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## Editorial - JAM June 2016

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Rafat Jan & Edwin van Teijlingen

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We would like to start this editorial by sharing our good news, namely that the *Journal of Asian Midwives* is now indexed in the CINAHL Database. CINAHL indexes the world's top nursing, midwifery and allied health journals. Inclusion in CINAHL means that articles in our journal will get better exposure across the globe. We like to thank the librarians at the Aga Khan University for their hard work in getting the *Journal of Asian Midwives* included in the CINAHL Database.

World-wide one of the main event in maternal health since our last issue has been the 'Women Deliver' conference in Denmark. The conference had one main message, namely: 'Putting the world's untapped resources, girls and women at the centre of development.' The conference focused on how to implement Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and specifically, emphasized maternal, sexual, and reproductive health and rights as well as gender equality, education, environment, and economic empowerment. Furthermore, 32 young midwives, from 31 were invited countries, for training and a symposium to develop their capacity to advocate for midwifery profession within their countries. They were trained in preparation to face the challenges they might come across during the process and were equipped with the skills to plan strategically to bring revolution in midwifery profession.

The other world news is the forthcoming Olympic Games in Brazil in August. The Olympic are not normally a great midwifery topic, but this time round with the worries around the Zika virus is certainly is. The UK, for example, advises pregnant women against travelling to areas with an active Zika virus. Moreover, if a woman develops any signs of the disease once in an affected area should not get pregnant for 28 days. In the last week of May some 160 scientists and researchers from across the world signed a letter addressed to the World Health Organization expressing their worries about the possible global spread of the Zika virus due to ½ million people from across the globe attending the Olympus in Rio de Janeiro.

Finally, we also like to remind readers that there is still time to register for the forthcoming ICM (International Confederation of Midwives) Congress in Toronto, Canada in June 2017. This latest issue of *JAM* incorporates articles from a range of countries including Nepal, Pakistan, Afghanistan and the unique insights of midwives from Chile.