

International Committee Summary Report of the Meeting Held on 8 May 2019

1. The International Committee met on 8 May 2019.
2. We were joined by new members Chris Carter and Jason Warriner.
3. We recorded our thanks to Geoff Earl whose term on the Committee has come to an end.
4. The Committee also met by teleconference on 24 June 2019.

Update on International Activity Since the Previous Meeting

2020 Year of the Nurse and Midwife

5. We discussed RCN plans for 2020 which the World Health Organisation (WHO) has declared the 'Year of the Nurse and Midwife' in honour of the 200th birthday of Florence Nightingale.
6. We will be establishing a Committee working group to identify the opportunities over the coming year for the RCN to develop its input to this and contribute to discussion around the WHO Global State of the World's Nursing report.

Other Activity

7. Feedback was given from recent international meetings attended by Committee members including the EFN General Assembly in April, the FCO 'Global Action on Patient Safety' event in May, the 13th Commonwealth Nurses and Midwives Federation (CNMF) conference in Malta in March, the Commonwealth Health Ministers meeting, the Commonwealth Civil Society Policy Forum on universal health coverage and the Global Health Club meetings all in Geneva in May.
8. Ahead of the formal report being received, we were also briefed on the agenda for the 10th European Public Service Union (EPSU) Congress held in Dublin in June which was attended by the Chair and Vice Chair of the Trade Union Committee as well as the student member of RCN Council.
9. Members also provided updates on the international projects they were currently working on.

Committee Terms of Reference

10. We discussed the amendments required to our current Terms of Reference and submit the revised ToR to this meeting of Council for approval. Please find these attached at appendix 1 for your approval.

International Alliances and Relationships

International Council of Nurses (ICN)

11. Following discussion at previous meetings and the debate at Congress 2019 on whether the RCN should consider re-joining the ICN, we spent some time finalising our context paper to Council – this is presented at item 10.2 on your agenda today.

Criteria to Assess the Benefits of Developing an Alliance

12. We agreed the criteria the RCN should implement to assess its key international alliances and networks that would give the College a much more structured, robust and auditable process than currently.

University of Sheffield Research Alliance

13. We received an update on priority activity for the strategic research alliance with the University of Sheffield and noted that in line with organisational priorities, staffing for safe and effective care has been identified as a priority with other work streams also supporting the wider aims of this theme.

Recommendation

14. Council is asked to review and approve the updated Terms of Reference for the International Committee attached at appendix 1.

The Committee next meets on 7 October 2019.

Committee Membership

Anne Marie Rafferty, President (CHAIR)
Sue Campbell, Member
Chris Carter, Member
Professor Daniel Kelly FRCN, Member
Elizabeth Eves, Member
Felicia Kwaku, Member
Trevor Peel, Member
Jason Warriner, Member

Apologies were received from Elizabeth Eves for the meeting held on 8 May.

Apologies were received from Daniel Kelly and Felicia Kwaku for the teleconference held on 24 June.

International Committee

Terms of Reference

1 Purpose

- To provide expert advice to RCN Council, the UK Professional Nursing Committee and the UK Trade Union Committee, for their delivery of the RCN's international strategy in relationship to its Royal Charter;
- To support the RCN in promoting high standards of care, influence policy and advocating for working conditions;
- To provide a stronger global dimension to the RCN's strategic policy and practice priorities;
- To inform RCN Council and the two governance Committees of wider developments from outside the UK, which may have an impact on the organisation and nursing.

2 Responsibilities

- Leading on the delivery of RCN profile work for international celebration and awareness activity, promoting the role of the RCN and what the RCN does and can do;
- Providing direct advice and insight into the programme work of RCN Council, the UK Professional Nursing Committee and the UK Trade Union Committee to ensure that the international dimension of all activity is taken into account;
- Supporting delivery of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) , striving to ensure that the nursing contribution is at the heart of both policy and practice;
- Providing international policy and practice content related to global health goals, including to strengthen understanding of implications and learning for the UK;
- Providing and facilitating proactive access to networked intelligence and insight from international policy and practice solutions for applicability to the UK;
- Considering requests for international partnership work as appropriate, and making recommendations;
- Making recommendations on requests for international engagement in the name of the RCN, including reviewing intelligence and outcomes for inward and outward visits, intelligence shared and follow-up action; and
- Identify potential term-based additional members from international alliance of which we are a member, or additional international organisations, based on expertise and advice needed on specific work packages aligned with mandated activity.

ToR updated June 2019