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11 October 2019

**Dear ICM Member Association** 

## Invitation to consider co-hosting the 2026 ICM Congress

It is time to begin the process of selecting the co-host of the 34th ICM Triennial Congress 2026. I know that it seems a long time away, but the process to select the Member Association to co-host the ICM Triennial Congress begins six years in advance. This means that the Council, which meets in Bali immediately prior to the June 2020 Congress, will at that meeting, select the two top bids for the 2026 Congress location.

The process for selecting the Member Association to co-host the 2026 Congress starts now and you are invited to apply to co-host the biggest ICM event in world midwifery.

The ICM Board has taken steps to ensure the future viability of ICM Triennial Congresses through the appointment of its own Congress Management Team, supported by a local Professional Congress Organiser (PCO). The ICM and the co-Host Association will have professional support to assist with the organisational planning, preparations, and logistics of this major event.

ICM wants Member Associations to consider submitting bids and has prepared the attached document to assist you prepare your Congress Bid. You do not need to do this alone and we encourage you to contact your Convention Bureau, Tourism Board, or the City Mayor/City Manager of the preferred host city in your country for assistance. Staff of your proposed Congress venue may also offer valuable assistance.

There is no hard and fast rule about preferred countries but the ICM is keen to see its Triennial Congress hosted in different geographical regions. The attached document gives a list of recent host countries.

So, the first important date for your calendar is 27 January 2020 as receipt of your Expression of Interest bid must be with ICM by this deadline. As there is a preparation period of more than three months for your submission, no bids will be accepted after the deadline date.



Other key dates and processes are identified in Section 2 of the attachment. In order to help you submit a bid that meets ICM requirements we have set out the content and information requirements: please ensure that all information requested is provided initially, as no supplementary information will be eligible following receipt of your bid.

Submissions must be made in English. All submissions must be sent by email to: council@internationalmidwives.org. You will be sent acknowledgement of receipt of your bid.

I encourage member organisations to consider submitting a bid for the 2026 Congress and send my best wishes to those who are committed to developing a Congress Bid. ICM's Congress Management Team, C-IN, can answer questions you may have. Please feel free to directly contact either Petra Kamenská (<a href="mailto:petra.kamenska@c-in.eu">petra.kamenska@c-in.eu</a>) or Tomas Maxa (<a href="mailto:tomas.maxa@c-in.eu">tomas.maxa@c-in.eu</a>)

Yours sincerely,

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