

 <p>GLOBAL FORUM On Bioethics in Research</p>	
GFBR-SECRETARIAT NEWSLETTER	2008 - 01

GFBR STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

On January 28th 2008, the GFBR-Steering Committee of Partners meeting was held in London, hosted by the Medical Research Council-UK. The main topics of the meeting were to review GFBR9 preparatory work, funding GFBR9, to choose GFBR10 host, to review GFBR structure, and to discuss financial support for the GFBR-Secretariat.

Main outcomes of the meeting:

- ❖ GFBR9 budget plan was met by funding contributed by GFBR Partners.
- ❖ Partners agreed with GFBR9 scientific programme structure.
- ❖ The Ministry of Health of Chile was selected to host GFBR10 in 2009.

10TH GLOBAL FORUM ON BIOETHICS IN RESEARCH - CHILE, 2009

The 10th Global Forum on Bioethics in Research will be held in Santiago, hosted by the Ministry of Health of Chile. The proposed date is September 2-4, 2009. The 10th Forum meeting will address the issue of **Conflicts of Interest** involved in health research.

For many years, Chile has been striving to foster bioethics in the country, and research ethics in particular. The Ministry of Health has taken a leading role in this process. Bioethics initiatives include developing a strategy for inclusion of bioethics across all aspects of its health policy decision-making processes, issuing regulatory documents, hosting the Bioethics Unit. After years of efforts, law No.20.120 regulating scientific research was enacted in September 2006.

Hosting of GFBR10 supports the regional Latin American



Miscanti and Mifiqué lagoons, Chile (©2002 Gotolatin.com)

trend towards fostering respect for the rights of human participants in research.

HIGHLIGHTS

- ❖ GFBR8 report in PLoS - Guest Blog: <http://www.plos.org/cms/node/311>
- ❖ GFBR8 CDs can be made available to participants upon request to the GFBR-Secretariat.
- ❖ GFBR8 Policy Brief is available at: <http://www.gfbronline.com/PDFs/20071220%20GFBR8Policybriefing.pdf>
- ❖ GFBR9 Call for Applications:
 - Spanish Version: <http://www.gfbronline.com/PDFs/GFBR9-CfA-%20spanish.pdf>
 - English Version: <http://www.gfbronline.com/gfbr9th.htm>
- ❖ GFBR11: Call for Applications to host GFBR11 in 2010 would be issued in shortly.

WELCOME TO EDLYN



Edlyn Jimenez-Santos joins the GFBR-Secretariat in April, filling the position of Xiuqin. Edlyn completed her Master of International Research Bioethics degree at Monash University in Melbourne in 2005. Since then she has worked in

various areas of research bioethics at the University of the Philippines Manila - National Institutes of Health (UPM-NIH). She has experience in coordinating training activities for Health Research Ethics and Good Clinical Practice, and in conducting research related to indigenous communities.

FAREWELL TO XIUQIN

Xiuqin Wang returns to China in March, resuming her position at her home institution managing the Ethics Review Committee and conducting research on health research ethics, particularly on Traditional Chinese Medicine. During her stay in Geneva, she has built networks with all GFBR Partners, visited some Partners, and other institutions for excellence for bioethics in Europe, including: Inserm, MRC-UK, Nuffield Council on Bioethics, WHO, World Medical Association, Wellcome Trust.



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UPDATE GFBR9

ETHICS OF RESEARCH INVOLVING INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND MEMBERS OF VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

On 3-5 December 2008, the Ninth Global Forum on Bioethics in Research will be held at the Stamford Plaza Hotel, located in the heart of the Central Business District, Auckland, Aotearoa, New Zealand, with easy access to many of Auckland's landmarks. Participants will be given the opportunity to experience the uniqueness of Maori and Pacific cultures.

A Scientific Programme Committee with worldwide representation is currently developing the programme for GFBR9. It will be an inclusive Forum for sharing and discussing ethical considerations and experiences related to research involving indigenous peoples and members of vulnerable populations. Case studies related to the theme of this meeting



Auckland, City of Sails, Aotearoa, New Zealand (© Tourism Auckland)

are welcomed, please contact: GFBR9@hrc.govt.nz.

Applications to attend GFBR9 are now being accepted with applications closing on **1 May 2008**. For more information, click on <http://gfbr9.hrc.govt.nz/index.php/home>.

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES



Members of the Willoq community, Peru (© Mongabay.com)

Indigenous Peoples are diverse, and represent a multitude of different life experiences. In the face of adversity, they continue to survive and flourish in communities around the world. One of the challenges of the GRBR9 meeting is to increase our understanding of these complexities so that we can better appreciate the role that research and ethics play in the lives and well-being of indigenous peoples. The forum will provide opportunities for everyone to discuss and deepen their

understanding of the importance of ethical approaches to research involving indigenous peoples and vulnerable populations.

Indigenous Peoples worldwide number between 300-500 million, embody and nurture 80% of the world's cultural and biological diversity, and occupy 20% of the world's land surface. The Indigenous Peoples of the world are very diverse. They live in nearly all the countries on all the continents of the world and form a spectrum of humanity, ranging from traditional hunter-gatherers and subsistence farmers to legal scholars. Despite such extensive diversity in Indigenous communities throughout the world, all Indigenous Peoples have one thing in common - they all share a history of injustice....."

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For more reading, please refer:

1. Indigenous peoples & participatory health research. WHO (http://www.who.int/ethics/indigenous_peoples/en/index.html)
2. Guidelines for researchers on health research involving Maori. Health Research Council of New Zealand (<http://www.hrc.govt.nz/assets/pdfs/guideresmaori.pdf>)
3. CIHR Guidelines for Health Research Involving Aboriginal People (<http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/29134.html>)
4. Reported Health and Health-influencing Behaviors Among Urban American Indians and Alaska Natives (http://www.uhi.org/wp-content/uploads/2008/03/health_health-influencing_behaviors_among_urban_indians.pdf)

GFBR PARTNERS AND CONTACT INFORMATION

GFBR Current Partners: Aga Khan University, Pakistan; Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR-IRSC); European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP); Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales (FLACSO), Argentina; Health Research Council of New Zealand (HRC); Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche Médicale, France (INSERM); Medical Research Council, United Kingdom (MRC-UK); National Institutes of Health-Fogarty International Center (NIH-FIC); Vilnius University, Lithuania; Wellcome Trust, United Kingdom; World Health Organisation (WHO); and the Council on Health Research for Development (COHRED), Switzerland-which acts as host for the Secretariat of the GFBR.

For further information please contact: Sandra Realpe, Ethics Officer, GFBR-Secretariat realpe@cohred.org tel +41 22 591 89 00 fax +41 22 591 89 10 www.gfbronline.com C/o Council on Health Research for Development (COHRED) 1-5 Route des Morillons P.O. Box 2100 1211 Geneva 2 Switzerland. The secretariat is funded by the European Commission within its FP6 Programme.