The 28th Congres of the WFMH
Biennial International Congress
“Equity and Mental Health”
Cairo – Egypt 4-8 September, 2005

Welcome: Invitation from the Congress President

Dear Friends,

It is with great pleasure that I invite you to the 28th Biennial Congress of the World Federation for Mental Health to be held in Cairo, 4-8 September 2005. We all still remember the charm of your first meeting in 1987 in Cairo, a Congress that was one of the cornerstones in the development of the World Mental Health movement, both internationally and regionally. It introduced the issue of users participation, conflict resolution and the role of religion in Mental Health.

We decided to select “Mental Health and Equity” as the theme for the 2005 Congress. Equity and Mental Health covers equity in health care where Mental Health should take its place in the health policies; equity between genders; equity for rural Mental Health; equity in Mental Health care across the life span; equity for users versus families involvement in Mental Health planning; equity for the availability of essential psychiatric drugs in primary health care as other drugs, equity for all world citizens in freedom, basic standard of living and availability of Mental Health care and psychiatric drugs for all. Egypt, as a central component of the Arab world, is rich with its civilizations and religions. This region has witnessed the birth of the three major religions.

Egypt is rich with its wisdom and historical places that represent the human history. We hope to be able to give you the expected hospitality and a program that combines recent technology, update in psychopharmacology research, good practice in Mental Health programs, standard systems of care and policies in Mental Health.

The congress will pay much attention to the new World disorder and its impact on Mental Health and the role of Mental Health professionals in helping policy makers to work for conflict resolution around the world to reach resilience in a world living in a turmoil.

Yours sincerely

Dr. Ahmed Abou El-Azayem - Congress Chairman

Patronage

The congress is under the high patronage of H. E. Mrs Suzan Mubarak

Supporting organizations:

Organized by:
- Giza mental health
- Eastern Mediterranean regional council of WFMH
In co-operation with
- World Islamic association for mental health
- Arab federation for NGOs for prevention of substance abuse

Invited Ambassadors:
- The Honorable Mrs. Rosalyn Carter, (The wife of the past president of USA)
- The Honorable Dr. Awad Tag Eldeen, (Minister of Health and Population)
- The Honorable Dr. Amina El-Gendi, (Minister of Social Work and Social Insurance)
- The Honorable Dr. Anas El-FKy, (Minister of Youth and Sports)
- Ambassador Moshira Khaled, (Secretary General of the Egyptian National Council for Childhood and Motherhood)

Congress Committee:

Congress Chairman: Dr. Ahmed Abou El-Azayem (Egypt)

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- Elisabeth M. Coker (USA)
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Max Abbot (New Zealand)
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Committee for Co-ordination with WFMH Collaborative Centers:
Chairperson: Max Abbot
Co-chairperson: Preston J.Garrison (USA)
Congress Topics:

Axis 1: Heightening public Awareness About the importance of equity in mental health:

1.1 Equity issues in mental health:
(Research papers addressing the need to heighten public awareness about the importance of equity in financing mental health, gender issues, rural-urban care, involvement of users/consumers and prevention programs versus management programs).

Axis 2: Promotion of mental health and optimal functioning:

2.1 Mental health national/Regional/Global awareness and promotion campaigns:
(Case studies of successful mental health promotion programs and media packages addressing specific needs and topics, including culturally sensitive messages using internet, web page and media-based educational programs)

2.2 Promoting emotional well-being across the life span:
Workshop presentations describing successful programs and strategies for promoting emotional well-being of infants, children, young adults, men and women, and the elderly.

2.3 School-based mental and emotional health education
Presentations on examples of successful educational and instructional materials on healthy emotional development, including school-based programs addressing conflict resolution, social skills development, leadership training, peer and family relations etc.

2.4 Promoting mentally health lifestyles:
Paper and workshop presentations on promoting mental and emotional health in activities of daily life (mental health and work, management of life stresses, responsible parenting, mental health and religion, mental health and the community, mental health and politics, mental health and the law, culture and mental health etc.)

Axis 3: Prevention of mental, behavioural and psychosocial disorders:

3.1 Building evidence based knowledge on the prevention of mental behavioral and psychosocial disorders
Scientific papers on current research efforts to enhance the body of knowledge about the prevention of mental, behavioral and psychosocial disorders.

Axis 4: Improved care and treatment of those with mental, behavioral and psychosocial disorders

4.1 Mental health public policy
4.2 Community mental health care models
4.3 Primary mental health programs across cultures
4.4 Recent advance in understanding of the epidemiology of mental disorders
4.5 Recent advances in schizophrenia and its management, current findings in mood disorders, substance abuse prevention, treatment and recovery houses, update on new psychotropic drugs research, update on neuro-psychiatry, brain mapping and imaging, computers and mental health,

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emergency mental health services by telephone and tele-
mental health services
4.6 Cultural and societal issues
(Mental health of victims of trauma, war, and
displacement, the mental health consequences of
HIV/AIDS, mental health needs of the physically and
medically disabled).
4.7 The relationship between physical and mental health:
Co-occurring physical and mental disorders.

Axis 5 : Special emphasis training tracks :
5.1 Skills training in recovery and peer support
5.2 Capacity building and strengthening effective mental
health associations.
5.3 Mental health advocacy training for citizen advocates
5.4 The mental health of caregivers and family members of
persons with mental and behavioural disorders

WFMH and the congress program committee will design the
tracks included in Axis 5. Individual abstracts for the topics
included in this Axis are by invitation and may not be accepted
through the general abstract submission process.

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Ministry of Youth - Egypt

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