



**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2011**

For immediate release

**Northern Ireland Pharmacist elected President of the Commonwealth Pharmacists Association**

Ms Ann Bowen, President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland, has expressed her delight on hearing the news that Portadown community pharmacist Raymond Anderson has been elected President of the Commonwealth Pharmacists Association at its recent conference in Durban, South Africa.

The Commonwealth Pharmacists Association (CPA) is a non-government organisation representing pharmacists from more than 40 Commonwealth countries. The Association has observer status at the Commonwealth Health Ministers Meetings and official working relations status with the World Health Organisation. It holds international conferences and symposiums in order to share global practice learning and identify pharmacy-led solutions to common health challenges, such as tackling HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and non communicable diseases. It also gives leadership to pharmacy aid projects in developing countries and publishes policy papers to influence global health debates and discussions.

Ms Bowen said:

*“Raymond’s election to lead the Commonwealth Pharmacists Association is testament to the dedication he has shown to the association’s objectives since becoming the Northern Ireland delegate. Over the last 2 years in his role as the CPA’s Vice-President he has once again shown his attributes as a leading pharmacy advocate, talents we are familiar with from his years of service to the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland, the Pharmaceutical Group of the European Union, and more recently our new Professional Forum. I am delighted that Raymond will now be making the case for pharmacy not only in Northern Ireland and in Europe, but also on the world stage too: to international Health Ministers, the World Health Organisation and the global health press. I can think of no-one better placed to fulfill this important and challenging role.”*

Mr Raymond Anderson said:

*“I feel personally honoured to take on the role of President of the Commonwealth Pharmacists Association. In the last few years, representing the Northern Ireland profession at the CPA’s conferences and other events, I have learned at first hand the*

*value of the Association's work, not only in helping developing countries meet some extremely pressing health challenges, but also in sharing practice learning to the benefit of patients in every member country. My particular aims and ambitions during my time as President are to continue to uphold and advance the Association's core purposes, as well as growing the association's reach, and supporting pharmacists across the globe in conducting lifelong learning."*

## **ENDS**

For further information please contact Mark Neale, Head of Public Affairs at the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland, on 02890 326 927 [mark.neale@psni.org.uk](mailto:mark.neale@psni.org.uk)

## **NOTES TO EDITORS**

1. Raymond Anderson is available for interview by contacting the number above.
2. His acceptance speech upon election is available to view here:  
<http://www.commonwealthpharmacy.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/06/Acceptance-speech.pdf>
3. Raymond Anderson owns and runs a number of community pharmacies in the Portadown area, was President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland from 2006 to 2009, and represents Northern Ireland at meetings of the Pharmaceutical Group of the European Union<sup>1</sup>.
4. The attached photograph is of the new CPA officer team. Pictured from left to right are: Vice-Presidents Philip Gray (Ghana) and Frances Owusu Daaku (Bahamas) and new President Raymond Anderson (Northern Ireland).
5. The purposes of the Commonwealth Pharmacists Association are to promote and disseminate the pharmaceutical sciences throughout the Commonwealth and to improve the quality and range of services offered there by professional pharmacists, in particular by:
  - Promoting high standards of professional conduct amongst pharmacists, having due regard to the honour and traditions of the profession;
  - Effecting close links between members of the profession in Commonwealth countries and facilitating personal contacts between pharmacists and students;
  - Encouraging the creation of a national professional pharmaceutical association in any Commonwealth country where none exists; fostering high standards of pharmaceutical education at all levels; fostering high standards of practice in all branches of the profession; holding Commonwealth Pharmaceutical Conferences;
  - Facilitating the dissemination of knowledge and information about the pharmaceutical sciences and the professional practice of pharmacy;
  - Fostering high standards of control over the quality and distribution of drugs, wherever appropriate by professional means, and to that end encouraging suitable legislation and its implementation;
  - Liaising with similar associations or allied health professional groups within and outside the Commonwealth to assist in attaining the aforementioned objectives.
6. More information about the Association and its activities can be found here:  
<http://www.commonwealthpharmacy.org/>

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.pgeu.eu/>