

PAKISTAN PEDIATRIC NEWS

A quarterly publication of Pakistan Pediatric Association

Chief Editor: Prof. M. A. Arif (Secretary General PPA)

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E d i t i o n : J u n e 2 0 0 9

CHIEF EDITOR'S NOTE

It gives me great pleasure to present to you this June 2009 issue of Pakistan Pediatric News. Having all along advocated that we should promote **Transparency** and uphold the right of all members to have **information** about all activities of the Association, and **follow the Constitution in letter and spirit** I am including some material for the first time in the News for all members to know. **The accounts of the Association for the year 2008** are printed, so that even those members who could not attend the General Body Meeting in Multan shall know them.



The LOU with UNICEF: This Executive Committee under the lead of the President Prof. A. Hameed and with active support of your Secretary General and help of Dr. Tufail Muhammad Khan, finalised **a Letter of Understanding (LOU) with UNICEF**. We are proud to say that the **LOU was presented in the Executive Committee Meeting and only after the approval of the Executive Committee had been obtained it was signed by both the President and the Secretary General. Now I am happy to print it for all members to see. It is expected that projects worth millions of rupees will be undertaken by the Association with funds and cooperation of UNICEF Insha Allah** the projects will greatly benefit the children of Pakistan, the pediatricians, general practitioners, pediatric students as well as PPA. As a follow up the first **consultative meeting between PPA and UNICEF** was held on 30th April 2009 at Islamabad which was attended by the President and Secretary General of PPA as well as Presidents and General Secretaries of all PPA branches. You can see some basic details in this News bulletin. UNICEF has agreed to provide equipment and personnel to strengthen PPA Secretariat at Center and at branches, as well as support PPJ and PPN.

You will also be happy to find the **Extracts of the proceedings of the Executive Committee Meeting** of PPA held on 20th February 2009 at Multan.

Your Association has made further progress towards achieving its goal set by the President to form **"National Forum for Advocacy of Children of Pakistan"**. Furthermore the formation and membership of the **Ethics Committee** have been accomplished. The Committee can now start its work in earnest.

Registration of the amended Articles and Memorandum of Association updated to 20th February 2009 has been accomplished.

Another good news is that we have again obtained certificate of exemption from income tax.

However during the work of publishing this bulletin **the tragic crisis of over 3 million internally displaced persons of Swat and Malakand has occurred**. It is an even bigger disaster than the Natural Disaster of the Earth quake which we coped with great courage and determination. **As after the earth quake, the NWFP branch is again rendering marvelous services to the affected children**. The camps have also been visited by office bearers and members of PPA from all over Pakistan.

For the first time in history of PPA, an Executive Committee Meeting of PPA was **held at Mardan** after visit to the camps of IDPs.

An abbreviated report and recommendations by PPA NWFP are also given in this bulletin. We appeal to all our members to donate generously for the relief of these brethren who have sacrificed their everything for the sake of our motherland. The method of donation is given in this bulletin.

With the multifarious and often pressing duties of the office of Secretary General, the issue of Pakistan Pediatric News has got delayed, some other tasks may also be pending and even some mistakes may have been made, for which I express my sincere regrets.

Prof. M. A. Arif

Secretary General

In Pakistan
1 out of 3 infant
hospitalisations
for severe
diarrhea
is caused
by rotavirus
gastroenteritis.¹

Rotarix™: Broad and early protection with only two oral doses²⁻⁴

Rotarix™ provides up to 100% efficacy against rotavirus gastroenteritis (RVGE) requiring hospitalization,^{2,3} and high protection against most common strains.^{2,5} Importantly, Rotarix™ with its two-dose schedule, allows early immunisation that can be completed by the age of 10 weeks.⁴

So now you can protect infants from severe RVGE before the age of highest risk (from 3-24 months).^{4,6,7}

Rotarix Abbreviated Prescribing Information

Active Ingredients: Rotavirus vaccine. **Indications:** ROTARIX is indicated for the prevention of gastro-enteritis caused by Rotavirus, G1 and non G1 serotypes (such as G2, G3, G4, G9). **Dosage and Administration:** The vaccination course consists of 2 doses. The 1st dose may be administered from the age of 6 weeks. There should be an interval of at least 4 weeks between doses. The vaccination course should be completed by the age of 24 weeks. In clinical trials, spitting or regurgitation of the vaccine has rarely been observed and, under such circumstances, a replacement dose was not given. However, in the unlikely event that an infant spits out or regurgitates most of the vaccine dose, a single replacement dose may be given at the same vaccination visit. It is strongly recommended that infants who receive a 1st dose of Rotarix complete the 2-dose regimen with Rotarix. **Method of Administration:** ROTARIX is for oral use only. Rotarix should be given under no circumstances be injected. There are no restrictions on the infant's consumption of food or liquid, including breast-milk, either before or after vaccination. There is no evidence available to suggest that breast-feeding would reduce the protection against Rotavirus gastro-enteritis afforded by ROTARIX. Therefore, breast-feeding may be continued during the vaccination schedule. **Contraindications:** Rotarix should not be administered to subjects with known hypersensitivity after previous administration of Rotarix vaccine or to any component of the vaccine. Subjects with uncorrected congenital malformation (such as Meckel's diverticulum) of the gastrointestinal tract that would predispose for intussusception. **Warning and Precautions:** As with other vaccines, administration of Rotarix should be postponed in subjects suffering from acute severe febrile illness. However, the presence of a minor infection, such as a cold, should not result in the deferral of vaccination. The administration of Rotarix should be postponed in subjects suffering from diarrhea or vomiting. There are no data on the safety and efficacy of Rotarix in infants with gastrointestinal illnesses. Administration of Rotarix may be considered with caution in such infants when, in the opinion of the physician, withholding the vaccine entails a greater risk. Rotarix has not specifically been studied in subjects with known primary and secondary

immunodeficiency including HIV positive infants. Contacts of recent vaccinees should be advised to observe personal hygiene (e.g. wash their hands after changing child's nappies). Limited data in 140 premature children indicate that Rotarix can be given to premature children however the level of clinical protection remains unknown. As with any vaccine, a protective immune response may not be elicited in all vaccinees. Rotarix does not protect against gastro-enteritis due to other pathogens than rotavirus. **Interactions:** Rotarix can be given concomitantly with any of the following monoavalent or combination vaccines [including hexavalent vaccines (DTPa-IPV/Polio/Hib), DTPw, DTPa, Hib, IPV, HibV, pneumococcal conjugate vaccine and meningococcal serogroup C conjugate vaccine. Clinical studies demonstrated that the immune responses to and the safety profiles of the administered vaccines were unaffected. Concomitant administration of Rotarix and oral polio vaccine (OPV) does not affect the immune response to the polio antigens. Although concomitant administration of OPV may slightly reduce the immune response to rotavirus vaccine there is currently no evidence that clinical protection against severe rotavirus gastro-enteritis would be affected. The immune response to Rotarix is unaffected when OPV is administered 2 weeks apart from Rotarix. **Pregnancy and Lactation:** Rotarix is not intended for use in adults. Thus human data on use during pregnancy are not available and animal reproduction studies have not been performed. **Adverse Reactions:** Very common: Irritability and loss of appetite. Common: Diarrhea, vomiting, flatulence, abdominal pain, regurgitation of food, fever and fatigue. Uncommon: crying, sleep disorder, somnolence and constipation. Rare: upper respiratory tract infection, hoarseness, rhinorrhoea, dermatitis, rash and muscle cramp. **Incompatibilities:** This medicinal product must not be mixed with other medicinal products. **M.R.P.** 4,200.00 per vial. Prices are subject to change without prior notice. ROTARIX is a trademark of the GlaxoSmithKline group of companies.

Please read full prescribing information prior to administration.
Version No: IDS 5, Date of Issue: 09 NOV 2006



Full Prescribing Information is available on request

GlaxoSmithKline Pakistan Limited 35 - Dockyard Road, West Wharf, Karachi - 74000.
Flixotide is a trademark of GlaxoSmithKline group of companies. GlaxoSmithKline Pakistan Limited is a member of GlaxoSmithKline group of companies.

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**“UNITING FOR CHILDREN”
DRAFT LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING
(LOU) BETWEEN
UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN’S FUND
(UNICEF) & PAKISTAN PERIATRIC
ASSOCIATION**

This LOU is hereby signed by the Pakistan Pediatric Association and UNICEF for the purpose of collaboration between the two parties for programmes in the areas of, Maternal and child health care, Nutrition, child development and education, water and environmental sanitation and child protection and child rights.

The LOU represents an understanding between the two parties toward future projects of UNICEF in Pakistan, to be managed by the Pakistan Pediatric Association and implemented through its Head Office in Karachi and five branch offices which are situated in Karachi, Lahore, Islamabad, Peshawar, and Quetta.

UNICEF Pakistan, through its main office in Islamabad manages a regular country program in all of Pakistan’s four provinces and a humanitarian recovery program in the emergency effected areas in the north of the country. UNICEF’s counterpart ministries in the Federal and provincial Governments of Pakistan are the ministry of health, ministry of Education, Ministry of Environments and the Ministry of Social Welfare and Special Education. There are however, a number of line departments in various ministries which are partners of UNICEF in planning and implementing its program and activities. The UNICEF’s country office in Islamabad manages implementation and monitoring of its program in Pakistan, providing vision, direction, coordination and technical support to provincial officers in Karachi, Lahore, Quetta, and Peshawar.

Coordinating with other UN agencies, bilateral donors, NGO’s and Government Ministries the UNICEF country office will be responsible for the overall planning, and programming in the best interest of children in

Pakistan. UNICEF works with the Government of Pakistan, International development partners, UN agencies, local and international NGOs and communities so that the best support can be given to million of vulnerable children and women.

Pakistan Pediatric Association (PPA) is the official association of medical professionals specializing in child health. Its address is Office # 5, PMA House, Aga Khan III, Road, Saddar, Karachi. Email address is pak.ped.assoc@hotmail.com and office phone# is (021)2237473. It is presently represented by its President Prof. Abdul Hameed and Secretary General Prof. M. A. Arif. It is registered under the Societies Registration Act as a welfare society with Govt. of Pakistan in registrar’s office in Karachi since 1965. PPA has a National Managing body, called Executive Committee of PPA. Current President’s address is “Pediatric Department, Khyber Teaching Hospital, Peshawar. Email address: [<adhameed49@yahoo.com>](mailto:adhameed49@yahoo.com) Current Secretary General is Prof. M. A. Arif and his personal e-mail address is prof.arif@hotmail.com & his personal cell phone# 0300-8234056.

PPA publishes a quarterly news bulletin called “Pakistan Pediatric News” and a quarterly academic Journal called “Pakistan Pediatric Journal” which is internationally indexed.

The chair of the President PPA rotates between its branches for a term of two year. It has five branches i.e. PPA Sindh Branch with its office in Karachi, PPA Punjab Branch with its office in Lahore, PPA Federal Branch with its office in Islamabad, PPA NWFP Branch with its office in Peshawar, and PPA Balochistan Branch with its office in Quetta.

PPA has many Specialty Committees & Groups which focus on particular fields of interest namely Ethics Committee, Neonatology Group, Pediatric Infectious Disease Group, Pediatric Gastro-Enterology Committee, Pediatric Nephrology Group, Pediatric Cardiology Group, Child rights and Abuse Committee. Preventive & Community Pediatrics, Pediatrics Pulmonary Group, Pediatric Neurology etc. PPA has currently a Membership of more than 1600 Pediatricians in all districts of Pakistan.

Under this LOU, Pakistan Pediatric Association will provide the platform as well as human resources for a national advocacy campaign to ensure the rights of Pakistani children under the UN-CRC for health, nutrition, protection, child rights and justice, education, leisure and development. UNICEF will provide the required technical and financial assistance.

The areas of collaboration will include.
a) Organizing a national annual audit on all aspects of child health protection and development to coincide

- with international children day celebrations (20th November).
- b) Facilitation during Polio Eradication activities.
 - c) Strengthening routine immunization (including focused bi-annual mother and child weeks).
 - d) Operational research on all important aspects of child health and care.
 - e) Child protection in health care settings.
 - f) Regular communication and update to its members through quarterly newsletter, Pakistan Pediatric News.
 - g) Advocating for use of new interventions e.g. zinc and low osmolarity ORS, use of Amoxil for management of pneumonia, emphasizing newborn care, community Infant and young child feeding and community Management of Acute malnutrition.
 - h) Breast Feeding promotion and efforts for implementation of the breast milk substitutes ordinance (Pakistan).
 - i) Iodine Deficiency –IDD.
 - j) Community Led total Sanitation and hygiene promotion.
 - k) Girls education and child protection activity.
 - l) Initiating post graduate rotation of pediatricians to district hospitals.
 - m) Revision of medical text books on the basis of new evidence.
 - n) Continuing medical education (CME) and professional development of pediatricians, family physicians, gynecologists & Obstetricians, community health workers, Nurses and other cadres in all important aspects of neonatal and pediatric care as well as issues of child rights and protection.
 - o) Public Health Education and awareness campaigns for the promotion of child health, child protection, immunization, breast feeding promotion, gender equality in care.

The LOU shall be effective from 12th March 2009 and will serve as a basis for mutual collaboration; specific activities will be carried out through project cooperation Agreement as per agreed implementation plan and budget.

EXTRACTS FROM MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING OF PPA HELD ON 20TH FEBRUARY 2009 AT MULTAN.

Main points discussed were as given below:

- 1) Annual report of Secretary General for Year 2008.
- 2) Audited accounts for years 2008 by the Treasurer.
- 3) Consideration and approval of Election Bye Laws.

- 4) Report of Committees and Groups and discussion on their functioning.
- 5) Report of arrangements for Biennial Conference to be held on 02-04 April 2010 at Quetta.
- 6) Follow up on the formation and composition of PPA Ethics Committee and Breast Feeding Promotion Committee.
- 7) First formal meeting of the National Advocacy Forum for children of Pakistan (NAFC) discussion for determining the terms of reference and role of PPA.
- 8) To determine PPA's role in EPI, in the back ground of the recent resurgence in the poliomyelitis cases and decline in the routine immunization within the country.
- 9) Any other matter by permission of chair.

Prof. Abdul Hameed apprised the committee of the final composition of Ethics committee after nomination of members of PPA branches. These are:

Chairman: Prof. Abdul Hameed Khan

Convener: Prof. M. A. Arif

Members (NWFP Branch):

1- Prof. Meher Taj Roghani 2-Dr. Ali Jan (Saidu M.C)

Members (Federal Branch):

1- Prof. K. A. Abbas 2-Prof. Samiya Naemullah
3- Brig. M. Salman 4-General (Rtd) C.M. Anwar

Members (Sindh Branch):

1- Dr. Mohsin Ahmed 2- Prof. Inkisar Ali
3- Prof. Salma Shaikh 4- Prof. Mumtaz Lakhani

Members (Punjab Branch):

1- Prof. Javeria Mannan 2- Prof. Ashraf Sultan,
3- Dr. Masood-us-Syed 4- Prof. Tariq Bhutta

Members (Balochistan Branch):

1- Prof. Abdul Bari 2- Dr. Amir Daud

- 1) MOU to be signed with UNICEF was explained by Prof. A. Hameed and Prof. Arif. It was unanimously approved and the President and Secretary General were authorized to sign it.
- 2) It was approved that the **Pulmonary group** shall hold respiratory disease conference from 6th to 8th Nov. 2009 at Multan and **Nephrology group** shall hold its 3rd Biennial conference from 27th to 29th March 2009 at Karachi and **GI Group** to hold one day seminar at CHK, Karachi on 19th April 2009.
- 3) A resolution authorizing the Pulmonary Group to open its account in Multan was approved.
- 4) **Co.opted Honorary Joint Secretary.** Prof. M. A. Arif apprised the committee that the Secretary General has enormous amount of work to do, he arranges meetings, issues notices, writes minutes, helps in organizing all

conferences, whether of PPA or of its branches or Committees, coordinates with UNICEF, WHO etc, publishes PPA News, helps with accounts, runs the office and runs around to get tax exemption etc. This is a full time job whereas any general secretary is honorary and will be a PPA member who has his own professional duties and family obligations. As such he requested that he be allowed to co opt a member to help him with his work on honorary basis as co opted Honorary Joint Secretary. He shall not have power to vote in Executive Committee and will not be an elected office bearer, but will only attend its meetings as observer. After discussion, the request was not agreed but Prof. Afroze Ramzan volunteered to help the S.G. This was appreciated by the Committee.

- 5) It was decided that the conferences of PPA and its Committees / Groups should adopt austerity and avoid lavishness. For example, there is no need for daily dinner and more than one musical function, numbers of shields to be given should be restricted, venues should be inexpensive if possible, less expensive local artists and local culture. Also number of papers to be reduced by strict quality control. The business of PPA itself e.g. General Body Meeting, Planning and Development Session, Expert Committee Meeting should get adequate time, and organizing committees should be bound to facilitate them.
- 6) Election by Laws, after incorporation of some amendments suggested by previous Executive Committee Meetings and PPA branches, were approved.
- 7) It was unanimously agreed that PPA should develop, its own web and maintain the web site instead of having to depend on any pharmaceutical entity to operate it.

PAKISTAN PEDIATRIC ASSOCIATION (CENTRE) INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

INCOME	2008	2007
PPA Punjab subscription	30000	5950
PPA Sindh subscription	46100	28480
PPA NWFP subscription	12600	
PPA Balochistan subscription	9400	
PPA Federal subscription	14100	27040
PPA Centre Share from PID Conference	320000	1098000
Loan returned from Sindh branch	---	100000
PPA Bulletin Income	40000	29000
Disaster Management loan returned	---	75000
Conference share (2006)	---	1319944
Subscription from groups & committee	6300	---

Miscellaneous	600	---
Donations	129,400	---
TOTAL	658,500	2,683,414

EXPENSES

Salaries and remuneration	110627	48250
Traveling	81384	25147
Audit and income tax fee	7500	11000
Photocopies & conveyance	14383	3115
Legal and professional charges	---	20000
Entertainment	140	---
Asian Pacific PA fee	---	12150
IPA fee	---	21245
Advertisement	3500	---
Printing, bulletin, photostat,		
Stationary and postage	147344	87751
Repair and maintenance	---	1114

Donation to PPA Balochistan for

Earth quake	300, 000	---
Loan to PPA Punjab	250, 000	---
Registration fee	---	500
Miscellaneous	6,000	725
Office expense	24,550	14,195
Bank charges	1,747	1,868
Excess of income/ (expenditure)	(38,675)	2,436,354
For the year balance brought forward	(7,204,148)	4,767,794

Actually PPA had an income in excess of expenses of Rs.261,325/- but donation of Rs.300,000/- was given to Balochistan for Earth Quake relief and Rs.250,000/- given to PPA Punjab as loan.

Balance carried forward

to balance sheet	7,165,473	7,204,148
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PRIME MINISTER'S ACTION PLAN FOR POLIO 2009

In a meeting of a large number of stake holders, including PPA and Govt. departments, UNICEF and WHO chaired by the Prime Minister, Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani, in Ministry of Health, the Prime Minister approved the following program for Polio Eradication:

- Prime Minister to bring together Departmental heads in a working coalition of partners to a single purpose – **polio eradication**
- Subcommittee of partners to commit their role and give feedback
- Establish fixed vaccination centers at all transit points
- Over the year regularly follow up on impact of the Partnership

Education Department

- Teachers, specially females, to be engaged for advocacy of vaccination and monitoring
- Announcing information about campaign dates in assembly and sending fliers/messages to parents in notebooks
- Assign older students task of identifying missed children in homes / neighborhood and report back to teacher
- Mobilize private schools in polio coalition

Information Department

- Ticker lines on PTV and all private channels, TV studio polio cells with hotlines to EDOs
- Radio coverage incl. FM stations
- Support to District Information Officer in community awareness campaign

Pakistan Telecom Authority

- There are now 90 millions mobile phone subscribers
- PTA will be required to provide message information of campaigns to their subscribers

Motorway & Highway Police:

Vaccinations Centres to be set up at 58 toll plazas

Civil Police

- District Health teams to collaborate with police to set up vaccination booths during campaigns at transit points particularly from high risk areas.
- The police be assigned to monitor "B" road stops and bus stops to identify eligible children in transit for vaccination

Railways

- Set up vaccination booths on major platforms manned by Railway Health Staff
- Regular announcements regarding campaigns
- Consider vaccinations on running trains from NWFP and Baluchistan

Auqaf Department

- Efforts directed to khatibs to encourage extolling polio vaccination in khutbas
- Regular announcement of campaign from Mosques
- Khatibs to join follow up of "refusals"
- Vaccination drives for <5s during Urs

Civil Society

- [Pakistan Pediatric Association to mobilize its members to inform clients about campaign dates and share advocacy materials](#)
- Rotary clubs in 30 districts to be engaged in campaigns for social mobilization, vaccination and monitoring
- Other Medical Professional Associations and NGOs to be invited to be part of the campaigns

Conclusion

- Prime Minister requested to patronize the Action Plan for Polio Eradication
- Engage the CMs & Chief Secretaries of provinces to guide the DCOs and partner departments

14TH NATIONAL PEDIATRIC CONFERENCE HELD AT MULTAN FROM 20TH -22ND FEB.2009

14th National Paediatric Conference was held in Multan from 20th – 22nd Feb. 2009, in Nishtar Medical College. It was organized by PPA Punjab in collaboration with Paediatric Department Nishtar Medical College, Multan and Children Hospital, Multan. The theme of the conference was **"Preventive strategies, the key to improve child health."**

The conference was preceded by workshops on: (i) Bronchial Asthma by Prof. Waqar Hussain (ii) Thalassemia by Prof. Javaria Manan (iii) Paediatric Cardiology by Prof. Masood Sadiq (iv) Child Rights by Dr. Tufail Khan and Dr. Naeem Zafar. (v) Paediatric Endocrinology by Prof. Taeed Butt (vi) Neonatology by Prof. Khalid N Haque in Children Hospital Complex, Multan and Dr. Khawaja A. Irfan Waheed of Nishtar Medical College, Multan. All the workshops were well attended and highly appreciated.

The conference was inaugurated by Mr. Jalal-ud-Din Roomi Chairman Board of Management Nishtar Medical Institution, Multan. It was also chaired by president PPA center Prof. Hameed and President PPA Punjab Dr. Asghar Butt. Conference had two plenary sessions and multiple sessions were conducted simultaneously in 3 halls covering all pediatric medical specialties and pediatric surgery. The Conference was extremely successful as it was attended by over 1200 delegates and their families from Pakistan and overseas. Quality and quantity of food were excellent. Dinners were followed by musical programmes. The pharmaceutical companies arranged and decorated their stalls. The concept of village food stalls was highly appreciated by all..

The concluding session was presided by Principal, Nishtar Medical College, Multan, who highly appreciated the successful event in Multan after a long time.

All the arrangements, scientific sessions, dinners and the cultural events were greatly appreciated by all members and a resolution of congratulations to the organizing Committee, chaired by Prof. Parvez Akber, was passed by the General Body.

Report by Prof. Parvez Akber.



3RD BIENNIAL PEDIATRIC NEPHROLOGY CONFERENCE

The 3rd Biennial Pediatric Nephrology conference was held by the Pediatric Nephrology Group of PPA from 26 to 29 March 2009 at AKU, Karachi. There were more than 200 registered delegates from all the 4 provinces of the country.

Inauguration was performed by the Secretary Health, Govt. of Sindh. Prof. A.G.Biloo and Prof. Jaffer Naqvi presented the Keynote Addresses.

Scientific programme included:

Three **Plenary Lectures** delivered by Prof. Adeeb Rizvi, Prof. Kaleemuddin Aziz and Prof. Zulfiqar Bhutta. **Symposia** on Nephrotic Syndrome, UTI, Chronic Kidney Disease, and Acute kidney Injury were conducted. Two concurrent free paper sessions were held in which national studies and data were presented by researchers.

Prof. Rashid Jooma, D. G. Health, Ministry of Health, Islamabad, inaugurated the Medical Exhibition and was the Chief Guest at the Concluding Session. It was a very successful event in every respect and brought academic side of PPA into focus.

Report by Dr. Afroze Ramzan Sherali

APPEAL TO PPA MEMBERS FOR GENEROUS DONATIONS FOR THE RELIEF AND HELP OF INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS OF SWAT AND MALAKAND.

You are all aware of the calamity which has befallen our brethren of Swat and Malakand. By now over three million have become homeless and refugees in their own country. Many of them died in the cross fire between militants and the army. Their houses are getting destroyed, farm animals being killed, crops are unattended and will probably be lost. These proud people of scenic and cool areas have been forced to live in camps in sweltering heat and without even fans or electricity, with scarce water, food and clothings and their pride badly hurt by having to live on donations in kind and cash. **The Army may be winning its battle but If we do not come forward and help these people like brothers and fellow country men then the battle for Pakistan shall be lost. Please donate to any one of the accounts given below by direct or on line deposits, or by sending crossed cheques. Crossed cheques may be sent to Prof. Abdul Hameed Khan, Prof. Gohar Rehman, Prof. Nadeem Khawar or Dr. Irshad Ahmed, all working at Pediatric Department, Khyber Teaching Hospital, Peshawar or to Prof. M. A. Arif,**

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PPA Members being briefed at Mardan Camp



PPA Ward at Mardan District Hospital



PPA members visiting medical facilities for IDP children

PPA NWFP Emergency Account”, National Bank of Pakistan, University Road Branch , Acct.# 3192-9, Peshawar.

“PPA Emergency Relief Fund” Acct.# 3198-3, National Bank of Pakistan, University Road, Peshawar.

“PPA: Emergency Relief Fund”, Acct.# 00080-160511803, Habib Bank Ltd, Iddgah branch, M. A. Jinnah Road, Karachi (for online donations)

REPORT OF 9TH NATIONAL PAEDIATRIC CONFERENCE ON CHILD RIGHTS, ABUSE & NEGLECT, 19-21 DEC 2008 AT CPSP

Ninth National Paediatric conference on Child Rights, Abuse & Neglect was held at College of Physicians & Surgeons of Pakistan Karachi from 19-21 Dec, 2008. The theme of the conference was “Protect Child Rights; Build a better Pakistan”

Despite the fact, it was raining all day and a number of parallel programmes were being run in the city, the conference was well attended. The various events held on the three days conference were as follows:

PRECONFERENCE WORKSHOP: It were held on the morning of 19th Dec 2008 on “Management of sexual violence in children and Adolescents “. It was attended by over 35 participants including health care providers, social activist and NGO workers.

OPEN FORUM DISSCUSSION was held in the afternoon. The topic was “Role of NGO & International Organizations in Protection of Rights of Children and Protection from abuse & neglect”. The organizations that participated in the discussions were Save the Children Fund Sweden, UNICEF, Konpal, Rozan, Aas and Sparc.

THE INAUGURAL SESSION: The President CPSP Prof Zafarullah Chaudhry inaugurated the conference. He was highly impressed by the performance of the children band, boy scouts & the programme conducted by the children. Professor A G Biloo gave an elaborate thematic lecture covering all dimensions of childrens rights and the state of children in Pakistan.

PANEL DISCUSSIONS: Four panel discussions were held during the conference in which eminent speakers, civil society leaders & NGO’s representatives actively participated.

SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS: Seven scientific sessions were held.

Session I: The key note speakers in this session were Prof Abdul Hameed & Prof DS Akram who spoke on “ethical aspects of child care and child rights” and “prevalence of pneumonia in socially neglected children “. The state of art lectures were followed by two free papers on “conversion reaction in child’ by Dr. Tipu Sultan & “My thought on child labour,” by Dr. Ghulam Mohyuddin

Session II: The key note speakers in this session were Mr. Anees Jilani who spoke on “Child Labour” & Justice Nasir Aslam Zahid who spoke on “child abuse & juvenile justice system”

Session III: The key note speakers in this session were Mr. Anees Jilani who spoke on “Child Labour” & Justice Nasir Aslam Zahid who spoke on “child abuse & juvenile justice system”

elaborated on “Child rights in Islam’ and Maulana Baduruddin discussed the issues related to Children rights in Madressah. This session was highly appreciated.

Session IV: In this session Dr Tufail Mohammad Khan spoke on “Child protection system” and Dr Naeem Zafar gave an overview of Hospital Child Protection Committees in Pakistan.

Session V: Prof. M. A. Arif, Secretary General PPA Center, emphasized the importance of “grooming” to inculcate right attitudes and build character of children in addition to formal education. His topic was “Is formal education enough?” Mrs. Sehba Memood, from Newzeland talked about the “Cyber safety rights of children” and Mrs. Bernadette Dean, Principal Kinniard Collage. Lahore talked about “Corporal punishment in children”. Shahla Mumtaz highlighted the Role of area child protection committees in prevention and management of cases of child abuse -

Session VI: Key note speakers were Mr. Mannan Rana, from UNICEF who discussed Protection of CSA in Child Protection System; followed by a talk by Dr Jabeen Fatima Abbas, from UNICEF who spoke on Child Protection Authority Bill and Miss Seema Nazli from social Welfare department who discussed Child Protection Bill and role of PCCWD and Social Welfare Department. Dr Amin Gadit, psychologist from Canada, presented his paper on “Beyond Child Abuse The long term Challenges”. There were also three presentation on “Dilemma of Child Abuse Knowledge and perception of Parents about Child Abuse” by Mrs. Jacoline Sommers , and “Knowledge & Skills of HCP in the Diagnosis & Management of Child Abuse & Neglect” by Professor Aisha Mehnaz and “Building life Skills in children as means of preventing and dealing with Child Sexual Abuse” by Khuzaima Rizwan from Rozan.

Session VII: Mr. Javed Jabbar, discussed the Child Rights and the various aspects of child abuse in the current scenario. His talk was followed by a talk on “Children in Armed Conflicts” by Lt. Colonel Azhar from Baqai Medical University.

CHILDREN SESSION: A highlight of the conference was a separate session of children, in which child speakers talked on various aspect of child abuse. Finally an ex street child now a Class 111 student from Azad rehabilitation Centre, very effectively presented his aspect of “Child sexual abuse”. This session was much appreciated by all.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUDING SESSION:

1) We need a Joint forum of NGOs for children’s rights and to abolish child abuse.

- 2) Ethical guide lines for management of health, social, physical and emotional aspects of child development.
- 3) Age definition of child should be under 18 years.
- 4) Juvenile legal system should be revised.
- 5) Child protection bill should be implemented and its stake holders should be more active in its implementation
- 6) School curriculum should include moral and social aspects.
- 7) Parents and children should be educated regarding use of newer information technology.
- 8) Strict legislation regarding corporal punishment should be implemented and teachers should be trained and counseled about it
- 9) Children in armed conflict and terrorism should be provided maximum support for rehabilitation
- 10) Media policy for audience rating system and timings for graphic programmes should be implemented

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION ABOUT DISPLACED PERSONS OF SWAT AND MALAKAND BY PPA NWFP AND PRESIDENT OF PPA.

REPORT: Majority of persons displaced from Swat and Malakand have been accommodated in large rural communities around Mardan and Swabi. In addition a large number of families are accommodated in Sheikh Yaseen and Sheikh Shehzad camps at Mardan, Shah Mansoor camp in Swabi, Jalalah camp near Sherghar and Jallozai camp near Peshawar. They are in terrible state and living in extremely hot conditions. The women and children are worse off, specially women because they are confined mostly to tents. Children are suffering from Diarrhoea, cholera, ARI, Typhoid, malnutrition and a lot of other diseases. Total number probably exceeds 3 million. **They are in desperate need for help.** All praise to the community who are hosting a large number of them in their houses and hujras and are sharing scarce resources with them otherwise their care would have been impossible.

The existing pediatric and neonatal facilities are extremely inadequate and can not cope with the increasing burden.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Lot of donations are needed to help these people, preferably in cash so that items may be bought as per need, including medical as well as food items.
2. PPA needs to strengthen, upgrade and enlarge pediatric and neonatal units in DHQ Mardan to at least 20 beds with provision of doctors, nurses and supervision of child specialists

3. Similarly DHQ Swabi and Shah Mansoor Medical Complex at Swabi should be strengthened.
4. Pediatric emergency and day care centres shall be established in RHCs at Takhatbai, Katlang, Rustam and Swabi
5. **LAST BUT NOT THE LEAST, THE PEDIATRICIANS, MEMBERS OF PPA, WHO ALL HAVE RESPECTABLE EARNINGS, MUST DONATE GENEROUSLY AND REGULARLY AND FULFIL THEIR NATIONAL DUTY.**

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 13th Asian Pacific Congress of Pediatrics. 14-18 Oct. 2009 in Shenghai, China. www.chinamed.com.cn/appa2009
email: appa2009@cma.org.cn
- APPSPGHAN 2009, Sept 25-28, 2009 at Sheraton Grand Walker Hill Hotel, Seoul. Email: secretariat@appspghan2009.org
website: www.appspghan2009.org
- Pediatrics course at AKUH Postgraduate June 30-July 4, 2009. Email: conf.sect@aku.edu
- Postgraduate Pediatric Hematology / Oncology course 23-24 July 2009 at AKUH, Lecture Hall# 3. Email: conf.sect@aku.edu

FINAL REMINDER - DIRECTORY INFORMATION

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