



International Confederation of Midwives

PRESS RELEASE

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Delegates to ICM Council select the site for the 2008 Congress and appoint new representatives

ICM Congresses take place every three years and each one is hosted by the midwifery association in that country. The role of host association brings much work and responsibility but also a raised profile for the association within the country, wide press coverage nationally and internationally, and the opportunity to attract a focus on midwifery from government and sponsors. The Congress following the current meeting in Vienna will be held in Brisbane, Australia, in 2005.

Three member associations – one in Europe and two in the Americas – put in bids to host the 28th Congress and Council members were asked to select one from the proposed sites of Buenos Aires, Argentina; Glasgow, Scotland, UK; and Montreal, Canada.

The venue chosen for 2008 was Glasgow, Scotland, and the host association for that Congress will be the Royal College of Midwives.

Elections were also held for the honorary officers of the Confederation, and the results were:

Director: **Joyce Thompson**, re-elected

Deputy Director: **Judi Brown**, re-elected

Treasurer: **Franka Cadeé**

Regional representatives: Africa – **Ghana Midwives Association** (Kathlyn Ababio) and **Tanzania Midwives Association** (Joyce Safe)

Americas: **Canadian Association of Midwives** (Bridget Lynch) and **Colegio de Obstetricas de la Provincia de la Plata** (Alicia Cillo)

Asia Pacific: **New Zealand College of Midwives** (Sandy Grey) and **Japanese Midwives Association** (Junko Kondo)

Europe: **Koninklijke Nederlandse Organisatie van Verloskundigen** (Renske Drejer); **Danish Association of Midwives** (Lillian Bondo); **Associazione Italiana di Ostetriche per I Rapporti Culturali con l'Estero** (Maria Assunta Facchi); **Royal College of Midwives** (Karlene Davis)

At the closing ceremony of the Congress, the current President Maria Spornbauer will pass on the chain of office to Caroline Weaver, who will take on the role of ICM President until the 2005 Congress in Brisbane.

This ICM Council meeting precedes the 26th Triennial Congress (April 14-18) when 2,500 midwives will gather in Vienna to participate in a diverse and multilingual programme of lectures, workshops, poster sessions and presentations.

The ICM is a Confederation of 83 national midwifery associations, founded in 1919, and aims to 'advance world-wide the aims and aspirations of midwives in the attainment of improved outcomes for women in their childbearing years, their newborn and their families wherever they reside'.

For further information contact ICM headquarters or visit the website www.internationalmidwives.org