

## **DECLARATION ON CHILD ORAL HEALTH**

Poor oral health has a significant impact on the quality of life, causing pain and embarrassment, limiting function and being costly to treat.

Among children, dental decay is the most important oral disease.

In industrialised countries the majority of school children are affected by dental decay, disease levels being highest in the under-privileged groups.

Disease levels are increasing rapidly in the developing countries.

Dental disease is well understood and effective prevention is a realistic goal.

To this end, the four UK CDOs have joined forces to call for concerted pan-European action between now and 2025 to address the pressing problem of poor child oral health. Their first step has been to formulate the following declaration:

“Good oral health is a fundamental element of good general health. Through the establishment of a global child dental health taskforce we will share information on evidence-based prevention. We will work to implement appropriate and effective initiatives to improve oral health and to reduce oral health inequalities both within and between nations.”

We urge fellow CDOs throughout the world to support this declaration by signing below.

Raman Bedi  
Doreen Wilson  
Ray Watkins  
Paul Langmaid