

Thomas Schwarz, Medicus Mundi International

Von: MMI Executive Secretariat [office@medicusmundi.org]
Gesendet: Mittwoch, 30. Januar 2008 08:27
An: MMI Members and Partners (office@medicusmundi.org)
Betreff: MMI News Briefing, 30 January 2008

.....
MMI News Briefing, 30 January 2008
.....

1. MMI Calendar 2008: Board Meetings and Assembly
 2. MMI Calls for Participation: EU project, Geneva Health Forum
 3. MMI Network News – Board, Office, Members
 4. MMI Key Issues: Reports, Events, Resources
-

Dear Madam, Sir,
Dear friends,

This is not an official newsletter but just an informal briefing about some news and developments within the Medicus Mundi International (MMI) Network. A more formal newsletter will be published only after the setup of a MMI E-network in spring 2008.

The MMI News Briefing is not intended to be one-way communication. Please consider the two "calls for participation". And feel free to contribute to the next news briefing (scheduled for 27 February 2008) with your own short "network news".

Thank you for your attention!
Best regards,

Guus Eskens, President
Thomas Schwarz, Executive Secretary
Medicus Mundi International

.....
1. MMI Calendar 2008
.....

29th Feb 2008: EB Meeting in Basel
24th May 2008: EB Meeting and General Assembly in Geneva*
10th Oct 2008: EB Meeting in Rome
21st Nov 2008: EB Meeting and technical workshop**
*date to be confirmed; **venue and contents to be confirmed

EB meeting in Basel: The invitation to the first Board meeting in 2008 was sent to the MMI Board members and advisors. Other MMI members who intend to join us in Basel are most welcome: please contact the secretariat, so that we can make the hotel reservation and send you the meeting's agenda and material.

General Assembly: Please mark the date of the Assembly in your calendar even if it is not yet confirmed: We are planning a technical meeting on contracting experiences at the World Health Assembly; a formal request was submitted to the WHO by the MMI secretariat last week. As soon as we get news from WHO, the meeting(s) will be scheduled.

.....
2. MMI Calls for Participation
.....

**MMI Urgent Call for Participation:
EU Project "Public awareness and education for development in Europe"**

Last year, action medeor successfully submitted to the EU the project of a MMI consortium (medeor, MM Spain, cuamm, MM Poland) for the mobilisation of public support for increased political commitment of European governments to fight malaria. The project was approved, EU funds were granted, and the project will now be implemented by the consortium.

This year again, the European Commission calls for proposals of non state actors for "Public awareness and education for development in Europe". We invite you to have a look at the EU call. As the deadline for submission of concept notes is very close (19 February 2008), we urge those members who like to participate (and take the lead?) in a new MMI consortium to contact our secretariat as soon as possible.

- > *Deadline for feedback to MMI: 5th February 2008*
- > *EU call: www.medicusmundi.org/Files/News/200801/EU_Call.pdf*

.....
**MMI Call for Participation:
Geneva Health Forum, 25-28 May 2008**

After the successful conference of May 2006, this year's Geneva Health Forum will focus on "Strengthening Health Systems and the Global Health Workforce". MMI members who register their participation at the forum through the MMI Network might benefit of a reduced fee (to be confirmed - generally starting from 20 people). Please contact the MMI office if you are interested.

Medicus Mundi International considers the Geneva Health Forum to be an interesting platform for networking and mutual learning. We will contribute to the Forum with an input on the contracting study (see abstract) and, eventually, with a table at the NGO marketplace. MMI members who like to share this market table with the secretariat (attending it for at least 1/2 day) are invited to contact the secretariat.

- > *Deadline for feedback to MMI (registration and market table): 20th February 2008*
- > *Geneva Forum Website: <http://genevahealthforum.hug-ge.ch/>*
- > *MMI/ITG abstract: www.medicusmundi.org/Files/News/200801/Abstract_GHF.pdf*

.....
3. MMI Network News
.....

.....
**WHO Consultation on Strategic Contracting in Health Systems
Geneva, 9-11 January 2008**

MMI participated at the WHO Consultation on Strategic Contracting with a large team including representatives of Cordaid, MM Switzerland, ITM Antwerp and Dr Paul Mundama from Butembo, Congo. The MMI/ITM team contributed to the consultation with a presentation of the first results of the new MMI study on contracting.

- > *Draft Programme: www.medicusmundi.org/Files/News/200801/WHOCont.pdf*
- > *Draft MMI/ITM Presentation: www.medicusmundi.org/Files/News/200801/study.ppt*

.....
**Workshop on Congo
Antwerp, 25th January 2008**

On 25 January a MMI workshop on Congo was organised at the Institute for Tropical Medicine (ITM) in Antwerp in order to prepare a conference on healthcare with Bishops in Congo in 2009. A general introduction on the healthcare situation in Congo was provided by Dr Geert Laleman of ITM. The workshop was attended by representatives of MMI members from several countries, ITM staff and Dr Mundama.

> *ITM Presentation:* www.medicusmundi.org/Files/News/200801/MMICongo.ppt

.....

A warm farewell to Frederica Wijckmans

Since September 1991 the secretariat of Medicus Mundi International was established in Brussels. Mrs Frederica Wijckmans has been the MMI Executive Secretary since that date until end 2007. During the Executive Board meeting of 16 November in Padua, Frederica Wijckmans was praised extensively for her high commitment to MMI over the last 17 years by all Board members and for all work that she has done for MMI under sometimes difficult circumstances. On 25 January a farewell dinner for Frederica took place which was attended by all former presidents of MMI .

.....

New MMI Secretariat in Basel The doors are open!

The new MMI secretariat in Basel opened its doors on 2nd January 2008. The secretariat can be contacted by e-mail "anytime", by phone during regular business hours normally. The Executive Secretary Thomas Schwarz works at the secretariat from Monday to Wednesday; on the other days of the week, the phone is answered by staff members of Medicus Mundi Switzerland. Your visit at our new office would be most welcome!

> *Holidays of Thomas Schwarz: 11-15 February 2008*



.....

MMI Basics and Reports online

The statutes of Medicus Mundi International are now available, together with other documents and conference reports, on the MMI website. Anything important missing? Please let us know.

> *MMI Documents:* www.medicusmundi.org/E/documents.htm

.....

MMI Network News: Doctors for Africa Cuamm Course: Health Systems through Conflict and Recovery Padova, 19-31 May 2008

Among the training opportunities presented by Doctors with Africa Cuamm, the Course on Health Systems through Conflict and Recovery offers an experience-based overview of the most critical issues concerning health services in crisis. Register now!

> Info: www.doctorswithafrica.org/inq/pagina.asp?ID=132&sezione=239

.....
5. MMI Key Issues: Reports, Events, Resources
.....

In the MMI Policy Plan 2007 – 2010, the following key issues have been determined for the coming years:

- > Strategies to keep competent and motivated staff available.
- > Bridging the appropriate technology gap in basic health care.
- > Strategic positioning of private not-for-profit (mainly church) health care facilities.

These MMI key issues and some closely related fields will be systematically documented in the MMI News Briefings and on the future E-Platform in order to obtain better insight in the underlying causes and develop practical solutions for those working at field level.

.....
MMI Key Issue: Appropriate Technology
Seminar: Appropriate Healthcare Technologies for Developing Countries
5th IET International Seminar , London, 21-22 May 2008

“This seminar is an opportunity to update your knowledge on the issues surrounding healthcare provision in the developing world. It will address key needs, problems and solutions and will be an excellent opportunity for networking.”

> Info: <http://conferences.theiet.org/aht/>

.....
MMI Key Issue: Capacity Building and Management
Publication: Focus on Health services management
Eldis Health systems reporter, January 2008

"In low income countries, lack of management capacity especially at local levels, has been identified as a key factor that prevents the effective use of resources and successful scaling up of health services to reach the Millennium Development Goals."

> Info: www.eldis.org/go/topics/resource-guides/health-systems/health-systems-reporter

.....
MMI Key Issue: Human Resources for Health
Conference: First Global Forum on Human Resources for Health
Global Health Workforce, Kampala, 2-7 March 2008.

“This Forum will provide an extraordinary platform for sharing and exploring solutions, consensus and capacity building, and will further galvanize a global movement that is emerging as a response to the increasingly pertinent human resources for health (HRH) crisis.”

> Info: www.who.int/workforcealliance/forum/en/index.html

.....

MMI Key Issue: NGO positioning

Publication: NGO Involvement in International Organizations: A Legal Analysis
Sergey Ripinsky, Peter Van den Bossche, December 2007

“In light of the growing influence of NGOs in international decision-making, this book investigates the arrangements for NGO involvement in the activities of a range of international institutions, and examines and compares relevant rules and practices.”

> Info: www.biicl.org/publications/books/

.....

MMI Key Issue: NGO positioning

Conference: What role for NGOs in the international arena?
Handicap International, Lyon, 12-13 February 2008

The conference that will look at the role of NGOs in global governance and wants to launch a forward-looking and constructive debate between the different stakeholders in international relations (States, NGOs, international organisations, companies...).

> Info: www.hiconference2008.org

.....

About the MMI News Briefing

.....

This MMI News Briefing was sent to you by the secretariat of Medicus Mundi International.

Subscribe/unsubscribe: Please contact us if you do not want to be included in our mailing list. Feel free to transmit the MMI News Briefing to others who might be interested to get regular news from Medicus Mundi International – they can subscribe to the News Briefing by sending a simple “subscribe” message to the secretariat.

Contribute: The next news briefing is scheduled for 27th February 2008 – please send us your eventual contributions until 24th February.

Contact:

Thomas Schwarz, Executive Secretary
Medicus Mundi International Network
Murbacherstrasse 34, CH-4013 Basel
Phone +41 (61) 383 18 11
office@medicusmundi.org
www.medicusmundi.org

“We fight global poverty by promoting health.”