

**FULLY BOOKED**

## Breastfeeding Advocacy & Practice:

### A Regional Outreach Course

organised by the  
Infant Feeding Consortium (IFC),  
from the Institute of Child Health,  
London, and WABA.  
25 Feb-10 Mar 2007  
Penang, Malaysia

### Inserts with this Issue

- ❑ World Breastfeeding Week Calendar Announcement
- ❑ Formalin in Nestle Pakistan Milk
- ❑ WABA World AIDS Day Press Release
- ❑ Youth Initiative Brochure
- ❑ Men's Initiative Endorsement Form
- ❑ Celebrating LLLI 50th Anniversary
- ❑ RUMBA Guatemala
- ❑ Breastfeeding: Practice and Policy Course, London.
- ❑ Kabul Declaration on Infant and Young Child Feeding

WABALink is a current awareness service, with the mission of sharing news and useful key documents with its global network of supporters. The views expressed in the articles, supplements, and other inserts, etc., however, do not necessarily reflect the views, or policies of WABA or its Core Partners.

## YOUTH for Breastfeeding



WABA convened nine youth leaders from Asia, Africa and Latin America and Caribbean, for a five-day workshop in Penang, Malaysia, from 9 – 13 October 2006, to kick start a youth initiative and frame a global youth action plan. WABA believes for the success of any movement, it is necessary to involve youths. Even in the history of breastfeeding movements, youths were actively involved and took leading roles.

The main objective of the WABA Youth Initiative, an international programme to initiate the movement in various countries is to get youths interested in breastfeeding and to develop and sustain young advocates to promote and protect breastfeeding through the perspectives of human rights, reproductive health and gender equality.



## Gender sensitisation touching more advocates..

WABA held another dynamic gender training workshop from 15 - 18 October 2006, the third in Penang since 2004. A total of 29 participants from 18 countries from four continents participated, predominantly from Asia. The focus of this training was the sensitisation of men, hence there were 60% male participants as well as representatives from about seven men/father support groups. In addition, we had the participation of six youths, which gave new spirit and dynamism to the gender training, following the latter's youth training workshop (see above).

Besides meeting the basic objectives of learning gender concepts and gender analysis tools, participants also learnt to better understand how they themselves are gendered persons by going through various participatory exercises, role plays and interpersonal sharing. During the training, the Men's Working Group (MWG), an arm of the Gender WG, also met regularly to reconstruct themselves, refining their vision, mission, goals and action plan. WABA's vision requires both women and men to work together respectfully, with a common interest and purpose to protect, promote and support breastfeeding for the best interest of women, children and families.

**WABA would like to wish all readers of WABALink,  
SEASON'S GREETINGS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR  
WELCOME 2007!!!!**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **THEME FOR World BREASTFEEDING WEEK 2007**  
**Breastfeeding : the 1st Hour**  
**Save ONE million babies**

[www.worldbreastfeedingweek.org](http://www.worldbreastfeedingweek.org)



- **BIRTH OF WABA'S NEWEST INITIATIVES**

1. *WABA Youth Initiative* For more information, please visit [www.waba.org.my/youth/](http://www.waba.org.my/youth/)

2. *WABA Men's Initiative* For more information, please visit [www.waba.org.my/men/](http://www.waba.org.my/men/)

## STAY-AT-HOME DAD WINS BREASTFEEDING SYMBOL DESIGN CONTEST



Matt Daigle, a stay-at-home dad of 1 year old Hayden, freelance photographer and cartoonist has won a breastfeeding symbol design contest organised by Mothering Magazine.

Out of a field of 500 entrants, Daigle's design has been selected to increase public awareness of breastfeeding. The design which is representative of a child nursing, is to be used to indicate designated baby-friendly areas in public and to mark breastfeeding friendly facilities. The blue and white icon is easily recognisable and was designed to match other international icons for baggage claim, bathrooms, telephone booths and information desks.

"My wife and son inspired me and as a profoundly deaf individual, I know how important it is to communicate through visual means." said Daigle. He hopes that the symbol will be used in all public places to clearly communicate that breastfeeding is natural and healthy and that as a society we support it.

"I hope this symbol is used in all public places to clearly communicate to the public that breastfeeding is natural and healthy and as a society we support it".

Mothering Magazine purpose of organising the contest was to provide an alternative of a baby bottle image to designate baby-friendly areas in public.

To download a PDF of the winning symbol for free, visit [www.mothering.com](http://www.mothering.com)

Source: [www.mothering.com](http://www.mothering.com) - December 2006

## THE STARS BREASTFEED TOO!!!!



**Gwyneth Paltrow** breastfed her two year old daughter Apple and is repeating her experience with her baby son Moses.

**Rachel Weisz** breastfed her son Henry. "I have respect for all working moms out there because it is a complicated balancing act. I am part of that club now."



**Jennifer Garner** insists breastfeeding played an important part in helping her get back into shape after the birth of her daughter Violet.

**Geri Halliwell** has revealed that she loved breastfeeding her baby daughter Bluebell. "Breastfeeding really helped me get back in shape."



**Gwen Stefani** says she loves breastfeeding her son Kingston. "I am still nursing, I think it gives you superhuman powers."

## Study shows that epidural during birth may negatively affect breastfeeding



Epidurals given during labour and birth are associated with decreased rates of breastfeeding, both in the short term and long term. A large study of Australian women, published in the open access journal *International Breastfeeding Journal*, found that women who had epidurals during childbirth were more likely to have breastfeeding problems in the first week and to give up breastfeeding before six months, compared with women who had no analgesia.

The study by scientists from the University of Sydney and other Australian associations showed that a significant correlation exists between the two practices.

The authors concluded that "although this relationship may not be causal, it is important that women at higher risk of breastfeeding cessation are provided with adequate breastfeeding assistance and support."

Source : <http://www.inthenews.co.uk> - December 2006

## Australian Parliament launches breastfeeding inquiry

The Australian Federal Parliament is launching an inquiry into the health benefits of breastfeeding. House of Representatives health committee chairman, Alex Somlyay said the inquiry will investigate ways the Australian Government can improve the health of the population through support for breastfeeding.

Public submissions are being invited for the inquiry by February 28, 2007.

The inquiry wants submissions on:

- The extent of the health benefits of breastfeeding;
- The impact of marketing of breastmilk substitutes on breastfeeding rate, in particular, in disadvantaged, indigenous and remote communities;
- The potential short and long term impact on the health of Australians of increasing the rate of breastfeeding
- Initiatives to encourage breastfeeding
- The effectiveness of current measures to promote breastfeeding and the impact of breastfeeding on the long term sustainability of Australia's health system.

Source : <http://www.ibnnews.org> - December 2006

## 1.1 million infants in India die in the first month

With 1.1 million infants dying in India in the first month of life, the country stands a poor sixth among South Asian countries surveyed in terms of preventive measures each country adopts to protect the young ones.

The State of the World's Breastfeeding: South Asia Report Card-2006, a report carried out by IBFAN-Asia Pacific, states that apart from these deaths, another 500,000 infants die in the country between the second and 12th month of their lives.

The report suggests that if all mothers initiate breastfeeding within one hour of birth, 22 percent of these deaths could be reduced.

The international agency along with the Indian government and NGOs had carried out the study.

Source : <http://www.indianews.com> - December 2006



## Filipino dads back renewed drive on breastfeeding

Three councillors in the Philippines supported the move of the health department to promote breastfeeding as the best infant food and at the same time censured infant milk producing companies for promoting substitute milk to serve their business interests.

The three dads-cum-councillors were reacting over the "misleading claims and come-ons" of those engaged in the selling of infant formula. They said that these business initiatives do not show concern for the future generation of Filipinos because in the midst of this campaign, those involved in the business invoked the execution of the implementation of rules and regulations of the Milk Code of the Philippines.

Source : <http://www.sunstar.com.ph> - December 2006

## Breastfeeding mother kicked off plane



About 30 parents and their children in Seattle, sat in front of an airline counter to protest the treatment of a passenger who said she was kicked off a plane for breastfeeding her child.

The mother, Emily Gillete, complained that she was kicked off a Freedom Air Lines plane for nursing her baby.

The airline spokesperson said Gillete was asked to leave the flight after she declined a flight attendant's offer of a blanket.

Gillete has filed a complaint against the airline.

Source : <http://seattletimes.nwsources.com> - November 2006



## News from the Secretariat, Penang, Malaysia

*Secretariat News, Project Development  
and Outreach*

**October** • WABA Youth Action for Breastfeeding Workshop was organised and held in Penang • Gender Training Workshop was organised and held in Penang • Lakshmi Menon worked on the Gender Training Kit & Gender Training report Gender Workshop • Santiago Vallone from RUMBA Argentina / LACMAT begins work in WABA on an internship programme, focusing on Youth and Men's Initiatives • Rejuvenation of Men's Working Group (MWG), leading to the launch of the new Men's Initiative. The MWG works on the vision and mission statements, goals, objectives and plans • Breastfeeding: Advocacy and Practice Course Brochure designed, printed and mailed out •

**November** • WABA Secretariat Staff retreat was held in Penang • WABA Press Release on the new Youth Initiative was sent out to the media in conjunction with International Students' Day • Hanns Pop from RUMBA Guatemala joins the Secretariat on an internship programme • Follow-up on Women and Work, GIFS, WBW and Community Support 2006 Seedgrants • Men's E-Group Started • Promotion of the Breastfeeding Advocacy and Practice Course •

**December** • WABA issues Press Release on World AIDS Day • Julianna Lim and Liew Mun Tip works on drafting the GBPM V and SC 2006 Reports respectively with editing by Sarah Amin • Writing and layout of WABALink issue 42 begins • Men's Initiative and YOUth Initiative websections, designed by Santiago Vallone, uploaded on the WABA website • Processing applications and handling enquiries for the Breastfeeding Advocacy and Practice Course •

## Visitors to the Secretariat

• **October** • Santiago Vallone, Argentina • Mahabub Morshed, Bangladesh • Cristina Amador, Costa Rica • Veronica Gomes, Ghana • Subrata Kumar Dutta, India • Andy Hariandja, Indonesia • Nyoman Pastita, Indonesia • Rulyadi Hadimoto, Indonesia • Utami Roesli, Indonesia • Gani Auyeskhanov, Kazakhstan • Min Sang Hee, Korea • Christine Choong, Malaysia • Mohamad Thiyahuddin Embi, Malaysia • Siti Norjinhah Moin, Malaysia • Mosadeq Sahebodin, Mauritius • Mamata Regmi Pradhan, Nepal • Qamar Naseem, Pakistan • Carmen Solinap, Philippines • Cheryl G. Kho, Philippines • Erwin Cachuella, Philippines • Jenefer de la Cruz (Toto), Philippines • V.S. Shiwanathan, Sri Lanka • Vulindlela Simphiwe Kunene, Swaziland • Per Gunnar Engbloom, Sweden • Peter Breife, Sweden • John Musisi, Uganda • Phung Bich Tuy, Vietnam • Lakshmi Menon, India • Paul Sinnapan, Malaysia • Renu Khanna, India • **November** • Hanns Pop, Guatemala • **December** • Hermann Tillman and Maruja, Germany • Sabrina Sunderraj, India • Ahmad Taiff Isahak, Malaysia •

## 2006 & 2007

Oct 12	IBFAN's 27th Anniversary
Oct 16	World Food Day
Oct 9-13	WABA Youth Action for Breastfeeding Workshop, Penang, Malaysia
Oct 15-18	WABA Gender Training, Penang, Malaysia
Oct 19	Men's Working Group meeting & Youth follow-up meeting
Oct 16-20	WBW in France
Oct 26-28	Australian Lactation Consultants Association National Conference, Melbourne, Australia
Oct 31	ICFTU, 19th World Congress, Vienna
Nov 5-10	18 FIGO World Congress of Gynecology & Obstetrics, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Nov 9-13	India Social Forum (ISF) 2006, New Delhi, India
Nov 11-17	National Breastfeeding Week (UAE)
Nov 17	International Students Day*
Nov 20	Universal Children's Day*
Nov 20-22	South Asia Breastfeeding Partners Forum 3, Kabul, Afghanistan
Nov 25	International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women*(White Ribbon Day)
Nov 28-29	UNICEF UK Baby Friendly Initiative 9th Annual Conference 2006
Dec 1	World AIDS Day* (UN) - Focusing on Accountability "Stop AIDS: Keep the Promise"
Dec 3	International Disability Day*
Dec 5	International Volunteer Day*(UN)
Dec 9	UN Anti-Corruption Day*
Dec 9	RUMBA's 1st Youth Workshop for the Promotion of Breastfeeding and Humanised Childbirth, Guatemala
Dec 10	Human Rights Day*
Dec 10-12	IBFAN Arab World Regional Meeting, Cairo, Egypt

## 2007

Jan 15-Feb 2	37th Session of CEDAW
Jan 15-28	The 3-in-1 Training Course on IYCF Counselling - (IBFAN Asia-Pacific), New Delhi, India
Jan 20-25	7th World Social Forum, Nairobi, Kenya
Feb 4-8	International Conference on Actions to Strengthen Linkages between SRH & HIV/AIDS, Mumbai, India
Feb 14	WABA's 16th Anniversary
Feb 23-25	2nd Indian People's Health Assembly, Bhopal, India
Feb 25-Mar 10	Breastfeeding: Advocacy & Practice, A Regional Outreach Course, Penang, Malaysia
Feb 26-Mar 2	34th SCN Annual Session, Rome, Italy
Feb 27	Wellstart's 22nd Anniversary
Feb 26-Mar 9	51st Session of CSW, <i>The elimination of all forms of discrimination and violence against the girl child</i> , New York, USA
Mar 7-11	CIMS Forum, Atlanta, USA
Mar 8	International Women's Day
Mar 15	World Consumer Rights Day*
Mar 22	World Water Day*

[(\*) see [www.daysofaction.net](http://www.daysofaction.net) for links]



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WABALink is produced and edited by the Secretariat of the World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action (WABA). WABA is a global network of individuals and organisations concerned with the protection, promotion and support of breastfeeding worldwide based on the Innocenti Declarations, the Ten Links for Nurturing the Future and the WHO/ UNICEF Global Strategy for Infant and Young Child Feeding. Its core partners are International Baby Action Food Network (IBFAN), La Leche League International (LLL), International Lactation Consultant Association (ILCA), Wellstart International and Academy of Breastfeeding Medicine (ABM). WABA is in consultative status with UNICEF and an NGO in Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC).



