



A new challenge for the Alliance

The Alliance of the Italian Hospitals Worldwide has recently gathered in Rome its own Organs and defined a semester plan of action. Such a plan, which is to complement the activities normally implemented by the Service Centre of the Secretariat General for the supply of medical teleconsultation, distance learning and web inventory of medical equipments on donation, fine-tunes its short-term objectives by involving also a few new competencies. The new President of the Alliance, Senator Barbara Contini, boasts a high lever international curriculum, pointed on emergency theatres and cooperation. The experience matured in more than 20 years of international career all over the world, in close operational contact with the local Governments, has made this remarkable commitment possible, as regards the plan of action, on cooperation topics only few months before thought as not accessible, either whether they are developed in Italy or abroad. The Alliance has drawn a national partnership to the purpose to facilitate, with a catalytic action, the attainment of complex and multi-sector objectives. It is the case of the cooperation between the Alliance and the institutional levels of the central and Regional Governments in order to boost the subject of donations of health equipments from Italy to the developing countries, for an economic estimation of around 62 million of € per year. Furthermore, the institutional relationships in place among President Contini and the heads of the Italian Defense may pave for a collaboration with such an important Authority as far as the transportation of health equipments from Italy to the most remote places of the planet is concerned. On the foreign side, it is necessary to give a great diffusion of the results and the initiatives of the Alliance also through the Italian diplomatic Representations, the General Consulates of Italy and the Apostolic Nunciatures. To such purpose missions in Latin America and Africa are scheduled where some of the [45 Italian hospitals abroad](#) are to be visited as well as a series of work meetings with the national centres of reference of the Alliance. The V Conference of the Italian Hospitals Worldwide in November 2009 and a project for the donation in Africa of medicines made available by groups of Italian pharmacies do complete the important commitment of the new Presidency.

Gianfranco Costanzo, MD
Secretary General



Steering Committee, April 29 2009 from [RAI International](#)

RELEVANT NEWS

Wide-ranging health: on the last May 28 the Pharmaceutical laboratory in the NSBC University of Tirana was inaugurated and there was launched the web application for the health management program of the NSBC University -Hospital complex.



A group of volunteers bloodletting students

Health education: bloodletting promotion

The [Foundation "Our Lady of Good Council \(OLGC\)"](#) of Tirana - Albania, has recently promoted a number of humanitarian value activities by involving mainly patients and students, aiming at the bloodletting.

One result of this commitment has been the establishment, by Dr. Natale Capodicasa, director of the analysis laboratory "Padre Monti," of an association devoted to bloodletting, which is the first of its kind in the Country of Eagles where blood so far can only be purchased. The Association has also urged the Albanian Parliament to vote a law on the subject and considerable contributions have come from Italy, in particular from [Fidas](#) and [Red Cross](#), to train volunteers to be involved. The OLGC Foundation's health centre represents a factor of innovation, because it establishes a sort of synergy among welfare, training and developmental elements involving an active citizenship dimension. Actually this is possible thanks to the doctors and nurses who work at the Foundation as well as to teachers coming from Italian Universities. In the last months the Association has also promoted several initiatives supported by the IDevelopment Cooperation of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

On February 2009, at the University, the first Training Course on "Voluntary Bloodletting Promoter", addressed to 60 donor members, has been scheduled. Moreover, it is also in progress the "Health Education and Promotion of Bloodletting" project, which involves the educational world. In both cases students have responded promptly by showing strong interest and participation. Finally, at the elementary/middle school "Ylber", thanks to the collaboration of Ms Angela Andreoli, nutritionist and teacher at the University, healthy diet concept as a positive lifestyle has been highlighted. Children's health has been investigated through a questionnaire concerning nutrition and including anthropometric data (weight and stature) and impendentiometric measures (slimness and fatness); information about a balanced diet have been also given to parents involved.

[References](#)

Albanian nurses employed abroad

Everything started in 1995. Only few years before, Albania conquered its freedom, even if huge transitional problems were still occurring in the Country. In fact, transition to a new world needs in the meantime solid institutions. Just in such a difficult situation, in the Central-South of the Country - Elbasan a nursing school was built and the Sisters of Charity, together with the Foundation of Our Lady of Good Counsel of Tirana, looked after the Institute. Some hundreds of students were there trained into Italian language by teachers from hospitals and Universities of Italy who volunteered. In 2004, with the establishment University in Tirana, the nursing school of Elbasan became an effective degree course, recognised by the "Tor Vergata" University of Rome. The organisational support and the educational training, both provided by the "Padre Monti" Centre in Rome - together with the [Dermatological Immacolata Institute \(IDI\)](#), have resulted as remarkable; they have been achieved thanks to the work of the director Dr. Gennaro Rocco. So far graduates have been also employed in Italy and nowadays this could be easier with the joint acknowledgement of degrees and licensed courses.

In 2007, the same degree course was also introduced at the OLGC University's headquarter with a three-year contribution of the [Autonomous Province of Trento](#). Trained health staff will be employed in the new hospital in Tirana which is currently under construction and counts on an important financial commitment from the Italian Government. Meanwhile, with funds from the O.L.G.C Foundation, three major health services have already been started up: a Polyclinic hospital, a modern Centre for Rehabilitation and a Dental Clinic.



Graduation exercises

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