



10 May 2011

Bone and Joint Decade participates in WHO Global Forum: Addressing the Challenge of Noncommunicable Diseases, Moscow, 27 April 2011

The **Bone and Joint Decade** Chair Prof Tony Woolf and ICC member Prof Mieke Hazes were invited to participate in the WHO Global Forum “Addressing the Challenge of Noncommunicable Diseases” which brought together a wide group of stakeholders to share views and experiences to date on the challenges and opportunities in noncommunicable disease prevention, treatment and control. The Forum provided input into the First Global Ministerial Conference on Healthy Lifestyles and Noncommunicable Diseases in Moscow on 28 - 29 April 2011 and will enable the understanding of expectations, roles and contributions of the different stakeholders in support of the UN High-level Meeting on NCDs being held in New York in September 2011.

The WHO Global Forum focused on the key challenges for NCD prevention and control. Areas discussed included ensuring a suitably trained workforce, health systems appropriate for prevention and management of NCDs as well as research priorities. A challenge highlighted by the **Bone and Joint Decade** is that the WHO Action Plan for the Global Strategy for the Prevention and Control of NCDs focuses on the noncommunicable diseases with the highest mortality and ignores those conditions which most affect quality of life and are the biggest causes of disability such as musculoskeletal conditions. It was also highlighted that these can be prevented and controlled in part by the common approach of modifying risk factors such as bad diets and physical inactivity.

The Bone & Joint Decade continues to work with the WHO and other NGOs to ensure there is priority and action for avoiding preventable disability.



The Bone and Joint Decade works to reduce the burden and cost of musculoskeletal disorders to individuals, carers and society by promoting musculoskeletal health and science worldwide.

The Decade is endorsed by the UN and WHO, with declared support from over 60 governments. Launched by UN Secretary General Kofi Annan on November 30 1999, the Decade draws on the expertise of national academic, professional and patient organisations across the globe.

In 2010 the Decade renewed its mandate for another 10 years with the Vision “Keep People Moving”.

Its global objective is to raise the recognition of the importance of musculoskeletal conditions at the global, regional and national levels.

www.boneandjointdecade.org

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Dr Margaret Chan,
Director-General WHO ;
Prof Mieke Hazes, ICC
Member Bone and Joint
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