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GHANA HEALTH FOUNDATION

January 20, 2000

Sandra Thurman, Director
White House Office of National AIDS Policy
736 Jackson Place, Suite 820
Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Ms. Thurman:

We are pleased to inform you of the establishment of **Ghana Health Foundation, (GHF)**. GHF is an independent, nonprofit foundation dedicated to contributing to the improvement of health care in Ghana. On November 30th GHF and Global Health Council co-sponsored a reception in Washington, DC to mark WORLD AIDS DAY. The event was very successful, and was attended by physicians, other health care professionals, government officials, members of Congress, the diplomatic Corp, and the Media.

GHF's inaugural kickoff event will be a landmark conference entitled **"Healthcare Strategies: Positioning for the New Millennium."** on March 31st, and April 1st, 2000 at the Howard University Hospital, Towers Auditorium. The conference is jointly hosted by The Global Health Council, Howard University Women's Health Institute, and Howard University Hospital. We are also joined by our sister organization, The Ghana International Health Foundation based in Montreal, Canada. Attached is a draft conference program that provides a preview of the topics.

There are many who share concern for the health of those who live in Ghana and others who travel to the country on business, and want to contribute to finding solutions to improve the current health care in Ghana. This conference will serve as a beginning of a concerted and collaborative effort to reach all health care professionals who have a contribution to make. The conference proceedings and summary recommendations will be presented to the Minister of Health in Ghana for necessary policy review and cooperation with the Foundation. These recommendations will also serve as a guide for planned programs of both GHF and Ghana International Health Foundation.

Due to your particular expertise in national HIV/AIDS policy issues, you are invited to present and participate in a discussion on "*The HIV/AIDS Epidemic: Challenges and Solutions in Ghana*" at the conference. We would be honored to have you participate in the conference, and present a lecture and discussion on this topic on April 1st, 2000. Please respond by February 15th, 2000 to assure us of your willingness to participate in this conference. We also ask you to send us the following items as necessary requirements for your presentation:

- A one page biography of yourself
- A one page abstract of your presentation.
- A full text of your presentation.

Both the abstract and the text will form the proceedings of the conference to be published soon after the conference. The full text of your presentation can be submitted by end of February, 2000. Please use the author's guidelines in the New England Journal of Medicine or The Lancet to prepare your text.

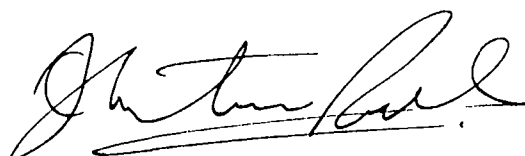
We request that you to submit all these requirements on a diskettes in Microsoft Word '97 or earlier version (if that is necessary). Alternatively, you can e-mail the biography and the abstract as text files to the following e-mail address: phyjxk@gwumc.edu. If you have figures or tables in your text, it would be advisable to submit it on a diskette to avoid potential electronic communication hazards.

We are looking forward to a successful conference and your participation in this event. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or need further information on 202-483-6013 (Dr. Koomson) or 301-421-1019 (Dr. Kurantsin-Mills).

Sincerely,



Bertha Koomson, M.D.
Chair, Board of Directors



Joseph Kurantsin-Mills, Ph.D.
Chair, Conference Committee

1701 K Street, NW, Suite 600
Washington, DC 20006-1503
Phone: (202) 833-5900
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Global Health Council

Fax

To: S. THURMAN From: AMOLO (202 833 5900)
Phone: _____ Date: 31 January 2000
Fax: 202 456 2439 Pages: 4 (incl.)
Re: Conference, co-sponsored by Ghana Health Foundation / GHC
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Dr. Koomson ->

HEALTHCARE STRATEGIES: Positioning for the New Millennium

PURPOSE OF THE CONFERENCE

This conference will provide a forum for physicians, healthcare professionals, biomedical scientists, corporate businesses, organizations and concerned individuals to discuss the present state of the healthcare infrastructure in Ghana. The goal of the conference is to highlight current challenges of the present healthcare infrastructure and seek sustainable solutions to them.

The conference aims to review the economic, scientific, and traditional problems that have plagued the healthcare system in Ghana and the different approaches being sought to improve them in recent years. There will be critical analysis by professionals and individuals experienced with Ghana's health affairs, as well as contributions from national and international experts who will present relevant research and clinical data. We will seek to develop elaborate prevention models that could be useful to address these health issues and concerns.

Participants will be exposed to a broad range of health issues presently affecting Ghana through presentations and interactive panel discussions. Participants will be invited to share their experiences in the exploration of sustainable solutions to present difficulties and challenges. Through the conference's presentations and discussions, a consensus statement will be developed and presented to policy makers who influence health care in Ghana.

OBJECTIVES

At the end of the conference, participants should be able to:

- Discuss the health manpower and resources available in Ghana today.
- Understand the activities of public and private healthcare institutions.
- Identify major health challenges in Ghana including epidemiology and statistics.
- Describe the current trends in health care payment policy issues in Ghana.
- Summarize the health policy issues of the government that impact healthcare and health care services in various communities in Ghana.
- Identify their potential contributions for making a positive impact on the healthcare infrastructure and the wellness of Ghanaians in general

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Joseph Kurantsin-Mills, Ph.D
J. Kweku Laast, M.D., MPH
Sheila L. Thorne
Virginia Webster

Celia Maxwell, M.D., F.A.C.P.
Peter Lamptey, M.D., DrPH
Gloria Addo-Ayensu, M.D., MPH
Bertha Koomson, M.D.

Friday March 31st, 2000

7.00 – 8.00 Continental Breakfast and Registration

8.00 – 9.00 **Welcome and Introductions**
H. Patrick Swygert, Esq
His Excellency Koby A. Koomson
Floyd J. Malveaux, M.D., Ph.D.
Nils Daulaire, M.D., MPH

The Concept of A Health Foundation for Ghana
Bertha Koomson, M.D., FRCP(C)

SESSION I **Moderator**
Brian O. Williams, M.D.

9.00 – 9.35 **Infectious Diseases: Morbidity and Mortality of Minority Children:
Comparison of US and West Africa**
David Satcher, M.D., Ph.D. (invited)

9.35 – 10.10 **Major Health Challenges in Ghana: Epidemiology and Statistics.**
J. Ofosu Armaah, M.D., MPH

10.10 – 10.25 Coffee Break

10.25 – 11.10 **Health Status of Children in Ghana Today: Challenges and Solutions**
Francis Nkrumah, M.D., MPH.

11.10 – 11.45 **Newborn Screening for Sickle Cell Disease in Ghana:
A Success Story**
Kwaku Ohene-Frempong, M.D., F.A.C.P.

11.45 – 12.30 Questions and Answer & Panel Discussion: Issues presented in Session I.

SESSION II **Moderator**
Bertha Koomson, M.D.

12.30 – 2.00 LUNCHEON
Keynote Address: *Health, Economics & Development In Ghana*
Minister of Health, Ghana

SESSION III **Moderator**
Nii T. Quao, M.D., C.M.
John K. Allotey, M.D., Ph.D.

2.00 – 2.35 **Health Manpower and Resources in Ghana Today**
K. Tinorga, M.B., Ch.B

2.35 – 3.10 **Medical Education In Ghana: Training and Retention of Health Personnel**
David Nii-Amon-Kotei, M.D., Ph.D

3.10 – 3.20 Coffee Break

3.20 – 3.55 **Barriers and Solutions to Returning Home:
The dilemma of the foreign-trained Ghanaian Physician**
Rita Wallace-Reed, M.D., MPH
Yaw Twum-Barima, M.B., Ch.B., M.Sc., FRCP(C)
Ken Aryeetey, M.B., Ch.B., B.Sc.

3.55 – 4.30 **The Physician Exchange Program:
Building Links with Healthcare Professionals in Ghana**
Hope L. Sullivan, Esq.
A.O. Mireku Boateng, M.D.
Edem Agamah, M.D.

4.30 – 5.00. Questions and Answer & Panel Discussion of Issues presented in Session III.

6.30 – 8.30. Reception: Embassy of Ghana, Washington, D.C.

CONFERENCE

Saturday, April 1st, 2000

7.00 – 8.00 Continental Breakfast and Registration

SESSION IV**Moderator**

Fred A. Ofosu, Ph.D.

8.00 – 8.30

Women's Health Concerns: Challenges and Solutions

Celia J. Maxwell, M.D., F.A.C.P.

Mary Grant, M.B., Ch.B.

8.30 – 9.00

Rehabilitation Medicine in Ghana

Barbara DeLateur, M.D.

J. Kwaku Laast, M.D., MPH

9.00 – 9.30

Cardiovascular Diseases: Comparison of Ghanaians and African-Americans

Janice G. Douglas, M.D.

XX Amuah, M.D.

9:30– 10.00

Cancer in Ghana

Vincent Anku, M.D., F.A.C.P

10.00 – 10.15

Questions and Answer & Panel Discussion: Issues presented in Session IV

10.15 – 10.30

Coffee Break

SESSION V**Moderator**

Ron MacInnis,

10.30 – 10.45

Special Remarks

Nils Daulaire, M.D., MPH

10.45 – 11.20

The AIDS Epidemic: Challenges and Solutions in Ghana

Kwaku Yeboa, M.D.

Peter Lamptey, M.D. MPH

11.20 – 11.30

Questions and Answer & Panel Discussion: Issues presented in Session V

SESSION VI**Moderator**

J. Kwaku Laast, M.D., MPH

11.30 – 12.05

Seeking Physician Equity in Today's Healthcare Environment and HMO Marketplace

Louis W. Sullivan, M.D. (invited)

12.05 – 12.40

Healthcare Insurance: Experimental Models in Developing Countries

Gilbert C. Kombe, M.D., MPH

12.40 – 1.00

Lunch Break

1.00 – 1.30

A Medical Care System for the Future: Improving Quality Care And Physician Compensation at a Price We Can Afford

Joseph Boateng, M.D., MPH

Manny Tuffour, M.D.

1.30 – 2.00

Promoting African and African-American Health in Today's Healthcare Environment: A Panel discussion by Experts from the Healthcare Industry

Sheila L. Thorne

Vincent Anku, M.D., F.A.C.P

2.00 – 2.15

Questions and Answer & Panel Discussion: Issues presented in Session VI

2.15

Closing Remarks: Summary and Conclusions

Joyce I. Boye, Ph.D

Bertha Koomson, M.D.