The CNMF is pleased to announce that registrations are now open for the 4th Commonwealth Nurses and Midwives Conference to be held in London 10-11 March 2018.

The conference has four key themes:

- Promoting health and wellbeing
- Alleviating illness and disease
- Promoting social harmony and cohesion
- Contributing to a safe environment

Excellent abstracts have been submitted by nurses and midwives from every region of the Commonwealth addressing the themes. The conference program is available on the conference website:

http://www.commonwealthnurses.org/conference2018

The conference is held at the historic Royal College of Physicians, Regent’s Park London on the eve of Commonwealth Week. Commonwealth Day is celebrated on Monday 13 March 2018. The conference is a wonderful opportunity for nurses and midwives across the Commonwealth and beyond to share their experience with and learn from each other; to make new friends; and to establish international networks.

Go to the CNMF website for more information and to register. Differential registration rates apply for high, middle, and low income countries.

http://www.commonwealthnurses.org/conference2018
Empowering skilled birth attendants to provide a safer birth for mothers and newborns everywhere

The Safe Delivery App is a smartphone application that provides skilled birth attendants with direct and instant access to evidence-based and up-to-date clinical guidelines on basic emergency obstetric and neonatal care.

More than 90% of maternal deaths are preventable with the presence of a skilled birth attendant during birthing. It is crucial that all births are attended by health professionals with a sufficient level of training.

The App was developed by the Maternity Foundation Copenhagen University, and the University of Southern Denmark.

The App leverages the growing popularity and availability of mobile phones to provide life-saving information and guidance through easy to understand animated instruction videos, action cards and drug lists. It can serve as a training tool both in pre- and in-service training, and equips birth attendants, even in the most remote areas, with a powerful on the job reference tool.

The App can be downloaded free from: http://www.maternity.dk/download/

MATERNAL HEALTH IN SIERRA LEONE

Thirty-four midwives attended a five-day intensive training program held on the 10th - 14th July 2017 titled: Making Pregnancy Safer. The intensive training program was conducted by the Commonwealth Nurses and Midwives Federation in partnership with the Sierra Leone Nurses’ Association and the Ministry of Health and Sanitation, Sierra Leone; and was supported by funding from the Burdett Trust.

The five day program covered the transition from the Millennium Development Goals to the Sustainable Development Goals, antenatal care, normal labour and birth, complications of pregnancy, postnatal care, care of the neonate, family planning, and caring for women with special needs. The program was a mix of pre- and post-test questionnaires, formal presentations, group work, self-reflection, group activities, practical exercises, and exposure to resources available to improve and enhance midwifery practice.

Ms Minnesha Yasmine, Education Consultant for the CNMF conducted the workshop, which was co-facilitated by Mrs Emma Movor Allieu, Nurse Educator at the National School of Midwifery, with Mr Senesie Margao, President of the Sierra Leone National Nurses’ Association, providing vital logistical support.