



International Confederation of Midwives

PRESS RELEASE

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Sponsor-a-Midwife Fund benefits from midwives' generosity

Midwives at the 26th Triennial Congress of the International Confederation of Midwives dug deep in their pockets to contribute to the ICM's 'Sponsor a Midwife' fund. Australian midwives volunteered their *akubra* hats as collecting boxes when the appeal went out for cash to build up the funds for bringing midwives from developing countries to future midwifery conferences.

Every day over the four-day congress the 2,500 midwives who attended gave generously towards the fund.

Currency in a wide variety of denominations was received from:

Australia	Norway
Austria	Poland
Chile	Samoa
Czech Republic	Singapore
Denmark	South Africa
Hong Kong	Sweden
Iran	Switzerland
Kenya	Thailand
Malaysia	Tunisia
Nepal	UK
New Zealand	USA

With most of these converted, the total amount received in cash was €4750 plus US\$225; with two pledges of further sponsorship included, this will build up to over €9000 – enough to bring four midwives to the next triennial congress.

ICM is committed to maximum efforts to ensure that their meetings are truly representative of its worldwide membership. It recognises that international travel puts a huge financial burden on midwives and their associations in the developing world. Therefore assistance is made available whenever possible.

The Confederation is very grateful to all individuals and organisations who have contributed – with a special thank-you for the enthusiastic fund-raising activities of the Australian midwives.

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