



Association for Health Information and Libraries in Africa
Association pour l'Information et les Bibliothèques de Santé en Afrique Afrique

10TH AHILA/AIBSA CONGRESS RESOLUTIONS

The 10th AHILA Congress was held at Sun n Sand Mombasa, Kenya from 23rd-27th October, 2006 on the theme: ' Millennium Development Goals and Health Information Provision in Africa.

Delegates of the 10th AHILA Congress after deliberations and reflecting on the theme and presentations made the following resolutions.

MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

1. Recognizing the significance that access to health information plays in the realization of the MDGs, delegates resolved that AHILA members through their country chapters closely work with Public Libraries and other stakeholders to ensure that health information is disseminated to rural populations.
2. Endorsing the significant role that the campaign for Health Information for All by 2015 (HIFA2015- **by 2015, every person worldwide will have access to an informed healthcare provider**) -plays in the realization of the MGDS, delegates resolved to enjoin in the campaign and share their expertise in resource sharing and dissemination of resources especially through the creation and maintenance of web-based resources on health information.

TRAINING

3. Noting the significant role that training plays in information sourcing, organization, use and dissemination, and the fact that AHILA members need continuous professional education, delegates resolved

To work closely with WHO/AFRO and other stakeholder to facilitate training in the following areas;

- African Index Medicus (AIM)
- Repackaging of health information
- Management and evaluation of health-related electronic resources
- Health information communication skills
- Integration of e-learning and library resources

4. Noting also the significance of training at country level, delegates resolved that AHILA Country Chapters should facilitate training, in partnership with interested organizations, in the following areas:
 - Research skills, including writing proposals

Documentation skills
Management skills, including keeping statistics
Health information marketing
Digitization of libraries & designing databases
Website design & moderating e-discussions
Evidence-based medicine
ICT troubleshooting for librarians

AFRICA INDEX MEDICUS (AIM)

5. Realizing that the revival of AIM will play a significant role in the organization and dissemination of health information, delegates resolved
 - 1) To fully support WHO/AFRO in its effort for the revival of AIM through active participation in the project.
 - 2) That AHILA Country chapters and AIM focal points should make every effort to strengthen the local health information databases.

FUNDING

6. Realizing that the revival and sustainability of AHILA programmes require adequate funding. Delegates resolved that country chapters initiate income-generating activities.

AHILA CONGRESSES

7. Realizing the need to streamline AHILA Congresses, delegates resolved that:
 - 1) AHILA congress proceedings should be produced within three months of the end of the Congress
 - 2) Papers presented at an AHILA congress should be placed on the AHILA website within one month of the end of the congress
 - 3) Evaluation of the congress should be passed to the next Local Organizing Committee so that it may implement what went well and improve on deficiencies
 - 4) At the next AHILA Congress (AHILA-11), member countries should present progress reports on their activities related to the implementation of the resolutions passed in the previous congress (AHILA 10)