

FAIMER®

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FAIMER® and WFME Sign Agreement to Collaborate on Combined Medical School Directory

PHILADELPHIA, UNITED STATES; COPENHAGEN, DENMARK — The Foundation for Advancement of International Medical Education and Research (FAIMER) and the World Federation for Medical Education (WFME) are pleased to announce their collaboration to develop a directory of the world's medical schools. According to an agreement signed in March 2012, the organizations will merge their respective directories—FAIMER's *International Medical Education Directory (IMED)* and WFME's *Avicenna Directory*—to produce a single comprehensive resource on undergraduate medical education worldwide. The new resource, developed in collaboration with the World Health Organization and the University of Copenhagen, will be known as the *World Directory of Medical Schools*.

The world's medical schools number more than 2,000. Collecting and maintaining data on these schools is a large and complex endeavor. The merger of *IMED* and the *Avicenna Directory* will combine FAIMER's and WFME's existing data sets and streamline their data collection efforts. The new *World Directory* will offer enhanced information in areas such as enrollment, curricula, and accreditation. The availability of current, high-quality information on undergraduate medical education in the form of a centralized resource will advance research on the quality of medical education and efforts to improve medical education, with the ultimate goal of improving public health.

During the transition to the new *World Directory of Medical Schools*, *IMED* and the *Avicenna Directory* will remain open, to ensure that users of these directories have continuity of the essential service that they provide. *IMED* and *Avicenna* will close when the *World Directory of Medical Schools* is fully operational.

(more)

About FAIMER

FAIMER is a leader in improving world health. By creating educational opportunities, conducting research, and providing data resources, it serves international communities of educators, researchers, regulators, and policy makers—each a potential change agent for better health care. Through worldwide activities, FAIMER combines its own expertise with that of local experts to create meaningful and sustained improvements in the systems that produce health care providers and deliver health care.

FAIMER is a non-profit foundation of the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG®) with headquarters in Philadelphia in the United States.

For more information, visit the FAIMER website at www.faimer.org.

About WFME

WFME is the global organization concerned with education and training of medical doctors. WFME's mission is to strive for better health care for all mankind; WFME's primary objective is to enhance the quality of medical education worldwide, with promotion of the highest scientific and ethical standards in medical education. This objective is met through the development of standards in medical education, by the promotion of accreditation of medical schools, with the development of databases on medical education, through projects on the future of medicine and medical education, and through other publications and partnerships.

The central office of WFME is in Copenhagen, Denmark. WFME is a non-governmental organization in official relation with the World Health Organization. WFME is an umbrella organization for the world's six regional associations for medical education.

For more information, visit the WFME website at www.wfme.org.

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