



PRESS RELEASE

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Elsevier to donate major toxicology collections to developing country libraries *Publisher partners with IUTOX for development project*

Amsterdam, 1 September 2003 – Elsevier will be partnering with the International Union of Toxicology (IUTOX) in an effort to promote educational and career development for toxicologists in 24 countries in Eastern Europe, South America and Asia – all with nascent toxicology research programmes. This announcement coincides with the 5th Congress of Toxicology in Developing Countries in 2003, to be held in Guilin, China, November 10-13.

In 2002, IUTOX contacted publishers of major toxicological reference works for donations to the project. Elsevier has made a donation to the project, worth USD 35,000, by pledging copies of the *Comprehensive Toxicology Series 1-13*. As a result, one research library in each of the countries will receive the full collection, thereby facilitating access to the latest information for researchers in toxicology. Libraries are already receiving the collections.

“This donation will be a valuable addition to research libraries in developing countries, thus promoting educational and career developments in toxicology,” said Professor Erik Dybing, President of IUTOX.

“Cooperation with IUTOX is very much in line with work Elsevier has supported for some time, such as the WHO's Health InternetWork Access to Research Initiative (HINARI), through which Elsevier grants electronic access to over 650 of its top scientific health and biomedical journals to institutions in developing countries,” adds Leo Voogt, Elsevier's Director of Library Relations.

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About IUTOX and the 5th Congress of Toxicology in Developing Countries

The International Union of Toxicology (IUTOX) (<http://www.iutox.org>) represents more than 19,000 toxicologists world-wide. IUTOX has official status as a non-governmental organisation and is a member of the International Council of Science (ICSU), the premier international body that represents all scientific disciplines. Overall, IUTOX seeks to increase the knowledge base of toxicological issues facing humankind and to extend this knowledge to developing societies and nations.

The 5th Congress of Toxicology in Developing Countries (<http://www.ciccst.org.cn/5ctdc>) is hosted by the Chinese Society of Toxicology and co-hosted by IUTOX, to be held in Guilin,

PR China on November 10 - 13, 2003. This year's conference is entitled "Toxicology in the New Century: Opportunities and Challenges", and follows on from the 1st Congress, which took place in Buenos Aires, Argentina in 1987.

About HINARI

The World Health Organisation's Health Internet Work Access to Research Initiative (HINARI), launched in January 2002, provides access to well over 2,000 (bio)medical and health journals, various databases and electronic reference works from some 25 publishers through its webportal <http://www.healthinternetwork.net>. Eligible institutions in almost 100 developing countries (medical faculties/libraries, research and government organizations, hospitals and teaching hospitals) can register for free or deeply discounted access to the collections by visiting the HINARI-website.

Essential material for healthcare, medical research and training is now available electronically in hundreds of libraries spread over the developing world.

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