



President's Message November 16, 2011

Dear House of Delegate's (HOD) Members:

I am sending this additional report as there was insufficient space in Contact International (CI). The Executive Council (EC) is working on implementing the actions of the HOD, meeting with corporate sponsors, distributing the *Information Leaflet* (which is available for download on the IFDH website), and updating the HOD via email, as needed. (Goal 6)

2010-2013 IFDH Goals:

1. Strengthen the professional profile of dental hygiene worldwide.
2. Increase IFDH membership in all eligible categories.
3. Strengthen collaboration with other organizations.
4. Support the development and visibility of dental hygiene education.
5. Support the dissemination of research by dental hygienists.
6. Facilitate communication within the IFDH.
7. Encourage the formation of SIGs.

The 2013 ISDH preparations are progressing, as you have seen in CI. Marie Ferreira, Elna Schutte, and the Organizing Committee are hard at work planning our next meeting. Please see the report of the Organizing Committee in CI. (Goals 1, 3, 4, 5, 6)



Our website is now active. If you have not had an opportunity to do so, visit the site and provide feedback to the EC. We are looking forward to activating specialized pages on the website, dealing with topics such as education, research, and community service. The website will be updated four times per year. We are due for an update at this time. (Goals 1 through 6)

Implementation of the Special Interest Groups (SIGs) has, unfortunately, been postponed. (Goals 1, 2, 3, 6, 7) The HOD will need to address the issue of the SIGs and determine if the IFDH should maintain the goal *Encourage the formation of SIGs* or remove it from our list of goals.



As President, I was invited to attend meetings of the Slovak Republic Dental Hygienists Association, the Italian Dental Hygienists' Association (AIDI), the Russian Dental Hygienists' Association, and the Ukrainian Dental Hygienists' Association. I reported on the meeting of the Slovak Republic Dental Hygienists Association in July. (Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6) I reported on my trip to Italy, Russia, and the Ukraine in CI.



The European Dental Hygienists Federation (EDHF) met in prior to the AIDI meeting. Countries represented were: Czech Republic, Italy, Ireland, the Netherlands, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain, Switzerland, Norway, Sweden, Finland, and Denmark. I did not attend the EDHF meetings but did see the representatives at two dinners. Marianne Verheggen remains the President of EDHF and Yvonne Nyblom was elected President Elect. Congratulations Yvonne!

Thank you to the Russian Dental Hygienists Association and Dr. Олесь Шевченко, Vice President, Dental Association of Russia. While in Moscow, I met with officers of the Russian Dental Hygienists Association, and with dental hygienists from the regions of Russia. I attended the meeting of the Russian Dental Hygienists Association and the 30th Moscow International Dental Forum and Exhibition, to deliver three presentations. There are now 24 dental hygiene programs in Russia, two years in length. There are about 3000 dental hygienists in Russia, and the profession is ten years old.

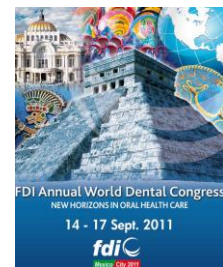
I also attended the meeting of the Ukrainian Dental Hygienists Association and a meeting held at the Institute of Stomatology of the Academy of Medical Sciences of the Ukraine, to deliver three presentations. Thanks to the Ukrainian Dental Hygienists Association, Dr. Олесь Шевченко, and Denga Oxana Vasilyevna. While in Odessa, I met the head of the Institute of Stomatology of the Academy of Medical Sciences of the Ukraine, Konstantin N. Kosenko, DDS, MD, PhD. I also met the Minister of Health of the Ukraine, who is very supportive of dental hygiene and prevention. However, government funds are scarce. There are now nine dental hygiene programs in



the Ukraine, three years in length. There are about 500 dental hygienists in the Ukraine, and the profession is two years old.

We may have two new Association Members in South Africa, as the dental hygienists of both Russia and the Ukraine are very excited to join the global community. We are always looking for new members in all categories. If you know of a potential country association, individual member, or corporate member, please encourage them to join the IFDH. The EC is here to assist as necessary. (Goal 2). I was invited to attend the meeting of the Swiss Dental Hygienists Association but needed to decline due to a prior commitment. Thank you for the invitation! Perhaps I can attend next year.

I attended the meeting of the World Dental Federation (FDI) as an invited speaker and delivered two presentations. The IFDH and the FDI do not have a formal relationship. The new President, Dr Orlando Monteiro da Silva (Portugal), is open to discussing future possibilities. There are some FDI projects worth mentioning.



The FDI launched the Global Caries Initiative (GCI) in 2009. The GCI is a profession-led "call to action" to eradicate caries, and thus, improve the oral and general health of populations globally by the year 2020. Dental caries and decay affects the lives of billions of people around the world, posing an enormous public health challenge in its complexity, scale and impact, both at an individual and community-wide level. The GCI intends to establish a broad alliance of key influencers and decision-makers from research, education, clinical practice, public health, government, and industry, partnering in a common goal: to effect fundamental change in health systems and individual behavior to achieve the 2020 goal. It is recognized as one of the leading initiatives in facilitating the paradigm shift to a preventive model of caries management. During 2009 and 2010, FDI engaged with a wide and diverse range of stakeholders around the world. One of the key achievements in 2010 was the work in developing a *caries classification and management system* (CCMS), which will lay the foundation for the preventive model of caries management. The CCMS will be included in a *Global Oral Health Improvement Matrix* that will integrate oral health into health, thereby establishing a collaborative, prevention-oriented model of oral health care.



This will ultimately result in measurable improvements in oral health and, and thus health, in all communities. With noncommunicable diseases now at the top of the global health agenda following resolutions at the United Nations (UN) and WHO, FDI is taking a pro-active leadership role in advocating for oral health in the *UN Summit on Noncommunicable Diseases*, which took place in New York in September 2011. For more information visit:

<http://www.beta.undp.org/undp/en/home/presscenter/speeches/2011/09/19/statement-by-helen-clark-undp-administrator-un-summit-on-non-communicable-diseases-side-event-putting-teeth-into-the-ncds.html>.

The *Alliance for a Cavity-Free Future* is a worldwide group of experts who have joined together to promote integrated clinical and public health action to stop caries initiation and progression – their goal is to move towards a cavity-free future for all age groups. Overall, the group believes that global collaborative action is needed to challenge global leaders and other regional and local



Stop Caries NOW for a Cavity-Free Future

stakeholders to learn the importance of caries as a disease continuum where early and initial caries lesions can be reversed before developing into gross cavities. The Alliance also works to drive and to participate in action toward the delivery of comprehensive caries prevention and management that can positively influence the continuing problem of caries. It is sponsored by Colgate-Palmolive Company, which supports improved oral health through its partnerships with the dental profession and government and public health agencies and its global children's oral health education initiative Bright Smiles, Bright Futures. Given the goal of driving global collaborative action, the Alliance also aims to partner with global leaders and other stakeholders on a regional and local level – including country and community leaders, health and dental health professionals, public policy and education communities, and the public.

The campaign kicked off in September 2010 at the 2010 FDI Annual World Dental Congress in Brazil. To date, local chapters have been launched in



Colombia (May 2011) and Mexico (September 2011) with additional chapters following in the near future. More information about the Alliance can be found at: www.AllianceForACavityFreeFuture.org and at www.alianzaporunfuturolibredecaries.org for a Spanish version.

The Short-Term goals are: Produce a Web-based Resource to facilitate the comprehensive prevention and management of caries for communities, groups and individuals. The site is openly accessible and free to use (www.AllianceForACavityFreeFuture.org); and Catalyze a global social movement to Stop Caries NOW for a Cavity-Free Future. The Long-Term Goals are: By 2015, ninety percent of dental schools and dental associations should have embraced and promoted the “new” approach of “caries as a continuum” to improve dental caries prevention and management; By 2020, regional members of the Alliance for a Cavity-Free Future should have integrated, locally appropriate, comprehensive caries prevention and management systems and monitoring developed and in place; and Every child born in 2026 should stay cavity free during their life time.

The IFDH has been represented at a number of Association Meetings throughout the 2011 year. President Elect Gurenlian and I attended the American Dental Hygienists’ Association (ADHA) meeting, and the North American Dental Hygiene Research Conference (NADHRC), as well as other meetings. Vice President Catherine Waldron and Treasurer Leah Littlejohn have represented the IFDH at a number of meetings, as well. (Goals 1 through 6)

As you recall, you received a ballot with a question about registration of the IFDH. “To register the IFDH”. As mentioned in an earlier letter, this motion passed. The EC has been investigating costs for this process and country location of registration. We continue to search, and prepare a report for the HOD’s consideration.

If you have any questions, please email me privately.



As the holiday season approaches, I wish you and your families a wonderful holiday season.

We look forward to working with our committees and members throughout the year. Let us hear from you!

Warm regards,

Maria

Maria Perno Goldie, RDH, MS

President