

Preparation underway for the 16th International Safe Communities Conference, 11-13 June 2007, Tehran, IR of IRAN (part I)

<http://www.safety2007.info>

Safe Communities 16 is coming! The Ministry of Health and Medical Education in Iran hosted Associate Professor Robert Ekman and Dr. Reza Mohammadi, MD, PhD from WHO Collaborating Centre for Community Safety Promotion and Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden. Drs. Ekman and Mohammadi attended two meetings and conducted site visits throughout Iran 26-31 Aug. 2006, to prepare for the upcoming Safe Communities Conference, and to review community safety programmes taking place throughout the country. Safe Com 16's event has been approved by the cabinet of Iran, as announced at the 15th International Safe Communities Conference in Cape Town and 7th world Conference on Injury Prevention in Durban, April 2006. The Conference's Steering Committee states that representatives from all communities are welcome to the conference.

The first meeting for conference planning was focused on the intersectoral committee. This group includes different organizations which are involved in the conference including police, road administration, school administration, emergency services, the municipal government of Tehran, University of Technical Sciences, Safe Communities programmes (national level), UNICEF, Media, Iran's Ministry of Industries, forensic medicine, insurance companies, and sports organizations. The main aim of the meeting was determining the mode of contribution for each of these sponsors. The participants of the meeting discussed and filled a form describing their own plans for organizational cooperation. Dr. Ekman contributed in the meeting with his own experiences organizing and participating in previous Safe Communities conferences.

At a second meeting, conference planning centred on budgets and cooperation of private sectors in the conference. These attendees will have the opportunity to exhibit safety equipment and products. During this meeting Dr. Moghisi made a presentation of current situation and stated that by now 50 registrations have been made and 43 abstracts have been submitted to the website of conference

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Almost 3000 visitors have checked the conference website. Iran's participation in the conference is expected to result in the addition of several new communities to the international network. Safe Communities applications are underway in Kashmar, Arsanjan and Lavasan. The conference sponsors have planned a SC designation ceremony in Lavasan, a city close to Tehran, on the second day of the conference.

The overall evaluation by Dr. Ekman and Dr. Mohammadi was that Iran's conference committees are doing a satisfactory job on preparation for the conference. The steering and executive committees hope to see many scientists and practitioners from around the world in Iran next year.

This article will be continued by site visit's report from several scientific safe community programmes in the next coming issues.

Rapporter: Robert Ekman & Reza Mohammadi



Intersectoral meeting (executive committee) 27-Aug. 2006



A small meeting in the secretary office of the conference, 27-Aug. 2006, after the executive committee meeting



Group photo, steering committee meeting, Wednesday 30-Aug.2006