

## Experts for Herat

The President of the European Regional Organization of the World Dental Federation, ERO-FDI, Gerhard Konrad Seeberger and Gian Gabriele Carta, an infantry general of the famous “Brigata Sassari” have been part of a delegation sent to the Provincial Reconstruction Team PRT XV of Herat in Afghanistan. With Prof. Sergio Vacca, President of the Sardinian Water Supply Agency, ENAS, and his team they have travelled fifty-eight hours in order to talk to the Afghan Authorities on April 20th.



Problems in Afghanistan go beyond war conflicts. Most of them are due to the lack of essential goods and services. Eighty percent of all pathologies, so the Vice-President of the Region, Mr. Tour Mohammad Zarify, are linked to contaminated water and eighty percent of the population suffers from toothache.

April 18th – Cagliari, Roma, Sharm-el-Sheik, and Abu Dhabi and the morning after on board of a C 130 J to Herat; this is the route. After arrival the delegation is transferred, wearing bulletproof vests and helmets, in armored vehicles to Camp “Vianini” in the city center. Military professionals from the Italian Infantry accompany the group.

Commander, Colonel Paolo Pomella, and his staff of the PRT XV welcome the delegates. The Team has a strong relationship with CIMIC, Civil-Military-Cooperation, and supports projects for a better quality of life for populations in difficult situations. Different projects have been promoted, so Colonel Pomella, but at the moment the most important shall guarantee potable water and develop zoo-and agriculture, followed by those dealing with health. The delegates present their themes for the meeting the day after. Prof. Vacca’s keyword is Water for Herat, Organized Dentistry is Dr. Seeberger’s.

The meeting starts at 10:00 a.m. The Military commanders and the delegation meets with the Vice-president of the Herat Region, the Dean of Herat University, the Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture, the administrators of Herat Water Supply and the Director of the Public Health Service.



Prof. Vacca and his team present their project and donate a kit for water quality control and a new contract for a second water supply unit. The three points of the ERO-FDI President follow.

~A realistic analysis of the need for human resources, equipment, materials and instruments for an effective dentistry adapted to the populations needs.

~Develop the prerequisites for the foundation of the Afghan Dental Association and its registering at the World Dental Federation, FDI.

~Support the under- and post-graduate education of dentists and promote student exchange together with dental organizations as Academy of Dentistry International, Italian Dental Association and the FDI.

The proposals have been well accepted. The next step has to be done by the Afghani authorities in order to guarantee sustainability and efficiency.



As we say in Italy: If it is roses, they will blossom!

~Gerhard Konrad Seeberger  
ADI Vice-President for International Affairs  
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