International Congress on Infectious & Tropical Diseases
GCC Conference on Infectious Diseases & Infection Control

Organizer:
Ministry of Health

Collaboration:
Sultan Qaboos University
& the Executive Board of the GCC

Second Announcement & Call for Abstracts

Muscat, Sultanate of Oman, 4-7 December 2006
THE CONGRESS

Organizer: Ministry of Health, Sultanate of Oman
Collaboration: Sultan Qaboos University, Muscat & the Executive Board of the GCC
Dates: 4th to 7th December 2006
Venue: Al Bustan Palace Hotel, Muscat
Language: English
Congress Theme: “Meeting the Ongoing Challenges of Infections”

CONGRESS SECRETARIAT

Administrative Secretariat

ICITD Oman 2006
Directorate General of Health Affairs
Ministry of Health, PO Box 393
Muscat 113, sultanate of Oman

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E-mail: ICITD2006.Desk@gmail.com

Scientific Secretariat

Scientific Committee ICITD 2006
Dept. of Communicable Disease Surveillance & Control, DGHA, Ministry of Health, PO Box 393, Muscat 113, Sultanate of Oman

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Congress website: http://www.squ.edu.om/med/icitd-oman

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Al Bustan Palace Hotel, Muscat... the Congress Venue
WELCOME FROM THE CONGRESS CHAIRMAN

Infectious diseases continue to pose a threat to man despite great progress in their control and management. We have come a long way since the global eradication of smallpox. Since then a number of new diseases have emerged such as SARS and avian influenza. The challenges are compounded by the emergence of antimicrobial resistance. Natural disasters like the tsunami, earthquake, cyclone etc. further aggravate the situation.

To meet these challenges, it is essential that new knowledge and the wisdom gained from experience to be shared in an environment that is conducive to mutual exchange. With this aim and spirit the Ministry of Health in collaboration with the Sultan Qaboos University is organizing a congress in Muscat, sultanate of Oman and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC). It is with great pleasure that I invite you to this “2nd International Congress on Infectious & Tropical Diseases” and “2nd GCC Conference on Infectious Diseases & Infection Control” to be held in Muscat in December 2006.

The scientific deliberations of the congress will be on global surveillance, emerging infectious diseases, infectious diseases following Disaster, infection control, revised international health regulations, vaccine preventable diseases, parasitic infections etc.

I am sure that this congress will offer an excellent opportunity for the delegates to meet the leading scientists and clinicians in the field of infectious and tropical diseases and exchange thoughts, experiences and scientific information.

Dr. Ali Jaffer Mohammed
Congress Chairman

CONGRESS COMMITTEES

Organizing Secretary: S Al Awaidy


Administrative Committee: A Al Khonji (chairman), S Al Awaidy, S Al Jabri, S Al Saidi, S Bawikar, N J Suleiman, I Farooq, S Al Ajmi, M Al Farsi, M Shafi

Scientific Committee: M Al Hosni (chairman), S Al Awaidy, S Al Busaidy, S Bawikar, A Balkhair, M Al Zidjali, G Paul, S Al Dahry, B Zayed, K Elhag
## Schedule at a Glance (Provisional)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Monday 4th December</th>
<th>Tuesday 5th December</th>
<th>Wednesday 6th December</th>
<th>Thursday 7th December</th>
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<tr>
<td>7:30</td>
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<td>Registration on 5th &amp; 6th Dec.’06 (7:30 – 17:00)</td>
<td>Plenary Session (8:30 – 10:00)</td>
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<td>8:30</td>
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<td>Plenary Session (8:30 – 10:00)</td>
<td>Commercial Exhibition (10:00 – 10:30)</td>
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<td>10:00</td>
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<td>Commercial Exhibition (10:00 – 10:30)</td>
<td>Parallel Symposia (10:00 – 12:30)</td>
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<td>12:30</td>
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<td>Parallel Symposia (10:00 – 12:30)</td>
<td>Free Presentations* &amp; Poster Viewing with the Presenter (12:30 – 13:00)</td>
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<td>13:00</td>
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<td>Plenary Session (14:00 – 15:00)</td>
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<td>Closing Ceremony</td>
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<td>14:00</td>
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<td>Plenary Session (14:00 – 15:00)</td>
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<td>15:00</td>
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<td>Parallel Symposia (15:00 – 17:00)</td>
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<tr>
<td>16:00</td>
<td>Registration (16:00 – 18:00)</td>
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<td>17:00</td>
<td>Opening Ceremony Launching “Global Patient Safety Challenge Initiative”</td>
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<td>18:00</td>
<td>Plenary Lecture (18:30 – 20:00)</td>
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<td>20:00</td>
<td>Welcome Dinner (20:00 – 22:00) Courtesy GSK</td>
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*Additional session planned for free presentations.*
2nd GCC Conference on Infectious Diseases & Infection Control

Congress Guest of Honour
HE Dr. Hussein A. Gezairy, Regional Director, WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME (At the time for press)

Plenary Lectures & Symposia

- International Health
- Global Surveillance
- Travel Medicine
- Emerging & Re-emerging Infections
- Paediatric Infections
- Infections in the Immunocompromised
- Infection Control
- Vaccine Preventable Diseases
- Multi-resistant Organisms
- Avian Influenza
- Anti-microbial Therapy
- Pneumococcal Infections
- Tropical Infections
- Tuberculosis
- Malaria
- Infections in Health Care Workers

PRINCIPAL SPEAKERS

- Max Hardimann
  WHO, Geneva
- Zuhair Hallaj
  WH, EMRO
- Ziad A Memish
  Director GCC (states) Centre for Infection Control
- Robert Moellering
  Harvard Medical School
- Ronald Sutter
  WHO, Geneva
- Robert Steffen
  University of Zurich / Institute for Social & Preventive Medicine
- Frank Mohoney
  WHO, EMRO
- John Bradley
  University of California, San Diego
- Lorenzo Saviolli
  WHO, Geneva
- TG Ksiazek
  CDC, USA
- Anil Datta
  Sanofi Pasteur, France
- John Oxford
  University of London
- Didiere Pettet
  University of Geneva
- Paul Klatser
  Royal Tropical Institute, Netherlands
- Entesar Hussein
  Infectious Disease Hospital, Kuwait
- Maha Talat
  NAMRU-3, Cairo
- NJ Beeching
  Tropical & Infectious Disease Unit
  Royal Liverpool University Hospital
- Atif Shibli
  King Saud University, Riyadh, SA
- Ray Smego
  University of Western Virginia,
  Oman Medical College, Sohar, Oman
- Ibrahim Hussain
  King Faisal Specialist Hospital & Research centre, Riyadh, SA
- Selma Khamasi
  WHO, Geneva
- Daniele Kohl
  GSK, Belgium
- Nick White
  Oxford University
GUIDELINES FOR PARTICIPANTS

The Scientific Committee invites the submission of research papers of excellent quality in all areas related to the infectious & tropical diseases and infection control. All the abstracts will be reviewed for scientific contents, originality of research, and presentation. Abstracts will be accepted into one of the two categories i.e. either for oral or poster presentation at the congress and will be published in an abstract book and distributed to the Congress participants on site.

Abstract guidelines

- Abstracts must be submitted on or before 31st August 2006
- Abstracts shall be accepted for oral or poster presentation.
- All abstracts must be submitted electronically through the congress website http://www.squ.edu.om/med/icitd-oman or by E-mail on icitd.oman.2006@gmail.com. Detailed information about abstract submission will be posted online on the website. Abstracts sent by fax will not be accepted.
- Abstracts that present single case study of previously reported diseases or abstracts/papers that have already been published will not be accepted.
- All abstracts will be reviewed by the concerned committee, and a notice of acceptance or rejection will be sent electronically by 30th September 2006 on the e-mail address provided by the author.
- If an abstract was accepted and the registration fee of the presenting author is not received by 31st October 2006, the abstract will not be published.
- The number of abstracts submitted per author is not limited.
- Abstract title should reflect the content in a concise manner.
- Abstract should be structured using headings viz. objectives, methods, results and conclusions.
- Write author, co-author’s first name as initial followed by last name separated by a point.
- Underline the speaker’s name.
- Abstract should be typed in 11 point Times New Roman font and should not exceed 2500 characters including spaces.
GENERAL INFORMATION

Passport & Visa
All visitors except the GCC nationals require a valid visa to visit Oman. However for some nationalities the visa on arrival is granted. For the list of the countries please visit the website http://www.rop.gov.om. Congress secretariat will help, should you require any assistance.

Hotel Accommodation & Tours
A wide variety of excellent hotels are available in Muscat on special rates for the congress. December is however a high tourist season. Early booking is therefore recommended. Tours will be organized during and after the congress for the participants and accompanying persons. Further details will be posted on the congress website http://www.squ.edu.om/med/icitd-oman

Climate & Clothing
During the congress the weather should be sunny and pleasant: 21 - 23°C by day. The nights will be cooler. Light summer clothing is recommended. At the beach trunks or shorts, and one piece bathing costume are accepted. Bikinis are allowed only at the hotel pools or private. Women are advised to wear non-revealing clothes and below-knee dresses in public places.

Currency & Credit Cards
Omani Riyal (RO) is the official currency. Approximate rate of exchange is 1 RO = US$ 2.6 or € 2.13. All major credit cards are accepted in banks, hotels, restaurants, and shopping malls. Hotels generally accept Traveler’s cheques. Service charge and taxes are included in the bill in hotels and restaurants. Banks are open from Sat-Wed 8 am – 12 noon, Thu 8 am – 11:30 am and closed on Fridays.

Electricity supply
Power supply is 220-240 volts AC, 50 cycles. Three-pin flat plug system is in vogue.

Health & Medical Care
Medical care facilities are excellent. There are no vaccine requirements for entry in Oman. Malaria has been eradicated in Oman hence there is no need of chemoprophylaxis. Tap water is desalinated and safe for drinking. Bottled water is available everywhere.

Insurance
The ‘ICITD Oman 2006’ accepts no liability for personal injuries, or loss or damage to property of the participants either during the congress or the tours. The delegate and accompanying persons should obtain the health and travel insurance.

Security
Security is excellent in Muscat for walking and shopping in the city. However, as in most cities of the world it is best to avoid lonely areas in the night and it is prudent to be in a group while visiting beaches. Do NOT leave luggage and valuables unattended.
OMAN: THE CULTURAL CAPITAL OF ARABIA

The Sultanate of Oman is situated on the southeast corner of the Arabian Peninsula (16° 40’ - 26° 20’ N & 51° 50’ - 59° 40’ E). The coastline extends 1,700 Km from the Strait of Hormuz in the north, to the borders of the Republic of Yemen in the south and overlooking the Arabian Gulf, Gulf of Oman and the Arabian Sea. The total land area is around 309,500 Km² and it is the third largest country in the Arabian Peninsula.

Oman possesses a rich diverse topography ranging from the rugged mountains and rocky deepwater fjords in the North, to the spectacular dunes of Sharqiyyah (Wahiba) Sands in the East, two large salt flats in the centre and the lush green hills of Dhofar region in the South. The northern coastal strip is the Batinah Coast; a narrow fertile plain separated from the rest of the country by the Hajar Mountains, the highest peak being the Jabal Shams (Sun Mountain) at 3,075 m. The varied geography of the Sultanate has resulted in a wide variety of climatic conditions.

The hottest months in Oman are June through August. The summer monsoon just touches the southern coast of Dhofar bringing light rain during these months (The Kharif). The most pleasant months to visit Oman are mid October through March when daytime temperatures fall into the lower 30s and below.

The Sultanate is divided into eight administrative regions: 3 Governorates viz. Muscat, Dhofar & Musandam and 5 Regions viz. Batinah, Dhahira, Dakhliyah, Sharqiyyah & Al Wustah. Each of these is further subdivided into districts (Wilayat).

Oman has a deep and rich culture that extends back for thousands of years, embracing such popular legends as the stories of Sinbad the sailor (he is believed to be an Omani sailor from Sohar). Oman is also the source of frankincense which figures so prominently in the Nativity story of the Christian Bible (one of the gifts Queen Sheba offered to King Solomon).

Oman’s history goes back to the time of early civilization in the region known as the Fertile Crescent. Cuneiform writing on tablets from Mesopotamia mention a mountain rich in copper in a land called Majan, which is believed to be a place somewhere near the modern day city of Sohar in north Oman. Here copper has been mined for the last 3000 years. The people of Oman are descended from tribes in Northern Arabia (Nazarene) who migrated to Oman in the fourth millennium BC, and from the Hadramaut region of Yemen. The latter was prompted by the collapse of a great dam in Mirab built in the first millennium BC.

Muscat is the capital of Oman; a cosmopolitan, but a relaxed city, free from the hustle and bustle. Today, under the leadership of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos Bin Said, Muscat has become a modern city, but has never lost its pride in its heritage and culture. The capital area is a prime example of intelligent and aesthetic development, blending the ancient and modern. Muscat has a number of beautiful beaches, public gardens and parks.

The famous landmarks include the Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque, Mutrah Souq, the forts of Al-Jalali & Al-Mirani which flank His Majesty’s colourful and elegant Al-Alam Palace. The Burj As-Sahwa (the clock tower), and Al-Bustan Palace Hotel (the venue of the congress) are buildings of great eminence.
REGISTRATION FORM

Please complete & return this form along with payment to: ICITD Oman 2006
Directorate General of Health Affairs, Ministry of Health
Fax: + (968) 24 691162
Congress website: http://www.squ.edu.om/med/icitd-oman

PARTICIPANT

Last Name …………………………………………………………  First Name: ………………………………………
Department: …………………………………………………………………………………………………………
Institution: ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………
Address at Work: ………………………………………………………………………………………………………
City: …………………………………. Province/State: ………………………….. Country: ……...…...…………
Postal/ZIP Code: …………………………………. Phone: ………………………………… Fax: …………………………………
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REGISTRATION FEES

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<tr>
<td>Oman &amp; GCC Delegates:</td>
<td>RO 30</td>
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<td>RO 35</td>
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PAYMENT

Option 1: CREDIT CARD - I hereby authorize ICITD Oman 2006 to debit my credit card the sum of US $ ……RO ……

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☐ Master Card holder’s name: ________________________________  Security Code: __________

I understand and agree that I will be debited the equivalent amount in RO from my credit card account.

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Option 2: BANK TRANSFERS
Bank transfer without charges to the beneficiary, should be payable in US$ or RO to Ministry of Health, Account No. 1016-288642-001, National Bank of Oman, Ministry of Health Branch, Muscat.

Option 3: BANK CHEQUE OR DRAFT
All cheques or Bank Drafts should be drawn in favour of Ministry of Health, Account No. 1016-288642-001, National Bank of Oman, Ministry of Health Branch, Muscat.

Please ensure your name and address appears clearly on all payment documents.

CANCELLATION POLICY

Written requests for the cancellation of registration and claims for refund shall be entertained till November 1st, 2006. 35% of the registration fee shall be deducted from the refunds as administrative charges. Requests for cancellation of registration received after above date shall not be entertained. Payments for all approved refunds shall be made after 60 days of adjournment of the congress.

Date: ………………………………  Signature: ………………………………
Congress Secretariat,
2nd International Congress on Infectious & Tropical Diseases,

Directorate General of Health Affairs,
Ministry of Health HQ, Al Khuwair,
PO Box 393, PC 113,

MUSCAT, Sultanate of Oman
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