




# COMMONWEALTH NURSES AND MIDWIVES FEDERATION

e-News Vol.17 Issue 2 February 2024

6th Commonwealth Nurses and Midwives Conference  
in partnership with the Malta Union of Midwives and Nurses

## Call for Abstracts

 <p>CNMF CONFERENCE 2024 <b>HEALTH FOR ALL</b> Nurses and Midwives meeting the challenge – showing the way</p>	<p><b>DATE</b> Friday 27 and Saturday 28 September 2024</p> <p><b>LOCATION</b> InterContinental Hotel St Georges Bay, St Julian's, Malta</p>
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The 6th Commonwealth Nurses and Midwives Conference is being held in partnership with the Malta Union of Midwives and Nurses on Friday 27 and Saturday 28 September 2024 at the InterContinental Hotel, St Georges Bay, St Julian's, Malta.

The 6th Commonwealth Nurses and Midwives Conference is an opportunity, in an international forum, to 'show the way' you are meeting the challenges you face as a nurse or midwife – whether it is improving health outcomes; achieving universal health coverage; preparing for or responding to disasters; mitigating climate change; meeting the Sustainable Development Goals, or any other challenge.

Abstracts should demonstrate how nurses and midwives, or nursing and midwifery groups, associations or institutions are embracing challenges and showing the way to a safer, happier, healthier, and more equal world.

### Abstract Submission

Submit your abstract for the 6th Commonwealth Nurses and Midwives Conference by 31 May 2024. Further details and the abstract submission template are available at:

[www.commonwealthnurses.org/conference2024](http://www.commonwealthnurses.org/conference2024)





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## 26<sup>th</sup> CNMF BIENNIAL MEETING OF MEMBERS

The CNMF President and Board are pleased to announce that the 26<sup>th</sup> CNMF Biennial Meeting of Members will be held on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at the new premises of the Malta Union of Midwives and Nurses in Qormi Malta.

The Biennial Meeting of Members is the decision making body of the CNMF. In addition to formal reports, the Biennial Meeting will be endorsing the next two year strategic directions for the CNMF and discussing three new policies: Universal health coverage; Health equity; and Emergency and disaster preparedness.

Further information, including registration and the draft agenda, will be emailed to members and available on the CNMF website.

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## WHO RECOGNISES NOMA

The World Health Organisation has recognised Noma (cancrum oris) as a neglected tropical disease (NTD). Noma is a rapidly progressing severe gangrenous disease of the mouth and the face. Like other neglected tropical diseases, Noma impacts the most vulnerable and marginalized populations. It mostly affects children aged 2–6 years suffering from malnutrition, affected by infectious diseases, living in extreme poverty with poor oral health, or with weakened immune systems.

While Noma is preventable and treatable at an early stage, the disease progresses rapidly and has a high mortality rate without treatment. Affected children who survive the diseases are often left with serious aesthetic and functional consequences that further contribute to their social isolation, stigmatization, discrimination, and consequently to violations of their human rights.

Nurses and midwives have an essential role to play in the early detection of Noma and ongoing support for those affected.

<https://www.afro.who.int/news/who-recognition-noma-neglected-tropical-disease-bolsters-control-efforts>

## Global Nurses Voices Series



The Nightingale Initiative for Global Health is hosting a global *Nurses Voices* speaker series. Each series has up to eight nursing leaders sharing their experience and wisdom. The series are available online. For more information go to:

<https://www.nighvision.net/nurses-voices-speaker-series.html>

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## SECRETARY GENERAL APPOINTS SPECIAL ENVOYS



The Commonwealth Secretary-General has announced the appointment of three special envoys who will be supporting Commonwealth countries to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. Scientist, Professor Manahel Thabet (far left), has been appointed Special Envoy for Science and Technology. Ambassador Amina Mohamed, former Kenyan cabinet secretary (centre), is Special Envoy for Sport, Enterprise and Development. Professor Dame Carol Black, Chair of the British Library and Chair of the Centre for Ageing Better (far right) is Special Envoy for Ageing Well.

<https://thecommonwealth.org/news/commonwealth-secretary-general-appoints-three-eminant-women-special-envoys>