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SECOND CALL FOR ABSTRACT
Deadline Date: 31/3/2010

11th. Conference of the Arab Federation of Psychiatrists
Mental Health Service in The Arab World (Challenges and Prospects)

Websites:
www.sudapsychass.org
www.sudanesepsychiatrists.org
Foreword

Recent years have seen significant changes in the field of mental health in the countries of the Arab Region. The stigma attached to mental illness is diminishing, psychiatric services which were earlier totally confined to a few large mental hospitals, are now gradually being replaced by psychiatric units with both inpatient and outpatient facilities in general hospitals, many countries have developed specific national mental health policies and programs. Although a majority of the countries of the Region have agreed in principle to integrate mental health into the primary health care delivery system, implementation so far has been limited.

The shortage of qualified mental health professionals in almost all the countries of the Region is well known. The poor condition of medical records of the present mental health services in some countries is also a serious shortcoming. A negative attitude toward mental health is often encountered among health planners and administrators, possibly stemming from a lack of knowledge about recent developments in the field of mental health.

Ambiguity over the roles of the members of the mental health care team—the psychiatrist, the clinical psychologist, the psychiatric social worker, the psychiatric nurse.

People exposed to major economic transitions are at risk for mental disorders, alcohol, substance use and suicide. Currently, most of the Arab Countries are exposed to conflicts, wars, terrorism and fundamentalism which may be the seeds for many behavioral and mental disorders.

Whether we like it or not traditional healers do and will continue to provide some form of intervention into the lives of mental patients and their families in the Arab World and this is more so the case, the less the accessibility of mental health services on the community level.

You are cordially invited to attend the 11th Pan Arab Psychiatric Congress to be held in Khartoum-Sudan 8-10 December 2010 to discuss the challenges and prospects of mental health services in the Arab World.

Professor Ahmed Ocaha
President Arab Federation of Psychiatrists
President Egyptian Psychiatric Association
Past President World Psychiatric Association

Themes and Scientific Topics
1. Mental Health in Conflicts and Disaster Areas
2. Recent Advances in General Adult Psychiatry
3. Traditional and Spiritual Healing
4. Sociocultural Aspects of Mental Health
5. Specially Psychiatry
   (child, old age, addiction, liaison psychiatry, etc)
6. Women’s Mental Health
7. Psychological Contribution to Mental Health
8. Psychiatry and the Law, (mental health acts, etc)
9. Sexual and Sleep Disorders
10. Mental Health Education in the Arab World
11. Mental Health of Displacement and Refugees
12. Organic Psychiatry

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