IUNS Update

IUNS Council Meeting – FENS Conference

The IUNS held its annual Council meeting last year in Madrid, Spain, on the occasion of the 11th Federation of the European Nutrition Societies (FENS) Conference held from October 26 to 29, 2011. A summary of the minutes of the Council meeting will be made available on the IUNS website (www.iuns.org) shortly.

The FENS conference theme was ‘Diversity versus globalization: a nutritional challenge for a changing Europe’. IUNS sponsored the following symposia on nutrition in different regions of the world (Africa, Asia and Latin America):

- The effect of the global food crisis on food and nutrition security in Africa
- The new face of malnutrition in the Asia-Pacific region
- Nutrition in the Americas
- Capacity development and leadership in nutrition and food science in Europe

Professor Antonia Trichopoulou was awarded the FENS prize for her work on traditional foods. Professor Ascension Marcos was elected President of FENS for the next four years, and will take over from Professor Denis Lairon, the current President.

Federation of African Nutrition Societies

The Federation of African Nutrition Societies (FANUS) held its 2nd congress in Abuja, Nigeria. Because of the unfortunate event preceding the congress (the bombing of the UN offices in Abuja), UN personnel scheduled to give presentations could not attend the conference. The dedication and tenacity of the local organizing committee ensured that the conference proceeded smoothly. A short ceremony was held in memory of the late Professor Michael Latham’s contributions to nutrition in Africa.

Professor Joyce Kinabo was elected President of FANUS for the next four years. Professor Anna Lartey represented the IUNS President at the meeting.
Austrian Nutrition Society

The Austrian Nutrition Society (ANS) celebrated its 60th anniversary. The theme of the meeting was ‘Nutrition in health promotion and disease prevention’. The President of ANS (Professor Ibrahim Elmadfa), who is also the current President of IUNS, invited several IUNS officers and Council members to participate in the 60th anniversary program. Presentations were given by IUNS Council members on non-communicable diseases in various regions (Sub-Saharan Africa, South-East Asia, the Mediterranean, and Latin America). Professor Philip James (former President of the International Obesity Task Force) gave a keynote presentation on ‘Obesity: causes, consequences and controls’. Professor Lindsay Allen (IUNS Vice President) presented controversies concerning vitamin B12 and folate requirements and Professor Suzanne Murphy (IUNS Treasurer) spoke on food-based approaches to improving diet quality. On behalf of IUNS, we wish the ANS a Happy Anniversary.

WHO Workshop

The World Health Organization Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean (EMRO), in collaboration with the Flour Fortification Initiative (FFI), held a workshop in Amman, Jordan (February 21–23, 2012). The theme of the workshop was: ‘The standards harmonization for wheat and maize flour fortification by vitamins and minerals in the Eastern Mediterranean Region & UNICEF Middle East and North Africa Region.’ The Middle East and North Africa Nutrition Association (MENANA) held its Council meeting during the workshop; Professor Ibrahim Khatib was elected President of MENANA for the next four years. Professor Ibrahim Elmadfa, the IUNS President, and Professor Rekia Belahsen, IUNS Secretary General, were invited to participate. Professor Ibrahim Elmadfa gave a presentation on ‘Safety aspects of flour fortification: experience from Europe’.

Upcoming Events

20th IUNS-International Congress of Nutrition
Joining Cultures through Nutrition 2013
Granada, Spain, September 15–20, 2013
www.icn2013.com

XVI Congreso Latinoamericano de Nutrición (SLAN)
Havana, Cuba, November 11–16, 2012
www.slancuba.com

Nutrition Congress Africa 2012
Hosted jointly by the Nutrition Society of South Africa (NSSA), Association for Dietetics in South Africa (ADSA) and the African Nutrition Society (ANS)
Bloemfontein, South Africa, September 30–October 4, 2012
http://nutritioncongress.co.za/

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