



***SOCIETY FOR SOUND HEARING INTERNATIONAL***

***ACTIVITY REPORT 2013***

### **Developing & maintaining accessible website**

The website: [www.soundhearing2030.org](http://www.soundhearing2030.org) has been updated from time to time with information put out regarding important events and reports uploaded. The first information about World Congress has been uploaded on the website. EC members have been asked to give their inputs. E.C./G.B meeting report and Evaluation report of Shroff Charity Eye Hospital would be uploaded on the website shortly.

### **Develop alliance with WHO SEA & HQ, UNICEF, UNESCO etc.**

a. In order to develop a formal relationship with WHO SEA & HQ and other International organization a **poster competition** was organised by “Society for Sound Hearing” as part of the **20th IFOS World Congress which was held in Seoul, South Korea on 4 June, 2013**. Poster competition was on the theme of ‘Raising awareness regarding ear and hearing care within communities.’ A panel of three experts judged the posters displayed. Prizes were given (sponsored by Sound Hearing 2030) for the top 3 posters. The session was organized to highlight the current direction of the WHO programme for prevention of deafness and various country programmes for prevention of deafness, some of which were developed with support from WHO.

Winners of the poster competition:

- 1<sup>st</sup> position: Prevention of aminoglycoside-induced ototoxicity in Nicaragua, a project of education and awareness  
Authors: Dr James E. Saunders, Dr Karen Mojica Alvarez, Dr Afton Chavez, Dr Roni Nitecki
- 2<sup>nd</sup> position: Healthy hearing for them  
Author: Dr Eka Putra Setiawan
- 3<sup>rd</sup> position: Better Ear and Hearing Care for Your Community  
Author: Dr Paras Agarwal

COO has initiated approach to have a lobby meeting with **UNESCO office in Bangkok** with the support of Bangkok CBM office. The response received through email 3 March 2013 from UNICEF focal person Diane M Swales, Regional advisor child protection: Sound Hearing 2030 initiative is not an area of expertise for UNICEF as they focus mainly on a broader disease profile.

## **Promoting partnership with NGOs, DPOs and networks**

### **A. MoU with Vision 2020:**

An MoU has signed between Sound Hearing 2030 and Vision 2020 on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2013 which had the following salient points:-

- *Sharing of best practices*
- *Sharing of strategic papers and evaluation reports*
- *Presence at Annual meetings/ GB meeting/World Congress*
- *Multi-centric study regarding evaluation of feasibility integrated eye ear care project*
- *Developing joint eye and ear IEC material*
- *Integrated school screening programme*
- *Initiate course on “Applications of principles of management to eye & ear care”*
- *Exploring joint funding opportunities*
- *Both agencies obtain memberships of each other*

### **B. Awareness programme in Community (Anganwadi Centre, Daryaganj, New Delhi, India):**

*An awareness program was organized by Society for Sound Hearing in collaboration with Department of Community Medicine, Maulana Azad Medical College on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2013 in Daryaganj area, Near Delhi Gate Center, Delhi*

**Officers In-charge-** *Dr. A.K. Agarwal & Dr Suneela Garg*

**Facilitators-** *Ms. Deeksha Khurana, Ms. Janki Mehta, Ms. Indu Arora, Dr. Tapas Nair and residents from the Department of Community Medicine, MAMC Delhi*

**Participants-** *70 community members*

**Short play-** *Three short plays were prepared and presented by the interns of Maulana Azad Medical college in Delhi Gate Health center to educate the community regarding common ear related problems and the best possible treatment options.*

**Health talks-** *Doctors of Maulana Azad Medical College and Ms. Janki Mehta from Society for Sound Hearing gave health talks regarding possible causes of ear problems and precautions one can take to prevent ear related problems.*

**Quiz-** *A quiz was organized by Ms. Deeksha Khurana with the aim to understand whether the community members had comprehended the points that were put forward during the health talk and play.*

Distribution of IEC material-At the end of the awareness program, pamphlets on “ear and hearing care” and “early identification of ear problems” which were developed by Society for Sound Hearing were distributed to all the attendees.

### **C. Liasioning with State Welfare Board, Govt. of Delhi**

An awareness program was organized by Society for Sound Hearing in collaboration with Department of Community Medicine, Maulana Azad Medical College on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2013 in Lady Noyce school for the Deaf, Delhi Gate, Delhi

Introduction speech- An encouraging introductory speech was given by Dr. Suneela Garg during which she explained the objectives of the school awareness programme.

Short play- Three short plays were prepared and presented by the interns and PG students of Maulana Azad Medical College. The play was presented in simple language and was presented in sign language by interpreter which made it easy to be comprehended by the students.

Health talk- Health talk was delivered by doctors of Maulana Azad Medical College regarding possible causes of ear problems and precautions one can take to prevent ear related problems.

Quiz- A quiz was organized with the aim to understand whether the students had comprehended the points that were put forward during the health talk and play.

Speech by Ms. Kiran Gandhi (Deputy Director Disability, Delhi Govt.)& Dr. A.K Agarwal (President, SH 2030)- Ms. Kiran Gandhi appreciated the awareness programme organized by Sound Hearing 2030 and said that such programmes should be organized in the future as well. Dr. Agarwal promised his full medical support to all the students and staff of the school.

Speech by Mr. Umesh Baurai (CBM)- Mr. Umesh expressed that the liasioning between society for sound hearing and social welfare board is a positive step and such collaborative activities should be taken up in the future as well.

Distribution of IEC material-At the end of the awareness program, pamphlets on “ear and hearing care” and “early identification of ear problems” and posters which were developed by Society for Sound Hearing were distributed to all the attendees.

Distribution of refreshments to students- At the end of the awareness programme refreshments were distributed to all the students, teachers and staff members.

#### **D. Activities of the Indonesian National Committee for Prevention of Hearing Impairment & Deafness (PGPKT) July-December 2013**

Launching of District committees: the Indonesian Committee has been very active, more district committees have been launched all over the country in North Sumatra, Central Celebes, Papua, North Sumatra and East Java, to facilitate community ear and hearing health care in line with the vision and mission of Sound Hearing 2030.

Training of Primary Health Centers staff and Distribution of Ear Examination Kits: routinely, outreach training of doctors and staff of health centers of the districts has been performed from the District or Provincial hospital where there already exist a National Committee working together with the local health Office.

Ear and Hearing Screening of school children. Some doctors do this activity as volunteers during their free time, or weekends. They report this activity through social media with pictures (like Blackberry, Whats App etc), so all other doctors and health workers in other areas all over the country are inspired to do the same.

Awareness Videos have been developed on tips for Ear health, early identification of hearing in babies, hearing loss in the aged, noise hazard and the danger of Ear Candle treatment and distributed through social media: Face Book and Twitter. The recently launched page on Facebook (see Facebook: Komnas Penanggulangan Gangguan Pendengaran dan Ketulian) has already 10,078 likes.

#### Record Breaking

Recently (22<sup>nd</sup> December 2013), on Mother's Day, a Certificate for record has been awarded to the Surabaya City Committee in East Java for screening and cleansing ears of one thousand school children in one day.

#### **E. Activities of the India National Committee for Prevention of Hearing Impairment & Deafness under NPPCD**

Inputs provided for strengthening NPPCD under the 12<sup>th</sup> Five Year plan- Inputs were provided by Dr. Agarwal & Dr. Garg to NPPCD under 12<sup>th</sup> Plan in terms of:

- Prevention of avoidable hearing loss on account of disease or injury

- *Early identification, diagnosis and treatment of ear problems responsible for hearing loss and deafness.*
- *To medically rehabilitate persons of all age groups, suffering with deafness.*
- *To strengthen the existing inter-sectoral linkages for continuity of the rehabilitation programme, for persons with deafness.*
- *To develop institutional capacity for ear care services by providing support for equipment, material and training personnel.*

*Strengthening of ENT Departments of selected Medical Colleges under National Programme for Prevention & Control of Deafness-* A meeting to discuss modalities for strengthening ENT Departments of selected Medical Colleges in terms of providing equipment, creation or up-gradation of sound treated audiology room and training of trainers etc. was held under the Chairmanship of Dr. S.Y. Kothari, Spl. DG (PH). Dr. Agarwal and Dr. Garg provided their inputs to finalize the selection criteria for Medical Colleges to be upgraded, mechanism to ensure that the ENT Departments of the medical colleges supported by such onetime grant be actively involved in activities under NPPCD and MoU to be drafted.

*F. This activity has been conducted in Rural and urban field practice areas of MAMC Delhi in cooperation with department of community medicine, Maulana Azad Medical College, New Delhi. During this event, posters and publicity material were displayed on primary ear care, infant hearing screening, prevention of noise, community based rehabilitation, and integration of services for eye and ear problems. Another activity was carried out in collaboration with Govt. scheme "Chacha Nehru Sehat Yojna" Programme in primary schools of central Delhi. There was an ENT counter established for Ear screening and diagnosing ear problems in school children with help of ENT doctors of Department of ENT MAMC, Sound Hearing staff, guidance of Dr. Suneela Garg and Dr. G.K. Ingle HOD community Medicine. IEC material developed by Sound Hearing 2030 was also displayed in the 9th Annual Conference of Vision 2020 organized in Bhopal on 7th April. Practical Model of Eye Ear Integration was presented. Vision 2020- The Right to Sight-India 9th Annual Conference on 6th & 7th April 2013 at Bhopal was attended by Dr. Suneela Garg who also delivered a presentation on "Strategies for integration of eye and care services" and presented the findings of evaluation of integrated eye ear project of Dr. Shroff's Charity Eye Hospital. The session was chaired by Ms. Sujaya Krishnan, Joint Secretary, Ministry of*

*Health & Family Welfare and co-chaired by Ms. Archana Bhambal, Sightsavers. The hard and soft copies of the report of evaluation of integrated eye ear project of Dr. Shroff's Charity Eye Hospital was also shared with the attendees of the Conference.*

### **Partnership with Foundations and commercial vendors**

#### **MoU with Alps International:**

*MOU signed with commercial entity Alps International which has agreed to provide state of art high tech **rapid fit Digital hearing aids to Sound Hearing at a special price of USD 59 per hearing aid** for the Sound Hearing members for its designated pilot project sites in the region. Initial discussion with Indonesia National Committee (Komnas PGPKT) is underway. There is a difficulty in transporting the hearing aids to other country and other means are being discussed.*

#### **ATA Expo 2013:**

*ATA Expo 2013 was an initiative to bring together assistive technology and accessibility expertise products in India under one roof. The expo aimed at creating awareness on technology happenings, accessibility options available for people with disabilities to enhance their education as well as career prospects in par with their peers in society. Assistive Technology and Accessibility Expo was a collaborative effort designed and organized to provide educators, families, government agencies, disability service organizations and service providers the opportunity to access, feel, and try the latest range of Assistive Technology devices and software. Experts and accessibility consultants also presented the various features of the products during conference sessions.*

*Dr. Tapas Nair from Dept. of Community Medicine attended the Expo on behalf of SSH. IEC material of SSH was displayed during the Expo.*

#### **Screening camp in collaboration with Alps International:**

*A combined eye and ear screening camp was organized by Alps International in collaboration with Society for Sound Hearing in July 2013. During the camp approximately 100 people were screened for ear problems by the ENT doctors of Maulana Azad Medical College. The services provided at the camp were:-*

- Free check-up of patients for eye problem and dispensing medicines wherever required*

- Free check-up for cataract and referral for surgery
- Free check-up of patients for ear problem and dispensing medicines wherever required
- Audiometric testing
- Fitting of hearing aids
- Referral for ear surgeries.
- Referral for speech therapy
- Family counseling

*IEC material developed by Society for Sound Hearing was displayed at the camp site.*

***Institutional membership of Vision 2020:***

*Sound Hearing 2030 obtained institutional membership of Vision 2020 with effect from Oct 2013. An amount of INR 30000/- was paid for the membership.*

***Administration activity: FCRA Registration in India***

*All paper work for FCRA completed in guidance of Dr. A.K. Agarwal and Dr. Suneela Garg. The all supporting document with application for FCRA were submitted by Mohd. Aquil (Chartered Accountant of Society for Sound Hearing) . The office visit by the FCRA officials is done. All work for FCRA registration is completed from our side.*

***Alliance with WHO SEARO:***

*In order to develop a formal relationship with WHO SEARO, a meeting was held between Dr. Sudhansh Malhotra, Regional Adviser, (Primary & Community Health care), WHO, President, Treasurer and Programme Officer of Sound Hearing 2030 on 1<sup>st</sup> Oct 2013. Dr. Malhotra proposed that he has a vision to develop regional strategy document for ear care during the period of next 2-3 years. In order to develop the regional strategy, it was proposed that a desk review would first be carried out which would essentially include collating what different countries in the region are doing with respect to ear care. This desk review could be done with assistance from Society for Sound Hearing. Once the desk review is completed, Dr. Malhotra proposed that during the mid year 2014, a strategic meeting could be organized to review the status of ear care activities in all the countries*

*within the region. It was proposed that this meeting could be organized either in Yangon, Burma or Dhaka, Bangladesh. This would be followed by a 3 day meeting where about 10 experts would work together and develop the regional strategy document. This document would then be shared with individual countries for their implementation.*

*Dr. Agarwal & Dr. Garg shared with Dr. Malhotra, the soft and hard copy of the draft MoU between WHO SEARO and Sound Hearing 2030 for his inputs.*

#### **Alliance with WHO HQ:**

*Dr. Shelly Chadha, Technical Officer, PBD, WHO HQ was invited to attend the Executive Meeting at Hongkong to discuss how a formal alliance between Sound Hearing 2030 and WHO HQ could be developed. There was unanimous opinion that since SSH has decided to change from a regional organization to try and achieve to be a global organisation, it would be better if SSH should have an official relation with WHO HQ. Dr. Shelly Chadha suggested that there is a standard legal procedure for this and kindly offered to look into this possibility and assured everyone that she would put all her efforts for this to happen. Dr. Shelly also suggested SSH should officially write to WHO HQ for partnership/ technical support for the World Congress. It was also suggested that the World Congress Announcements to be put on the WHO website and again Dr. Shelly Chadha agreed to look into this possibility.*

#### **Promote Sound Hearing as global initiative through World Conference**

*COO has started initial preparations for a World Conference. It was decided that the **First World Congress will be held in New Delhi, 12 – 14 February 2014.** India office drafted and printed flyers and invitations as first information of the World Congress to present Sound Hearing as a Global initiative. These flyers and invitations were designed by Sound Hearing Staff and Honorary staff with guidance of Dr. Agarwal and Dr. Suneela Garg. In order to develop a formal relationship with WHO SEA & HQ and other International organisation a poster competition was organised by “Society for Sound Hearing” as part of the 20th IFOS World Congress which was held in Seoul, South Korea on 4 June, 2013. Poster competition was on the theme of ‘Raising awareness regarding ear and hearing care within communities.’ A panel of three experts judged the posters displayed. Prizes were given (sponsored by Sound Hearing 2030) for the top 3 posters. The session was organized to highlight the current direction of the WHO*

programme for prevention of deafness and various country programmes for prevention of deafness, some of which were developed with support from WHO.

These flyers and invitations were designed and printed as first information for participants to block their dates for conference which were delivered by Dr. Agarwal in Seoul conference. The process of designing website for the conference is on going. The process for obtaining **professional Agency / Event Organizer Support, and opening a new account for conference** with payment gateway facilities for registration of participants is also on going.

The Congress has been registered online for upcoming events of IFOS International on June 10<sup>th</sup> , 2013

**1<sup>st</sup> World Congress on Ear and Hearing Care**  
**"ACTION TOWARDS BETTER HEARING"**

NEW DELHI, INDIA  
12-14 Feb 2015  
PLEASE SAVE THE DATES

**ABOUT THE CONGRESS**  
The Congress will focus on sustainable community ear and hearing care. Discussions will cover all aspects of the early diagnosis, management and rehabilitation of hearing loss. The thrust will be on developing countries and how the developed world can contribute to initiatives in developing regions. The Congress will provide a platform to bring together stakeholders from across the globe to facilitate better hearing.

**ABOUT INDIA and NEW DELHI**  
Home to the ancient Indus Valley civilization and a region of vast empires, India has been identified as a commercial and cultural hub for much of its long history. Delhi is the political hub and capital of India. It has world renowned historical monuments which tell the saga of a bygone era. The charm of Delhi has attracted emperors and conquerors from all over the world.

### **Executive Committee Meeting**

11<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee meeting of Sound Hearing 2030 was held Hongkong on 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> Oct 2013. The main topics of discussion were feedback of the evaluation of SH2030 by CBM, organizational, membership, official relationship with WHO, preparation for 1<sup>st</sup> World Congress on ear and hearing care in New Delhi in 2015 and planning and discussion on the next five year plan. During the meeting Dr. Diego presented his feedback of the evaluation of SH 2030 project and also gave recommendations for the coming years. Dr. Joarder presented the National Strategy on Prevention of Deafness and Hearing Impairment in Bangladesh for the period 2011-2016. A session on developing alliance with WHO was also taken up Dr. Shelly Chadha. Discussion also took place on preparation for World Congress including finalizing registration fee, Committees for World Congress, funds available and proposed speakers for the Congress. A discussion took place on the next five year plan on the last day of the EC meeting.

**Administration cost for Treasurer office, organisation registered in Hong Kong**

Treasurer Office coordinated by joint treasurer Bradley McPherson, and registration as Sound Hearing International LTD with the EC members as board of Director and Members in place. Fees for the legal representative office HLLY under leadership of Mr Alfred Hau and assistant Ms Karen Tam has been paid. **Certificate of Incorporation 8 Dec 2010; Tax Exemption status as charitable institution granted 24 April 2013.**

**Additional Information**

**Activities during January to June 2013 period at Bangladesh:** In January 2013 CDD provided support to Sound Hearing 2030 committee of Bangladesh for translation of a Guideline for Inclusion of Children with Hearing Impairment in Bangla language.

In March 3, 2013 the project partner NGOs of PHRPBD project and CDD organized different activities to observe International Ear Care Day at their respective working areas. During May to June, 2013 period, CDD organized 8 Eye and Ear Screening Camps with its PNGOs in 4 different location under Promotion of Human Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Bangladesh (PHRPBD) project. Those camps were organized at SPD (Meherpur), BERDO (Gazipur), MUF (Faridpur) and JSUS (Chittagong). In those camps total 374 persons were screened for ear and hearing problem. Out of these 374 persons 323 were released after screening (as they do not have any problem). From the persons identified with problem, 13 were prescribed for hearing aids and 38 were referred for advanced level treatment. During those camps, sensitization sessions were held.