



COMHAD

COMMONWEALTH ASSOCIATION FOR HEALTH & DISABILITY



(RECOGNISED BY THE COMMONWEALTH FOUNDATION, LONDON UK)
Commonwealth Foundation – Marlborough House, Pall Mall, London SW1YSHY,UK
(Founded in 1983)



(Dr. Uday Bodhankar with Patron Her Majesty The Queen Elizabeth II & H.E. Shri Kamallesh Sharma, Secretary General-Commonwealth Nations)



International President

Dr. Uday Bodhankar

MD, DCH, FIMSA, FICMCH, FMAAMS, FIAP, FNNF

Sharhari, Central Bazar Road, Ramdaspath, Nagpur – 440010, MS, INDIA

Tel. : 0091-712-2459090 (O), Mobile : +91-7507575005

Email : ubodhankar@hotmail.com Website : www.comhad.com

FUTURE ROLE OF COMHAD

The new team should evolve new innovations and new ideas and new concepts in view of globalizations, change in global and individual economy, and entry of health insurance and dominance of drug companies.

Taking into consideration of all these factors and the original aims and objectives of COMHAD, following topics are finalized.

To develop good Governance

To develop strategies to raise funds

To develop effective communication through COMHAD Newsletter

To prepare the second edition of COMHAD Directory

To appoint one fund raising officer

To establish & strengthen net work & identify donors

The team should define the role & responsibilities of each COMHAD Executive Member

To establish strong COMHAD Chapters in all Regions of Commonwealth Nations

In future there will be two major programmes of COMHAD :

1. Perinatal Health Care including newborn care.
2. Preventive & Promotive Health Care for low and middle income group of the community in urban settings.

COMHAD INTRODUCTION

COMHAD was established in the United Kingdom in 1983 with support from the Commonwealth Foundation. COMHAD is one of the Commonwealth Professional Associations and a Pan-Commonwealth Non-Government Organization (NGO) working in the field of health and development focusing on preventive health care. COMHAD is in official relations with WHO since 1990 and is a long standing partner of WHO for collaboration. It is actively involved in promoting health development, exchange of technical expertise and inter-country training and education in health in 53 Commonwealth countries all over the world.

Aims & Objectives :

The aim of the Association shall be to provide education and research in health and disability for quality of life by raising awareness for prevention of disease and disabilities and promoting health care for low and middle income group of the community in urban settings.

In the furtherance of this aim the Association will advocate and promote :

- i. Quality health care
- ii. Accessible, acceptable and affordable health care, in particular for people with disability
- iii. Professional links between workers in health and disability across the Commonwealth.
- iv. The aims and objectives will be achieved through regional and international conferences, workshops and symposiums, publications and communications, demonstration and other projects, training exercises and professional exchange and development programmes.

Membership & Voting Rights :

- i. Membership of COMHAD shall build upon, be continuous with, and transferable from its predecessor CAMHADD.
- ii. Membership shall be open to interested individuals from any commonwealth country.
- iii. Membership of the Executive Committee shall be open only to individuals from Commonwealth countries. However, those having changed citizenship, but originally coming from a Commonwealth country may be elected to the Executive Committee.
- iv. On acceptance, each member will pay such annual subscription as may be determined by the Executive Committee. Subscriptions fall due on 1st January and all members are expected to pay promptly and remain in good standing, which will remain valid till 31st December. The subscription of membership will be the same whenever in the calendar year one is accepted as member of the organization.
- v. All members may vote on matters put before the General Assembly.

Termination Of Membership :

Membership may be terminated as follows :

- i. By resignation.
- ii. Through default in the payment of membership subscriptions.
- iii. Where conduct is in any way damaging to the interests and good name of the Association, in which case the Secretary General will notify the member to explain his/her conduct within 30 days. If s/he fails to do so or his/her conduct or his explanation is found to be unsatisfactory, the Executive Committee is empowered to remove such a member.
- iv. Membership of the Executive Committee may be terminated if any member remains absent from three consecutive meetings, or does not respond by post or emails explaining the reasons for such absence.

COMHAD Activities : August 2008- April 2015

COMHAD (Commonwealth Association for Health and Disability) met at Puducherry on 15th & 16th August 2008 and reorganized the organization. The theme of the two days workshop was "CAMHADD Vision 2020: Aids and Child Development".

COMHAD was previously known as CAMHADD (Commonwealth Association for Mental Handicap and Developmental Disabilities). However the terminology came under criticism as not being appropriate to address the disabled. Thus during the **General body meeting of CAMHADD at Puducherry it was resolved and adopted the change in name of the organization as COMHAD on 15th August 2008.**

Dr. Mark Collins, Director of the Commonwealth Foundation was present during the entire procedure of the two days workshop of COMHAD at Puducherry which also elected the new COMHAD Executive Committee.

Subsequently the new amended Constitution was given a final shape and adopted by the general members on dated 16th August 2008.

The EC of COMHAD consists of one President, five Vice presidents from Asia, Africa, Canada/Caribbean, Europe/UK, Pacific, one Secretary General, one Treasurer, and two Joint Secretaries.

After finalization of the Constitution, COMHAD launched its **website as <http://www.comhad.com>**. The website consists of the constitution, membership form & publishes activity news and pictures.

As a part of activity of COMHAD, the **Bangladesh Chapter of COMHAD** was reorganized and constitution of Bangladesh Chapter was finalized and adopted. Information regarding the Bangladesh Chapter is also available in its website.

Late Prof. M. S. Akbar, a pediatrician of International repute was the President of the Bangladesh Chapter of COMHAD. He was elected member of the Parliament for four times & was the Chairman of the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society.

The Bangladesh Chapter of COMHAD is working with Projects on childhood disabilities.

- a) Development of the Neuroscience & childhood development facilities at BSMMU.
- b) Childhood Low Vision and Blindness
- c) Autism

As a part of COMHAD activity **COMHAD India chapter** was formed in 2011 at Goa The first National Conference of COMHAD India chapter was organised on 30th June 2013 under the leadership of Dr. Prakash Sanghavi President comhad India.

Dr. Jitendra Bodhankar, Secretary General, COMHAD was also designated as the focal person of COMHAD for all the NGO & WHO contacts. He represented COMHAD on the 60th Anniversary of the Commonwealth Foundation. He met the Director of the Commonwealth Foundation and also visited the Buckingham Palace and met Her Majesty the Queen of England on 28th April 2009 & also H.E. Shri Kamalesh Sharma, Secretary General of Commonwealth of Nations

Prof. Md. Sirajul Islam, President represented COMHAD at the 63rd World Health Assembly and also the Commonwealth Health Ministers meeting on 16-17 May 2010

COMHAD Activities : August 2008- April 2015

Dr. Sirajul Islam & Dr. Kathryn Currow, attended debate on "G Goal 2015 achievable or not achievable" organized by CNF. The meeting was addressed by Jill Iliffe, Secretary - CNF, Dr. Mark Collins - Director, CF and Dr. Arulraj, President CMA and others.

COMHAD organised International Conference at GOA, India on 10th & 11th Sept. 2011 Theme "Women as Agents of Change; Invest in Women & Transform the World".

COMHAD had Scientific Session in National IAP Conference (PEDICON 2012) at Gurgaon, India on 20th Jan. 2012. Theme "Save the Women & Child".

COMHAD had Scientific Session during 9th National Disability Conference at Nagpur, India 15th & 16th Sept. 2012. Theme "Challenges to opportunities together we can".

COMHAD Bangladesh has organised International Conference at Dhaka, Bangladesh, on 20th & 21st Jan. 2013 Theme "Disability Puts no Limit to Ability".

New COMHAD Executive Body was elected for three years (2013-2015) by General Body Meeting at Dhaka, Bangladesh on dated 21st Jan. 2013.

National Conference of COMHAD India was organized at Kolhapur, India on 30th June 2013. Theme "Create Awareness through Action" by President Dr. Prakash Sanghavi.

International Conference of COMHAD is planned at Nagpur, India on 5th & 6th Dec. 2015.

Three Days Awareness & Assessment Camp, Training Program for parents & nursing students, Niramay Policy registration camp, on 12-14 August 2011, at MLA, Nag., India

Free Aids & Appliances Distribution Camp for person under ADIP on 19/1/ 2013 at Nagpur, India

Three Days Continuing Rehabilitation Education Programme (CRE) for Psychologists and Rehabilitation Professionals, on 7th - 9th Oct. 2013 at Nagpur India.

Free Aids & Appliances Distribution Camp for person with disability under ADIP on 19th Nov. 2013 at Nagpur, India.

Continuing Rehabilitation Education Programme (CRE) on "Inclusive Education" on 10th - 12th March 2014 at Nagpur, India.

Training Programme on "Orientation to International Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities" on 10th May 2014 at Nagpur, India.

CRE program on "Psychological Intervention for Children with Developmental Delay" on 25th Feb. 2015 at I.M.A. Nagpur, India.

