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June 2010

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## 15th SOUTH PACIFIC NURSES FORUM

This year's South Pacific Nurses Forum will be held in Auckland, New Zealand at the Aotea Centre on Monday 8th to Thursday 11th November. Entitled this year "Nurses at the Helm: steering nurses across the Pacific" will cover the key themes of leadership, workforce development, education, collaboration, and disaster preparedness. [Registration](#) closes on September 10th, and attending countries are requested to submit a [country report](#) of the changes and challenges to nursing and the significant issues which impact on nursing today. [Accommodation options](#). South Pacific Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officers Alliance (SPCNMOA) have requested that their meeting be held in Auckland to coincide with the South Pacific Nursing Forum (SPNF). An opportunity has also arisen to save time and resources by combining together with the meeting of the Asian Pacific Emergency Disaster Nursing Network ([APEDNN](#)) which will be held prior to the above meetings.

## WOMEN ON THE FRONT LINES OF HEALTH CARE



In the report, Women on the Front Lines of Health Care - State of the World's Mothers 2010, the contributions women make to life saving health care service delivery are identified. The investment in training and deployment of female health workers to some of the poorest and hard-to-reach mothers and babies is reported.

The challenge to save lives requires successful, affordable strategies and effective solutions to address the critical shortage of health workers in the developing world. This report highlights the urgent need

for female health workers in particular for maternal and newborn survival.

[Click here](#) to read the report.

## FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR TONGAN NURSES

On the 10th - 14th March 2010, the first international conference for Tongan nurses was held. The 4-day conference entitled "Nursing: The Noble Profession - Navigating the Realities of Tongan Nurses" was opened by Her Majesty Queen Halaevalu Mata'aho and covered the history of nursing in the Kingdom of Tonga, the key issues and factors for future development, as well



## Emergency and Disaster Course: Papua New Guinea



Nurses are often on the frontline in an emergency and with this in mind an emergency and disaster course was established specifically for the Pacific Region by WHO CC UTS. A successful pilot course was undertaken in December 2009 in Papua New Guinea focusing on the practicalities of disaster management such as emergency medical care and basic organisation.

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as the important role nurses are required to take on when there is a lack of medical personnel. The triumphant effort of nurses during the tsunami this year was recognised.

To read more, [click here](#).

### **PACIFIC SENIOR HEALTH OFFICIALS NETWORK (PSHON)**

The [PSHON Newsletter](#) has been developed to share information about PSHON activities, as well as articles of interest regarding key issues identified by PSHON member countries. The Newsletter may be circulated within Ministries and organisations who may find the information valuable. The most recent issue follows the theme of "Primary Health Care" and includes a *Primary Health Care Resources Supplement* which has been prepared by the Australian Government Department of Health and Aging.

### **INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES (ICN)**

The International Council of Nurses (ICN) is a federation of 133 national nurses associations representing millions of nurses worldwide. Operated by nurses and leading nursing internationally, ICN works to ensure quality nursing care for all and sound health policies globally. The presentations and other documents, in relation with the NNAs meetings, Regulators Forum and Triad meetings for 2010 are available on the [ICN website](#). The ICN conference *Nurses driving access, quality and health* is to be held 2nd - 8th May in Valletta, Malta. For more information [click here](#).

### **Health eLearning Center- two new courses**

USAID's Global Health eLearning Center is pleased to announce the release of two new courses; Gender and Reproductive Health 101, and Commercial Private Health Sector Basics. To find out more about these courses [click here](#).

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