

ESOG Newsletter is quarterly published by Ethiopian Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. It updates members and partner organizations by publishing the organization's activities and other major reproductive health issues.

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OBSTETRICS

ESOG

VOLUME 12 NO. 1

March, 2024

www.esog-eth.org

GYNECOLOGY

Message from the President

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Dear Esteemed Members and Colleagues, I am honored to address you in my capacity as the new President of the Ethiopian Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ESOG) as we reflect on the significant milestones and activities undertaken over the past three months.

First and foremost, I am delighted to share with you some exciting news. Dr. Mekdes Daba, a distinguished member and former President of ESOG, has been appointed as the new Minister of Health. Dr. Mekdes's unwavering dedication and exceptional leadership have been instrumental in shaping the future of obstetrics and gynecology in Ethiopia. As she embarks on this new journey at the national level, we extend our heartfelt congratulations and best wishes for a successful tenure ahead.

Additionally, following the successful conclusion of our 32nd Annual Conference, a pivotal handover meeting was conducted between the outgoing and incoming board members. This meeting, held at ESOG's Project Bureau, symbolized a seamless transition of leadership and continuity in our society's operations. I express my sincere gratitude to the outgoing board for their invaluable contributions and warmly welcome the newly elected members to our ESOG family.

Our discussions during the handover meeting encompassed key responsibilities, ongoing projects, and future initiatives. We are eagerly awaiting the response to our pro-

posal for collaboration with Doctors with Africa CUAMM on comprehensive emergency obstetric and newborn care (CEmONC) mentorship activities. Furthermore, we are scheduled to conduct the first meeting with MATRISET, an interdisciplinary initiative aimed at strengthening the maternal death surveillance system, to explore potential areas of collaboration. As a new addition to our collaboration with Packard Foundation, we are also planning to launch a new project focused on engaging ESOG members, and decision-makers; leveraging human rights accountability mechanisms; building evidence; capacity building of advocates and decision-makers; multi-level movement building and coalition work; empowering individuals to know and claim their rights; activism; and direct investment for advocates to engage in decision-making processes.

Furthermore, as part of our commitment to advancing maternal and reproductive health, ESOG has been actively engaged in discussions with the USAID Quality Healthcare Activity (QHA). We have identified several areas of collaboration, including comprehensive emergency obstetric and newborn care services, ultrasound training, and care for sexual and gender-based violence survivors. These ("Message..." Continues on Page 4)

ESOG Conducted Its 32nd Annual Conference



Leadership Transition Marks the Conclusion of the 32nd Annual Conference ESOG

The curtains drew on the 32nd Annual Conference of the Ethiopian Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ESOG), leaving a trail of insightful discussions and groundbreaking revelations in the realm of women's healthcare. The conference, held at the esteemed Inter Luxury Hotel, featured dynamic sessions on leadership, research, and advancements in maternal and reproductive health.

The opening ceremony set the stage with distinguished speakers, including Dr. Abdulfetah Abdulkadir, President of ESOG, Professor Anne Kihara, President of the International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics (FIGO), and Honorable Dr. Ayele Teshome, State Minister of Health, emphasized the pivotal role of leadership in shaping better maternal and neonatal health outcomes.

A panel session chaired by Dr. Malede Birara delved into the theme of "Leadership in Women's Health towards reducing maternal and neonatal morbidity and mortality: the Role of Obstetricians and Gynecologists as Leaders." Esteemed speakers discussed perspectives, success stories, and challenges, emphasizing the need for effective leadership development, gender equity, advocacy, and communication.

Industry-sponsored sessions brought cutting-edge insights, including an overview of the FIGO LDI REACH Program by Dr. Gelane Lelissa and discussions on innovative medical imaging solutions. These sessions showcased advancements in technology and research initiatives aimed at enhancing healthcare delivery.

During the annual business meeting, members reviewed the ESOG's activities for 2023, outlined plans

ESOG Congratulates Ministerial Appointment of Former President



Exciting News Alert! 🌟

We are thrilled to announce that Dr. Mekdes Daba, a valued member and former President of ESOG, has been appointed as the new Minister of Health! 🌟

Dr. Mekdes has been an invaluable asset to ESOG, con-

tributing her unparalleled knowledge, skills, talent, and energy to our Society's initiatives and endeavors. Her dedication and leadership have greatly benefited our organization, shaping the future of obstetrics and gynecology in Ethiopia.

As she takes on this new role at the national level, we have no doubt that Dr. Mekdes's exceptional qualities will continue to shine, driving positive change and advancements in healthcare across the country. Her passion for improving maternal and reproductive health, coupled with her commitment to excellence, will undoubtedly make a significant impact on the nation's healthcare system.

Join us in congratulating Dr. Mekdes Daba on her well-deserved appointment as Minister of Health! 🌟 Wishing her a productive and successful tenure ahead, as she leads the way towards a healthier and brighter future for all Ethiopians.

ESOG Conducts Handover Meeting between Outgoing, Incoming Board Members

Following the successful election of new executive board members at ESOG's 32nd annual conference, a handover meeting took place between the outgoing and incoming board members. The meeting, held at ESOG's Project Bureau on March 14, 2024, marked a pivotal moment in the society's leadership transition process.

Dr. Hailemariam Segni, elected as the new President of ESOG, alongside Prof. Demissew Amenu, the newly appointed Vice President, and Dr. Maramawit Asfaw, the incoming Honorary Secretary, joined the meeting along with other newly elected board members. The outgoing executive board members, led by their President, Dr. Abdulfetah Abdulkadir, graciously welcomed their successors, emphasizing the importance of continuity and collaboration in advancing ESOG's mission and objectives.

During the handover meeting, key responsibilities, ongoing projects, and future initiatives were discussed,

ensuring a seamless transition of leadership and continuity in ESOG's operations. The outgoing executive board members shared valuable insights and experiences accumulated during their tenure, providing guidance and support to the incoming board to navigate the challenges and opportunities ahead.

Dr. Hailemariam Segni, expressing gratitude for the warm welcome and invaluable support from the outgoing board, affirmed his commitment to uphold ESOG's core values and work tirelessly towards advancing the society's goals. He emphasized the importance of teamwork, inclusivity, and innovation in driving positive change within ESOG and the broader healthcare landscape in Ethiopia.

The handover meeting concluded with a spirit of camaraderie and unity, reflecting ESOG's dedication to fostering collaboration and excellence in obstetric and gynecological care.

Happy International Women's Day from ESOG!

Today, we celebrate the strength, resilience, and achievements of women everywhere. On this special occasion, ESOG reaffirms its commitment to advancing women's health and empowerment in Ethiopia and beyond.

As obstetricians and gynecologists, we witness first-hand the importance of supporting women's health at every stage of life. From pregnancy and childbirth to reproductive health and beyond, we are dedicated to providing compassionate care and promoting gender equality in healthcare access and outcomes.

This International Women's Day, let us join hands to champion women's rights, amplify their voices, and create a world where every woman has the opportunity to thrive.

Happy International Women's Day to all the incredible women out there!

Ethiopian Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ESOG)

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partnerships underscore our dedication to enhancing health-care outcomes and services across Ethiopia.

ESOG has commemorated International Women's Day on March 8th with a commitment to promoting gender equality and women's empowerment in healthcare. Together, we can strive towards a future where every woman receives the quality care and support she deserves.

In closing, I extend my deepest appreciation to each and every one of you for your unwavering support and dedication to ESOG's mission. Together, let us continue to work tirelessly towards advancing women's health and well-being in Ethiopia and beyond.

Warm regards,

Hailemariam Segni (MD/OB-GYN, MPH)

President, Ethiopian Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ESOG)

(ESOG Conducted.... Cont'd from Page 2)

and budgets for 2024, and addressed critical governance issues. Notable agenda items included discussions.. on medico-legal issues, organizational restructuring, and the election of a new executive board.

In a significant development, ESOG announced its new leadership team. Dr. Hailemariam Segni has been elected as the next president, succeeding Dr. Abdulfetah Abdulkadir. Prof. Demisew Amenu assumes the role of vice president, and Dr. Mariamawit Asfaw takes on the position of Honorary Secretary. The executive board retains the expertise of Dr. Gelane Lelissa and Dr. Ethiopia Kumlachew, while welcoming new members, Dr. Meseret Ansa and Dr. Zerai Kassaye.

Dr. Abdulfetah will also serve for one more year at the executive board as Immediate Past President.

This transition signifies ESOG's commitment to fostering leadership and excellence in obstetrics and gynecology. The new board is poised to steer the society towards

further advancements in women's healthcare and contribute to the overall growth and development of the organization.

The conference concluded with the highly anticipated Dr. Solomon Kumbi Memorial Lecture, delivered by Prof. Yemane Berhane, Director of the Addis Continental Institute of Public Health, focusing on leadership approaches to improve women's health. The event wrapped up with a vibrant cocktail reception, providing attendees with an opportunity to network and celebrate the successes of the conference.