

# SYNTHESIS OF THE WORKS OF the FATO 8<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS

LOME, AUGUST 21<sup>ST</sup> – 26<sup>TH</sup>, 2016

Lome, the beautiful capital of the Republic of Togo hosted the African Federation of Orthopaedic Technologists (FATO) 8<sup>th</sup> International Congress from 21<sup>st</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> August 2016, on the theme: "**together for future**".

More than 300 participants coming from 40 countries and 30 African and International institutions participated to this Congress, opened by Professor MIJIYAWA Moustapha, Ministry of Health and Social Protection of Togo.

According to the orientations of the Scientific Committee, the works of the congress comprised 14 thematic symposia, 4 plenary sessions, 4 sessions of oral presentations, 4 workshops and the general assemblies of the FATO and the OADCPH.

These various sessions allowed the rehabilitation professionals, the service providers, the Organizations of PwD and the technical/financial partners to exchange mainly on the situation of rehabilitation in Africa, the challenges and the possible solutions in order to approach the future with more serenity, and to provide the best possible services for people with disabilities in Africa.

The discussions and presentations subjects were, among others:

- Best practices in rehabilitation
- Training of professionals
- Technological innovations
- Multidisciplinary approach in rehabilitation
- Issue of components in manufacturing of devices
- Quality of rehabilitation services

To sum up, the FATO 8<sup>th</sup> International Congress was a good opportunity for the participants to increase and improve their experiences and, particularly, for the professionals to renew their commitment to the promotion of rehabilitation in Africa, especially through rehabilitation national plans within the framework of health public policies.

The congress participants, having understood that the challenge is working together, decided to do it without reservation.

The congress participants expressed, finally, their deep gratitude and their gratefulness towards the Togolese government and the Togolese people for the quality of the welcome and for all the endeavors to organize this Congress.

They thanked, congratulated and expressed all their joy for the remarkable work carried out these last years by Mr Masse NIANG and his team in favor of rehabilitation in Africa.

The congress participants congratulated, finally, the National Organizing Committee for the perfect organization of this FATO 8<sup>th</sup> Congress.

**Lomé, August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016**