



GLOBAL FORUM
On Bioethics in Research



GFOR-SECRETARIAT NEWSLETTER

2008 - 03

**THE HEALTH RESEARCH COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND WELCOMES GFOR9 (3-5 DEC 2008)
ETHICS OF RESEARCH INVOLVING INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND VULNERABLE POPULATIONS**

Wednesday 03 December 2008

The Governor General of New Zealand will officially welcome delegates. Representatives from the local Maori Iwi will perform a Whakatau (Māori Greeting Ceremony) in the Foyer of the [Stamford Plaza Hotel](#). Dinner will be held at the Orakei Marae where a Powhiri (Māori welcome ceremony) will take place.



The Marae is a focal institution for the development and maintenance of cultural heritage and language; a meeting place where people can discuss and debate various issues and is considered by the Māori as a turangawaewae - a standing place, a place of belonging.

Thursday 04 December 2008

Delegates will be transported from the Forum venue (Stamford Plaza Hotel) to the Fale Pasifika, in the University of Auckland campus for dinner. After dinner delegates will be entertained by a troupe of traditional Tanmure Pacific dancers.



The Fale, or its equivalent, stands at the centre of each village in many Pacific societies.

Friday 05 December 2008

GFOR9 will officially close at midday, culminating with a welcome message from GFOR10.

GFOR9 Programme: Structure and content available at: <http://gfor9.hrc.govt.nz/>

Please register on-line by *Monday 24 November* to attend the break-out group discussions.

Registration Desk: Opens on Tuesday 02 December 2008 from 18:00 to 19:30 in the Hotel Lobby and will reopen on Wednesday 03 from 7:30 to 8:30 in front of Stamford Ballroom (Stamford I, II & III)

Protocol: Details for attending the Whakatau and the Powhiri at the Orakei Marae available at: <http://gfor9.hrc.govt.nz/>

GFOR9 Organising Committee

- Elizabeth Bohm [Programme Coordinator] ebohm@hrc.govt.nz
- Alice Lindsay [Team Leader] alindsay@hrc.govt.nz
- Kristine Scherp [Communications] kscherp@hrc.govt.nz
- Jackie Tweedale [Administrator] jtweedale@hrc.govt.nz

GFOR9 SATELLITE MEETINGS

**UNESCO'S ETHICS EDUCATION WORKSHOP
01-02 DECEMBER 2008, VAUGHAN PARK CENTER, AUCKLAND**

Aim Methodologies of teaching ethics with emphasis in the context of Asia-Pacific ethical knowledge

Faculty Experienced facilitators in international bioethics education

Venue Vaughan Park Retreat Centre, located in North Shore, 30 minutes from central Auckland; <http://www.vaughanpark.org.nz>

Participants Up to 50 persons including bioethicists from many countries, teacher trainers, professors, teachers, ethics committee members, and educators

Registration No registration fee, but pre-registration required; participants (in general) should cover accommodation and breakfast (NZ\$67/night); lunch (day 1 & 2) and dinner (day 1 only) will be provided.

Contact information Regional Unit for Social & Human Sciences in Asia & the Pacific (RUSHSAP), UNESCO, Bangkok
Email: rushsap@unesco.org
www.unescobkk.org/rushsap

**WHO/UNAIDS/AFRICAN AIDS VACCINE PROGRAMME
02 DECEMBER 2008, 14:00-17:00 QUAY WEST, AUCKLAND**

Aim Revisiting ethical issues in preventive HIV vaccine trials in the light of the early closure of the STEP and Phambili trials

Workshop Design Short presentations and facilitated discussions towards drafting a collaborative paper

Venue Quay West Hotel –next to the hotel hosting the GFOR9; <http://www.mirvachotels.com/quay-west-suites-auckland/contact-amp-map>

Participants Up to 25 places for various stakeholders including investigators, sponsors, research ethics committee members, regulators, community representatives, and advocates

Registration Attendance is free of charge for GFOR9 delegates on a first-come-first-served basis until the session is full. Refreshments will be provided. Interested parties should RSVP to Nicole Mamotte by emailing aavp1@ukzn.ac.za

Contact Information Douglas R. Wassenaar
Email: aavp1@ukzn.ac.za
<http://elh.ukzn.ac.za>
<http://shsph.up.ac.za/sareti/>



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SANTIAGO DE CHILE DA LA BIENVENIDA AL GFBR10 EN SEPTIEMBRE DE 2009

El tema del foro, *conflicto de interés e investigación en salud*, surge como resultado de las reflexiones del proyecto: Sistemas de Regulación Ética de la Investigación Biomédica de Latinoamérica y Europa ([EULABOR](#)). También surge a partir de la constatación de que, a pesar del reconocimiento generalizado sobre la importancia de esta temática por medio de declaraciones, regulaciones y referencias internacionales y nacionales, los hechos y denuncias de conflicto de interés se multiplican, dando cuenta de la importancia creciente de esta temática.

Chile se encuentra en los últimos años desarrollando la legislación y reglamentación dirigida a la protección de los sujetos que participan en investigación científica. En este proceso, liderado por la Presidenta de la República, Dra. Michelle Bachelet, se ha identificado al conflicto de interés como un desafío que debe ser resuelto y para el cual no existe respuesta en la experiencia internacional.

Un desafío de esta magnitud requiere un espacio de discusión y reflexión de carácter amplio y plural, como el que ofrece el Foro Mundial en Bioética de la Investigación.

GFBR10 idioma oficial: español, con traducción simultánea al inglés

SANTIAGO DE CHILE WELCOMES GFBR10 IN SEPTEMBER 2009

The theme of the forum, *conflicts of interest in health research*, is a result of reflections arising from the project: Latin American and European Ethical Regulation Systems of Biomedical Research ([EULABOR](#)). It was also found that despite widespread awareness of this issue through existing international and national guidelines/ declarations/ regulations, increasing cases, allegations, and confirmations of conflict of interest show that the issue remains unresolved.

Chile, in the last few years, has been developing laws and regulations aimed at protecting human participants involved in scientific research. The process, led by the President of the Republic, Dra. Michelle Bachelet, has identified conflict of interest as a challenge that needs to be solved, and for which no answer exists as of yet in the international arena.

A challenge of this magnitude requires a room for discussion and reflection that is wide and diverse in character, such as the platform provided by the Global Forum on Bioethics in Research.

GFBR10 official language: Spanish, with simultaneous translation into English

GFBR-SECRETARIAT SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES: 2007 - 2008

- ❖ Employed a 50% **ethics officer** (Sandra Realpe from Colombia)
- ❖ Hosted **two fellows** (Xiuqin Wang from China and Edlyn Jimenez-Santos from the Philippines) to spend time in Geneva and with GFBR partners
- ❖ **Increased communication between partners** through a newsletter and face-to-face meetings which – for the first time – included the southern (non-funding) members of the GFBR
- ❖ Developed an **active website** (with help from a WHO fellow), maintained by Aga Khan University
- ❖ Provided **summary data** on all previous GFBR meetings (1999 to 2007) – programmes, case studies, reports and participants – available at www.gfbronline.com
- ❖ **Produced written materials** from GFBR7 (Pakistan) and GFBR8 (Lithuania) (with help from a NIH/FIC fellow)
- ❖ **Presented the case for GFBR** in Hispanic and Arab environments where interest is high
- ❖ **Three key papers for journal publication** in progress: 1) History and purpose of the GFBR (ethics officer); 2) Ethics of animal experimentation in traditional medicine research (Fellow from China); and 3) Ethical inevitability of incorporating national research priorities in the ethical review of research (Fellow from Philippines)
- ❖ **GFBR9** in Auckland, New Zealand from 3-5 December 2008; organised by host Partner, the Health Research Council of New Zealand on the theme: [Ethics of research involving indigenous peoples and vulnerable populations](#)
- ❖ **GFBR10** in Santiago, Chile tentatively from 2-4 September 2009; organised by host Partner, the Ministry of Health of Chile on the theme: Conflicts of interest in health research
- ❖ **GFBR Database** of forum information

NEWS

- ❖ **RSS feed** now available for <http://www.gfbronline.com>, including information for RSS use and subscription
- ❖ **GFBR Steering Committee of Partners** to meet on 02.Dec.2008 in Auckland, New Zealand
- ❖ **GFBR-Secretariat Ethics Officer and Fellow's** term of office to end on the 30th of November and 31st of December 2008, respectively, coinciding with the end of the EU FP6 grant. We are looking for new resources to carry on with the Secretariat's tasks. Following this date, send enquiries to ethics@cohred.org.

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), Netherlands; Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales (FLACSO), Argentina; Health Research Council of New Zealand (HRC); Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche Médicale (INSERM), France; Medical Research Council, United Kingdom (MRC-UK); National Institutes of Health-Fogarty International Center (NIH-FIC), USA; 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 the 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.