

David Benton appointed the new Chief Executive Officer of the International Council of Nurses (ICN)

GENEVA, Switzerland, 1st September 2008 – The International Council of Nurses (ICN) is pleased to announce the appointment of David Benton as the new Chief Executive Officer. David takes over from Judith A Oulton who is stepping down after 12 years at the helm of ICN. He will take up the post as of 1 October 2008.

“We look forward to working with David in his new role as CEO, as he continues and advances the tremendous work of Judith Oulton, leading nurses and the populations they serve to quality health care for all”, stated ICN’s President Hiroko Minami. “His broad management experience, special expertise in professional regulation and education will be key assets for ICN as we continue to strive towards our vision of leading societies to better health.”

CEO designate David Benton remarked, “This is an exciting and challenging time for nurses everywhere, as governments, health systems and international agencies address the human resource crisis and global health priorities. The nursing role is pivotal.

Worldwide nurses are responding with innovative solutions which need to be shared, recognized and replicated. I look forward to working with all our partners to generate synergies of innovation and effort that will improve health outcomes for all and strengthen our profession.”

David has held the post of Consultant in Nursing and Health Policy at ICN since 2005, specialising in regulation, licensing and education. Prior to coming to ICN he filled senior management roles across a range of organisations over the past twenty years.

These roles have included Executive Director of Nursing in posts in Scotland and England; Chief Executive & Accounting Officer at the National Board for Nursing Midwifery & Health Visiting of Scotland; Regional Nurse Director, Northern and Yorkshire Region, UK. David qualified as a general and mental health nurse at the Highland College of Nursing and Midwifery in Inverness, Scotland, and has a post graduate degree focused on the application of computer assisted learning to post basic nurse education.

David is the recipient of several awards and honours. He is particularly proud of being awarded the inaugural Nursing Standard Leadership award in 1993. He was presented with Fellowship of the Florence Nightingale Foundation in 2001 and awarded Fellowship of the Royal College of Nursing of the United Kingdom in 2003 for his contribution to health and nursing policy. He was selected as ICN’s Chief Executive among highly qualified candidates from around the world.

Editor's note

The **International Council of Nurses (ICN)** is a federation of 131 national nurses' associations representing the millions of nurses worldwide. Operated by nurses for nurses since 1899, ICN is the international voice of nursing and works to ensure quality care for all and sound health policies globally.

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