FDI moves 2013 congress to Turkey

The FDI World Dental Federation has announced that its 101st World Dental Congress, which was originally to take place in Seoul, will instead be organized in collaboration with the Turkish Dental Association in Istanbul. Owing to the difficult economic situation, the congress in Korea has had to be cancelled, the organization said.

After a thorough evaluation of the local situation, the FDI notified its members and the public that a successful meeting could not be guaranteed in Seoul in 2013 owing to the present economic conditions. They said that the FDI Council therefore had to withdraw from the contract signed in 2010 with the Korean Dental Association. In addition, the federation announced that the Turkish Dental Association had agreed to host the congress in Istanbul instead. The dates of the congress will remain unchanged. The event will take place from 29 August to 1 September 2013. The FDI disclosed that it would welcome the option of organizing the congress in Seoul in 2014 or 2015, since a congress had already been held there in 1997 successfully.

According to the 2010 Turkish Health Industry Report, Turkey has a growing medical devices market and was ranked among the top 30 markets in the world. The report showed that dental products account for the majority of the country’s medical exports (14.2 per cent of the total export size in 2008). However, the production of medical equipment is considered to be rather small, since an estimated 85 per cent is supplied from abroad.

According to the Turkish Ministry of Health’s Health Statistics Yearbook 2009, there are about 20,500 practicing dentists in Turkey, which amounts to approximately five per cent of the health personnel employed in the country.

More information about the FDI and its upcoming congresses are available at booth C13.