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United we stand for Africa: Focus on the 4th All Africa Anaesthesia Congress 2009

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Summary

The All Africa Anaesthesia Congress (AAAC) is a major international event presented every four years by the African Regional Section of the World Federation of Societies of Anaesthesiologists. The next and chronologically the Fourth AAAC is held in Nairobi, the capital of Kenya in September 12-17, 2009 hosted by the Kenya Society of Anaesthesiologists (KSA). The meeting will provide unique opportunity for anaesthesiologists and members of other related specialties from all over Africa and all over the world to get together (develop friendships and solidarity) and exchange professional knowledge, information and ideas while enjoying memorable Kenyan hospitality, cultural and social experience. *Anestezjologia i Ratownictwo 2009; 3: 121-122.*

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Editorial

To many minds (unjustly), Africa is still a picture of hopeless misery; afflicted by poverty, scarred by fraud and corruption and ravaged by HIV/AIDS infection and never ending tribal wars. Although, these facts might be true, they tell only half - the “dark side” of the story. The facts are much brighter; in the last two decades African integration with the developed world has deepened, and international trading relations diversified. At the same time in many African countries economic output briskly outpaced population growth, leading to sustained increase in income per capita and promising a long lasting “escape” from hopeless misery and endless poverty. Behind these success stories lie willingness of many African leaders to change, adjust

and adapt to solid international economic policies and move towards more transparency of the governments and increasing level of democracy. These changes are reflected not only in economic growth but also in progress in medicine and science in Africa.

The All Africa Anaesthesia Congress (AAAC) is a major international (anesthesiology and other related specialties) event presented every four years by the African Regional Section (ARS) of the World Federation of Societies of Anaesthesiologists (WFSA) - an international organization of the societies of anaesthesiologists, which currently has more than 120 member societies and has recently celebrated its 50th anniversary. The next and chronologically the Fourth AAAC, which follows three previous (and very successful) All Africa Anaesthesia congresses

held respectively in Harare, Zimbabwe (twelve years ago), Durban, South Africa (eight year ago), and Tunis, Tunisia (in 2005) is held in Nairobi - the enchanting capital of Kenya and one of Africa's most magnificent cities, in September 12-17, 2009 hosted by the Kenya Society of Anaesthesiologists (KSA).



The meeting will provide unique opportunity for physician anesthesiologists, non-physician anesthesia providers, and members of other related (e.g., obstetrics and gynecology, emergency medicine, perinatology and maternal-fetal medicine) specialties from all over Africa and all over the world to get together (develop friendships and solidarity) and exchange professional knowledge, information and ideas while enjoying memorable African (Kenyan) hospitality, cultural and social experience. The scientific program of the Fourth AAAC in Nairobi includes refresher courses, workshops, problem-based learning discussions, and plenary session lectures (given by the speakers/experts from Kenya, all over Africa and all over the world) on the subjects ranging from general and regional anesthesia, pain and intensive care medicine, obstetric anesthesia, perinatology, maternal fetal medicine to emergency medicine (Kabutu J, Otieno D. – personal communication). I have no doubt that the Fourth AAAC in Nairobi, Kenya will turn out to be the first/world class scientific, educational and social event.

What we - the anesthesiologists, obstetricians, neonatologists, perinatologists, and emergency room physicians of the world learned in Harare, Durban

and Tunis [1] (and this knowledge, no doubt, will be reinforced at the next meeting - the Fourth All Africa Anaesthesia Congress in Nairobi, Kenya later this year) is that; first, many high quality research abstracts, workshops and lectures come from our international colleagues practicing medicine in the developing world (including Africa), and second, that education (and exchange of information and experience) are the two most powerful tools (weapons) we can use to change and unite the world of medicine and science including the art and science of anesthesia and other related specialties.

Welcome to Nairobi, Kenya!
(<http://www.aaackenya2009.org/>)
Do zobaczenia w Nairobi, Kenya!



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