

Dear Colleagues really our first communication of note since our meeting in Cairo nearly a year ago. I apologize for the long hiatus, but many basics had to be sorted out first and everything takes a great deal of time!

First let me express my concern about all the devastation that has occurred in the world lately - the tsunami in Japan and the political upheavals in Africa. I think of our colleagues in these areas often and am concerned about their safety and their ability to still provide child care in those regions. My thoughts go out to you all - please let me know how you are doing.

As far as ACNA business is concerned the following:

1. The name is finalized at last. Although we had entertained other names the acronym clashed with pre-existing associations. So "The African Child Neurology Association" (ACNA) it is!

2. Thank you to the EXCO's contribution towards the development of the new logo. I have attached it here in two formats - hope you can all get to open it. You will see that it is based on the logo used in Cairo, but with Africa more prominent. I hope most of you like it, or at least can live with it! Now we can start developing the website Biju!

3. PANDA in South Africa is arranging a Cerebral Palsy workshop in October 2011 in Bloemfontein on the University of the Free State campus. I have attached the flyers and call for abstracts for you information. Please join us. The focus will be on the multimodal treatment options of cerebral palsy and the final program is near completion. We have two international invited speakers: Prof Alec Hoon from Johns Hopkins, USA and Prof Walid Abdel Ghany from An Shams University, Egypt.

4. ICNA, in conjunction with ACNA, is also planning an epilepsy workshop in Uganda next year. I will keep you informed of the dates, programme, faculty and venue as soon as it has been confirmed.

5 Off course do not forget the next ICNA conference in Brisbane, Australia next year. I hope that Africa will be well represented!

I have included the membership list as well. Please check that your particulars are there and correct. Let me know if there is anyone who should be there, who is not.

My very best wishes to you all. I hope that we will have the website up and running soon so that we can all benefit from the dissemination of information.

Wishing you all a very wonderful day.

André Venter

President

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