



RCN Council

Date of Meeting:	05 April 2017
Title of Paper:	Report from the International Committee
Appendices:	None
Presented by:	Cecilia Anim CBE, President (on behalf of Professor Kath McCourt FRCN, Chair)
Is a decision required? No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

1. The International Committee met on 7 February 2017.

The Role of the International Committee in the New Governance Structure

2. We spent the morning discussing the changes to the RCN's governance structure, the overarching priority to strengthen our Royal College role and the new approach to delivering policy change.
3. We reviewed the learning from the past six years work of the Committee and discussed its future role and the changes required to ensure it better informs the development and delivery of the RCN's strategic priorities.
4. Based on our discussion, we will be updating the Committee's terms of reference for the consideration of Council.

Congress 2017

5. We discussed arrangements for Congress, the items that had been submitted by members of the Committee and ideas for possible emergency items.
6. We also discussed under this item the Government proposal to charge overseas patients for non-urgent treatment upfront and we expressed our concern that it is not the role of health professionals to be confirming the status of visitors to the UK.

International Alliances and Relationships

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7. The Committee discussed ongoing work with the key RCN international alliances.
8. We noted that the 4th Commonwealth Nurses and Midwives Conference was taking place in London on 10-11 March 2018 and that the Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI) 4th Biennial European Conference was due to take place in Cambridge from 4-6 June 2018.
9. We also discussed the progress of the Global Advisory Panel on the Future of Nursing with a global action plan for improving health outcomes and advancing the nursing and midwifery professions.

RCN-Zambia Union of Nurses Organisation (ZUNO) Pilot Project

10. We spent some time discussing the achievements and learning from phase 1 of the RCN-ZUNO partnership project which comes to an end on 31 March.
11. We recognise that there are a number of benefits to continuing the project and agreed to support phase 2 which will focus on embedding the progress made in the pilot phase.
12. We have requested that further thought be given to the RCN-ZUNO relationship after 2018 once phase 2 of the project is complete and consideration given to offering ZUNO support to develop a long term plan.

RCN Foundation International Project

13. Along with Deepa from the RCN Foundation, I briefed the Committee on the international development project to support two student nurses in Bangladesh to undertake a 3 year diploma in nursing science and midwifery.
14. The Committee was extremely supportive of the project.

Other Business

15. We discussed our concerns regarding the Department for International Development's (DfID) plans to reduce the commonwealth secretariat budget and considered how we might support the Commonwealth Nurses and Midwives Federation to raise this at the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting being hosted by the UK in 2018.
16. We also discussed membership of the Cavendish Coalition and concern was raised about the limited representation from Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland on the group. The Coalition is aware of this and is seeking to broaden its membership. We are aware that this has been discussed at Council previously and suggestions for membership sought.

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17. Finally, we noted that The Centre for Global Development in Europe (CGD Europe) had recently held a scoping meeting to discuss a global skills partnership for nursing which would work to deliver training for nurses in developing countries and increase the number of trained nurses.

The Committee next meets on 31 May 2017.