

MEDICAL WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION

MWIA



Update

No. 66 June 2016

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MEDICAL WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION

THEME OF THE 2013-2016 TRIENNium

“PREVENTION AND ELMINATION OF DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE”

I. MEDICAL WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION

1. PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Professor Kyung Ah Park, Korea

This is my last message for the MWIA Update as the President of MWIA. I realize that time flies like an arrow. I have previously written this President's Message fifteen times and this final message makes sixteen.

I want to thank our Secretary General, Dr. Shelley Ross, for her great effort on these updates. Not one issue was missed which allowed our members access to news of our colleagues and MWIA regularly over the last three years.

In the last six months, I concentrated on recruiting more member countries in the area of East Asia. Central Asia is the weakest region in MWIA as it has only two member countries. I therefore contacted Vietnam, Myanmar, Malaysia and Nepal. Malaysia and Nepal showed positive results and they will decide upon membership after participating in the Vienna Congress. For flight logistical reasons, I was not able to complete my scheduled visit to Vietnam last week, where the intention was to visit the Medical College and Hospital in Hue. Myanmar is also in the process of arranging a visit from a MWIA delegation later this year. There already exists in Myanmar an association of women doctors.

Lastly, I wish everyone happiness and good health and I am looking forward to seeing you all in Vienna!

2. REQUESTS FROM THE SECRETARY- GENERAL

Dr. Shelley Ross, Canada

MWIA's **Vienna 2016 International Congress** is less than a month away. The theme is **Generation Y: Challenges of the Future for Female Medical Doctors.**

We will soon be able to enjoy the camaraderie of meeting together in Vienna while we enjoy the hospitality of our Austrian colleagues. Thank you to the Austrian Medical Women for their tireless effort to make the congress a memorial success.

In keeping with modern trends the information for the General Assemblies will be accessed by the National Coordinators for their delegation through the **NC secure site** on the www.mwia.net website. Please contact the secretariat@mwia.net if you need the password.

This is your last opportunity to submit a bid to host the **MWIA Centennial Congress in 2019**. It is not too soon to think of how you will celebrate the **MWIA Centennial in 2019**. Please plan to hold a centennial activity in your national association the year of 2019.

MWIA was well represented at the **World Health Assembly of WHO**. Please see the report from our WHO representative, Dr. Clarissa Fabre, later in the Update.

Congratulations to **Dr. Edith Schratzberger**, our MWIA representative to the **European Women's Lobby** (EWL), who was recently elected President of the EWL.

The **DPINGO Conference** in Gyeongju, Korea from May 30-June 1, 2016 was attended by President, Kyung Ah Park, and by our youth representative, Aishu Narasimhadevara. The theme was Education for Global Citizenship. Please see the reports later in the Update.

MWIA sent a letter to the editor of the Journal of Ethics regarding the article regarding the **Nicking of Genitals** as a compromise for FGM in the West.

MWIA tweets regularly on topics of interest. One example was about the need for humanitarian security following the bombing of a MSF supported hospital in Syria. The handle is @MedWIA.

MWIA continues to partner with ZONTA International with **birthing kits**. If you have need for kits, please let the secretariat know.

The Egyptian Medical Women put in a bid to interview adolescents for the **Accelerated Action for the Health of Adolescents**, organized by WHO.

Let me remind you that the **fiscal year** for MWIA is July 1st to June 30th. Dues notices were sent out in July. Voting at the Vienna Congress in July, 2016, is dependent on the number of members from your national organization. Thank you to those who have paid and to those who have not yet done so, we look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

The website has a secure site for the National Coordinators. The information for the upcoming Vienna 2016 congress will be found on this secure site.

Contact information for MWIA:

Website is www.mwia.net

Email is secretariat@mwia.net

Phone is [1-604-522-1960](tel:1-604-522-1960)

3. 2013-2016 EXECUTIVE with email addresses:

President	Prof Kyung Ah Park, Korea	president@mwia.net
Past President	Prof Afua Hesse, Ghana	past_president@mwia.net
President Elect	Prof Bettina Pflleiderer, Germany	president_elect@mwia.net
Secretary-General	Dr. Shelley Ross, Canada	secretariat@mwia.net
Treasurer	Dr. Gail Beck, Canada	treasurer@mwia.net

VP Northern Europe	Dr. Helen Goodyear, UK	VP_northerneurope@mwia.net
VP Central Europe	Prof Khatuna Kaladze, Georgia	VP_centraleurope@mwia.net
VP Southern Europe	Dr. Christiane Pouliart, Belgium	VP_southerneurope@mwia.net
VP North America	Dr. Carole Williams, Canada	VP_northamerica@mwia.net
VP Latin America	Prof Mercedes Viteri, Ecuador	VP_latinamerica@mwia.net
VP Near East/Africa	Prof Shafika Nasser, Egypt	VP_africa@mwia.net
VP Central Asia	Dr. Usha Saraiya, India	VP_centralasia@mwia.net
VP Western Pacific	Prof Hiroko Yamamoto	VP_westernpacific@mwia.net



The Medical Women's International Association Executive 2013-2016

Front row left to right: Shelley Ross, Bettina Pfleiderer, Kyung Ah Park, Afua Hesse

Back row left to right: Mercedes Viteri, Carole Williams, Hiroko Yamamoto, Khatuna Kaladze, Shafika Nasser, Christiane Pouliart, Gail Beck, Bong Ok Kim, Helen Goodyear

4. NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGIONS

Australia

Annabel Jones of Monash University is looking for medical students of any year and from any country to be part of a research project on Exploring Medical Student Perspectives of Family Violence Education. The commitment is only a 20 minute skype/phone interview. If you are interested, please contact:

asjon6@student.monash.edu

Brazil

The Association of Medical Women in Brazil has continued with scientific meetings; 14 April: Gender Differences in Cardiology Dr Elizabeth Alexandre (member of directory of ABMM and director of the new department of Feminine Cardiology of the Brazilian Society of Cardiology)

12 May: Osteoporosis/Osteopenia prevention and treatment Dr Marise L Castro,
Professor of Endocrinology

16 June: Medical Teaching and Training of Specialists, Dr Irene Abramovich,
coordinator of medical residency program of the São Paulo State Health Authority.

A forum on the Zika Virus will be held August 11th and will be entitled Myth and Truth.

Marilene Melo, VP of ABMM, received an invitation from the Academy of Medicine of São Paulo to write a chapter in “History of Women in Brazilian Medicine.” She is writing the chapter together with Dr Francys Patrício past president ABMM (2003-2008), director of ABMM.

Anna Maria Martits, endocrinologist, director of ABMM, was invited by the president of the scientific commission of the Brazilian Society of Endocrinology and Metabolism to the Congress in Costa do Sauipe, Bahia, September/16 to organize a workshop on gender medicine and endocrinology. This will be the first time gender has been on the agenda of an endocrinology meeting in Brazil.

Canada

The Federation of Medical Women of Canada has partnered with Cancer Care Ontario and the Canadian Cancer society.

The Federation was the first organization to have a Smear Campaign to promote Pap smears and over the years different partners have joined in. With this new partnership, it is possible to promote their Pap smear campaign, know as [**It's always better to catch things early.**](#)

Egypt

In response to a call from WHO to conduct consultations for the Accelerated Action for the Health of Adolescents, the Egyptian Medical Women entered an application to conduct interviews with young adolescents about their health. See more information under WHO.

Georgia

The Georgian Medical Women have founded the Health Professional Development and Support Fund (HDSF) for the Caucasian region and neighbouring countries. The ongoing project is the health professionals for the elimination and prevention of domestic and sexual violence against women and children. A short clinical manual on Domestic Violence for Health Professionals was developed in the Georgian language. It will also be translated into Russian and Azerbaijan. Training will also be organized for the education of health workers about sexual and domestic violence for the Caucasian region.

Sweden

The Medical Women's Association Sweden (KLF) was founded 1916 by Karolina Widerström. Karolina was the first female doctor in Sweden and graduated in 1888. She was very engaged and involved in questions concerning social justice and women's rights,

at a time when women's right to equal salary, to work and to vote was on the agenda. 2016 KLF celebrated its 100th Anniversary!

The celebrations were held April 23rd in the Swedish Medical Society house in Stockholm, Sweden. Around 150 doctors and medical students participated in a program with fantastic speakers, speaking about violence against women, gender equity for doctors, historical backgrounds through the last century, and barriers for women in the scientific world. The anniversary continued with mingling with champagne and then a big celebratory dinner with musicians and toasts in honour of KLF.

Switzerland

The topic of our annual conference in March 2015 was “Genetics today – from Mendel to personalized medicine”. The interesting meeting comprised the following presentations: “genome analysis”, “prenatal diagnosis”, “personalized medicine”, “genetic counseling” (legal foundations and consequences), and “biobanks.” As our guest, we were able to welcome MWIA President-elect, Bettina Pfleiderer, who talked about “Genetics – Possibilities without limits?”

In consideration of our difficult financial situation (stagnant number of members, rising administrative expenditure), fortunately we were able to accept generous first-time contributions from benefactors and sponsors (particularly hospitals).

Furthermore, we're trying to establish a professional mentoring program which shall respond to all requests comprehensively and swiftly.

Regarding contents and public appearance, we redesigned and published our guiding principles.

5. REPORT ON the meeting of the EXECUTIVE BOARD OF WHO

Dr. Shafika Nasser

The executive board of WHO met May 30-31, 2016, following the completion of the World Health Assembly. The executive board consists of 30 countries and NGOs are allowed as observers.

The technical and health matters discussed were dementia, improving access to assisted technology, prevention of deafness and hearing loss, health and climate change, international classification of disease, and use of mobile technology, known as m-health, for public health.

Prior to the executive board, during the World Health Assembly, Dr. Nasser was able to include comments from MWIA during the report on maternal, newborn and adolescent health and climate change and health.

6. REPORT FROM MWIA’S REPRESENTATIVES TO THE UN

Dr. Satty Gill Keswani and Dr. Padmini Murthy

Drs. Keswani and Murthy and Ms. Aishu Narasimhadevara have been closely following and attending the various UN meetings and have represented MWIA at the

events. In March 2016, Drs. Keswani and Murthy represented MWIA at the American Medical Women's Association's 101st annual meeting in Miami, Florida. In April, 2016, Dr. Murthy represented MWIA at the NGOCSW executive committee campaign to elect a woman Secretary General. Aishu Narasimhadevara has been representing MWIA as a member of the youth subcommittee for the 66th UN DPI NGO conference in Gyeongju, South Korea and participated in two panel discussions. In May, 2015, Dr. Murthy attended a work shop on Menstrual Hygiene to commemorate World Menstruation Day organized by International Rescue Committee.

MWIA is listed as a co-sponsor for the yoga day event which is being organized by the International Committee of Yoga in June, 2016. Dr. Murthy was an invited speaker representing MWIA at a symposium on "Health and the Environment: Science and Solutions" which was organized by the United Nations Academic Impact. Dr Murthy and Aishu Narasimhadevara represented MWIA at the high level AIDS meeting at the United Nations in June, 2016.

7. REPORT FROM MWIA'S REPRESENTATIVE TO WHO

Dr. Clarissa Fabre

The **World Health Assembly** in Geneva in May was, as usual, was an inspiring experience. I was there with Dr Shelley Ross, Dr Shafika Nasser and Dr Natalie Yap, a junior doctor from Australia.

We had a meeting with the new **Head of Maternal, Neonatal, Child and Adolescent Health** at the WHO, **Professor Anthony Costello**, and he discussed with us the main priorities facing the WHO at the moment. Top of these is the **Zika virus**, which is now in 60 countries and rising. There is now strong evidence of a link between maternal infection with the virus and microcephaly. Maternal infection with the virus has also been associated with severe brain damage, heart defects, stillbirth and neonatal deaths. As a consequence, the WHO has recently advised young women in Latin America and the Caribbean to avoid becoming pregnant during this epidemic, although these areas unfortunately have a very high incidence of unplanned pregnancies. Pregnant women returning from an affected area need an ultrasound scan, which should be repeated every 4 weeks for the rest of the pregnancy as the initial scan could be normal. The virus is known to be spread by mosquitoes, and it has been suggested that it might also be sexually transmitted. Men have been advised to use condoms while in an endemic area and for 4 weeks after their return (for the duration of the pregnancy if their wives are pregnant).

Professor Sir Michael Marmot is the current President of the World Medical Association and chaired a session on **Conflict and the Social Determinants of Health**. Youth unemployment is one of the causes and consequences of conflict, and is an urgent crisis globally. Conflict is a huge burden on women and has a major impact on the future psychological and physical well-being of children. It is important that education is available for children in conflict situations. We saw a very moving montage showing the effects of **attacks on health workers and health facilities** (see attached photo).

Every year we have a meeting with **Dr Claudia Garcia Moreno**, who is leading on **Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG)** at the WHO. She is lead author of the WHO **Clinical Handbook** on the subject, which has now been translated into Spanish, French and German. The WHO is developing a medical student curriculum and a training manual for practising doctors, as well as a parallel handbook for managers on how to organise a system for coping with VAWG, and how to finance it. Claudia was very interested in the online training module which MWIA has been developing over the last three years. She felt that MWIA could play a very useful role in disseminating the materials being developed by the WHO (www.who.int).

At one of the fringe events on **Women and Leadership**, we heard two women speak who were both outstanding. **Dr Margaret Mungherera** is a psychiatrist from Uganda and a former president of the World Medical Association. She set up **Hope after Rape** with 11 other women doctors in 1994 and was encouraged by Dr Shelley Ross at that time to form a women doctors' organisation in Uganda. At the fringe event, Shelley was specifically acknowledged, and spoke to everyone about MWIA and what our organisation is about. Dr Mungherera said that **universal primary education** has made a big difference in her country, but the challenge is *keeping* girls in school (early marriage and the 'bride price' are a problem). In some medical schools, women are excluded if they become pregnant, a practice which must stop. Dr Mungherera explained that it is important to work with leaders who are there in the community, to train, support and protect them. Role models are very important. In Uganda they have begun to look at boy children, and work with young men in order to change attitudes to women. Dr Mungherera said 'we would like to work with men as partners...Men can be part of the solution', a sentiment with which I entirely agree.

The second speaker was **Dr Bernice Dahn, a Minister for Health in Liberia**. With the Ebola outbreak there was a lot of fear and denial, and many health workers fled the country. Women began delivering their babies in the streets. Fortunately, the epidemic is under control, and the emphasis now is to prioritise the new **Sustainable Development Goals**.

8. REPORT FROM EUROPEAN WOMEN'S LOBBY

Dr. Edith Schratzberger

The exciting news from the European Women's Lobby is the election of MWIA's Dr. Edith Schratzberger as its new President. This should afford more opportunities for partnership between the two organizations.

9. REPORT FROM DPI/NGO CONFERENCE IN KOREA

a. Report from MWIA President, Kyung Ah Park

The 66th UN DPI/NGO Conference was held in Gyeongju, Korea and it was the first time this conference was held in East Asia.

The conference theme was "Education for Global Citizenship: Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals Together." This conference recognized that education holds the key

to achieving our common vision and a spirit of global citizenship will guide us on the path to peace and prosperity for all people in our planet.

There were four round tables with the themes of “The Right to Accessible, Safe and Inclusive Learning Spaces,” “STEAM Should Power the SDGs,” “Children and Youth,” and “Global Citizens as Stewards of the Planet.” Difficulties in the educational environment for the children and youth in many parts of the world were widely discussed such as the North Korean defectors in South Korea, human right issues in Myanmar and in Kenya, etc.

I would like to ask MWIA to take action on this issue starting with a new resolution for the next general assembly in Vienna.

The happiest event during the conference was to meet Aishu (Mini’s daughter) and talk with her. She was very actively participating in the program which is a wonderful opportunity for the young members of MWIA

b. Report on Youth Activities by Aishu Narasimhadevara

The United Nations 66th DPI/NGO conference was held in Gyeongju, South Korea, from 30 May-1 June 2016. The conference focused on Education for Global Citizenship, which incorporates the values of social responsibility and being a part of the global community.

Throughout the conference, there were many workshops, roundtable discussions, and interactive sessions where participants had the opportunity to share their viewpoints. The conference also included a youth platform that focused on youth participation through discussions and a youth hub, which was a space dedicated to meet other delegates with performances throughout the event. The youth caucuses in the conference incorporated the themes of Youth-led Innovation in Education, Formal Education in Conflict and Post-Conflict Situations, and Youth Employment/Underemployment, and Underemployment. Speakers whose work and expertise are related to themes shared their knowledge with delegates. The first caucus included Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon who gave introductory remarks and mentioned the importance of youth. The input from caucuses was used to create a youth declaration highlighting the importance for Education for Global Citizenship. The document is to lay the foundation for involvement of youth in DPI/NGO related events. It was referenced in the Action Agenda, the conference outcome document.

Other youth-related activities included a dance on Day 2 of the conference where all the youth delegates danced to the song “Tell Everyone” by various African artists.

The DPI/NGO conference was a success and showcased the importance of Education in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. The youth delegates were energetic and passionate about making a difference in society. I was honoured to represent MWIA as a youth delegate and was a speaker at the Intergenerational Panel and also was a

member of the youth sub group who met Under Secretary General of UN DPI, Cristina Gallach, for a one on one dialogue.

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

2016

1. **July 28-31, 2016**, Vienna, Austria
30th International Congress of MWIA
The theme is Generation Y: Challenges of the Future for Female Medical Doctors
www.mwiavienna2016.org
2. **September 23-25, 2016**, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada
Annual meeting of the Federation of Medical Women of Canada
www.fmwc.ca
3. **October 19-22, 2016** Taipei, Taiwan
World Medical Association General Assembly
Grand Hyatt, Taipei, Taiwan
www.wma.net
4. **November 2-6, 2016**, Riocentro-Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
21st World Conference of Family Doctors
http://www.wonca2016.com/ingles/trabalhos/index_atividades_cientificas.php#c
5. **November 11, 2016** The Light, Euston Road, London, UK
Fall meeting of the Medical Women's Federation
Women Doctors: Equity of Equality?
www.medicalwomensfederation.org.uk
6. **November 14-16, 2016**, Vancouver, Canada
Fourth Global Symposium on Health Systems Research
<http://healthsystemsglobal.org/>
For an opportunity for funding in order to attend, visit
<http://www.who.int/alliance-hpsr/news/2015/HSRCall.pdf?ua=1> before February 19th
7. **November 23-25, 2016**, Moscow, Russia
Central European Regional Meeting
<http://www.congress-inform.ru/>

2017

1. **March 13-24, 2017**, United Nations, New York City
Priority theme: Women's economic empowerment in the changing world of work
Review theme: Challenges and achievements in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals for women and girls (agreed conclusions of the fifty-eighth session)
2. **March 30-April 2, 2017**, San Francisco, USA
American Medical Women's Association annual meeting
www.amwa-doc.org
3. **May 10-13, 2017**, London, UK
Northern European Regional Meeting
Theme: 100 years of Medical Women: Past, Present and Future.
In Celebration of 100th Anniversary of Medical Women's Federation
www.medicalwomensfederation.org.uk
4. **May 17-20, 2017**, Panama City, Panama
Latin American Regional Meeting of MWIA/Pan American Medical Women's Association Meeting
gy.moreno@yahoo.es
5. **May 21-26, 2017**, Geneva, Switzerland
World Health Assembly of the World Health Organization
Please contact secretariat@mwia.net if you wish to be registered
6. **August 25-27, 2017**, Hong Kong
Western Pacific Regional Meeting
Website under development

11. NAMES IN THE NEWS

Dr. Diana Egerton-Warburton of the Federation of Medical Women of Australia has been awarded the Australia Medical Association's 2016 Woman in Medicine Award for her work in emergency and public health.

Dr. Fiona Godlee, editor of the British Medical Journal, has stated that the pharmaceutical industry is causing a corruption of the scientific process.

Kate Grauvogel has been named as the 2016-2017 fellow for the Foundation for the History of Medicine by the Archives for Women in Medicine, for her work on blood clotting disorders in reproductive age women.

Dr. Gabrielle Horne from Canada has won a \$1.4 million lawsuit against the Nova Scotia Health Authority due to damage to her reputation and career resulting from bullying from older male colleagues.

Dr. Anthea Mowat of the Medical Women's Federation was named Chair of the British Medical Association.

Dr. Shelley Ross of the Federation of Medical Women of Canada received the Cam Coady Award from the Doctors of BC for her work in women's health

Dr. Ellen Wiebe of the Federation of Medical Women of Canada has stepped forward to become the de facto ambassador the medical assistance in dying in Canada.

12. OBITUARIES

A/Professor Lesley Williams, a highly regarded member of the Federation of Medical Women of Australia passed away on 5 April, 2016.

13. BOOKS AND ARTICLES

From the International AIDS Conference 2016 comes WOMEN & HIV/AIDS – FACTS & FIGURES – UN WOMEN

<http://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/hiv-and-aids/facts-and-figures>

<http://www.aids2016.org/About/Overview/Theme-Objectives>

From Women's Enabled International Organization comes this article on Zika Virus and pregnancy <http://www.wunrn.org/pdf/wei.pdf>

From UN Women comes this document on the effects of gender equality programming on humanitarian outcomes

<http://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2015/7/the-effect-of-gender-equality-programming-on-humanitarian-outcomes>

<http://www2.unwomen.org/~media/headquarters/attachments/sections/library/publications/2015/unw%20effects%20of%20gender%20equality%20on%20humanitarian%20outcomesinglepgsweb.pdf?v=1&d=20150707T185705>

From Jan Egeland, Secretary General of the Norwegian Refugee Council, this article on why humanitarian aid is still missing the mark

http://www.irinnews.org/opinion/2016/05/18/well-fed-dead-why-aid-still-missing-point?utm_source=IRIN+-+the+inside+story+on+emergencies&utm_campaign=9142e82071-

[RSS EMAIL ENGLISH ALL&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_d842d98289-9142e82071-15654885](http://www.state.gov/j/drl/rls/hrrpt/humanrightsreport/#wrapper)

From the US Department of State –the Human Rights Report
<http://www.state.gov/j/drl/rls/hrrpt/humanrightsreport/#wrapper>

From the US Treasury an announcement that women’s photos will be included on currency
<http://www.nytimes.com/2016/04/21/us/women-currency-treasury-harriet-tubman.html>

II. OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

1. World Health Organization (WHO)

a. Along with USAID, WHO has issued a brief on Recommendations for **Augmentation of Labour**. The document can be downloaded at <http://bit.ly/1Ufy1sA>

b. WHO has developed information resources to keep the world informed about **Zika**:

- Links to the ‘Zika App’ ([iOS](#) and [Android](#) versions)
- A link to the [situation reports](#) (updated each Wednesday)
- A link to the [WHO main Zika website](#) with fact sheets and other resources

c. WHO is working on the Accelerated Action for the Health of Adolescents. The Egyptian Medical women put in an application to conduct interviews of adolescents for this initiative. Please see the update about the AA-HA! Framework on the WHO webpage:

http://www.who.int/maternal_child_adolescent/topics/adolescence/en/

http://www.who.int/maternal_child_adolescent/topics/adolescence/framework-consultation-report/en/

2. United Nations

a. UN Women developed a report on the Commission on the Status of Women

Direct Link to Full 18-Page Report:

[Driving the gender-responsive implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#)

b. The Centre for Women’s Global Leadership from Rutgers University in New Jersey is leading a campaign to elect a women Secretary General when the term of Ban Ki-moon is finished. **Please see [this letter](#) for action steps**

3. 17 Days of Activism against Violence Against Women

This year’s theme is the empowerment of rural women and their communities and will run from October 1-17, 2016. The campaign kit can be found at

<http://woman.ch/womensection/index.php/en/campaign-materials2/2016-kit>

4. **Aspen Institute** talks about how better work life balance helps both employees and the whole economy.
http://www.aspeninstitute.org/about/blog/better-work-life-balance-doesnt-just-help-employees-it-helps-whole-economy-0?utm_source=iContact&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=The%20Aspen%20Institute&utm_content=3.18.16+Newsletter

5. **Respectful Maternity Care of the White Ribbon Alliance** sent a brief to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights with recommendations on the implementation of the technical guidance on the application of a human rights based approach to the implementation of policies and programs to reduce preventable maternal morbidity and mortality (A/HRC/21/22). **MWIA signed its name to this brief.**

6. **Family Planning 2020** marks the half way point since its inception in 2012 at the London Summit on Family Planning. There is an opportunity to share your voice: Join the #FP2020Progress Tweetchat on Tuesday, July 12 at 11 a.m. EST, and stay tuned for more information on how to get involved, as well as a communications toolkit with key messages, social media assets and more!
 If you are a youth advocate or youth network member, tweet us your questions about progress and accountability that you'd like to ask the FP2020 Reference Group, using #FP2020Progress. A selection of questions will be answered live via Twitter during FP2020's midpoint event in London on Wednesday, June 29, starting around 6:30 pm BST.

7. **Medicins Sans Frontieres**
 MSF backed Aleppo Hospital in Syria was attacked April 28th and both doctors and patients were killed. MSF has written a publication about humanitarian security.

<http://msf-crash.org/livres/en/book/export/html/2324>

http://msf-crash.org/livres/en/saving-lives-and-staying-alive?_cldee=bW9zaWVAaW5maW9ubGluZS5uZXQ%3d&utm_source=ClickDimensions&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Email_Events_2016.04.29_CRASH%20Webcast%20Initial%20Invite

III. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next Update will be published in September, 2016, the first for the new triennium. Please send us your reports, comments or any other interesting information by August 31, 2016, at the latest. We are always interested to put your name and your accomplishments in the Update.