



ICM 29th Triennial Congress International Confederation of Midwives

19 - 23 June 2011 - Durban

Call for Abstracts

Midwives throughout the world are invited to take-up an invitation to speak at the South Africa ICM Congress in June 2011. For those who want to present their ideas, their challenges or their research on all aspects of midwifery, now is the time to prepare an abstract submission of up to 300 words by 17 May 2010. Abstract submissions need to be made in English, indicating which of the three official languages (English, French or Spanish) is preferred for making the presentation. When a member organisation provides funding, an additional language can be added: at recent Congresses Japanese has been added through this arrangement.

Submissions need to be based on the Congress theme 'Midwives tackling the Big Five globally and the Scientific Committee has identified the Big Five as: Globalisation; Listening to women and their partners; The continuum of care; Strengthening midwives and midwifery; Cultures, societies and traditions. Each presentation needs to be relevant to one of these five categories.

There is a marvellous range of options for making presentations whether in a workshop, at a symposium or in poster form. Alternatively, another forum may be preferred: helpful information about the types of presentations are listed on the Congress web site at www.midwives2011.org.

Although the date for notification of acceptance is 1 September 2010, the discount bonus rate will be offered to those who are successful and register before 1 October.

Going to Durban on a Bonus Discount Rate

Midwives booking for the 2011 Congress can save 120 Euro by booking early, and for South African midwives the saving is Rand 1,300. The Bonus Discount rate needs to be made before 30 June 2010. For a five day world-class conference the package price is great value and includes lunch and refreshments. Midwives staying in approved ICM hotels will receive complimentary transport between their hotel and the congress venue. The bonus Discount Rate is 495 Euro or 5594 Rand; payment in Rand is only acceptable from South African midwives and some African countries identified on the registration material.

Student Midwife rates for the Durban Congress are less than half the cost of a full registration, under the discount bonus scheme, and at 199 Euro/2250 Rand must be one of the best value packages for a quality world-class midwifery Congress. Other fees for later registrations are listed on the web site.

Accommodation in Durban; book early for best choice

A list of Durban hotels has been researched by the ICM's local Conference Company for comfort, cleanliness, safety and value and these are identified on the web site with a booking service. Other hotels in Durban are available but delegates should check them out with the Conference Company and ask for advice about suitability.

ICM Congress Manager Malcolm MacMillan writes about his own experience of a few Durban Hotels The Road Lodge is one of the nearest hotels to the Congress Centre in the 2* category. The rooms are bright and clean, and a basic breakfast is included. This will get booked quickly so if this suits your budget, book early. The City Lodge is a 3*, and is also about 1 kilometre from the Congress Centre, the ICC. The larger rooms are quite basic but good for sharing, ask for a room with a view at the back of the hotel. There is a large breakfast area and bars on lower floors. The Royal Hotel is in the town area adjacent to the Theatre and Jazz Bar, spacious rooms have been recently upgraded and there are three restaurants and a coffee bar. Ask for a room with a harbour view. This is a very comfortable hotel and good value at the four star end of the market, but being situated down town may not be everyone's ideal location. However, taxis go straight in and out of the hotel car park. The Elangeni is on the South Beach and most rooms in the 20 floor hotel have an ocean view. At the top end of the price scale it has two outdoor swimming pools and three restaurants. No more than 10 minutes from the Congress Centre.

There are some excellent Bed and Breakfast facilities in Durban but some of the better ones are a 30 minute car ride outside central Durban. With 7 or 8 good class residencies offering a total of about 60 rooms in the area of Umhlanga, delegates could organise group travel with their B&B proprietor. Accommodation is a five minute walk to the beach, to shops and to a wide variety of popular restaurants. One of the best is Villa Calla with 10 rooms. The inconvenience of being out of town is well worth the location.

Check the web site for further information or write to malcolmmacmillan@ntlworld.com for further information about the above.

Opening Day in Durban

When booking flights or accommodation, think about taking advantage of your visit to Durban by arriving a day before the Congress starts. You could fit in a local tour on Saturday and get to know the area right at the start of Congress and get into a relaxed state for the busy opening day on Sunday, 19 June.

The first event is the Celebration of Midwifery, which is a one-hour multi faith event with a variant of short contributions, including outstanding singing and poems. This event will provide delegates with a spring in their step for the rest of the week; there can be no better way to start a Congress than to sit down with midwives from around the world, and together, celebrate midwifery and the midwives' skills.

The host organisation, the Society of Midwives of South Africa, is planning a cultural treat at the opening ceremony on 19 June 2010. This spectacular event includes music and dance from the Region as well as the parade of country flags from member organisations. This colourful an uplifting event is the world's very own 'Midwifery Olympics' as midwives attend the 'opening' in national colours and costumes. A welcome reception with buffet and refreshments follows, courtesy of the Durban City Council, to complete the memorable first day of the 2011 Congress.

SOMSA President, Deliwe Nyathikazi, says "We can promise you a unique African experience through our Gala Evening and Opening ceremonies as well as a delightful and safe host City".

The Venue

The ICM's 29th Triennial Congress will be held at one of the most advanced conference facilities in the world, the Durban ICC. It is a versatile and flexible centre with spaces large enough to accommodate midwives who want to attend their chosen workshops and other concurrent sessions.

The ICC has been voted Africa's leading Conference Centre for six consecutive years by the World Travel Awards and has an amazing track record. One of the big problems often faced by delegates' at large congresses is to find a place to sit down for lunch or tea breaks; the ICC provides many seated indoor and outdoor areas for the comfort of delegates during breaks.

Making the Most of South Africa

After the Congress a variety of tours have been specially selected for ICM Congress delegates. Make sure you get the most out of this beautiful country and check the web site for tour details. Tours will be featured in future newsletters.

Midwives Tackling
the 'Big 5' Globally

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www.midwives2011.org

