

CURRICULUM VITAE OF PROFESSOR GIUSEPPE BENAGIANO

Professor Giuseppe Benagiano is at present Secretary general of the International Federation of Obstetrics and Gynecology (FIGO).

Between 1997 and 2001 he has been Director General of the *Istituto Superiore di Sanità*, the highest scientific institution of Italy in biomedicine and public health, which carries out the functions of a National Institute of Health, as well as those of the technical arm of the Italian Medicine Agency and of the Italian Environmental Protection Agency. In addition the Institute acts as National Reference Laboratory in a number of areas including food and water quality, epidemiological surveillance and prevention and in case of appeals against evaluations carried out by regional authorities.

Since 1980 Giuseppe Benagiano is Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the University la Sapienza of Rome and - between 1982 and 1993 - he also acted as Director of the First Institute of Obstetrics and Gynaecology of the same University.

His scientific background includes two PhD degrees (*Libera Docenza*), training for almost four years at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm and for six months at the Population Council, Rockefeller University, in New York.

He is Professeur Associé at the University of Geneva, has been appointed Visiting Professor to the University of Ohio (1967) and to the Peking Medical Union University (1994).

Has been granted the 1993 **Egon Diczfalusy Lectureship of the Karolinska Institute**; the **Herbert H. Thomas Lectureship at the 50th Meeting of the American Fertility Society** in 1994 and the **Forth Hubert De Watteville Lectureship, jointly awarded by the International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics and the International Federation of Fertility and Sterility Societies**, in 1995; the **Gold medal of the International Prize Foyer des Artistes** in 1996; the **Human Reproduction Award** in 1999; and the **Gold Medal for Culture of the XXIVth Prize of the Fondazione "Nuove Proposte, Alfonso Motolese**, in 2000.

He is **Founding Member** of the Italian Academy of Medicine; **Academician** of the Medical Academy of Rome; **Honorary Fellow** of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology; **Fellow *ad eundem*** of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists; **Honorary Member** of the Argentine Federation of Obstetrical and Gynaecological Societies, of the Brazilian Federation of Obstetrical and Gynaecological Societies, of the Italian Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology and of the Romanian Society of Obstetrics and Gynaecology; **Member** of some 10 Scientific Societies and winner of several prizes.

Since 1997 he is **Secretary General** of FIGO, the International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics and an Associate Editor of their Journal the IJGO. He is the Chairman of FIGO's Save the Mother's Fund and a Member of the FIGO/WHO Alliance, which includes also the International Pediatrics Association, UNFPA, UNICEF, and the World Bank.

His international experience includes eight years (1973-1980) as *Scientist* and *Medical Officer* in the WHO's Human Reproduction Programme and four and a half years (1993-1997) as *Director* of

the UNDP/UNFPA/WHO/World Bank Special Programme of Research, Development and Research Training in Human Reproduction (HRP), the oldest and possibly the most prestigious co-sponsored research Programme in the UN system. In WHO he also served as Member of HRP's Committee of Interested Governments (1981-84), Scientific and Ethical Review Group (1988-93) and Strategy Planning Committee (1992), and as Observer to the Policy and Coordination Committee (1991-92).

He served as Consultant for the United States Agency for International Development on several occasions: Consultation with the Government of Rwanda on Contraceptive Technology (1984); Organization and conduct of the First National Conference on Family Planning in Somalia (1988); the Final Evaluation of AID's Cooperative Agreement with Family Health International (1989); AID's own External Evaluation. The International Planned Parenthood Federation nominated him to its International Medical Advisory Panel for the period 1993-97. In 1996, the UNFPA requested him to act as Team Leader for the Programme Review and Strategy Development Mission to India.

Professor Benagiano is the Author of more than 450 scientific publications, mostly in International Journals, has participated as speaker in more than 350 Meetings, Conferences and Congresses and has edited a number of books in the field of human reproduction.

Professor Benagiano's scientific interests have been in reproductive endocrinology, gynaecology and obstetrics. In the sixties, he was part of the team who studied and defined the human foeto-placental unit and identified a number of new pathways of hormonal steroids during pregnancy, early infancy and adulthood. His long-standing research interest has been in hormonal contraception: he helped develop several long-acting implantable and injectable hormonal contraceptives, and coordinated and carried out a number of multicentre international clinical trials of contraceptives. More recently, his research activities expanded to gynaecological disorders of endocrine origin, such as endometriosis and leiomyomata. He pioneered the use of GnRH analogues for these conditions.

Over the last several years he became an internationally-recognized advocate of women's rights, both in terms of status and access to health and has written extensively on the subject.