

## FDI releases second edition of Oral Health Atlas

Launch event at 2015 AWDC in Bangkok introduces the new publication

**Y**esterday, the FDI World Dental Federation has released the second edition of its Oral Health Atlas at the Annual World Dental Congress (AWDC) in Bangkok in Thailand. The launch event for the book took place on Wednesday at the Bangkok International Trade and Exhibition Centre and was attended by FDI members and officials, as well as the media. The new edition of the atlas, titled *The Challenge of Oral Disease—A Call for Global Action*, aims to serve as an advocacy resource for all oral health care professionals and recommends strategies to address the global challenge of oral disease.

At the launch event, Dr Habib Benzian and Prof. David Williams, the publication's editors-in-chief, presented the new edition of the atlas and spoke with DTI editor-in-chief Daniel Zimmermann about the contents of the book and the global challenge of preventing oral disease and implementing adequate oral health care worldwide.

The first edition of the Oral Health Atlas, titled *Mapping a Neglected Global Health Issue*, was released at the FDI 2009 AWDC in Singapore and highlighted the extent of the problem of oral disease worldwide. The second edition of the atlas provides an update of the global health challenge and reflects on policies and strategies that address the burden of oral disease, such as tooth decay, periodontal disease and oral cancer, Benzian pointed out.

The book summarises the key oral health issues based on the latest available information from various international sources, Benzian and Williams explained, including the impact of oral disease, major risk factors and inequalities in oral health, as well as oral disease prevention and management. Moreover, it aims to ensure that oral health is granted higher



Dr Habib Benzian (left) and Prof. David Williams, editors-in-chief of the second edition of the Oral Health Atlas.

priority on the global health and development agendas. Written for national dental associations, health organisations, industry professionals and the general public, the atlas provides them with the means to address policymakers, governments and local authorities based on sound facts so that they can better advocate for change in oral health-related policies, Williams said.

According to the atlas, only about two-thirds of the world's population



Benzian and Williams discussing the new publication with WDD Editor Daniel Zimmermann, DTI, during the launch event.

have access to adequate oral health care, even though oral disease, particularly tooth decay, is among the most common human diseases. "Untreated tooth decay is the most common health condition of children across all countries, recently confirmed by the Global Burden of Disease Study looking at the burden of 281 diseases and conditions", said Benzian. "Children with severe untreated tooth decay are impacted in their growth, have frequent episodes of pain, miss days in school and have a generally lower quality of life," he continued.

They also usually have the lowest access to oral health care and preventive services, added Williams. Therefore, the two editors-in-chief hope that the second edition of the Oral

Health Atlas will most of all serve as an advocacy tool for institutions, policymakers and dental associations in their effort to improve access to oral health care worldwide.

The compilation of the new edition of the Oral Health Atlas was supported by the Hong Kong Dental Association and the FDI's Vision 2020 oral health initiative. The book content includes chapters and data from 30 contributors, and was reviewed and edited by the two editors-in-chief.

The atlas can be downloaded free of charge from the FDI website as of today and will be translated into the FDI's official languages of French and Spanish. These versions will be available electronically in early 2016.

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Member of the FDI 2016 Local Organising Committee Jakub Łada invites delegates to Poland.

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## Delegates receive invitation for 2016 congress in Poznań

Dental Association of Thailand passes AWDC torch to Polish Dental Society

While attendees of the Annual World Dental Congress (AWDC) are much engaged in learning about the latest trends and developments in dentistry here in Bangkok, eyes are beginning to turn to

Europe, where the next AWDC is scheduled to take place in the city of Poznań from 7 to 10 September 2016. It will be the first conference in Europe after the 2008 edition in Stockholm, Sweden, and the first to be held in Poland.

The responsibility for the organisation of the congress will be officially passed on from the Dental Association of Thailand to the Polish Dental Society today at a lunch reception at the Bangkok International Trade and Exhibition Centre. Information about the congress and the city of Poznań is available at the FDI pavilion at the front of Hall 103 or online at [www.fdi2016poznan.org](http://www.fdi2016poznan.org).

“The decision to hold the 2016 AWDC in Poznań demonstrates the FDI’s determination to ensure a good worldwide balance, alternating in the last decade between the Americas, Asia Pacific and Europe,” said outgoing FDI President Dr Tin Chun Wong. “I congratulate the Polish Dental Society on their successful bid and look forward to yet another must-attend FDI event.”

Speaking on behalf of the congress organising committee, President of the Polish Dental Society Prof. Bartłomiej W. Loster said: “We feel honoured and privileged to be chosen as the host country for the 2016 FDI Annual World Dental Congress. We look forward to welcoming delegates from all over the world to Poznań, a city of history and style.”

The agreement between the FDI and local organising committee was signed in May. The responsibility for organising the AWDC will be shared between the FDI and a three-partner local organising committee, which consists of the Polish Dental Society; Exactus, a professional company specialising in organising medical and dental congresses; and Poznań Congress Center. The AWDC also has the active support of the Polish Chamber of Physicians and Dentists, which will play an active role in preparing for the event.

“Exactus already organises the Central European Dental Exhibition, featuring 250 exhibitors and 8,000 square metres of exhibition booths, with some 13,000 visitors. The FDI AWDC in Poznań is a fantastic opportunity to build on this solid base. We look forward to working on a dental event of such worldwide importance,” said Exactus CEO Ewa Mastalerz.

Poland’s sustained economic growth over the last several years is reflected in a lively market for dental equipment and services valued at nearly €2.2 billion in 2013. Demand for dental services, both national and foreign, is growing rapidly, with the private dental sector estimated at €884 million and growing between 20 and 30 per cent year on year. The country has some 30,000 qualified dentists—nearly 80 per cent of whom are women—and an estimated 23,000 dental practices.

Among other reasons, Poznań was chosen for the FDI AWDC because it offers a centrally situated congress centre, an extremely well-developed citywide transport system, a large range of excellent accommodation in the vicinity of the congress centre, and strong support from the city authorities.

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# Third World Oral Health Forum discusses intake of free sugars

**O**n 22 September, the FDI World Dental Federation invited dental professionals to the World Oral Health Forum, held for the third time in the course of the Annual World Dental Congress (AWDC). The forum aims to offer a platform for the discussion of hot topics in the field of public oral health. This year's first session of the forum concentrated on the recently published World Health Organization's (WHO) guideline on sugar intake for adults and children, which recommends a reduction in daily intake of free sugars to less than five per cent of total energy intake.

The FDI introduced its World Oral Health Forum for the first time at the 2012 AWDC in Hong Kong and launched it at the AWDC in Istanbul in 2013. Since then, the objective has been to present top-level panelists who discuss current subjects in the field of oral health. This year,

## First session focuses on WHO guideline



From left to right: Dr Rob Beaglehole, Modi Mwatsama, Dr Paula Moynihan, Dr Chizuru Nishida and Dr Harry-Sam Selikowitz.

dental health throughout the life course," she concluded in accordance with the updated WHO sugar guideline.

The third speaker of the forum, Modi Mwatsama, is a registered nutritionist and Director for Global Health at the UK Health Forum, where she leads on non-communicable diseases and global health policy. She presented data on the global production and consumption of sugars, as well as the trends and drivers, and gave some examples of concrete actions to reduce sugar intake. Mwatsama demonstrated that the consumption and production of sugar are constantly increasing worldwide and that advocating a healthy and balanced diet is key to reducing the high intake of sugars globally.

In this regard, food advertisement plays an important role as Mwatsama showed. There is a huge discrepancy between the recommended and advertised diet. According to Mwatsama, this can only be countered through a general rethinking of food marketing, for example by means of policy measures, such as taxes and marketing restrictions, and cooperation of the food industry regarding labelling and product reformulation.

Finally, Dr Rob Beaglehole, Principal Dental Officer for the Nelson Marlborough District Health Board in New Zealand and Tobacco Control Advisor to the New Zealand Dental Association, presented his experiences as a dentist with sugary drinks, which play an important part in the too-high sugar consumption by adults and especially children. A single can of sugar-sweetened soda contains up to 40 grams (around ten teaspoons) of free sugars—nearly twice as much as WHO recommends in total per day. Beaglehole introduced several best practices from New Zealand, including efforts of schools and hospitals to reduce intake of free sugars by banning sugary drinks. Moreover, he pointed out the negative consequences of sugar consumption not only for dental health but also for general health and the link to obesity and diabetes.

"We aren't giving children tobacco and alcohol, but we are giving them sugary drinks," Beaglehole said, emphasising the extent of the issue and the lack of awareness regarding it. The forum concluded with an open discussion, during which all participants were able to pose questions and contribute to the subject.

The second session of the 2015 World Oral Health Forum is being held on Thursday at 9.30 a.m. and is titled "Universal health coverage (UHC): Towards optimal oral health". It will highlight efforts made by emerging economies and low- to middle-income countries to achieve UHC and a roadmap to the integration of oral health into UHC within the context of the post-2015 development agenda.

the FDI has scheduled two sessions of the forum for the AWDC in Bangkok. The first session focused on the issue of sugar as a significant risk factor for dental caries and other non-communicable diseases in light of the recently published WHO sugar guideline. It was moderated by Dr Harry-Sam Selikowitz, Vice-Chair of the FDI Science Committee.

The panellists included Dr Chizuru Nishida from the Department of Nutrition for Health and Development at WHO. Dr Nishida spoke about the development and the main contents of the WHO sugar guideline.

Reducing free sugar intake to less than ten per cent of total daily energy intake was recommended by the WHO study group for the first time in 1989 and was further elaborated by a joint expert consultation by WHO and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in 2002. This new updated WHO guideline calls for further reduction of free sugar intake to less than five per cent or roughly 25 grams (six teaspoons) per day, as this would provide additional health benefits according to WHO.

The second panellist, Dr Paula Moynihan, Professor of Nutrition and Oral Health and Director of the Centre for Oral Health Research at Newcastle University in the UK, is also Director of the university's WHO Collaborating Centre for Nutrition and Oral Health. In her speech, she discussed the effect of free sugars on caries and elaborated on global policies and existing strategies to reduce the intake of free sugars.

Moynihan emphasised that it is extremely important to reduce sugar intake in order to guarantee adequate oral health, starting with raising awareness in children, but also continuing this throughout adult life. "We need to protect

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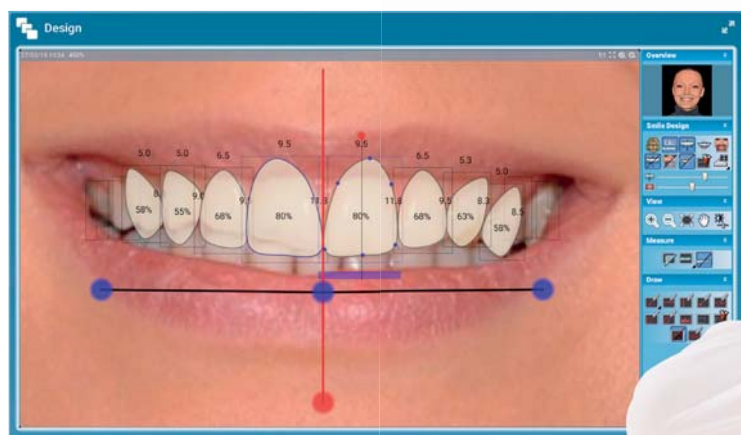
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# fdi Dentists: A major contributor to society

■ An interview with FDI President Dr Patrick Hescot

**Worldental Daily: Dr Hescot, as the new FDI President, what is the first message you would like to share with dentists around the world?**

**Dr Patrick Hescot:** The first point I would like to make is that FDI is a federation of dental associations. It was created by dentists and one of its principal aims is to work on their behalf and deliver their point of view at international level, especially with-

in the United Nations and its agencies such as the World Health Organization (WHO).

It is also there to promote the interests of dentists and their responsibility for oral health when subjects under debate are likely to have a direct impact on dentists and their ability to carry out their work effectively.

**What are the major differences you see in the practice of dentistry in the last few years?**

I think the main differences must be apparent to the thousands of people who have visited FDI international exhibitions over the years. The use of highly advanced, complex and expensive technology in dental practice has significantly increased. This all very much to the benefit of the patient.

Indeed high-tech has become very much part of the patient's expectations. From that perspective, the dentist is also called upon to become a super-technician, constantly updating his or her expertise in the light of new equipment. This naturally has major implications for continuing education, and opportunities from the Annual World Dental Congress.

**And what about the dentist's role in prevention?**

Prevention has always been key element of the dentist's work, a fact that was recognised in a message from the WHO Director General Dr Margaret Chan in a message to the opening of the 2012 Annual World Dental Congress in Hong Kong. She said: "The dental profession is a highly-respected member of the public health family. After all, dentistry pioneered the concept of preventive medicine." This is simple recognition of what has been a clear philosophy of dentists from the early days of the founding of FDI.

**What is your perspective of the role of dentistry in the modern world?**

I think that it is important to stress that the dentist is not only a medical practitioner. He or she is also a major contributor to society as a whole in terms of human wellbeing, confidence and quality of life.

One of the three key elements of the dentist's contribution will continue to be prevention through good oral hygiene and regular dental check-ups. In some countries, especially those with lower income and limited access to dentists, prevention and good oral hygiene are the only options.

The other two are maintenance and restoration. Even with prevention, some patients are more likely than others to require treatment and follow-up due for example, to accidents, genetic pre-dispositions or to the presence of other conditions impacting oral health.

**Can you give a specific example?**

An example that has been raised in the past few years is population ageing and the implications of good oral health and hygiene in the later stages of life. A good dentition throughout life allows people to continue enjoying a good quality of life derived in part from their ability to chew and swallow the food and maintain a good level of nutrition.

In Japan, one of the world's most ageing societies, the distinction is made between years of life and healthy years of life. A distinct feature of those healthy years is oral health. And those healthy years are also years of independence. In recent lectures I have given on the subject of ageing and oral health, I have highlighted efforts by dentists in France to encourage care facilities to develop oral health care strategies and access to care for their residents. It is well known that poor oral health is a key contributing factor to malnutrition among the elderly. The new 'Oral Health for an Ageing Population



■ Dr Patrick Hescot

Partnership' is an exciting new development in this respect.

**Do you think there is more awareness about the importance of oral health?**

For high-income and some middle-income countries this might be true owing to several factors that include marketing and access to oral health products and the impact of a poor dentition on the individual in terms of self-confidence and career opportunities. There are also special efforts by dentists at national level to raise awareness through day, week or month-long oral health campaigns. World Oral Health Day, an FDI initiative, is fast becoming a key part of worldwide efforts to deliver important messages about oral health to members of the general public.

**You are beginning your two-year term as FDI president. What will be your focus?**

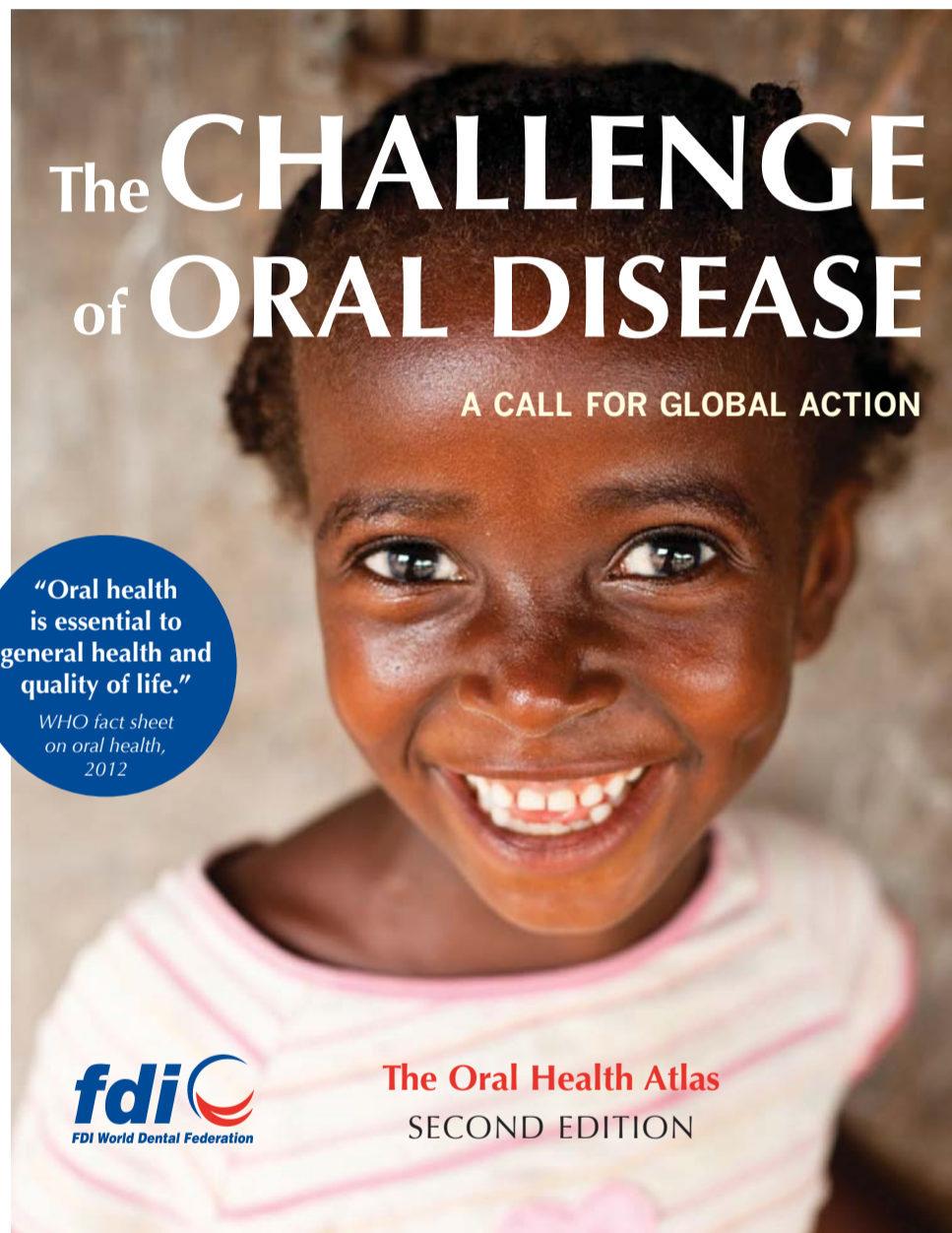
My primary focus will be to strengthen and expand FDI advocacy at national, regional and international level. This means reinforcing its own resources for advocacy and providing advocacy toolkits for its members to support their interactions at national level with public authorities and the general public. FDI is and will remain the voice of dentists worldwide and a forum for consensus on the science, art and practice of dentistry.

**Thank you very much for the interview.**

*"The dentist is a healer; his business lies with a very small portion of the human frame, but that portion, though small, is still human; it has its diseases and failings, and the dentist has to cure these—bringing in, whenever possible, that best of cures, prevention." 1901, Sir Michael Foster, Vice-Chancellor, University of Cambridge (UK). Opening of the First General Meeting of FDI.*

*Or "The chief and foremost function of the dentist is to care for the teeth, and just to the extent that he is able to do this successfully, to the same extent he will be able to prevent diseases of the contiguous parts, and to aid in preserving the health and vigour of the whole body." Dr Willoughby Dayton Miller, FDI President 1905–1907*

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*WHO fact sheet on oral health, 2012*

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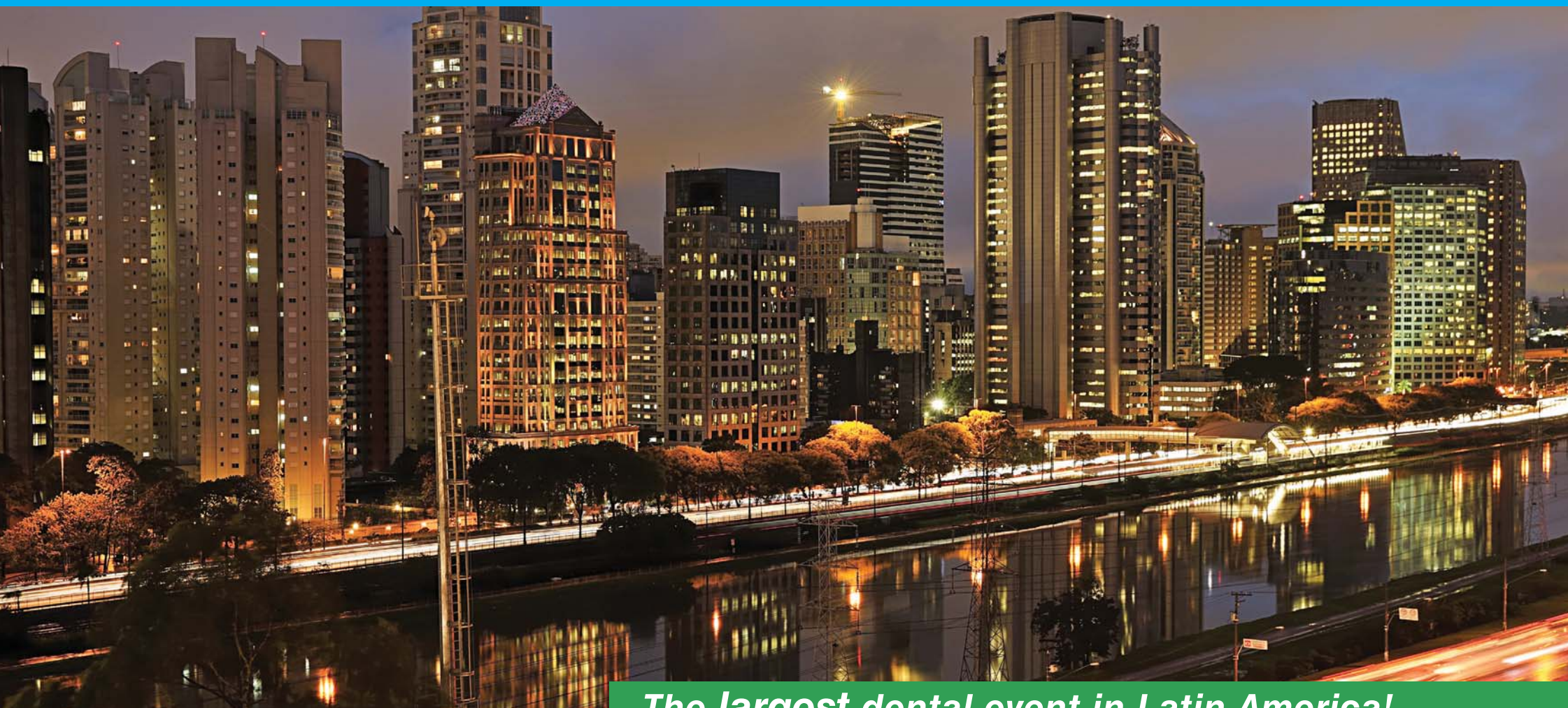
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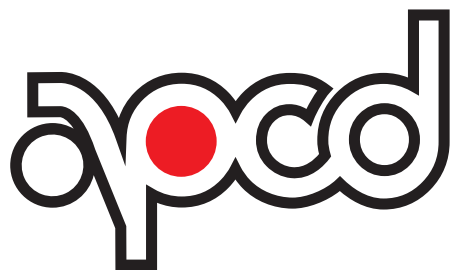
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# FDI adopts nine new or revised Policy Statements



Nermin Yamalik

‘Oral Cancer’. The remainder focus on ‘Basic Dental Training’, ‘Supervision of Auxiliaries within the Dental Team’ and ‘Dental Laboratory Technicians’.

“We firmly believe that FDI Policy Statements have a key role to play for the dental profession worldwide, and it is crucial to put these important statements into actions for optimal oral and general health,”

said Science Committee Chair Prof. Li-Jian Jin (Hong Kong SAR, China). “Our work this year has been particularly relevant to raising the global awareness of oral health and disease prevention for enhancing people’s quality of life and general wellbeing in an ageing population.”

“Our new Policy Statement on ‘The Role of FDI in Dental Ethics’

implements a key element of the FDI mission ‘to advance and promote the ethics, art, science and practice of dentistry,’” said Dental Practice Committee Chair Dr Ward Van Dijk (Netherlands).

“Further, our revisions of Policy Statements on the role, training and activities of members of the dental team are a reminder of the need to continually review and update our

approach in the interests of best dental practice and the patient.”

Developing and disseminating policies, standards and information related to all aspects of oral health care around the world is one of FDI’s key goals.

More information on the FDI Policy Statements is available online at [fdiworldental.org/policystatements](http://fdiworldental.org/policystatements).

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Ward Van Dijk

**T**he FDI General Assembly, the Federation’s supreme legislative and governing body, has just adopted four new Policy Statements. They are in the fields of ‘Dental Implants’, ‘Dietary Sugars and Dental Caries’ and ‘The Role of FDI in Dental Ethics’. Updates to a further six Policy Statements have also been approved.

The FDI General Assembly is part of the World Dental Parliament—the meetings of FDI Council, Committees and Task Teams—which take place alongside the Annual World Dental Congress. This year’s sessions brought together some 400 representatives from around 90 member national dental associations in 72 countries.

Policy Statements are declarations laying out current FDI thinking on various issues related to oral health, oral health policies and the dental profession. They are put together through consultation, discussion and consensus of leading international experts within various FDI committees, national dental associations and other organizations.

Many FDI Policy Statements are the result of projects carried out by the FDI Science Committee and Dental Practice Committee, others are developed in collaboration with entities such as the World Health Organization. Of this year’s crop, the Science Committee and the Dental Practice Committee have developed of updated respectively five and four.

The now updated Policy Statements cover the related fields of ‘Oral Health for Healthy Ageing’, ‘Oral Health and Quality of Life’, and

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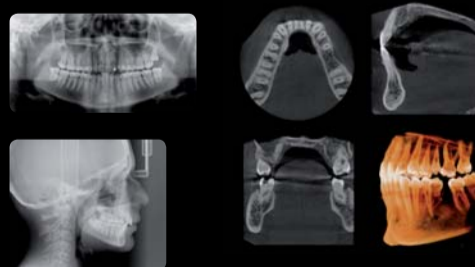
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