

22 June 2009

To: Branch/Section Officers/Nurse/Midwife Representatives/Hospital Committees

From: Liam Doran, General Secretary

**AN BORD ALTRANAIS -
STATEMENT ON INDUSTRIAL ACTION BY NURSES & MIDWIVES**

Dear Colleague

I refer to the recent correspondence, issued by An Bord Altranais to all nurses and midwives, and its recent public statements on the responsibilities of nurses and midwives when contemplating the taking of industrial action.

You will recall that the INO sent a letter, to An Bord Altranais, on 8th June 2009, seeking specific leadership and direction, for individual nurses and midwives, in circumstances where that individual, nurse or midwife, had expressed concerns with regard to the clinical care environment.

In that context I now attach the following, for your attention, and the attention of members in your workplace, in relation to this matter:

- a copy of the letter, from An Bord Altranais, dated 12th June 2009, which is its reply to our earlier letter; and
- a copy of this Organisation's further letter, to An Bord Altranais, dated 19th June 2009, again seeking specific guidance/direction with regard to certain specific clinical care circumstances.

As you can see, particularly in view of An Bord Altranais's recent statements on this matter, the INO remains determined to seek, from An Bord, our regulatory body, specific guidance/direction as to how nurses/midwives should approach clinical situations where their professional judgement is being ignored by health employers.

In the interim I would ask you to note that our members in Sligo General Hospital have voted to accept, by almost 95%, the recent Labour Court recommendation, regarding their recent dispute, and full details of this recommendation will be covered in the next edition of the World of Irish Nursing and Midwifery journal.

Thank you for your attention to this note and I would ask you to give this letter, together with the two attachments, wide circulation in your workplace and display on all noticeboards. With kind regards and best wishes.

Yours sincerely

**LIAM DORAN
General Secretary**