Message of the FDI Interim Executive Director

Dear FDI Members and friends,

I would like to take this opportunity to update you on the progress of the FDI since our last meeting in Brazil. We have been busy in the last two months and have some important accomplishments to share with you.

Firstly, with regards to the Annual World Dental Congress, I am pleased to announce that we have successfully transitioned to a new revenue sharing model for collaborating with our host National Dental Associations. The 2012 AWDC with the Hong Kong Dental Association marks the beginning of this transition, which has been fully applied with the Korean Dental Association for the 2013 Congress. Additionally, we have established a new venue selection process for the FDI Annual World Dental Congresses. 2014 AWDC bid consideration will prioritize locations of interest to dentists and our industry partners. I believe that these two complementary changes to the Congress model and the selection process will be beneficial for Congress attendees, the host NDAs and the FDI.

While on the topic of FDI Congresses, I would like to share with you two recent successes for the 2011 and 2012 AWDCs in Mexico and Hong Kong, SAR China. For the first time ever, FDI has pre-booked 95% of the 2011 exhibition space before the official opening of sales! This shows the excitement and commitment of the industry and the reach of FDI so that we can better serve our Members and do more to promote optimal oral health in future. Finally, I wish you all a joyful holiday season and I am looking forward to our continued collaboration in 2012.

Yours sincerely,

Jerome Estignard,
Interim Executive Director

UN Environmental Programme Inter-Governmental Negotiating Committee

FDI will attend forthcoming second session in Japan

In February 2009, the Governing Council of United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) agreed on the need to develop a global legally binding instrument on mercury. Provisions for dental amalgam would be included in this instrument (http://hqweb.unep.org/hazardoussubstances/Mercury/Meetings/ INC2/tabid/3242/language/en-US/Default.aspx)

The FDI World Dental Federation (FDI) acknowledged its responsibilities with regards to human health and the environment and became proactively involved with UNEP, joining the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership (GMP) in 2009.

At the 2009 FDI Annual World Dental Congress in Singapore, the FDI Council moved to form a Dental Amalgam Task Team (DATT) to ensure that the international dental community and the issues regarding dental amalgam were properly and accurately represented in UNEP discussions regarding mercury and would be based on best available science to ensure public health and patient oral health care are not compromised.

The DATT has been very active, participating in the various meetings, including INC 2 (http://hqweb.unep.org/hazardoussubstances/Mercury/Meetings/ INC2/tabid/3242/language/en-US/Default.aspx), as well as collaborating and co-operating with FDI member associations and international stakeholders (eg IADR, ICOM, IFSE, ISDH, WHO) to comprehensively address the issues of dental restorative materials, in particular dental amalgam. The second session of the INC2 to prepare a global legally binding instrument on Mercury (INC 2) will be held in Chiba, Japan, from 24 to 28 January, 2011. http://hqweb.unep.org/hazardoussubstances/Mercury/Meetings/ INC2/tabid/3242/language/en-US/Default.aspx

The FDI will be well represented at INC 2, with the capability of attending briefings and breakout sessions relevant to dental amalgam. In preparation for the development of a new legally binding instrument, the General Assembly (GA) of the FDI Annual World Dental Congress, Salvador da Bahia, September 2010, the DATT proposed a motion that was passed by GA with 84%, which stated that “amalgam is a safe and highly effective restorative material”. The motion went on to call upon governments “to foster and ensure the phase up of effective prevention for dental caries and associated health promotion programmes. This should be linked to preventive disease management, which will result in the phase down of used dental restorative materials, including dental amalgam. These measures will ensure optimal oral health, particularly for those most disadvantaged and in need of treatment.”

The shift to a preventive model of oral health care and associated health promotion programmes is goal of the FDI Global Caries Initiative (http://dental.org/content/global-caries-initiative), a profession led initiative to establish a new paradigm for caries management.

Oral Health Strategy for Africa Workshop on 29th & 30th October 2010

FDI World Dental Federation (FDI) African Regional Organisation (ARO) invited to Durban, South Africa

The FDI World Dental Federation (FDI) recognizes that its global strategy should be relevant both at regional and country levels. In this context, the FDI is looking at ways to engage national organisations to translate its global strategy into regionally specific approaches for controlling and preventing oral disease and promoting health so as to achieve its vision of leading the world to optimal oral health.

Representatives of FDI Council, FDI elected officers, ARO Executive Committee members and national real vice presidents of ARO participated in the two-day workshop, collating and assessing current FDI policy and programmes, along with those of Inter-Governmental Organisations (IGO’s), other NGO’s active in oral health in Africa. FDI assisted in surveysing African national dental associations about their needs. The aim of the workshop was to develop a strategy which will help encourage and facilitate the att-
The French Dental Association (ADF)—40 years of contribution to oral health

The French Dental Association (ADF) celebrated its 40th birthday during its Annual Congress which was held from 23 to 27 November in Paris, France.

The ADF took the opportunity to meet with key stakeholders from around the world, spreading the word about the FDI mission of promoting optimal oral health, including the Annual World Dental Congress.

The ADF invited Dr Roberto Vianna, the President of the FDI, to speak at the opening ceremony where, in excellent French, he emphasised the important role the ADF and francophone dentists have played throughout the FDI’s 100 year history, including hosting the first FDI Congress and founding the organisation.

Dr Patrick Hesquet and Dr Joël Trouillet who are both the Secretaries General of ADF and also an FDI Councilor and Member of the FDI Education Committee respectively, provide a good example of the synergies between FDI and ADF.

About Mexico

Mexico City’s world class infrastructure, as well as its cosmopolitan lifestyle, makes it a unique destination capable of a wide variety of possibilities. One moment you’re sampling tequila at a classic cantina and the next you’re grooving to world-class DJs on a rooftop terrace or enjoying fusion cuisine by one of Polanco’s district acclaimed chefs!

Mexico City has more museums than any other place in the world! In under an hour, you can leave town and explore the beautifully well-preserved Teotihuacan pyramids. You can even challenge yourself to a steep climb to the top. The “conquistadores” (Spanish conquerors) ruled Mexico for three centuries before independence was proclaimed 16th September 1810. This date, known as “El Grito”, is celebrated in a colorful and festive way throughout the country and we are fortunate the congress will be in Mexico on this occasion.

Join us in Mexico City, September 14-17 and be part of this leading dental event in 2011.

• International website: www.fdiworldental.org/congress/introduction-0
• Regional website: http://fdi2010.org
• International contact: congress@fdiworldental.org
• Regional contact: info@fdi2011.org

FDI announces 2015 AWDC venue

Following stimulating presentations for the 2013 venue selection, the Council debated the proposals during a special session in Salvador da Bahia. The outcome is the selection of Seoul, Korea, who will host the event from August 29, 2015 to September 1, 2015. More information will be available soon on the FDI congress website.

The cutting age scientific programme and a large exhibition attracted over 25,000 worldwide participants making the ADF the largest European oral health congress. The ADF congress provides a unique opportunity for francophone dentists from Africa, the Americas, Europe, Asia and Middle East to meet.

The goal of proposed FDI ARO oral health strategy for Africa is “to improve health promotion, disease prevention and preventative disease management in a multi-professional environment, with a focus on caries, periodontal disease and cancer, which are all non-communicable diseases.” The FDI would like to thank the South African Dental Association for hosting the workshop.

Further details on the FDI ARO Oral Health Strategy for Africa will be posted on the FDI website shortly.