Cartas al Editor

To: Presidents of FIGO Member Societies
   Members of the FIGO Committee for Safe
   Motherhood and Newborn Health
   Members of Partnership for Safe Motherhood & Newborn Health
   Designated Columbia University “AMDD Programme” Collaborators

From: Sabaratnam Arulkumaran
Date: 17th September 2004
Re: Distinguished Community Service Awards for Emergency Obstetric Care 2004

DEAR COLLEAGUES

As you will be aware, FIGO, in collaboration with –and with the generous support of– the Averting Maternal Death and Disability (AMDD) Program of The Mailman School of Public Health at Columbia University, makes a series of annual awards designed to recognize obstetricians or other health provider who have performed outstandingly in providing emergency obstetric care in their community.

The aim is to honour individuals actually providing emergency obstetric care in an underserved population, particularly rural areas, or directly administering facilities providing such services. The awards are not meant for high-level administrators or policymakers. Full details of the awards may be found in the enclosed information sheet.

Previous awards have been made to the following:
- Dr Massod Aziz - Nominated by The Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Pakistan (2003)
- Dr Asha Bhatt & Dr Prakash Bhatt (India) - Nominated by The Federation of Obstetric & Gynaecological Societies of India; Joint Award (2001)
- Mr Jose Antonio Caetano Dias (Mozambique) - Nominated by UNFPA (2002)
- Dr Oswaldo Cárdenas - Nominated by University of Cuenca, Ecuador (2003)
- Dr Hugo Rodríguez Ferrucci (Perú) - Nominated by Sociedad Peruana de Obstetricia y Ginecologia (2000)
- Dr Ravindran Jegasothy Nominated by Obstetrical & Gynaecological Society of Malaysia (2004)
- Dr Grace Kodindo (Chad) - Nominated by UNFPA (2000)
- Dr Alex Mathews (Malaysia) - Nominated by The Obstetrical & Gynaecological Society of Malaysia (2000)
- Dr Godfrey Mbaruku - Nominated by The Netherlands Society of Obstetrics & Gynaecology (2003)
- Keith McCallum (Australia) - Nominated by The Indigenous Women’s Health Committee of The Royal Australian & New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (2000)
- Dr Hamish McGlashan (Australia) - Nominated by The Royal Australian & New Zealand College of Obstetricians & Gynaecologists (2001)
- Dato Dr Sivalingam Nalliah (Malaysia) - Nominated by The Obstetrical & Gynaecological Society of Malaysia (2002)
- Dr Etienne Bek Odimba (Mauritania) - Nominated by WHO (2001)
- Dr Christopher Okojie (Nigeria) - Nominated by The Society of Gynaecology & Obstetrics of Nigeria (2001)
- Dr Lilit Poghossian (Armenia) - Nominated by UNFPA (2001)
- Dr Krishna Kumar Rai (Nepal) - Nominated by The Nepal Safe Motherhood Project (2002)
- Dr Mohan Sali - Nominated by The Federation of Obstetric & Gynaecological Societies of India (2003)
– Dr Shershah Syed (Pakistan) - Nominated by UNICEF (2002)
– Dr Ahmed Bayoumi Shokry (Egypt) - Nominated by UNICEF (2000)
– Dr Horacio Velazquez (Uruguay) - Nominated by Sociedad Ginecologica del Uruguay (2002)
– Dr Inga Vevere (Latvia) - Nominated by Latvian Association of Gynaecologists & Obstetricians (2002)
– Dr Nara Vudhikamraks (Thailand) - Nominated by The Royal Thai College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (2000)

I am now enclosing a Nomination Form for the 2004 Awards. It would be helpful if you could complete this form providing adequate supporting information about your nominee. Obviously, previous recipients are ineligible, although people who have been nominated previously but did not win are eligible.

Please return the form to the FIGO Secretariat at the above address by no later than Friday 19th November 2004. If you wish to make more than one nomination, please photocopy the form. Fax submissions are acceptable. Candidates cannot apply directly for these awards.

I look forward to receiving your nominations. Many thanks and kind regards.

S. ARULKUMARAN
Secretary General