



انجمن قابله های افغان

AFGHAN MIDWIVES ASSOCIATION (AMA)

Afghan Midwives Association

7th Annual Congress

1st-2nd May 2011

Afghan Midwives Walking Together to Tackle Maternal Mortality



Congress Report:

Paiwand-e-Qalbha Wedding Palace –Kabul, Afghanistan

Email: ama_afg@yahoo.com

Phone: 0795288815

House No. 4129, Main Street 3,
Taimany Project, District 4,
Kabul, Afghanistan

+93 (0) 795288815
ama_afg@yahoo.com
www.afghanmidwives.org



انجمن قابله های افغان

AFGHAN MIDWIVES ASSOCIATION (AMA)

Introduction of the Congress:

The 7th annual congress was holding, while AMA held its initial congress for the first time on 2005 with participation of 80 members from 11 provinces by financial support of only one sponsor ACCESS of USAID-Fund, to support increasing number of midwives and to champion the profession through advocacy and education, while now in 7th annual congress AMA has enlarged number of its members from 80 to 2050 across branches of 33 provinces, with direct financial support of more than 29 partners, private companies and NGOs. Abovementioned achievement has influence mission and vision of AMA to strive and enhance the strength of midwifery profession beside effective role of midwives to ensure high quality of midwifery services for wellbeing of women and their families within the country.

Acknowledgements:

AMA would like to thank HSSP for their financial support for this congress. AMA would like to acknowledge efforts of midwifery programs and midwifery education implementing & BPHS implementing NGOs for their active contribution in this regard and AMA executive board members for their valuable inputs.

Main Objective of the Congress:

The aim of annual congress was to present topic concerning the most current advancements in midwifery care and maternal and family health issues. The congress also allowed members to exchanged experience and best practices and provided opportunity for networking of national and international delegates.

Supportive Objective:

Congress 2011 provided platform for participants to:

- Comprehended the best strategies go follow in order to optimally plan human resource (professional development, resources allocation).



انجمن قابله های افغان

AFGHAN MIDWIVES ASSOCIATION (AMA)

- Gained insights from policy and decision makers as they share their thoughts on midwifery issues on national and international level.
- Learnt about regularity issues and policies and discuss evidence based technical updates.
- Built partnership in Afghanistan and beyond.

Opening of the 7th annual congress:

About 602 participants including Midwives, national and international guests attended in the 7th congress. The theme (**Midwives Walking Together to Tackle Maternal Mortality**) was opened by recitation of holy Quran and Afghanistan national Anthem screened. Firstly Ms Feroza Mushtari the acting of AMA's president welcomed honorable guests and acting of Ministry of Public Health (Dr. Suria Dalil), ICM president, ICM Asia Regional Midwife Adviser, AFSOG, and HSSP Chief of Party. Then Midwifery National Song sung by Kabul Midwifery students.

Into the congress many of the quests spoke on behave of their organizations, associations and government people. They all in their speeches emphasized on role of professional association for activities of midwives across the country. They expressed the importance and effort of midwives to be improved the quality of health care with aim of reduction of maternal mortality in Afghanistan.

Congress plenary sessions and workshop methodology:

1. Plenary sessions

Update and discussion on AMA strategy.

- Strategic objectives
- Governance structure
- Revision of constitution
-



انجمن قابله های افغان

AFGHAN MIDWIVES ASSOCIATION (AMA)

The AMA strategy plan of 2010 -2015 developed in June 2010 by AMA members from 28 provinces, the strategy plan edited by Executive Committee and approved by Board of Directors. The edited strategy plan effected to the AMA structure and constitution along with other official issues. The final version of strategy plan shared into 7th congress with AMA members for comments and approval; consequently it has been approved by AMA members.

BEmONC (Basic Emergency Obstetric Neonatal Care) Need assessment Results

Strong focus on capacity development of national and regional institutions as well as supporting the development of a network of professionals enabled the sustainability of the EmONC Initiative, with the integration of the specific indicators into the health information system. In the context, strong political commitment and the availability of data at the district level were important elements of success, as they contributed to the use of the data for planning and monitoring purposes.

Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) `s Midwifery and Nursing Policy

AMA's officers have participated in two separate workshops (Midwifery & Nursing Policy, and Plan Revising) and (Midwifery and Nursing Plan Strategic Revising) that were conducted in Kabul. Thus, AMA's officers actively took place in development of Midwifery policy process (identifying obstacles and problems, analyzing and make suggestion). AMA's Officers found out their position among domestic and governmental associations and sectors to be involve in policy making process and made advice for empowerment of policies.

Raised articles during workshops as below;

- Propose strategic planning action to remove and solve midwives problems.
- Emphasize on existing of professional association in implementation of RH strategic plans.

AMA Election and adoption of revised constitution



انجمن قابله های افغان

AFGHAN MIDWIVES ASSOCIATION (AMA)

One of the most important events of 7th annual congress was transparent election of Executive Committee Members of AMA in which almost all AMA members participate to elect their EC regardless ethnic and linguistic discrimination for coming 3 years in second day of congress in a totally democratic atmosphere.

New Executive Committee members:

Ms. Sabera Turkmai as a president
Ms. Mozghan Mohammadzai as a Vice-president
Ms. Munira Qarizada as a Secretary General
Ms. Qudsia Sangi as Finance

2. Seminars

- Obstetric Fistula
- (Gender Based Violence (GBV
- (Leadership Development Program (LDP
- Mother Safety
- (Prevention of Postpartum Hemorrhage (PPPH
- Labor support
- Effective supervision
- Gender Based Violence (GBV)
- Health Management Information System (HMIS)
- Prevention of Postpartum Hemorrhage (PPPH)

3. Skill practice

Manual Vacuum Aspiration (MVA)

Vacuum or suction aspiration uses aspiration to remove uterine contents through the cervix. It may be used as a method of induced abortion, a therapeutic procedure used after miscarriage, or a procedure to obtain a sample for endometrial biopsy.

Postpartum IUD (PP IUD)

More and more women in the developing world are having their babies in hospitals. After the birth of a child, most couples welcome the opportunity either to delay their



انجمن قابله های افغان

AFGHAN MIDWIVES ASSOCIATION (AMA)

next pregnancy or, if they have reached their desired family size, to terminate childbearing altogether. The postpartum insertion of IUDs has a number of advantages, including ease of insertion, availability of skilled personnel and appropriate facilities, and convenience for the woman

Yoga during pregnancy

Yoga can help women get through their pregnancy with minimal discomfort. It also helps the birth and post-delivery stages.

Congress posters and special issue:

- One of the other important events of said congress was special issue of AMA Journal which was addressing AMA background and achievement.
- Exhibition of handmade posters which was indicating salvation of a mother by a midwife: Pakitika, Daykondi, Ghour dedicated first, second, third position among the 33 posters from 32 provinces.

7th Congress initiatives:

- Printing of tags for the participants
- Official opening and introduction of AMA special issue congress newsletter
- Distribution of technical presentations and contents of the congress through CDs
- Presenting and Distribution of e-partograph through CDs
- Having videographers and the unit
- Having a chair person for each session
- ICM president participation and video broadcasting

Outcome of the congress:

- Participants updated to new researches in the field of midwifery and reproductive health.
- Participated midwives updated on their professional knowledge through variety of presentation.



انجمن قابله های افغان

AFGHAN MIDWIVES ASSOCIATION (AMA)

- Participated midwives updated on their professional skills in different areas through demonstration some needed skills by midwifery trainers.
- Two midwives as Best Management and leadership and best midwives of the year were recognized and appreciated
- Shared and encouraged midwives through exhibit success stories of the midwives through posters and quilts.

Challenges:

- Lack of coordination between AMA provincial officers and related people in provincial level regarding to paper work to participation of midwives for 7th congress.
- Lack planning for the Lack of enough planning for the executive committee election process
- Lack of training for the organizers
- Focal point and facilitator for managing the agenda was not clear
- Backup plan for VIPs was not managed
- English version of the midwifery song was not published in the special issue AMA congress newsletter

Next steps:

- Coordination meeting with all focal points, chair person, facilitators, and organizers at least one month before the congress
- Develop a checklist for AMA Activity before election
- Develop a general checklist for congress preparation activity
- Identify a focal point and facilitator for the time management
- The scope of work and responsibilities should be clear to the organizers
- Introduction of the team leader for the organizers in advance