

## 59<sup>th</sup> CSocD Side Event – Concept Note

### Role of digital technologies on social development and well-being of all

Imagine students in developing countries and in the United States, in Europe and in other developed countries simultaneously reviewing the same medical curriculum and learning from each other. That is e-learning at its best in an Internet Classroom, and with this goal Women's Health and Education Center (WHEC) and the Department Public Information of the United Nations (UN) had launched <http://www.WomensHealthSection.com> on 24 October 2002. All over the world we all provide care to a multicultural society. By interacting with different cultures, we will be able to understand different customs, cultures and faiths, and learn to respect – the diversity. This is just a beginning...

The health and status of women is a very complex and a challenging issue for developing and industrialized countries alike. Of all the health statistics monitored by the World Health Organization (WHO), maternal mortality and morbidity shows the largest discrepancy between developed and developing countries. Every day, at least 1,600 women die or permanently disabled from complications of pregnancy and childbirth: 90% of these tragedies occur in the developing countries. Skilled attendants mean successful outcomes.

LINK (Learning, Innovating, Networking for Knowledge) Access Project – *to provide access to the reproductive health research worldwide*, is a vision for the globalized world. Its mission:

- National Academic Societies are encouraged and should contribute to continued education, and not only of their own professions and specialties but also of all providers of maternal and child health and family planning care, and especially those at the primary referral level;
- Efforts to improve curricula would be more successful if national academic societies support training according to their country's objectives and apply them in reducing maternal and perinatal mortality; and increase the availability of family planning services and information;
- Safe motherhood operational research consists essentially of the evaluation of improvements and innovations in maternal health care, especially preventive aspects;
- Operational research – sometimes called health system or “action research” is very important area in which National Academic Societies can play a major role; and
- Evaluation of educational campaigns.

WHEC's strategy on e-Health and e-Governments focuses on strengthening health and education systems in countries; fostering public-private partnerships in information and communication technologies (ICT) research, and development for health and education. We support capacity building for e-Health and e-Governments applications worldwide. And look forward to development and the use of norms and standards.

We believe, on this path efforts never goes to waste, and there is no failure.

A strategy for development.