

Letter from the President

Dear colleagues,

As already envisaged in my first letter meanwhile I had the opportunity to visit the West Pacific Region again - on invitation of the Japan Public Health Association (JPHA) - and to meet representatives of many of the national Public Health Associations (PHA) in that area. The first highlight was certainly the festive opening of our West Pacific Regional Liaison Office (WPRLO) in Beijing supported by the Chinese Preventive Medicine Association (CPMA). Together with President Professor Wang Longde and Secretary General Professor Cai Jiming, member of our Executive Board I had the pleasure to unveil the office name plate the 25th of October 2010 in the presence of more than 50 representatives from government, non-governmental and UN organizations. The new office will help considerably to develop a closer cooperation in the Pacific region but also between the various public health stakeholders within the PR China. At the same time it will closely communicate with our main office in Geneva near to WHO INT. One of the main activities relates of course to the preparation of the annual West Pacific Public Health Conferences. The first has taken place in Beijing October 26-29, 2009, the second in Tokyo, October 28-29, 2010. The next one will be organized by the Indonesian PHA in Bali, Indonesia in the late summer of 2011. The office also will help to prepare a workshop and presentation on the Pacific public health cooperation for our forthcoming 13th World Congress in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia during the last week of April 2012.

At the meeting in Saitama/Tokyo at the National Institute of Public Health the Public Health Associations from China, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Thailand and Vietnam discussed in the presence of the director of the new office in Beijing Professor Cai Jiming and myself the challenges of "Urbanization and Health", a key topic of WHO and its Centre in Kobe/Japan in 2010/11. Actually our member associations have been invited by WHO to contribute actively to make cities a healthier place to live in. Keynote speeches were presented by Professor Kitagawa, President of the Japan Public Health Association (JPHA), by Dr. Lostacio M. Lapitan for the WHO Centre for Health Development in Kobe and by my self (see: www.publichealthreviews.eu/show/f/32). Actually it was the JPHA, which made the first successful effort to bring the PHA's in Asia together in 1995, 2000 and 2005.

During the half day business meeting of the Coordinating Committee of the new collaborative network of PHA's in the Pacific region I underlined the global trend of strengthening regional

cooperation, Europe and Asia being the best examples and Public Health should not be left aside. The Committee requested the Beijing Office to send out letters of invitation to all PHA's in the region to join this regional WFPHA network. For next years conference in Bali the representative of the Indonesian PHA Professor Charles Surjadi on behalf his president Professor Adang Bachtiar proposed a theme linking environmental emergencies to disaster preparedness including the financial management. In addition disaster related training programs and a young researchers' forum are envisaged. Also the Vietnam PHA declared its strong interest to invite for the 4th West Pacific Public Health Conference to Hanoi in 2013. Finally first concepts of research proposals have been discussed, especially in the areas of aging, urbanization and public health competencies development. The Beijing office will collect information on comparative public health research in the Pacific region and establish a database or clearing house possibly supported by JICA, the Japanese aid organization.

After the conference in Tokyo I visited the WHO Centre for Health Development, before the WHO Kobe Centre (WKC) where I have repeatedly worked for some months about a decade ago on their Urbanisation and Health programmes. This time I had a long meeting with its director Dr. Jacob Kumaresan on their present activities. The WKC has a global mission and according to the director is highly interested to reach out beyond the WHO and UN setting. At the end of our discussion we came up with the following proposals for future cooperation: (1) WKC will consider the organisation of OPEN HEART (Urban Health Equity Assessment and Response Tool: http://www.who.or.jp/urbanheart/UrbanHEART_GUIDE.pdf) Training Courses at the 3rd Pacific Regional Conference on Public Health in Bali next year and at the occasion of the next WFPHA World Congress in Addis Ababa (www.etpha.org/2012), covering the cost for invited participants. (2) Also WKC will consider an invited Workshop or Session on Urbanisation and Health in Addis Ababa. (3) The WFPHA will invite its members to make use of the campaign materials at the WKC website (www.who.or.jp). Dr. Kumaresan envisaged a letter to the EB of WFPHA offering cooperation along these lines on behalf of the WHO Centre.

Finally I followed an invitation of the World Association of Chinese Public Health Professionals to their Conference on Public Health and Preventive Medicine in Hongkong. The theme of the conference was quite general (Public Health in the 21st Century – New Challenges and Strategies) but the meeting provided an official framework to bring together professionals from Hongkong, Macao and Taiwan as well as from the neighbouring Chinese province of Guangdong. In addition the mainland was represented by a national delegation from Beijing. Around 200 contributions dealt mainly with infectious diseases, but keynote speakers underlined an upcoming shift towards chronic diseases. The perception of the concept of a New Public Health prioritizing social determinants and financial conditions is still in its early stages but China has started the discussion and in my opinion is likely to take a more proactive role in the near future. The final banquet was devoted to the celebration of friendship between the historically and politically so different parts of China, it was heartwarming to experience this as the president of our Federation. My understanding is that this model of cooperation can and will also serve as a stimulus for cooperation in the entire Pacific region.

With my best collegial regards

Yours,

Ulrich Laaser

**TO ALL MEMBER PHA'S : IF YOU HAVE INTERESTING INFORMATION TO SHARE
WITH OTHER ASSOCIATIONS ; PLEASE SEND AN E-MAIL TO :**

Laetitia.bourquin@unige.ch

Last Issue of Federation Pages of JPHP

« Building the public health workforce to achieve health-related development goals: Moving forward
in collaboration »

Rebecca J Bailey MSPH, C.Ed. and Mario Dal Poz MD, MS, PhD

<http://www.palgrave-journals.com/jphp/journal/v31/n4/full/jphp201034a.html>



The WFPHA and its members got involved

The WFPHA has been invited by ASPHER and EUPHA to organise a 90 minutes session on Global Health and the Role of EU. Given the official representation of the CEU by Ms Georgina Georgiou and the large number of attendants it has been a successful session explaining the new global EU strategy.

In addition the WFPHA received an invitation to attend the meeting of the European Academic Alliance for Global Health. The Alliance presently is predominantly research oriented. The adjective "Academic" is not fully justified as many non-academic institutions are members.

Furthermore they try to reach out beyond Europe (the Pacific and African regions). This initiative can contribute to bring together the Schools of Public Health in Europe and other regions and help to create their global representation. The declaration was signed by the WFPHA in a small ceremony. The 3rd Global Summit is planned for the next APHA in Washington DC 2011. Behind this initiative is the present president of ASPHER Prof. Antoine Flahault, EHESP, Paris and Prof. Andy Haines, LSHTM, London.

<http://www.aspher.org/> and http://www.eupha.org/site/past_conference_2010.php

The Secretariat of Geneva was very happy to attend on the 25th of November 2010, the official Launch of a Partnership to fund **the Global Nursing Leadership institute**.

The International Council of Nurses (ICN) was pleased to announce an exciting partnership with the Burdett Trust for Nursing to support the implementation of the Global Nursing Leadership Institute (GNLI) from 2011 to 2013 which will ensure that nurses from low income countries can take part in this important programme through bursaries.

Further information about the GNLI can be accessed at :

www.icn.ch/pillarsprograms/global-nursing-leadership-institute/

On the 29th of November 2010 took place the

4th SYMPOSIUM ON GLOBAL HEALTH DIPLOMACY

NEGOTIATING HEALTH IN THE 21st CENTURY:

Fragile States: Analyzing the interface of health and diplomacy

For those of you who weren't able to attend the **Fourth High-Level Symposium on Global Health Diplomacy "Negotiating Health in the 21st Century: Fragile States: Analyzing the interface of health and diplomacy"**, and for those who would like to watch again the interventions of the different speakers, please note that the video recordings of all interventions, Power Point presentations (when available), as well as other relevant documents from the symposium are now accessible on the [Symposium webpage](#) of the Global Health Programme.

This was also the occasion to launch the new **Global Health Diplomacy Network** :

www.ghd-net.org

Please find below the final **Cancun Climate and Health Statement** which the WFPHA co-signed.

http://www.noharm.org/global/news_hcwh/2010/dec/hcwh2010-12-06a.php#3

The Statement was **launched officially on Monday December 6th by Dr. Michael Wilks**. He has introduced and spoken about the Statement during the joint WHO/FAO side event: "Improving resilience to protect human health and welfare from adverse affects of climate change" to be held in Cancun on 6 December 2010.

Health professions join together to fight the dangers of counterfeit medicines

Abuja, Nigeria / Geneva, Switzerland, 24 November 2010

In a first for the African continent, thirty national health professions organisations (dentistry, medicine, nursing, pharmacy, and physical therapy) and four patient organisations have discussed and endorsed the **WHPA Abuja Call to Action on Counterfeit Medical Products** when they met at the first-ever multi-professional workshop on counterfeit medical products in Africa, held 22-23 November, in Abuja, Nigeria.

Under the banner of the [“Be Aware, Take Action” campaign against counterfeit medical products](#), this [World Health Professions Association](#) WHPA workshop aimed to tackle the serious challenge of counterfeit medical products worldwide.

NOUS AVONS L'HONNEUR DE VOUS INFORMER QUE L'ASSEMBLEE NATIONALE DU BURKINA FASO EN SA SEANCE DU 25 NOVEMBRE 2010 A VOTE LA LOI ANTITABAC.

Association Burkinabé de Santé Publique (ABSP)

Site Web: www.absantep.org

NUPHA PARTNERS WITH WORLD VISION, RESTLESS DEVELOPMENT/SPW AND BDC TO COMMEMORATE WORLD AIDS DAY

The Njala University Public Health Association (NUPHA) partnered with the international charities Restless Development/SPW, World Vision and the Bo District HIV/AIDS Committee to stage a symposium in commemoration of this year's World's AIDS Day on December 1st at the School of Community Health Sciences, Njala University, Korwama Campus in the southern city of Bo.

The symposium drew hundreds of observers, participants and guest speakers including the Base Manager of World Vision Mr. A Kwademoi, representatives of Network for People with HIV/AIDS, Plan Parenthood Association Sierra Leone (PPASL), Bo District Council etc.

According to the Chairman of the occasion Mr. Philip Conteh, HIV/AIDS continue to wreck havoc globally and that efforts should be made to scale up preventive and control measures for the disease. The World Vision Base Manager said he will like to see NUPHA venture out into the hinterland to address people with the infection next year rather than commemorating the event within the main towns. He praised NUPHA for organizing such a symposium in a timely fashion. He encouraged people and organizations to stop sympathizing with people living with the HIV virus, claiming that sympathizing with them is also a way of 'telling the infecteds that there is no life after HIV/AIDS'.

Delivering a lecture on the topic “The Changing Epidemiology of HIV/AIDS”, NUPHA's Director Jia Kangbai said HIV/AIDS is one disease that continues to change its epidemiology since it was first discovered in June 1981. He said initially, HIV was described as a poverty-related infection but added that the disease nowadays affect both the rich and poor. He said though Africa continue to bear the greatest HIV/AIDS burden, Eastern Europe, India, Cambodia etc are now experiencing an upsurge in their number of HIV/AIDS cases. Key speakers for the symposium were Gabriel Gbani who lectured on HIV/AIDS management and palliative care, Mohamed Koroma who lectured on the microbiology of HIV/AIDS, Isata Mandoh who looked at the future outlook of HIV/AIDS and the Ahmed Vandy who presented paper on HIV/AIDS transmission patterns and infectivity.

Montreux Statement from the Steering Committee of the First Global Symposium on Health Systems Research

More information on <http://www.hsr-symposium.org/index.php/montreux-statement>

From November 16-19, 2010, 1,200 participants from over 100 countries gathered in Montreux, Switzerland for the First Global Symposium on health systems research. Under the theme “science to accelerate universal coverage” the Symposium reviewed state-of-the art research and discussed strategies for strengthening the field of health systems research.

After five days of keynotes, plenaries, concurrent sessions, satellites and informal discussions and debates, the Steering Committee recognizes that there is an enormous energy to move forward with a further agenda of action reflecting the spirit and commitment that brought us to Montreux from Mexico and Mali. This agenda includes:

- 1) Bringing this symposium to fruition by electronically preserving and disseminating the intellectual products and knowledge discourse, ensuring their appropriate archiving and creating channels of innovative communication.
- 2) Creating an international society for health systems research, knowledge and innovation, which under the umbrella of “science to accelerate UHC”, will take forward the collective opportunities identified by participants in Montreux with the aim of building greater constituency, credibility and capacity for systems research on health globally.
- 3) Articulating a further agenda of “improvement” and “action” related to research on systems for health
 - a. Provide visibility and lend support to regional and national efforts to strengthen health systems research;
 - b. Work with the priority agendas related to the recently agreed UNSG strategy on maternal, neo-natal and child health; and the upcoming UNGASS related to NCDs to bring more effective health systems strengthening to accelerate universal health coverage;
 - c. Catalyze contributions from the global scientific community to establish norms, standards and practices to strengthen the foundations for health systems research related to the production, translation and reproduction of knowledge for health systems including:
 - the terms and typologies of research;
 - the range and appropriate use of methods, measures and instruments;
 - criteria for evaluation of strength of evidence and methods for its synthesis;
 - mechanisms for bridging the gap between demand and supply for HSR and enhancing its translation to policy; and
 - opportunities to strengthen research capacity through core curricula, and courses, clearer career paths and supportive institutions;

d. Identify joint opportunities for collaborative research and knowledge production across different disciplines, sectors, stakeholders and geographies.

4) Gather for a Second Global Symposium on Health Systems Research in 2012 or 2013 to evaluate progress, share insights and recalibrate the agenda of science to accelerate universal health coverage. China has kindly offered to host such a symposium.

INTERESTING LINKS

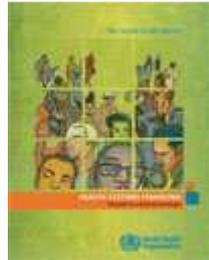
Global Health Europe, a platform for European Engagement in Global Health

<http://www.globalhealtheuropa.org/>

WHO PUBLICATIONS

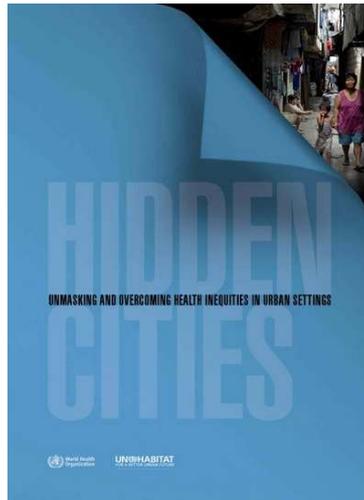
The world health report - Health systems financing: the path to universal coverage
Good health is essential to human welfare and to sustained economic and social development. WHO's Member States have set themselves the target of developing their health financing systems to ensure that all people can use health services, while being protected against financial hardship associated with paying for them.

In this report, the World Health Organization maps out what countries can do to modify their financing systems so they can move more quickly towards this goal - universal coverage - and sustain the gains that have been achieved. The report builds on new research and lessons learnt from country experience. It provides an action agenda for countries at all stages of development and proposes ways that the international community can better support efforts in low income countries to achieve universal coverage and improve health outcomes.



- [Executive summary \[pdf 1.67Mb\]](#)

- [Full report \[pdf 2.82Mb\]](#)



<http://www.hiddencities.org/report.html>

The global report Hidden Cities: Unmasking and Overcoming Health Inequities in Urban Settings is one important component of the overall WHO strategy to strengthen the response of the local, national and global health communities to reduce health inequities in an increasingly urbanized world. The report exposes the extent to which the urban poor suffer disproportionately from a wide range of diseases and health problems, which can be traced back to inequalities in their social and living conditions. It also provides evidence-based information and tools to help municipal and health authorities tackle health inequities in their cities.

The case for action is juxtaposed with personal stories and photos illustrating the issues of urban health equity in six countries. Stories of municipal and national authorities who are taking action to reduce inequities also are featured.

UPCOMING EVENTS

THE GRADUATE INSTITUTE | GENEVA
GLOBAL HEALTH PROGRAMME



EXECUTIVE COURSE ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY, DIPLOMACY AND GLOBAL PUBLIC HEALTH

Date: February 16-18, 2011

Place: Geneva, Switzerland

[The Global Health Programme](#) and [Seton Hall Law School](#) are jointly organising a three-day course.

This course is also being offered as an advanced module to the [Executive Course on Global Health Diplomacy](#).

For more information and to apply to the course click [here](#) or visit the [course website](#).

The European Training Consortium in Public Health and Health Promotion (ETC-PHHP) in cooperation with EUMAHP is pleased to announce the 20th International Summer Course to be held 2011 in Zagreb, Croatia. The main topic of the European Dimension of Health Promotion course is "**Health in a Lifecourse Perspective**".

The Residential Summer School of the Course is: July 25 – August 6, 2011 and the Course 2011 starts 1st May 2011 with the Distance Learning part.

Deadline for application: 8th April 2011

On occasion of the 20th Anniversary of ETC Summer Courses 1991 – 2011 a three-days Symposium will be part of the course.

Symposium: "**Twenty Years of Capacity Building in Health Promotion – ETC-PHHP Experiences and Future Strategies**", July 25 – 27, 2011

More information in details is to find on our homepage: www.etc-summerschool.eu

The next edition of the **Geneva Health Forum** will take place from **18 – 20 April 2012** at the CICG in Geneva, Switzerland.

CFHI Global Health Programs: Refer-a-Friend Discounts

Child Family Health International www.cfhi.org, provides global health experiences for those pursuing a careers in health or medicine. Participants go on 1-3 month placements with physicians in developing countries working in underserved communities, with options to volunteer in local NGOs. Participants rotate through local clinics and hospitals, attend medical lectures, and become immersed in the healthcare system of that community. To date, CFHI has sent over 6,000 students including pre-health, public health students, medical anthropology students, med students, nursing students, and more on its programs to 20+ sites throughout Bolivia, Ecuador, India, Mexico, and South Africa. CFHI is recognized by the ECOSOC of the United Nations.

CFHI is now offering refer-a-friend discounts for referring and applying to CFHI Global Health programs with friends until January 7, 2011. Best of all, you can earn multiple discounts on your program, up to the full program fee by referring multiple friends. For full details see the [refer-a-friend discount page](#).



“Moving Towards Global Health Equity: Opportunities and Threats”

<http://www.etpha.org/2012/>