKHOATHI**
  - South Africa
  - Ms Heather SAM
  - South Africa
- **Dr Sudath**
  - Sri Lanka
  - Mrs Janice DAVIDSON
  - Trinidad and Tobago
- **WARNAKULASURIYA**
  - Trinidade and Tobago
  - Mrs Bettyann MURRAY-JOHN
  - Trinidad and Tobago
- **Ms Nisha NEDD**
  - Trinidad and Tobago
  - Ms Janet DAVIES
  - UK
- **Dr Cecilia ANIM**
  - UK
  - Ms Janet DAVIES
  - UK

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