

ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

1. The CDO/DPH Section of the FDI is a forum for Chief Dental Officers (CDOs) as well as scientists, educators, practitioners and researchers working in the oral health domain. CDO is a generic term that refers to the officially appointed most senior civilian federal government official in each country responsible for national oral health advice.
2. The CDO/DPH Section is a content-based global collaboration led by national CDOs, with participation by practitioners, administrators and researchers as Section Members. It is not to be confused with the Public Health Committee (PHC) of the FDI. That said, the sitting Chair of our Section holds a statutory position as a member of the PHC. The By-laws of the CDO/DPH Section reflect the unique roles and circumstances of our membership.
3. The Global CDOs list is available on our webpage. Our Section strives to keep our list of global CDOs up to date, but changes take place periodically in national CDO position incumbents and that information may not be immediately available to us. We encourage and ask FDI members to help us continually update this list by contacting our Section Secretary, Dr H. Mitchell Lockhart at mitchelllockhart@bahamas.gov.bs.
4. We continued our close collaboration with the WHO Dental Officer, working together to ensure that oral health gets on to the NCD, SDG and UHC agendas of the WHO. Further to the 2021 *Resolution on Oral Health* and consequent 2022 *Global Oral Health Strategy* and 2023 *Global Oral Health Action Plan*, we celebrated the publication of the 2024 *Global Strategy and Action Plan on Oral Health 2023–2030 (GSAPOH)*. The *GSAPOH* incorporates all of the preceding key policy documents that inform and define the renewed global oral health agenda towards 2030. CDOs around the world have worked to support the development of their country's input to this important process, and have now likely shifted to national implementation activities, as well as regional implementation activities via their respective WHO Regional Offices.
5. Our Section Chair participated in the FDI PHC meetings during the year, including the in-person mid-year meeting, with much related work activity between meetings. The PHC is engaged in activities such as World Dental Development Fund projects, planning related to the FDI *Vision for 2030* and *GSAPOH*, preparing and reviewing FDI Policy Statements and other FDI products, and planning the PHC/CDO Forum that takes place during the FDI World Dental Congress (WDC).
6. As part of the 2024 WDC, a first-ever hybrid-format Annual Business Meeting (ABM) of the Section was held on 23 September 2023, and included as guests a sitting Senator from the Australian federal government as well as officials from the Australian Dental Association. An interim appointment to the Executive Board was undertaken during this meeting. The 2023 ABM Minutes are available on our Section's webpage: <https://www.fdiworlddental.org/section-chief-dental-officersdental-public-health> (under "Past Meetings"). The 2023 joint annual FDI PHC/CDO Forum was then held on 24 September 2023 and featured speakers from France, Canada and Palestine.
7. I look forward to seeing you all in Istanbul at the 2024 FDI WDC. We are again planning to offer our 2024 Section ABM in synchronous hybrid format, so as to include as many in the global CDO community as possible. The 2024 ABM Agenda and CDO Master schedule are available on our Section's webpage (under "FDI World Dental Congress").



Dr James Taylor (Canada)
Chair

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