

MEDICAL WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION

MWIA



Update

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**MEDICAL WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION
THEME OF THE 2010-2013 TRIENNium
"MOVING BEYOND THE RHETORIC—IMPROVING THE HEALTH
OF WOMEN AND GIRLS"**

I. MEDICAL WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION

1. PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Professor Afua Hesse, Ghana

Welcome to the first newsletter for the triennium 2010-2013. I trust those of you who were able to attend the historic Congress in Munster returned home safely and are back to the usual multitasking!

This meeting saw over 600 participants from 44 countries attending and we had a rich mix of scientific and social discourse. I urge you all to take a few minutes to go to the conference web site to view the photographs and also answer the evaluation form if you attended.

Thank you to all delegates for affirming my nomination and together with the new Executive, we will work to increase visibility and project MWIA.

The theme for this triennium is “**Moving beyond the rhetoric- improving the health of women and girls**’ and I trust that all National Associations will be able to situate themselves in this theme in their focus over the period.

Thank you to National Associations for the lovely gifts and souvenirs from your country that you so kindly shared.

I thank my predecessor Professor Atsuko Heshiki for her wonderful courage and example and look forward to continuing to work with her in the next three years.

I commend the dedication of our Past Presidents who continue to assist the MWIA Executive with the benefit of their rich experience.

The congress report will contain my inaugural address as your President as well as a lot of global information.

The Executive would like to hear from you more often. Enjoy your read!!!!

2. PAST PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dr. Atsuko Heshiki, Japan

2007-2010 Theme: “Leadership, Achievement and Accomplishment”

It was a delight to attend the well-organized 28th International MWIA Congress in Munster. Just like all of you, I have deepened my old friendships and made many new friendships.

I finished my term, passing on the three key words: Communication, Understanding and Harmonization. I hope that MWIA always will remain a well harmonized association.

During the Munster meeting, the Chinese Medical Women's Association (Taiwan), Hong Kong Medical Women's Association and China Medical Women's Association had a great in-depth face-to-face communication. It was the first step in negotiating how they will all work together. Further communications are planned.

I would like to thank you for answering the questionnaires sent about a year ago. I collected 615 answers, analyzed and presented the results during a workshop in Munster and at my farewell speech. I have attached raw data.

I will continue as an Executive member in the role of immediate past president and look forward to supporting the ongoing work of MWIA, as the new Executive members take the helm.

3. REQUESTS FROM THE SECRETARY- GENERAL

Dr. Shelley Ross, Canada

The **28th International Congress of MWIA** was a great success. Many thanks go to the local organizing committee of Dr. Regine Rapp-Engels, Dr. Bettina Pfeleiderer and Dr. Hedwig Wening, as well as the German Medical Women's Association, the host organization. Thank you to all of you who attended in such good numbers and helped make the congress memorable. Details of the congress will follow later in the newsletter. Please visit www.mwia2010.net to see pictures of the congress, copies of the presentations, and an opportunity to fill in the survey. The pictures and survey are under the Students and Young Doctors heading. Pictures can also be seen at the website of the German Medical Women's Association at <http://www.aerztinnenbund.de/>

Dr. Padmini Murthy led the MWIA delegation to the **Department of Public Information NGO Conference**, held in Melbourne, Australia. The theme was: "Advance Global Health: Achieve the MDG's." MWIA held a workshop entitled, "Incorporating gender into health care and its effect on global health and achievement of the MDG's," which was well received. Thank you to Drs. Eleanor Nwadinobi, Gabrielle Casper, Desiree Yap, Susie Close, Raie Goodwach, Magdalena Simonis, and Jo Wainer and to the medical students, Ashleigh Smith and Madhura Naidu for their participation.

The UN has created a new agency called **UN Women**, which will consolidate the UN Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), the Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW), the office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues (OSAGI), and the UN International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW). The former President of Chile, **Ms. Michelle Bachelet**, has been

appointed as Head of UN Women. MWIA has submitted their name to be part of the survey about the role of UN Women at the country level.

Each triennium, each region holds a **regional meeting**, so do hope you will plan to attend one near you, but please know that you are welcome to attend the meetings outside of your region as well. Before the end of 2010, the Latin American Region is holding their meeting in Guayaquil, Ecuador, from October 27-31, and the Southern European Region is holding their meeting in Paris November 19-20.

MWIA has **three standing committees**, namely Finance, Scientific and Research and Ethics and Resolutions. **Please submit your name** or that of a colleague who would like to serve on any of these three committees to the Secretariat.

Please keep the Secretariat informed of changes in your national officers and of upcoming meetings and activities in your organizations.

For those who have not paid their annual dues, the Secretariat would like to remind you that yearly dues are needed July 1st each year.

Happy Canadian Thanksgiving to all MWIA members!

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4. NEWS FROM THE 28TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF MWIA

Thank you to all the MWIA members who attended the 28th International Congress of MWIA in Munster from July 28-31, 2010, and made it such a great success. It was a great opportunity to network, listen to excellent presentations and decide on the work of MWIA. The social events were enjoyed by all. Thank you to all of the German Medical Women's Association for being such gracious hostesses and particularly to the organizing committee of Dr. Regine Rapp-Engels, Dr. Bettina Pflieferer and Dr. Hedwig Wening.

The keynote speaker to open the congress was Dr. Iona Kickbusch from the Graduate Institute Geneva, speaking on How Global is Health. She concluded that the expansion of health into different areas of policy and politics means it is gaining a strategic place on the international agenda, in foreign policy and in development policies. They are concerned with pandemics, bioterrorism, development, human rights,

equity, trade and humanitarian activities.

Dr. Monika Hauser from the NGO, Medica Mondiale in Cologne, Germany, gave a rousing talk on Gender Based War Violence. Although trained as a gynecologist, she has devoted her professional life to the welfare of victims of sexual violence in time of conflict. Visit www.medicamondiale.org.

Other keynote speakers included Dr. Waltraud Diekhaus, who gave an excellent talk on Gender Mainstreaming in Medicine and How It Can Improve Women's Health, Jana Wrase and Andreas Heinz who spoke on the additive brain, Gert-Jan Meerkerk who spoke on Internet Addiction, Elisabeth Nagy who spoke on Epidemic Plagues, Globalization and Resistance, Margret Jochl who spoke on how gender influences the time of diagnosis in HIV, Jeong Won Seo who spoke on the prevention of childhood obesity, and Achim Peters who spoke on Study Selfish Brain and the Origin of Obesity.

Dr. Bettina Pfeiferer gave the Dr. Jhirad Oration on the topic of There is a Male Brain and There is a Female Brain and Is that of Any Importance in Medicine?

There were a number of excellent workshops, ranging from Update on Alzheimer's, Leadership training for physicians, Gender and Health, Managing Human Resources for Strengthening Health Systems in Developing Countries, Saving Newborn Lives, the Dilemma of female medical students in choosing the right specialty.

The posters were particularly well done and it was difficult to choose the winners. However, the lucky winners were divided into the Young Doctors and Students Category with the posters of:

the Japanese doctors, Chihiro Ishihara, Mariko Fujikawa, Kitada Ayako, Mayuko Onoue, Hanae Saida and Hiroyoshi Endo on *Health Check-Up and Health Guidance Scheme in Japan for Metabolic Syndrome*,

the Canadian doctors, Pamela Verma and Kristen DeGirolamo with their poster on *Smearing out Cervical Cancer: Federation of Medical Women of Canada's (FMWC) Prevention Campaign*

the German doctors, Claudia Santos-Hovener, Tia Cole, Amber Roberts, Yvonne Schroder *The HPV Vaccine: What does it mean for women in the U.S.?*

In the practicing physician category, the winners were:

Edith Schmalzbauer-Reuschel and Birgit Seelbach-Goebel of Germany for *Female Genital Mutilation*

Uzoma Maryrose Agwu, Mma Wokocha, Odidika Ugochukwu Joannes Umeora of Nigeria for *Adolescent Contraceptive Use: Opinion of female doctors in Nigeria vs. female doctors from other countries*

Shajia Khan, M. Doyle, D. Al-Mohanadi, E. Keely of Canada for *International Survey on Screening for Gestational Diabetes*

Social events included the Get-together evening at the “Regierungspräsidium”, the regional government of Münster. The Conference Gala evening was held in "Bröker's Speicher No. 10," formerly used as a bakery to cater for the German Armed Forces during World War II. This is why the building was not destroyed by the allies and remained in its former glory. The social events were well received.

Dr. Bettina Pfeleiderer, Chair Scientific Committee, speaks of some statistics:

This year's 28th International Congress of the Medical Women's International Association held in Münster was a memorable event.

We were happy to welcome more than 618 participants from 44 different countries. Medical women from all continents gathered not only to discuss the motto “Globalisation in Medicine – Challenges and Opportunities”, but also to form new friendships, meet old acquaintances and enjoy the atmosphere in the beautiful setting of Münster.

The chart below shows a ranking of the 10 countries with most participants. As you can see, there were large delegations from the African and Asian continent besides Europe. It is important for us to see that the influence of the MWIA is spreading world wide on a large scale and that so many medical women are actively contributing to the association's mission. We were especially glad about the participation and input of so many students and young doctors.

Country	Number of participants	Number of Students
Germany	218	20
Nigeria	157	2
Japan	28	3
South Korea	34	
United Kingdom	14	3
Australia	12	2
China	11	
Ghana	10	
USA	10	1
Switzerland	9	

5. 2010-2013 EXECUTIVE

President	Professor Afua Hesse, Ghana
Past President	Dr. Atsuko Heshiki, Japan
President Elect	Dr. Kyung Ah Park, Korea
Secretary-General	Dr. Shelley Ross, Canada
Treasurer	Dr. Gail Beck, Canada
Vice President Northern Europe	Dr. Cisca Griffioen, The Netherlands
Vice President Central Europe	Dr. Waltraud Diekhaus, Germany
Vice President Southern Europe	Professor Alexandra Kalogeraki, Greece
Vice President North America	Dr. Claudia Morrissey
Vice President Latin America	Dr. Mercedes Viteri, Ecuador
Vice President Near East/Africa	Dr. Petronila Ngiloi, Tanzania
Vice President Central Asia	Dr. Pattariya Jarutat, Thailand
Vice President Western Pacific	Dr. Rosa Maria Nancho, The Philippines
Finance Chair	Dr. Eleanor Nwadinobi, Nigeria
Scientific and Research Chair	Dr. Bettina Pfleiderer, Germany
Ethics and Resolutions Chair	Dr. Gabrielle Casper, Australia
UN Representatives	
New York	Dr. Satty Gill Keswani, USA
	Dr. Padmini Murthy, USA
Vienna	Dr. Iris Habitzel, Austria
WHO Representatives	
Geneva	Dr. Annette Thommen, Switzerland

Information about the Vice Presidents can be found under their reports. Here is an introduction to the officers and chairpersons of MWIA.

Professor Afua Hesse is a Pediatric Surgeon and Director of Medical Affairs of Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital in Accra, Ghana. This hospital is a 2,000 bedded hospital and is the largest specialist Tertiary care Hospital in the country. During her time as President of the Society of Ghana Women Medical and Dental Practitioners (SGWMDP), the first Well Women's Clinic in the country was started for comprehensive preventive reproductive health for women in Ghana. She is passionate about her work with children and seeing smiles on their faces as they recover. She has been actively involved in medical politics, having been the first female Honorary Secretary of the Ghana Medical Association and a member of its Council for many years. She is a past Chairperson (first female) of the Ghana Medical Association Pension Fund. She worked on issues of reducing Maternal Mortality in Ghana and is a 3RMM champion in my country.

Dr. Atsuko Heshiki is a retired Professor and Chair of the Department of Radiology in Tokyo, Japan, and also affiliated with John Hopkins in the USA. She is still involved in research in Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy in bone marrow. As those who attended the Congress in Munster will know, she is a fantastic ballroom dancer and should appear in the TV Show, Dancing With the Stars!

Dr. Kyung Ah Park is a Professor of Anatomy at Yonsei University College of Medicine in Seoul, Korea, where she teaches neuroscience and histology. She is Vice President of the Korean Medical Association and President of the Korean Medical Women's Association. She is Vice President of Civitan International, Korean Branch, Chairperson of International Exchange Committee of Korean Anatomical Association and Executive member of Asian Pacific International Congress of Anatomists. She began her work with MWIA as a Young Forum member.

Dr. Shelley Ross is a Family Physician in Canada with an emphasis on obstetrics and women's health. She is on the executive of her provincial medical association. She is a past president of MWIA and the Federation of Medical Women of Canada. She began her work with MWIA as a Young Forum member at the MWIA Congress in Vancouver in 1984.

Dr. Gail Beck is an Adolescent Psychiatrist in Ottawa, Canada. She is very involved in medical politics and sits both on the board of the Ontario Medical Association and the Canadian Medical Association.

Dr. Eleanor Nwadinobi is an international health, gender and human rights consultant. She began her involvement with MWIA through the Young Forum. She was President of the Nigerian Association of Medical Women in 2005. She is well known for her work on the rights of Widows and is now interested in the traditional practice of children being accused of witchcraft.

Dr. Bettina Pfliederer is a Professor of Radiology and Head of a research group on Cognition and Gender at the Department of Clinical Radiology at the University Hospital in Munster. She was part of the organizing committee for the Munster Congress. She plays the violin in a chamber orchestra and also plays piano and sings.

Dr. Gabrielle Casper is a gynecological cancer surgeon in Sydney, Australia. She is a past president of MWIA and is known for her work on the gender cultural intersect. She is interested in MWIA Resolutions as our Face to the World.

6. NEWS FROM THE VPs AND THEIR REGIONS

Northern Europe

Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, The Netherlands, United Kingdom

Dr. Cisca Griffioen, Vice President for Northern Europe, The Netherlands

Dr. Griffioen is a retired anatomist, having worked for more than 40 years at the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Amsterdam, where she was Associate Professor of Anatomy and Embryology. She was also involved in the Institute of Medical Education at the Academic Medical Centre. She was President of the Dutch Medical Women (VNVA) from 1990-1996 and was Chair of the Organizing committee for the MWIA

International Congress in the Hague in 1995. She has a keen interest in gender specific medicine and is Chair of the VNVA Committee for Gender Specific Medicine. She is a member of the organizing committee for the Northern European Regional Meeting in the Netherlands in 2011.

United Kingdom—Dr. Dorothy Ward, National Coordinator

MWF Autumn Meeting – “Women as Teachers,” Friday 12th November 2010 at the New Connaught Rooms in Holborn, why not bring a friend? It’s a great way to introduce new people to MWF! The focus of our meeting is on women doctors’ careers, especially on issues such as teaching and training. Our guest speakers include Prof Elisabeth Paice, Acting Director of Medical and Dental Education, NHS London; Linda De Cossart, Consultant General Surgeon, Author of “Developing the Wise Doctor” and Prof Jenny Higham, Director of Education in the Faculty of Medicine at Imperial College

Freshers’ Fairs

Following on from last year’s Freshers’ fairs initiative, MWF received numerous invites to attend fairs around the country again this year. We would like to thank all our student and doctor members who have been running stands for us so successfully! We look forward to working with the new medical student members.

Careers Evening in Oxford, Weds 20th October 6.30- 8.30pm, GPEC, Level 3 JR.

MWF Student Representative on Council and Representative in Oxford Helen Macmullen is organizing this event at Oxford university. Speakers will include Miss Hui Ling Kerr on 'CV Building', Miss Nikki Dunne on 'Life as a female surgeon' and Miss Jackie Waterman on 'Flexible Training - from the Horses mouth'. Refreshments will be provided. Contact Central Office for more information.

Medical Careers in the 21st Century - New Opportunities and Challenges for Women Doctors?

MWF (Scotland) are offering medical students and medical graduates a unique opportunity to update themselves on the future of post graduate training and the range of career choices in the NHS. There is a fantastic programme of speakers including: Dr Clarissa Fabre - MWF President, Prof. Alastair McGowan OBE -Dean of Postgraduate Medicine West of Scotland, Dr Alison Garvie - GP and GP Specialist Training Director in Glasgow, Dr Jane Montgomery - Associate Postgraduate Dean East of Scotland, Dr Susan Gibson-Smith - Medical Adviser MDDUS and Dr Linda de Caestecker - Director of Public Health Greater Glasgow & Clyde. There will also be a ‘Speed-dating session’ with up to 15 unique opportunities to question women specialists of your choice. The event is on Saturday 6th November 2010 at Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow.

Central Europe

Austria, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Switzerland

Dr. Waltraud Diekhaus, Vice President Central Europe, Germany

Dr. Diekhaus qualified in sports medicine, industrial medicine and family medicine and currently is chair of an administrative district of the Medical Chamber in Dortmund. She

was Secretary-General of MWIA from 1998-2007. She represents MWIA well in her current roles as Vice President of the Council of International Organizations of Medical Science (CIOMS) and as a member of the board of the European Women's Lobby.

Georgia

The Georgian Medical Women's Association (GMWA) continues to create branches throughout various regions in Georgia.

In June, GMWA had a Practical Scientific Conference, addressing news in the field of internal medicine, in Gori, Shida Kartli Region. At the same time, the Shida Kartli Regional Branch of GMWA was established.

In April, GMWA presented the book "Woman Always Healthy and Young," published by GMWA. The Presentation was held in TBC Bank's Head Office in Tbilisi. It was well attended by Medical Doctors as well as other women from different professions. The Presentation was attended by Vice Speakers of Parliament of Georgia, Mr. Gigi Tsereteli and Mrs Rusudan Kirvalishvili (both Medical Doctors), the Head of the Health Committee of Parliament of Georgia, Mr. Otar Toidze, the Deputy Minister of Labor, Social Affairs and Health of Georgia, Mrs. Manana Djebashvili. The book "Woman Always Healthy and Young" was well received by people attending the presentation.

GMWA actively cooperates with the Health Committee of the Parliament of Georgia. The President of GMWA, Dr Nino Zhvania, is a member of the Council of Professional Medical Associations under the Health Committee of the Georgian Parliament. She actively participated in the discussion concerning the New Law of Health and Health Care in Georgia.

Southern Europe

Belgium, France, Greece, Israel, Italy

Professor Alexandra Kalogeraki, Vice President Southern Europe, Greece

Dr. Kalogeraki is a Pathologist, specializing in Cytopathology and Molecular Cytology. She is a professor at the University Hospital of Heraklion in Crete. She became interested in medical politics and sits on the board of the Greek Medical Women's Association.

France

The French Medical Women are looking forward to hosting the Southern European Regional Meeting in Paris from November 19 to 20, 2010. The topic is

North America

Canada, United States of America

Dr. Claudia Morrissey, Vice President North America, USA

Dr. Morrissey is an international public health physician currently directing the research unit at Save the Children on the Saving Newborn Lives Project. Prior to this global health and development focus, she worked as a community organizer both in the US and

in Mexico and then, after training in Internal Medicine, as a general Internist in low-income communities in the US. Dr. Morrissey has been a member of the American Medical Women's Association (AMWA) since 1978 and has held many leadership positions over the years. She was AMWA national President in 2008-2009. She has worked in the area of women's empowerment and health throughout her 40+ medical and non-medical career and through volunteer public service. She is a life-long feminist and social activist and thus acutely aware that many of the health problems that women face are due to social determinants, chief among them gender discrimination, powerlessness, and poverty.

Canada

On September 25, 2010, in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, a respirologist from Windsor, Ontario, Dr. Deborah Hellyer, became the President of the Federation of Medical Women of Canada. Dr. Hellyer brings extensive experience to this position, having served for six years, from 2004 to 2010, on the Board of the Canadian Medical Association. Dr. Hellyer is also a Board Director at the Ontario Medical Association and sits on the Physician Services Committee, the principal committee implementing the main funding agreement between Ontario physicians and the Government of Ontario. Dr. Hellyer has been instrumental in bringing physician assistants in to the health care workforce in Canada and is an expert on health human resources.

Dr. Hellyer organized this annual meeting around the various Leadership roles that women physicians play: Career Developer, Researcher, Politician, Mentor, Health Promoter, Networker, Author, Teacher and Health Care Leader. Featured were a panel of Medical Women active in Ontario Medical Association Politics as well as Dr. Julia Schlam Edelman, an American Woman physician and author of *Menopause Matters: Your Guide to a Long and Healthy Life*. As well, Dr. Janice Stein, Belzberg Professor of Conflict Management and Director of the Munk School of Global Affairs at the University of Toronto spoke to the delegates about *Leading Change*.

With her years of experience on other Boards, Dr. Hellyer brings a strong record of achievement to the Federation. She has the capacity to build on the work of Past Presidents and that is good news for the FMWC.

The Federation passed a motion encouraging the provincial government departments of health to cover the cost of immunizing boys against HPV. The Federation was instrumental in getting the Federal government to fund an HPV immunization program for girls.

Next year's annual meeting will be at the Marriott Pinnacle in downtown Vancouver from September 17-19, 2011.

United States

On Friday, September 24, 2010, the American Medical Women's Association (AMWA) hosted a Women in Medicine Reception at Drexel University School of Medicine in Philadelphia to celebrate the official opening of AMWA's permanent legacy exhibit.

AMWA supports the American Women's Hospitals Service, which is still providing aid in clinics in the USA and around the world.

AMWA puts out an e-mail newsletter, entitled the AMWA Newsflash. Lately, they have been highlighting past women in medicine. Of particular interest to MWIA is information about Dr. Esther Pohl Lovejoy, the founder of MWIA. She was born in 1869 in a Washington Territory logging camp, went to medical school at the University of Oregon, and worked in Skagway, Alaska, and in Portland, Oregon. During World War I, she worked in hospitals throughout Europe. She helped found the American Women's Hospitals (AWH) as well as founding MWIA.

Latin America

Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru

Dr. Mercedes Viteri, Vice President Latin America, Ecuador

Dr. Viteri is Chief of the Infectious Disease Department at Guayaquil University and Professor of Public Health. She is the medical advisor to the Ministry of Health and director of a public medical facility in an urban marginalized community. This community deals with domestic violence and health issues such as malnutrition.

The Medical Women of Ecuador are hosting the Pan American Medical Women's Association in Guayaquil, Ecuador on October 27-31, 2010. Guayaquil is only an hour plane ride from the Galapagos Islands. The venue is the Grand Hotel Guayaquil (contact www.grandhotelguayaquil.com).

Near East and Africa

Cameroon, Egypt, Ghana, Kenya, Mali, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia

Dr. Petronila Ngiloi, Vice President Near East and Africa, Tanzania

Dr. Ngiloi is the second Tanzanian female surgeon and the first Tanzanian pediatric surgeon, currently working at the Muhimbili National Hospital. She was among the founders of the Medical Women's Association of Tanzania (MEWATA) and is President of the Tanzania surgical Association and the Country Representative of the Pan African Association of Pediatric Surgeons. She operated on the first set of conjoint twins in 1994 in Tanzania. Petronila has further played a unique role in the fight against Gender Based Violence through the media and extensive lobbying to the Members of Parliament that eventually led to the review of Sexual Violence Act in 1998. Her active role in advocacy for improving health of women, children and adolescents led to initiation of first mass campaign of breast cancer screening and awareness in Tanzania as far back as year 1993.

She was proactive in the last 4 years breast cancer screening and awareness campaign under MEWATA which successfully screened more than 60,000 women.

Nigeria

At the Munster Congress, Dr. Eleanor Nwadinobi spoke about the children in Nigeria being accused of witchcraft. Pastors in southeast Nigeria claim illness and poverty are caused by witches who bring terrible misfortune to those around them. And those denounced as witches must be cleansed through deliverance or cast out. The most vulnerable to this stigmatization of witchcraft are children. To find out more visit the website of the Children's Right and Rehabilitation Network (www.cram.net)

Central Asia

India, Thailand

Dr. Pattariya Jarutat, Vice President Central Asia, Thailand

Dr. Jarutat is an obstetrician and gynecologist by training, who then qualified in Public Health Management. She was Director of Sirindhorn National Medical Rehabilitation Center, where she cared for persons with disabilities for the whole country of Thailand. This center later became a WHO Collaborating Centre in rehabilitation for South East Asia region. She then returned to work as a general practitioner in Nopparatrajthanee General Hospital in Bangkok. She has been Chair of the International Relations Committee of the Thai Medical Women's Association. She was instrumental in developing the scholarship for female medical students. She has a daughter who is a doctor and now a member of the Special Interest Group for Young Doctors and Medical Students.

India

The Association of Medical Women in India awarded the Jhirad Oration plaque at the congress in Munster to Dr. Bettina Pflieferer.

The West Bengal Branch of the Association of Medical Women in India continues to provide dedicated service through the Mission Hospital. Donations are always welcome.

Western Pacific

Australia, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, Mongolia, New Zealand, Philippines, Taiwan (ROC)

Dr. Rosa Maria (Rosette) Nancho, Vice President Western Pacific, Philippines

Dr. Nancho is a Professor of Pediatrics at the Department of Pediatrics, College of Medicine, and University of the Philippines, where she is Head of the Adolescent Section. She is the Training Officer at the Adolescent Unit of the Philippine Children's Medical Center and the head of the Teen Health Hub in a large private hospital. She was

the Past President of the Philippine Medical Women's Association for two terms. Her main interests are in dealing with adolescent and youth policy development. According to Dr. Nancho, she dances better than she sings.

Australia

The Association of Medical Women in Australia was pleased to have many representatives attend the Department of Public Information, NGO conference in Melbourne in August. The theme was: "Advance Global Health: Achieve the MDG's." MWIA held a workshop entitled, "Incorporating gender into health care and its effect on global health and achievement of the MDG's. MWIA's representatives were Dr. Padmini Murthy from the USA, who led the MWIA delegation. Thank you to Drs. Eleanor Nwadinobi, Gabrielle Casper, Desiree Yap, Susie Close, Raie Goodwach, Magdalena Simonis, and Jo Wainer and to the medical students, Ashleigh Smith and Madhura Naidu for their great representation.

Hong Kong

28th MWIA International Congress Munster

We were delighted to join the MWIA International Congress in Munster, Germany on 28 – 31 July 2010. A written report of our Association was sent to MWIA and was reported in the Congress on our behalf by the Western Pacific Vice-President during the congress. This gave us a great opportunity to establish connections with other countries, and we look forward to have future collaborations.

Esthetic and Facial Course

Being a women doctor, not only we have to take good care of our patients and families, we also have to take good care of ourselves. On 7 August 2010, an Esthetic and DIY Facial course was conducted by experienced Loreal esthetician where proper ways of DIY facial and hand massage were taught. After learning about the theory behind each facial step, we started to practice on our own faces and hands. This fun filled Saturday afternoon which was concluded with delicious snacks.

4th Annual General Meeting and Dinner

The 4th AGM was held on 27 August 2010. This year, over 150 members and guests joined to celebrate our 4th birthday. Before the celebration dinner, a CME talk on "Women and Cardiovascular Health" was well received by members. All of us had an enjoyable evening.

Parenting Series

The first talk of the series was on 3 July 2010 and the topic was "How to prepare your kids for schooling and choosing the right school for your kids". We invited senior official of the Education Department as well as Principals of several primary schools in Hong Kong to discuss with parents on ways to prepare kids for schooling. It was attended by over 120 members and spouse. This is our first talk on "Parenting Series" aiming to help members to learn to become better parents.

Mainland China

Representatives of the Mainland China Medical Women's Association came to the congress in Munster and had the opportunity to liaise with The Chinese Medical

Women's Association of Taiwan and the Hong Kong Medical Women's Association. MWIA hopes to see them as a full member soon.

The Chinese government is rethinking its famed one-child limit as it begins to lift the restriction in five provinces with low birth rates.

7. REPORT FROM NEW YORK UN REPRESENTATIVES

Dr. Satty Gill Keswani and Dr. Padmini Murthy MWIA NGO Reps to the UN

The Department of Public Information, Non Governmental Organization division held its 63rd annual conference in Melbourne, Australia from August 30 to September 1, 2010.

The theme was *Advance Global Health: Achieve the MDG's*.

MWIA was well represented both by Dr. Mini Murthy, Dr. Eleanor Nwadinobi and many of our Australian colleagues--Gabrielle Casper, Susie Close, Desiree Yap, Riae Goodwach, Magdalena Simonis, Jo Wainer and two medical students, Ashleigh Smith and Madhura Naidu. MWIA held a workshop entitled, "Incorporating gender into health care and its effect on global health and achievement of the MDG's.

MWIA was honoured to have Dr. Mini Murthy moderate the first roundtable. The webcast can be viewed at:

<http://webcast.viostream.com/Player/Default.aspx?viocast=2904&auth=5c1bb84f-6ec8-4d61-a418-a6f953ea89cd&enableCache=True>

The conference concluded with a declaration: "Advance Global Health: Achieve the MDGs" "Advance Global Health: Achieve the MDGs." The Declaration, supported by 1,600 participants representing over 350 NGOs from more than 70 countries, underlines that "it is unacceptable that so many children and adults in low income countries continue to suffer preventable illness, disability and premature deaths each year."

8. CALENDAR OF FORTHCOMING EVENTS MWIA AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS - CONGRESSES AND MEETINGS

2010

1. **October 13-16, 2010** Vancouver, Canada
World Medical Association Meeting
www.wma.net
2. **October 27-31, 2010** - Guayaquil, Ecuador
Pan American Medical Women's Association meeting
www.grandhotelguayaquil.com
3. **November 12-13, 2010** - London, UK
Medical Women's Federation Autumn Meeting

Grand Connaught Rooms
www.medicalwomensfederation.org.uk

4. **November 12-14, 2010**, New Delhi, India
Partnership for Maternal Newborn Child Health
www.pmnch-forum.org
5. **November 19-20, 2010** Paris, France
Southern European Regional Meeting of MWIA
<http://affm.affinitesante.com>
6. **November 20, 2010**, Vienna, Austria
Women and Medicine
Meeting of the Austrian Medical Women's Association
info@aerztinnenbund.at
7. **November 30-December 3, 2010** – Tel Aviv, Israel
5th International Conference on Gender Medicine
www.igm2010.com

2011

1. **February 22-March 4, 2011**, New York NY
UN Commission on the Status of Women
The theme is: Access and participation of women and girls to education, training, science and technology, including for the promotion of women's equal access to full employment and decent work.
www.un.org
2. **May 8-9, 2011**, Lisbon, Portugal
Women against cervical cancer
www.wacc-network.org
3. **May 11-14, 2011**, Vancouver, Canada
Canadian Conference on Physician Leadership
Fairmont Hotel Vancouver
www.cma.ca
4. **May 19-21, 2011**, Breukelen, The Netherlands
Regional Meeting of the Northern European Region
vnyvmail@vnva.nl
5. **May 26- 29 , 2011** Tokyo, Japan
Western Pacific Regional Meeting
Keio Plaza Hotel, Tokyo, Japan
<http://www.jade.dti.ne.jp/jmwa>

6. **May, 2011**, Geneva, Switzerland
World Health Assembly, WHO
www.who.int
7. **July 3-7, 2011**, Ottawa-Gatineau, Canada
Women's Worlds 2011
www.womensworlds.ca
8. **September, 2011**, Bonn, Germany
DPINGO Conference
Sustainable Societies: Responsive Citizens
9. **September 17-18, 2011**, Vancouver, Canada
Federation of Medical Women of Canada Annual Meeting
Marriott Vancouver Pinnacle Downtown, Vancouver
www.fmwc.ca

2012

1. **Summer, 2012**, North American Regional Cruise
More information to follow
2. **Fall, 2012**, Cairo, Egypt
Near East and African Regional Meeting

2013

1. **Date to be determined**, Seoul, Korea
29th International Congress of MWIA
www.mwia.net

9. NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS AND INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

Please keep the Secretariat up to date with:

1. The name of your President and National Coordinator with mailing and email addresses, phone and fax numbers
2. The website of your national association. You will find below a list of websites for the national associations. Please update the information.

Websites of National Associations

Austria	www.aerztinnenbund.at
Australia	http://www.afmw.org.au
Belgium	http://www.mwab.be

Canada	http://www.fmwc.ca
Denmark	http://www.quindoc.dk
Finland	http://www.suomennaislaakariyhdistys.com
France	http://affm.affinitesante.com
Georgia	http://www.gmwa.org.ge
Germany	http://www.aerztinnenbund.de
Hong Kong	www.hkwda.com
Iceland	http://www.fkli.is
Italy	http://www.donnemedico.org
Japan	http://www.jade.dti.ne.jp/jmwa
Kenya	kenyamewa@gmail.com
Korea	http://www.kmwa.org or www.kmwa.or.kr
Mongolia	gerontocenter@mongol.net
Nigeria	www.mwannational.org
Sweden	www.kvinnligalakare.se
Switzerland	http://www.medicalwomen.ch
Tanzania	www.mewata.org
The Netherlands	vnmamail@vnva.nl
Uganda	http://www.auwmd.org
United Kingdom	http://www.medicalwomensfederation.org.uk
United States of America	http://www.amwa-doc.org

10. Formation of the Special Interest Group for Young Doctors and Medical Students

Please remember that MWIA has a Special Interest Group for Young Doctors and Medical Students. The group had special meetings during the Munster Congress to discuss issues of importance to their stage of medical practice. This will continue at the Seoul Congress in 2013, so please remember to keep the young members of your organization involved and think of a representative to nominate for the Seoul Congress in 2013. A newsletter will be forthcoming from the group through the Secretariat.

11. Donations and Bequests

In addition to paying your dues on time and in full, please consider MWIA at the time of year when you make charitable donations and when you are updating your will. We have had a number of such donations over the years and are happy to publicly acknowledge your contribution if you wish to make a bequest or donation.

12. Names in the News

Dame Valerie Beral of the Medical Women's Federation of the United Kingdom received a knighthood from the Queen and was made a Companion of the Order of Australia for her research into the causes of breast cancer and why it is so much more likely to affect Western women than those from poorer nations.

Colonel (ret'd) Dr. Maureen Haberstock, a former military physician who has held such roles as Canadian Defence Liaison Staff medical military liaison officer in Washington, D.C. and the first woman to hold an attaché position for the Canadian Forces was awarded Honorary Membership in the Federation of Medical Women of Canada (FMWC).

Dr. Barbara Lent, a well-known family physician from London, Canada, received the Enid Johnson MacLeod Award, sponsored by the Ontario Medical Association, from the FMWC. This award recognizes a physician or non-physician for the promotion of women's health research and/or women's health education.

Dr. Marla Shapiro, a Toronto physician and well-known medical journalist, was the deserving winner of the May Cohen Award, the Federation's most prestigious award, that recognizes the FMWC member who best personifies May Cohen's ability to put the FMWC vision statement into living action in support of women physicians and Women's health.

Dr. Marjorie S. Sirridge is the 2010 recipient of the Alma Dea Morani Award from the Foundation for the History of Women in Medicine. Throughout her life, Dr. Sirridge has shown that women can achieve great things without sacrificing other aspects of their lives. (Alma Dea Morani was a Past President of MWIA.)

Dr. Shayna Watson of Queen's University in Kingston, Canada, received the SOGC-sponsored Reproductive Health Award from the FMWC for her work on the Gender and Health Collaborative Curriculum Project.

13. Books

Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights,
Human Rights and the Millennium Development Goals in Practice.
http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/MDGs/HR_and_%20MDGs_in_practice.pdf

UN Division for the Advancement of Women, in their Words to Action July 2010
Newsletter on Violence Against Women, featuring "Eliminating Violence against Women: 15 years after the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action."
<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/vaw/v-newsletter.htm>

Dr. Lucy Candib, an MWIA member from the USA, has edited a book entitled, Woman-Centered Care in Pregnancy and Childbirth. Another MWIA member, Dr. Wendy Savage from the UK has provided a foreword. For a 20% discount, follow the link below and put in the code EFSC210 to get the discount. <http://www.radcliffe-oxford.com/books/bookdetail.aspx?ISBN=1846191610>

Kimberly Jensen, a professor of history and gender studies at Western Oregon University, published a book entitled, "Mobilizing Minerva, American Women in the First World War." She pictures Dr. Esther Pohl Lovejoy on the front cover and speaks of

the American Women's Hospital Services. ISBN 978-0-252-07496-7. Contact mrroux@uillinois.edu to purchase.

Kimberly Jensen, features the Medical Women's International Association's Geneva Meeting on the front cover in her new book, entitled: "Women and Transnational Activism in Historical Perspective." ISBN13 978-90-8979-038-5

Dr. Lianne Lacroix of the Federation of Medical Women of Canada has written about her experiences working in the Canadian Arctic in the 1970's. Visit <http://arcticmedicaladventures.com> for information.

Dr. Padmini Murthy of the School of Public Health at NY Medical College in Valhalla, NY, has published her book, **Women's Global Health and Human Rights**. ISBN number is 978-0-7637-5631-4.

Physicians Health Program of British Columbia, Canada has published "Medicine and Motherhood—Can We Talk?" It can be reproduced from <http://www.physicianhealth.com/medicineandmotherhood>

Dr. Dorothy Ward, former President of MWIA from Scotland has written a book, entitled "History of MWIA." This long-awaited book was available for sale at the MWIA Conference in Munster. Congratulations, Dorothy, on providing such a valuable history of MWIA!

WHO in Europe, tells the story of the WHO Regional Office for Europe from its beginnings to 2010. It covers five WHO regional directors for Europe along with the hundreds of programs and policies they helped create and carry out. For more information and to order, visit http://www.euro.who.int/InformationSourcesPublications/Catalogue/20100122_2

14. Obituaries

Dr. Bernice Sachs of the American Medical Women's Association passed away on August 21, 2010. She was President of AMWA between 1964-1965. She graduated from the University of Michigan and moved to Seattle in 1949, where she practiced psychiatry and psychosomatic medicine for 48 years. She was a keynote speaker when the MWIA International Congress was held in Vancouver in 1984.

II. ORGANIZATIONS

1. WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO)

a. The **Gender Women and Health Network** has launched its first newsletter. To subscribe send your email and name to genderandhealth@who.int and listserv@who.int

b. MWIA has been invited to participate at the October meeting of the working group on **non-communicable disease**.

2. UNITED NATIONS

a. **The UN has established the UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, to be known as UN Women.** UN Women will be a dynamic and strong champion for women and girls around the world, providing them with a powerful voice at the global, regional and local levels. UN Women will unite the UN Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), the Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW), the office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues (OSAGI), and the UN International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW). The new body will have two main roles: to support inter-governmental bodies to formulate policies, and to assist Member States implement these standards and forge partnerships with civil society. UN Women will also hold the world accountable for its own gender equality commitments, the Deputy Secretary-General said.

b. 140 UN Member States came together September 20-22 in New York for the ‘**MDG Summit**’ (High-level Plenary Meeting), with the primary objective of accelerating progress towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015, taking into account the progress made towards the internationally agreed development goals. As a part of the process leading to the summit, the General Assembly held ‘**Hearings**’ with **representatives of civil society** and the private sector from 14-15 June. The outcomes of these hearings will be integrated into discussions at the summit and the outcome document. Dr. Satty Gill Keswani and Dr. Mini Murthy represented MWIA at these hearings. On the final day of the summit, Member states adopted an outcome document, entitled Keeping the Promise: United to Achieve the Millennium Development Goals, in which member states set out an action agenda in order to reach the goals by 2015. The outcome document is divided into two parts, the first identifying the lessons learned over the last 10 years and the second is the action agenda to achieve the MDG’s by 2015.

c. **DPINGO (Department of Public Information NGO section)**

This year, the 63rd Annual DPI/NGO Conference was held in Melbourne, Australia, August 30 to September 1, 2010. The general theme is *Advance Global Health—Achieve the MDG’s*. Dr. Padmini Murthy is on the Planning Committee. MWIA will be well represented by Dr. Murthy and several Australian physicians, namely Dr. Gabrielle Casper, Dr. Desiree Yap, Dr. Susie Close, Dr. Raie Goodwach, Dr. Magdalena Simonis, Dr. Jo Wainer and two medical students, Ashleigh Smith and Madhura Naidu.

We are pleased to have as co-sponsors: the Australian Federation of Medical Women, the International Society of Doctors for the Environment, the Australian Women's Coalition, the Australian Women's Health Network, the Public Health Association of Australia, and Physicians for Social Responsibility, and the Women’s Electoral Lobby. MWIA is honoured that **our workshop, “Incorporating gender into health care and its effect on global health and achievement of the MDG’s,”** has been accepted.

3. **CIOMS**

(Council For International Organizations Of Medical Sciences)

Dr. Gunilla Sjolín-Forsberg, the new Secretary General of CIOMS will be convening the annual meeting in November. MWIA is pleased to have Dr. Waltraud Diekhaus as a Vice President of CIOMS.

4. **INSTITUTE OF GENDER IN MEDICINE** (GiM) in Berlin, Charité-Universitätsmedizin, held its first Summer School on Gender Medicine, organized together with all partners of our EUGIM (European Curriculum Gender In Medicine) project. This includes the universities in Budapest, Innsbruck, Maastricht, Nijmegen, Sassari and Stockholm. For more information please refer to our website http://gender.charite.de/en/education/eugim/eugim_summer_school/.

5. **WORLD MEDICAL ASSOCIATION**

The World Medical Association will meet in Vancouver in October, 2010, with the president being Dr. Dana Hanson from Canada. Dr. Kyung Ah Park and Dr. Shelley Ross will be in attendance for MWIA.

6. **EUROPEAN WOMEN'S LOBBY -- Dr. Waltraud Diekhaus**

The EWL is pleased to hear of the new five year strategy for equality between men and women.

7. **THE MATERNAL HEALTH TASK FORCE** (MHTF) and the Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI) co-hosted a ground-breaking global conference in New Delhi, India on August 30th to September 1st. The Global Maternal Health Conference (GMHC 2010) brought together nearly 700 maternal health experts and members of allied fields to share lessons learned, discuss neglected issues, and contemplate innovations to improve global challenges in maternal health.

Visit maternalhealthtaskforce.org/gmhc2010

8. **THE GLOBAL ROOM FOR WOMEN** is now functional at:

<https://www.globalroomforwomen.com/>

9. **THE GEAR CAMPAIGN** is the Gender Equality Architecture Reform Campaign. The campaign requests an open dialogue with civil society about the key priorities of the new entity of UN Women and how UN Women will become a powerful voice for women and girls at the global, regional and local levels. As the new entity is being developed, civil society wants to be consulted and would like to hear from Bachelet how she plans to empowerment and women's human rights. Contact <http://www.gearcampaign.org>

10. **GLOBAL CALL TO ACTION**

The Center for Women's Global Leadership is pleased to announce that the 2010 Take Action Kit materials is now available online <http://www.cwgl.rutgers.edu/16days/kit10/kit.html>. To be highlighted is the ***Global Call to Action included in the kit***. CWGL is encouraging all campaign participants to plan a peace vigil or peace march for Monday, November 29th in a show of visible, global solidarity against militarism & violence against women. Instructions for planning a peace

vigil or march are also included in the kit - and we have white bandannas and promotional posters available.

11. WOMEN AGAINST CERVICAL CANCER

This organization unites interested parties in the advocacy around the prevention and treatment of cervical cancer.

www.wacc-network.org]

12. HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

A resolution was adopted at the recent session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva to create a new mechanism to accelerate the elimination of discrimination against women.

13. **UNDP's 20th anniversary Human Development Report – “The Real Wealth of Nations: Pathways to Human Development”** – will be launched on November 4th at the United Nations by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, UNDP Administrator Helen Clark, and Nobel laureate Amartya Sen.

14. **HEALTH SCIENCES ONLINE**, MWIA, FIGO and WHO will collaborate on the development of a perinatal module.

15. **CONGO**. The Geneva Component of CoNGO's Civil Society Development Forum (CSDF) 2010 - **“Women’s Human Rights and Development: Inclusion, Participation, and Equality”** – took place on 30 September and 1 October 2010 at the International Labour Office in Geneva. The Geneva Component of CSDF 2010 reviewed the [Outcome Document](#) of CSDF 2010–New York Component, in conjunction with the conclusions and recommendations of ECOSOC’s Annual Ministerial Review as reflected in the [Ministerial Declaration](#), which focused on "Implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to gender equality and the empowerment of women". **Dr. Larisa Skuratovskaya** spoke on the position of women as physicians.

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Let me take this opportunity to encourage you to attend the various regional meetings this triennium and to mark your calendars for the 29th Congress in Seoul, Korea, in 2013.

The next Update will be published in December, 2010.

Please send us your reports, comments or any other interesting information by November 30, 2010 at the latest. We are always interested to put your name and your accomplishments in the Update.

Letters to the editor are always welcome.