

MMI Thomas Schwarz

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Dear Madam, Sir,
Dear Friends,

When I started working at the Medicus Mundi International Network in January 2008, I mainly had a bunch of names of "Network people" on my desk and in my computer files. After the Network meetings in Geneva during the last ten days, some faces and stories have been added to these names, and during our discussions, some abstract notions have become clearer. A good thing for a beginner, anyhow! So, until we meet a next time, let us keep in touch and let us use the MMI Network for sharing our stories, our know-how, our commitment.

Best regards,

Thomas Schwarz, Executive Secretary
Medicus Mundi International

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MMI Network News: Board, Members and Partners
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MMI Network News: Doctors with Africa CUAMM and partners
Equal opportunities for health: action for development

Equal opportunities for health: action for development is a EU financed project implemented by 29 partners and associates working together to mobilize public support in Europe for Global Health Equity as a strategy and policy for more equitable North-South relations and poverty reduction in developing countries. *Equal opportunities for health: action for development* aims to raise awareness on the close link between health and development and to make the health community accountable for taking action, in line with the efforts made at international level for achieving the Millennium Development Goals – with a specific reference to those focusing on health, namely child mortality reduction, improvement of maternal health and control of communicable diseases – and through the strengthening of national healthcare systems.



> www.mediciconlafrica.org/globalhealth

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MMI Technical Meeting at the WHA, Geneva, 22nd May 2008
Experiences with contractual arrangements in the health sector
MMI Technical Meeting at the World Health Assembly

As a side event to the 61st World Health Assembly, MMI organized a technical meeting on “Contracting experiences between non-governmental health facilities and the public health sector in sub-Saharan Africa”. In the meantime, the meeting’s documentation including some background documents and the main inputs (Delphine Boulenger, Jean Perrot, Yves Sossou) is published on the MMI website.



> www.medicusmundi.org/conferences/Geneva2008

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MMI Annual Report 2007

“We found an open, creative and respectful group of experts who are eager to learn from each other...”

“The year 2007 can, for several reasons, be considered as a year of transition in the 45 years of history of the Medicus Mundi International Network: it was the first effective year of MMI’s first multiannual policy plan 2007-2010, a plan that had carefully been developed the year before and that was endorsed by the General Assembly of MMI in May of 2007; a year in which a new Executive Board was elected and in which MMI was able to welcome the German Catholic organization Misereor as a new member; a year also in which Medicus Mundi Belgium unfortunately ceased to exist with the subsequent necessity for MMI to relocate its secretariat from Brussels to the premises of Medicus Mundi Switzerland in Basel.” (Guus Eskens, President)



The MMI Annual Report 2007 contains a series of reports on MMI members involvement in the Network (Misereor, Doctors with Africa CUAMM, Medicus Mundi Switzerland) and on joint projects (Stop Malaria Now; Strategic Positioning) as well as a summary of the financial statement.

> www.medicusmundi.org

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MMI Key Issues: Reports, Events, Resources

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MMI Key Issue: Human Resources for Health

HRH Leaders in Action - Eddie Mukooyo

Dr. Eddie Mukooyo is the Assistant Commissioner of the Resource Center for the Uganda Ministry of Health and the Chair of the Uganda Health Workforce Advisory Board. In an video interview published on the website of the HRH Global Resource Center he discusses the role of knowledge management in the Ministry of Health and some of the challenges of human resources for health in Uganda.

> www.hrhresourcecenter.org/mukooyo

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MMI Key Issue: Appropriate Technology

The Role of Information & Communication Technologies in Health Systems Development

The 11th Symposium of the Swiss Tropical Institute provided a platform for exchange of expertise on the influence of ICT on the development of health systems. Among the covered areas have been: Telemedicine and eHealth; knowledge management and eLearning; health information systems. The presentations (pdf files) as well as brief introductions into the different subject areas and a short introduction and abstract of each presentation focusing on goals and possible impact of each approach are available now.

> www.sti.ch/en/about-us/sti-symposium.html

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MMI Key Issue: International Health Policy

World Health Assembly sets bold new action for WHO

The 61st World Health Assembly, which comprised of a record 2704 participants from 190 nations, set WHO on a course to tackle longstanding, new and looming threats to global public health. Among its achievements, the Health Assembly produced a public health breakthrough by providing a platform for removing barriers and using innovative methods to encourage research, development and access to medicines for the common diseases of the developing world. (WHO News Release, 24 May 2008)

> WHO Release: www.who.int/mediacentre/news/releases/2008/wha02

> WHA media centre: www.who.int/mediacentre/events/2008/wha61

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MMI Key Issue: International Health Policy

“Whither the Health for All Vision and Primary Health Care Strategy”

“Please allow this old man in front of you to insist that unless we all become partisans in renewed local and global battles for social and economic equity in the spirit of distributive justice, we shall indeed betray the future of our children and grandchildren.” (Halfdan Mahler, former Director-General of WHO, addressing the WHA. Remarkable!)

> Source: WHO media centre

www.who.int/mediacentre/events/2008/wha61/hafdan_mahler_speech

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MMI Key Issue: International Health Policy

World Health Statistics 2008

World Health Statistics 2008 presents the most recent health statistics for WHO's 193 Member States. This fourth edition includes 10 highlights in health statistics, as well as an expanded set of over 70 key health indicators. It includes, for the first time, trend data where the statistics are available and of acceptable quality.

> www.who.int/whosis/whostat

About the MMI News Briefing

This MMI News Briefing was sent to you by the secretariat of Medicus Mundi International. The next news briefing is scheduled for 2nd July 2008 – please send us your eventual contributions until the end of June. 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.

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*"We fight global poverty by promoting health.
Within the Medicus Mundi International Network,
we share our know-how and our commitment for
accessible, equitable and sustainable health care."*