

22nd CNMF BIENNIAL MEETING IN PICTURES



Cyprus



Australia and Cook Islands



Trinidad and Tobago



United Kingdom



Bahamas



India



Ghana



Malaysia

22nd CNMF BIENNIAL MEETING

The 22nd CNMF Biennial Meeting was held in London at the premises of the Royal College of Nursing UK on Friday 11 March 2014. CNMF members from Australia, Bahamas, Botswana, Cook Islands, Cyprus, Ghana, Jamaica, India, Malaysia, Malta, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Rwanda, Tanzania, Trinidad and Tobago, and the United Kingdom attended the Biennial Meeting.



Ms Cecelia Anim, President of the Royal College of Nursing who hosted the CNMF Biennial, welcomed delegates to the RCN and officially opened the proceedings. Members received reports from the President, the Executive Secretary, and the Honorary Treasurer. CNMF Board members presented reports covering activities in their regions. Retiring Board Members were acknowledged: Mrs Paula Hancock (Europe Region); and Ms Lee Thomas (Pacific Region). Mrs Angela Neuhaus, the CNMF Honorary Treasurer since 2008 announced her retirement from her position at the end of the financial year. Both the CNMF President and the CNMF Executive Secretary paid tribute to the hard work and dedication of Mrs Neuhaus during her time with the CNMF.

New Board members were welcomed: Ms Annie Butler from Australia (Pacific Region) and Mr George Saliba from Malta (Europe Region). New members were also welcomed to the CNMF: the Rwanda Nurses and Midwives Union; the Brunei Darussalam Nurses Association; CGFNS International; and the Nurses for Nurses Network.

A special tribute was paid to the delegation of nurses and midwives from Sierra Leone, who despite the Ebola crisis and the poverty in their country had 12 representatives from their country at the Biennial meeting.



Keynote speaker at the Biennial Meeting was Ms Linda Lewis from the American Nurse Credentialing Centre (ANCC). Other guest speakers were Mrs Peggy Vidot, Principal Secretary, Seychelles Ministry of Health and a former President of the CNMF; Ms Fleur Anderson from WaterAid and the WASH Initiative; and Dr Joanna Riha from the UK All Parliamentary Group on Global Health.

Delegates considered three policy issues were had been identified as priorities by members:

Policy discussion 1: Are there advantages for a professional association in registering as a trade union and if so, what are they?

The policy discussion was led by Barbados, Trinidad and Tobago, and Jamaica who shared their experiences in transforming their professional associations so they also had trade union responsibilities and could represent nurses and midwives industrially and act as bargaining agents for salaries and conditions in the workplace.

Policy discussion 2: Lower level cadres doing nursing work (nursing assistants, health care assistants etc) - Are they nurses? Should they be regulated by the nurse regulatory authority? Should there be nursing input into standards, education, and scopes of practice?

The policy discussion was led by Ghana, the Bahamas, and South Africa. These countries considered that any health worker who was doing nursing work should be part of the nursing family. They should be well educated so they could provide safe practice; registered nurses should have input into their education and scope of practice as they would be working with them and delegating care to them; and that any health worker providing care to patients or clients should be licensed and regulated by a regulatory authority.



Policy discussion 3: Clinical career structure development. What are some of the options for developing a career structure for nurses who want to remain or specialise as clinicians?

The policy discussion was led by Malaysia, the United Kingdom and Australia. Delegates considered that having a clinical career structure was extremely important however were undecided as to what was the most appropriate structure. Malaysia, the UK and Australia shared the clinical career structures from their own countries.

Following the policy discussions, CNMF members resolved to continue the discussions by email over the coming two years to share experiences, ideas and solutions.