

## 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 Section's [webpage](#) (under "Global Chief Dental Officers"). 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 C.K. Chng, at [CHNG\\_Chai\\_Kiat@moh.gov.sg](mailto:CHNG_Chai_Kiat@moh.gov.sg).
4. We continued our close collaboration with the WHO Dental Officer, working together to ensure that oral health has a place on the NCD, SDG and UHC agendas of the WHO and UN. On 25 September 2025, the UN convened the 4th UN High-Level Meeting on NCDs in New York. Beyond the engagement of CDOs advising their respective Member States, and the WHO Dental Officer working concurrently in a global coordinating role, the FDI-IADR advocacy partnership did significant work to ensure that appropriate oral health content was included in the final draft of the Political Declaration document from this Meeting. Then, on 18 May 2026 in Geneva during the 79<sup>th</sup> World Health Assembly, the WHO Dental Officer led the formal launch of the *Global Coalition on Oral Health* as a WHO-convened forum for collaborative, multisectoral action to support Member States in implementing the WHO *Global Oral Health Action Plan*. Beyond some CDOs and other Member State representatives, key Non-State Actors were present, including of course FDI and IADR.
5. Our Section Chair participated in the FDI PHC meetings during the year, including the in-person mid-year meeting in Geneva, 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 WHO *GSAPOH*, preparing and reviewing FDI Policy Statements and other FDI products, and planning the annual PHC/CDO Forum that takes place during the FDI World Dental Congress (WDC).
6. As part of the 2025 WDC in Shanghai, an in-person Annual Business Meeting (ABM) of the Section was held on 08 September 2025, and included presentations from ADA-HPI, ACFF Global, and FDI HQ. The 2025 ABM Minutes, and speaker presentations, are available on our Section's [webpage](#) (under "Past Meetings"). Section Executive Board elections were also held during this meeting; results are available on our Section's [webpage](#) within the 2025 ABM Minutes (under "Past Meetings"). The 2025 joint annual FDI PHC/CDO Forum was then held on 09 September 2025 and featured speakers from China, England and Norway.
7. I look forward to seeing you all in Prague at the 2026 FDI WDC. While we had hoped to be able to offer our 2026 Section ABM in synchronous hybrid format, so as to include as many in the global CDO community as possible, we have been advised once again that the bandwidth available at the WDC venue will likely be insufficient; hence, we shall once again hold an in-person meeting, and make PDFs of the speakers' presentations available on our webpage thereafter. The 2026 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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