

HEALTH INFORMATICS FOR DEVELOPMENT (IMIA WG 9)

This Working Group is being restructured
for further information please contact:

Vice-President WGs and SIGs

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1. Introduction

In 1983, during the first meeting: Health Informatics in Developing Countries: experiences and viewpoints, held in Mexico and organized by A. Fernandez Peres de Talens, E. Molino and D. Shires, the main reasons for developing countries to become involved with health informatics were:

- informatics technology after the initial investment in basic equipment and personnel formation, should be sustained by an investment of local manpower, unlike the importation of other technologies;
- being a critical time for developing countries because multinational informatics cooperations are rapidly developing software packages and it is crucial for developing countries to be aware of this and react quickly or be left with the only alternative of importing turnkey systems, possibly inappropriate to their needs;

IMIA WG 9 has 37 members from 19 countries and the main goals for the group are:

- to maintain a database "Who is Who" in Third World Medical Informatics;
- to prioritize the informatization and automation of Primary Health Care and Health Care Management;
- to create an official medical informatics network in order to assure data standardization to allow its interchange, quality and equipment compatibility, including basic hardware and software tools to selected focal points, as well as training, distribution of educational software and teaching know-how to medical students.

2. Past International Working Conferences

HELINA 93 - International Working Conference on Health Informatics in Africa. The report was made by Dr. Salah H. Mandil, Dr. A.D. Akinde and Mr. Mikko Korpela and widely distributed by electronic mail.

The impact of informatics on society: key issues for developing countries - international conference center. IFIP WG 9.4. Havana, Cuba, February 21-23, 1994.

3. Future International Working Conferences/Plans
IMIA WG 9 is in the process of being restructured. A new
Chair will be appointed in due course.

4. Proceedings and Publications (WG 9)
The Proceedings for HELINA 93 has been published by
Elsevier/North Holland Publishers.

5. Other involvements and relationships
Support and dissemination of IMIA's activities among the WG 9
members on a national and international basis by electronic
mail and other means of communication. Participation and
support at the Havana and HELINA meetings. In the past,
there has been regular contact by e.mail with IFIP WG 9.4.

6. List of Members
Can be obtained directly from Vice-President WGs and SIGs.

New Chair Nora Oliveri. Not a SIG yet. (reset 3 years)