

# Nursing Now!

## Special Update 12<sup>th</sup> October 2017

'Nursing Now! raising the status and profile of nursing globally and maximise the contribution that nursing makes to Universal Health Coverage (UHC), women's empowerment and economic development'.

**We are delighted by the announcement by Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director General at the World Health Organization (WHO) regarding his commitment to nursing and the appointment of Mrs Elizabeth Iro from the Cook Islands Ministry of Health, as the new Chief Nurse for the World Health Organization.**

Congratulations to both Dr Tedros Addanom and Mrs Elizabeth Iro on this most welcome news.

On appointment to his new role, Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, pledged to *Nursing Now!* "you will have my full support around your campaign to increase the visibility, training and support systems around nurses. I also can commit to having a senior level staff person representing the nursing community on my team at WHO".

*Nursing Now!* as a programme of the Burdett Trust for Nursing, the 3 year global campaign will launch in January 2018; the campaign will build on nurses' unique position as the health professionals who are at the heart of every health system, provide continuity of care for their patients and are part of their local community.

"Nursing has an important role to play in the implementation and monitoring of all the Sustainable Development Goals; therefore I and *Nursing Now!* congratulates Dr Tedros and Mrs Iro on this appointment and we look forward to collaborating and really working together to improve global health, especially the health of marginalized populations."

**Professor Sheila Tlou is UNAIDS Regional Director for Eastern and Southern Africa. Former Minister of Health of Botswana**

**Lord Nigel Crisp KCB, Chair of *Nursing Now!* said:**

"This appointment is a great boost for nursing and for everyone working to improve health across the world. Those of us who are optimistic about the future of global health know that we must recognise the value of nursing. Following this important milestone, the *Nursing Now!* campaign looks forward to supporting both Dr Tedros and Mrs Iro to raise the status and profile of nursing."

We recognise that nurses are half the health workforce and that Universal Health Coverage won't be achieved unless nursing is strengthened.

Together we will aim to raise the status and profile of nursing globally, enabling nurses to work to their full potential, maximising the contribution that nursing makes to Universal Health Coverage (UHC), women's empowerment and economic development.

Further information on *Nursing Now!* [www.appg-globalhealth.org.uk](http://www.appg-globalhealth.org.uk)