TIME IS RUNNING OUT
Abstracts close 31 October

The Inaugural Commonwealth Nurses Conference is being held 10-11 March 2012 in London UK. The call for abstracts closes 31 October. The conference will address a number of themes:

- Meeting the health MDGs
- The regulation of nursing and midwifery
- Using information technology to improve care
- The health effects of climate change
- Developing a healthy workforce and healthy systems of work
- Innovation and excellence in clinical practice.

Email your abstracts (of no more than 300 words) to the Commonwealth Nurses Federation at: cnf@commonwealthnurses.org by 31 October 2011.

CIVIL SOCIETY STATEMENT RELEASED

The Commonwealth Foundation has released the Civil Society Statement to be presented to the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting in Perth Australia at the end of October 2011. The statement calls on civil society to be drivers of change in a dynamic Commonwealth. Areas covered in the Statement include: Indigenous people and communities; human rights; culture and identity; climate and environment; health; peace and security; education, technology and innovation; governance and democracy; economic development, trade and finance; and gender equity and women’s rights. Members are urged to read the statement and use it as a lobbying tool to government in preparation for the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting. A full copy of the Statement can be found at: http://www.commonwealthfoundation.com.

Visit the CNF website for all the latest news about nursing and midwifery in Commonwealth countries: http://www.commonwealthnurses.org

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HISTORY IN THE MAKING FOR SWAZILAND AND LESOTHO

Swaziland and Lesotho were two of the successful countries who received grants from the African Regulatory Collaborative (ARC) to strengthen nursing and midwifery regulation in their countries. The proposals from both countries were to develop national continuing professional development programs.

The Commonwealth Nurses Federation was fortunate to be in a position to provide technical assistance to both countries as they developed their national programs. A small representative group of senior nurse leaders, including representatives of the regulatory body, the national nursing association, the chief nursing officer and the educational sector, met over an intensive few days to develop their draft frameworks. Their work will be presented at a meeting of the ARC to be held in Arusha, Tanzania in October, 2011.

CNF FORUMS IN SWAZILAND AND LESOTHO

The CNF conducted two forums for nurse leaders in Swaziland on 14 September and in Lesotho on 21 September where key nursing issues were discussed including nurses taking responsibility for their profession; regulating the profession; setting standards and competencies and scopes of practice; being advocates for the profession and for the provision of high quality care; and nurses as agents of change. The forums were made possible through funding from the Commonwealth Foundation.

LESOTHO TEAM

LESOTHO GOES ‘LIVE’

The first of the websites under the CNF Website Development Program has gone ‘live’. Congratulations to the Lesotho Nurses Association who have worked hard to achieve this outcome.

LESOTHO FORUM