



Nurses Week Greetings from the CNO President 2018 **International Nurses Day 12th May 2018**

Dear Colleague members of the Executive Board of CNO; Colleague members of NNA's in the Caribbean Region and the Diaspora; **Greetings!**

It is the time for celebrating International Nurses Day and Week once again. I therefore take great pleasure in wishing all CNO members and the general fraternity of the Nursing Profession **a Blessed, Peaceful and Joyous Week of Celebration.**

I feel constrained to single out for praise and best wishes, our colleague NNA members who experienced tremendous challenges emanating from the ravages of the powerful hurricanes Irma and Maria during 2017. I commend you all for your tireless work during the recovery of your country's post disaster, even while grappling with the adverse impact on your own family members and properties. The hardship you suffered did not go unnoticed by those of us your colleagues who were not as affected by these two horrendous storms. Our hearts were with you all throughout and after the ordeal. The outpouring of the tangible assistance from fellow colleague nurses was a demonstration of the genuine extension of our shared love and empathy. We hope that your recovering which we are aware is still ongoing, has been enough to allow for you to have a joyous celebration of Nurses Week 2018.

Another hurricane season is upon us once again, starting 1st June, 2018. I would like to take this opportunity to encourage all to let us brace ourselves for the predicted hurricane season. I encourage a prayerful attitude for God's help, which I believe will help to strengthen our resilience to face the upcoming season.

The celebration of Nurses week under the ICN's theme for 2018 is **"Nurses: A Voice to Lead, Health is a Human Right"**. The ICN's theme I believe particularly addresses the **Advocacy** role of Nurses in Health Care delivery. The important role of Nurses as front-runners on the Health Care Team should not be underestimated and has not gone unnoticed. This was demonstrated in the recent Multinational, Global launch of the **"NURSES NOW"** campaign in February of this year.

The Nursing Now campaign is being championed by high profile personalities around the world to include Government officials, prominent Business Officials, notable Physicians, Academicians and Royalties. The aim of the Nursing Now initiative is to raise the profile and status of Nurses by creating awareness of the key role of Nurses in achieving Universal Health Coverage and the Sustainable Development Goals. It seeks to empower nurses at the policy decision-making level to ensure that the voice of Nurses is heard at a global level. This campaign will therefore strengthen Nurses Voice to lead in the advocacy for Health as a Human Right.

I therefore urge colleagues to take the opportunity during this Nurses week activities to strengthen the competencies and skills of Nurses that will enhance their role in Health Care Delivery. Empowering Nurses with competencies and skills such as political and emotional intelligence, policy-decision-making skills, assertiveness, negotiation, tact and Diplomacy skills, will strengthen NURSES VOICE to lead Health as a Human Right.

CONGRATULATIONS to all of you for a job well done, have a wonderful Nurses week Celebration!



Mrs. Elnora Warner OM;
MBA; BSc N; Cert. Nsg.Edu.; CM; RN