

## MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES IN POST WAR IRAQ: CURRENT AND FUTURE FOCUS

### AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

#### FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR PAPERS

**VENUE:** ABU DHABI, UAE 18<sup>TH</sup> - 22<sup>ND</sup> FEBRUARY 2008

Dear Colleague,

On behalf of the Iraqi Mental Health Forum in the UK (IMHF, UK) and other supporting partners namely the Arab Medical Union in Europe (UK Branch), our host the Arab - European Centre for Managerial Training, UAE and WHO (Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office EMRO), the organising committee of the first international conference would like to extend a cordial invitation to you to attend and/or contribute to our conference which will take place on February 18<sup>th</sup> -22<sup>nd</sup> 2008, Abu Dhabi, UAE.

The standing conference committee is expecting to see a wide range of mental health professionals and delegates attending this important event from Iraq, UK, Europe, North America and the entire Arab World and the Gulf Region. The conference and its main themes will accommodate the needs of various delegates and hence expected to discuss a wide range of topics relevant to mental health services and society's well being in post war Iraq. The conference main themes are broad and should appeal to various professionals working in mental health settings and hence focus on the issues indicated below:

- i) Current infrastructure, mental health problems and service planning and development in post war Iraq.
  - ii) Psychological consequences of violence and aggression on the general population in post war Iraq.
  - ii) Trauma and conflict, refugee of multiple traumas, PTSD, secondary trauma, compassionate fatigue, trauma rehabilitation and resiliency.
  - iii) Child, Adolescent Psychiatry and Family Mental Health Services. The roles of parents, teachers and other professionals including social workers, psychologists, General Practitioners and Paediatricians in Assessment and Identification of mental health problems in post war Iraq.
  - iv) Adults and Old Age Psychiatry Services.
  - v) Women's Mental Health and Minorities needs, Somatisation, Eating Disorder and Gender Issues.
  - vi) Roles of Community Medicine Specialists and Liaison Psychiatry in Post War Iraq.
- We hope to see a wide range of contributions from colleagues specialised in Public Health, Paediatrics, A & E Medicine, General Surgery, Cardiology, Orthopaedics and related speciality to provide an input and relate to this international event.
- vii) Roles of various expatriate professionals in workforce training, research and curriculum development in medical schools.
  - viii) Learning Disability and Special Needs Services. Human Rights and its application to Mental Health.

ix) Substance Abuse and Addiction Services,

x) Stigma, mood and affective disorders.

xi) Forensic Psychiatry, Aggression, Violence, Criminal and self-harming behaviours, Personality disorder.

xii) Legislations and Roles of Non-Governmental Organisation (NGOs) in the rehabilitation efforts in post war Iraq.

xiii) Other themes that could compliment the above should address the needs of the Iraqi Society at large with focus on Identity, Integration, Reconciliation Efforts and Building Bridges in Divided Society. That is the roles of education programmes, the roles of politicians, spirituality, Religious Leaders in the healing, reconciliation and integration efforts.

xiv) Further, some invited colleagues (Keynote Speakers) are expected to present their recent work and/or discuss major findings made on the above highlighted areas.

xv) There will be also planned pre-conference workshops and training programmes, which will precede the annual conference to cover both children's and adult mental health services.

xvi) Please note the conference welcome papers and contributions from mental health professionals of various and multidisciplinary backgrounds (clinicians and non-clinicians etc) who could contribute to the rehabilitation efforts in war torn society.

It is worth noting at this stage that the chair of the conference, deputy chair and all members of the joint standing conference committee are planning to work very hard to turn this conference to an exciting international gathering (i.e. rich and stimulating conference), and indeed memorable event for rebuilding the main mental health infrastructure in post war Iraq.

It is the first conference to bring together the major international mental health experts.

So welcome to Abu Dhabi which is a friendly and vibrant city; also enjoy the organised various evening social events with your participating colleagues and families. We very much hope you will be able to attend and/or contribute to this scientific effort, which intend to assist future generations of Iraq. Many thanks and best wishes

*Yours sincerely,*  
*Dr Hazim Obaydi : Conference Chair*  
*Dr Mariwan Husni : Chair, Scientific Committee*  
*Dr Amer Hosin: Co-Chair, Organising Committee*

**Note**

All abstracts should be addressed to the attention of the Scientific Committee chair Dr Mariwan Husni [mariwan.husni@nhs.net](mailto:mariwan.husni@nhs.net) with copies to the Organising Committee co-chair Dr Amer Hosin [AmerHosin@aol.com](mailto:AmerHosin@aol.com) and the Conference Chairman Dr Hazim Obaydi [hazim@obaydi.com](mailto:hazim@obaydi.com). Other general queries and matters should be addressed directly to the Conference Chairman Dr Hazim Obaydi at [hazim@obaydi.com](mailto:hazim@obaydi.com)

Further details on flights arrangement, hotel booking and registration fees will be covered in our second and final call for participation on October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2007

**Abstract form**

An international conference:

Mental health services in post war iraq: current and future focus

Venue: abu dhabi, uae 18<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> february 2008

Name:.....

Address: .....

Tel:..... FaxNo:.....

Email:.....

**Title and Abstract Text in English and/or Arabic Languages:.....**  
 .....  
 .....  
 .....  
 .....

*\* Please also note that the submission deadline for papers and proposals is 10 th November2007*

*\* Delegates who are keen to submit abstracts or workshop proposal may note the following guidelines (check list):*

- i) All abstracts should include original work material NOT presented elsewhere.
- ii) Name of author(s) and the presenter should be clearly indicated in both Arabic and English language. Please do underline the surname of the presenter.

iii) Full contact address (work address) should be indicated including telephone, fax numbers and email addresses.

iv) All abstracts should include summarised introduction, aims, methodology, analysis, result section and concluding remarks.

v) All abstracts should be typed (font 11 or 12) and completed using the abstract form. Abstracts should be not more than 300 words.

vi) All titles should be indicated in English or Arabic.

vii) As indicate above submission deadline for papers and workshop proposal is on November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2007.

viii) All abstracts should be electronically submitted to the Chair of the Scientific Committee Dr Mariwan Husni [mariwan.husni@nhs.net](mailto:mariwan.husni@nhs.net) with copies to the Organising Committee Co-Chair Dr Amer Hosin [AmerHosin@aol.com](mailto:AmerHosin@aol.com) and Conference Chairman Dr Hazim Obaydi [hazim@obaydi.com](mailto:hazim@obaydi.com)

ix) Presentations, which do not follow these guidelines may not be considered by the scientific committee and will be returned to the author(s).

x) The organising committee understands that there is a great deal of interest from other colleagues who are affiliated to other branches of medicine to contribute to the conference and hence to have a wider participation on the conference themes. To address this issue, all complimenting presentations and miscellaneous requests will be considered and perhaps accommodated in a designated theme 'Roles of Community Medicine Specialists and Liaison Psychiatry theme iv'. This may include presentations on stress and its relevance to heart diseases, stress and cardiovascular problems, stress and longevity and maternity stress. Other relevant public healths issues and of multidisciplinary backgrounds are especially welcome addition to the conference programme.

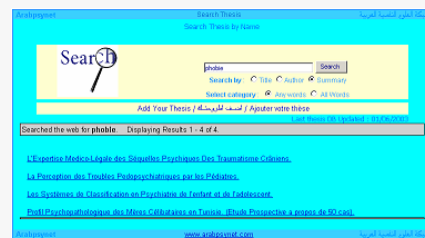
xi) The main conference programme will be accredited programme by the WHO (EMRO) to provide CME activity (Continued Medical Education) for medical specialists. Each medical specialist should claim only those hours of credit that he/she actually spent in the educational activity. Various professional bodies should recognize these credits.

**Arabpsynet Papers Search**



[www.arabpsynet.com/paper/defaultWord.asp](http://www.arabpsynet.com/paper/defaultWord.asp)  
 Send Your Papers Summaries  
[www.arabpsynet.com/paper/PapForm.htm](http://www.arabpsynet.com/paper/PapForm.htm)

**Arabpsynet Thesis Search**



<http://www.arabpsynet.com/These/default.asp>  
 Send your Thesis Summaries  
<http://www.arabpsynet.com/These/ThesForm.htm>