



# COMMONWEALTH NURSES AND MIDWIVES FEDERATION

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## COUNTDOWN TO CONFERENCE

**Don't miss out: Register now**



**12 weeks**

**5<sup>th</sup>  
Commonwealth  
Nurses and  
Midwives  
Conference**  
6-7 March 2020  
London UK

Registration for the 5<sup>th</sup> Commonwealth Nurses and Midwives Conference is now open. Go to <https://www.commonwealthnurses.org/conference2020>.

At the 5<sup>th</sup> Commonwealth Nurses and Midwives conference we will be celebrating the past achievements, present endeavours, and future contributions of nurses and midwives. 2020 is the World Health Organisation (WHO) "Year of the Nurse and the Midwife". The first ever WHO "State of the World's Nursing" report will be released in 2020 and in 2021 the third "State of the World's Midwifery" report. 2020 is also the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Florence Nightingale. Sunday 8 March 2020 is International Women's Day, and Monday 9 March 2020 is Commonwealth Day: all excellent reasons to celebrate.

Over 120 nurses and midwives from every region of the Commonwealth (35 different countries) will present papers and posters at the conference, showcasing how individual nurses and midwives, or nursing and midwifery groups, associations or institutions, are contributing to global health and wellbeing across the lifespan in all settings within the following themes:

- Clinical practice
- Leadership and management
- Education and training
- Policy and projects
- Research and innovation.

The conference is a wonderful opportunity for nurses and midwives across the Commonwealth to come together to share with and learn from each other, make friends, and establish strong and supportive networks. Join us 6-7 March 2020 London UK.

## CONFERENCE 2020



Renowned  
Commonwealth  
tenor  
Joseph Aquilina  
from Malta

The CNMF is absolutely delighted to announce a special guest performance at the closing ceremony of the 5<sup>th</sup> Commonwealth Nurses and Midwives Conference by renowned Commonwealth tenor, Joseph Aquilina, a nurse from Malta.

Joseph, who studied in Malta, Milan and London, has performed across and beyond the Commonwealth in Malta, Gozo, England, Italy, Australia, Korea, Bulgaria, South Africa and Poland. Joseph will be supported by the Commonwealth Children's Choir and Orchestra.

## 24<sup>th</sup> CNMF Biennial Meeting

Thursday 5 March 2020

Royal College of Nursing London UK

**Register now**

<https://www.commonwealthnurses.org>

The 24<sup>th</sup> CNMF Biennial Meeting of Members will be held on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2020 in London, United Kingdom. The Biennial Meeting of Members is the decision making body of the CNMF. All CNMF members are entitled to attend and participate in the debate and decision making. CNMF friends are also welcome to attend as observers.

The 2020 Biennial Meeting of Members will receive reports from the President, Executive Secretary and Treasurer; vote on constitutional changes; confirm position statements debated at the 23<sup>rd</sup> Biennial Meeting of Members; consider other CNMF position statements; and set CNMF directions for the following two years.

The agenda, papers, and registration form for the Biennial Meeting of Members can be downloaded from the CNMF website <https://www.commonwealthnurses.org>



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## MERCY SHIPS

<http://www.mercyships.org>



Globally, five billion people have no access to safe surgery. In low-income and lower-middle-income countries, nine out of ten people have no access to basic surgical care. In low-income countries, it is estimated that 85% of children need treatment for a surgical condition before the age of 15. Lack of treatment often leads to complications, lifelong disability or death. Up to 69% of citizens in Sub-Saharan African nations live on less than \$2 per day. Health care is simply not an option, either because it does not exist or it is completely unaffordable.

Because over 50% of the world's population lives within 160km of the coast, Mercy Ships are able to sail a modern hospital ship with a crew of 400 volunteers directly to people who lack access to first-rate medical care.

For more than 40 years, Mercy Ships have been providing free lifesaving surgeries for people where access to medical care is nearly non-existent. Over 100,000 life-saving surgeries have been provided since 1978: removal of tumours, cleft lip and palate repairs, plastic reconstruction for severe burn-related injuries, hernia repairs, cataract removal, correction for orthopaedic deformities, obstetric fistula repair, and dental care.

African Mercy is the world's largest civilian hospital ship providing state-of-the-art facilities that offer clean water, reliable electricity and health care to those in desperate need, free of charge.

Volunteer positions are available for a wide range of personnel, from doctors, nurses, midwives, anaesthetists, and dentists to cooks, engineers and sailors from terms as short as two weeks to months or years. What a wonderful way for a nurse or midwife to spend their annual leave! The CNMF encourages all nurses to visit the Mercy Ships website. For more information, go to <http://www.mercyships.org> and click on "volunteer opportunities".

Regular or one-off donations through the Mercy Ships website are also welcome to support this amazing work.

