

**ANNOUNCEMENT**  
**FORMATION OF**  
**THE AFRICAN FEDERATION FOR EMERGENCY MEDICINE**  
**(AFME)**

***“SUPPORTING EMERGENCY CARE ACROSS AFRICA”***

**November 26, 2009 at 12:00 noon**  
**CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA November 26, 2009**

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We are proud to announce the formation of the African Federation for Emergency Medicine (AFEM), dedicated to “Supporting Emergency Care Across Africa”. Lee Wallis, President of the Emergency Medicine Society for South Africa (EMSSA), organised several meetings on this and other topics during the 2<sup>nd</sup> EMSSA “Emergency Medicine in the Developing World” Conference, held from 24-26 November, 2009, at the Cape Town International Conference Centre. The AFEM will act as a formative, “umbrella” organisation for all the existing and future African National EMERGENCY MEDICINE Societies. EMSSA is the largest national Emergency Medicine Society in Africa, but many more are in the early stages or are on the brink of formation, including Botswana, Ghana, Kenya, Ethiopia and others. AFEM is also proud to announce that they will accept as full members and/or member societies other health professionals and health professional societies, including Emergency Medicine nursing, Emergency Medicine Technicians and paramedics, in recognition of the multi-lateral, multi-disciplinary, multi-professional nature of emergency medicine and acute care. The conference also saw the official formation of the Emergency Nursing Society of South Africa (ENSSA), as an equal-member sub-group of EMSSA, as a further reflection of our natural partnership with the specialty of emergency nursing. The current AFEM interim Executive Committee of 9 elected persons will determine over the oncoming months the ultimate structure of AFEM; five initial committees (Identity; Governance, Membership, Terms of Reference and Services) were formed to assist in this most crucial phase.

The Interim Executive Committee comprises:

- Chair** – Lee Wallis
- Vice Chair** – Conrad Buckle
- Secretary** – Charles Otieno
- Officers** – Petra Brysiewicz, Bob Corder, Heike Geduld, Steve Justus, Valerie Krym, Hein Lamprecht, Terry Mulligan, Sebastian Spencer

Also announced at the EMSSA conference during these same talks was the formation of the *African Journal of Emergency Medicine*, a peer-reviewed, indexed journal to be dedicated to clinical, academic and developmental aspects of emergency medicine in the many and varied nations of Africa and elsewhere in the developing world. While the exact details of this journal and the plans for its ultimate structure remain in the planning stages, we are proud to announce this new addition to the growing family of academic and scientific emergency medicine journals.

We welcome the advice and participation of our colleagues in emergency medicine, emergency nursing, pre-hospital emergency care and in all areas of acute care and emergency medicine to join and assist us in the formation of this monumental organisation, and we look forward to your active membership in the months and years to come.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, OR IF YOU HAVE  
QUESTIONS / COMMENTS, PLEASE CONTACT  
[admin@afem.info](mailto:admin@afem.info) OR VISIT [afem.info](http://afem.info)**