

## Preliminary Announcement

### Third International Conference on Improving Use of Medicines (ICIUM<sub>2011</sub>)

*Place it on your calendars and in your diaries now!*

**When:** April 10<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup>, 2011

**Where:** Bibliotheca Alexandrina in Alexandria, Egypt

**Who:** Policy makers, researchers, educators, practitioners, consumer advocates, international development workers, donors and others interested in state of the art approaches to improving the use of medicines.



In April 2011, members of the international community will assemble in Alexandria, Egypt for **ICIUM<sub>2011</sub>: Third International Conference on Improving Use of Medicines**. Many colleagues working in the pharmaceutical field will remember the landmark ICIUM<sub>1997</sub> and ICIUM<sub>2004</sub> conferences ([www.icium.org](http://www.icium.org)), which summarized the evolving state-of-the-art policies and interventions to improve use of medicines.

ICIUM<sub>2011</sub> will be as unique as its two predecessors. The conference will again be highly interactive and designed to produce actionable results. Its focus will remain on presenting and summarizing knowledge about ways to improve medicines use and health, especially for vulnerable populations. Participants will help to shape evidence-based policy recommendations and a future research agenda on these topics. The sequence of half-day sessions will be organized around different levels of the health care system, including: 1) international systems, programs and policies; 2) national systems, programs and policies; 3) health care and financing institutions; 4) health care providers; and 5) consumers and patients. Concurrent topic tracks running through the days of the conference tentatively include: HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis; malaria; child health; chronic illness care; drug resistance; economics, financing, insurance systems; essential medicines structures and governance; pharmaceutical industry; and information technology for improving use of medicines.

Interested individuals will be invited to register for ICIUM<sub>2011</sub> and to submit abstracts for consideration. Registration will be limited to about 500 participants in order to encourage a high level of interactivity, and those with an accepted abstract will be given preference. A limited number of scholarships covering registration fees, travel, and hotel will be available to participants from poorer countries who have abstracts accepted or who are key policy makers.

The ICIUM<sub>2011</sub> web site with further detail about the conference agenda and logistics will be open by June 2010. Abstracts will need to be submitted before December 7<sup>th</sup> 2010.