

Joint Statement

ROUNDTABLE OF AFRICAN MINISTERS OF HEALTH

ATTENDING THE

DIABETES LEADERSHIP FORUM AFRICA 2010

30 SEPTEMBER 2010

JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA

Chaired by the Honourable Minister of Health of South Africa, Dr A Motsoaledi, and attended by the First Lady of the Republic of South Africa Bongi Ngema, the Chairman of the International Diabetes Federation African Region, the President of the International Diabetes Federation, a representative of WHO AFRO, and the managing director of the World Diabetes Foundation.

The Roundtable of African Ministers of Health attending the Diabetes Leadership Forum Africa 2010,

Recognising that non-communicable diseases (hereafter referred as “NCDs”) including diabetes pose a significant challenge to our countries today and in the future:

- NCDs account for 60% of deaths globally and 28 million (80%) of these deaths occur in low and middle-income countries¹,
- NCD-related deaths will increase by 17% over the next ten years with the greatest increase occurring in the African region (27%),
- 12.1 million people in sub-Saharan Africa have diabetes² - a number that is estimated to almost double by 2030³,

Recalling existing international and regional initiatives and action plans, including the United Nations Resolution 61/225 adopted on 20 December 2006 by the United Nations General Assembly and the “2008-2013 Action plan for the global strategy for the prevention and control of non communicable diseases”,

¹ World Health Organization, 2008-2013 Action plan for the global strategy for the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases, 2008.

² International Diabetes Federation. IDF Diabetes Atlas, 4th edn. Brussels, Belgium: International Diabetes Federation, 2009.

³ Idem.

Welcoming the recent Resolution 64/265 on NCDs adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 13 May 2010 (supported by 135 Member States, including the 53 African states), reflecting political will to elevate the prevention and control of NCDs, encouraging Member States to discuss NCDs this year at the September 2010 United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDG) Review and calling for the convening of a United Nations Summit with the participation of Heads of State in September 2011,

Appreciating the efforts of the Diabetes Leadership Forum Africa 2010 to raise this urgent issue on the health and development agendas for sub-Saharan Africa in preparation for the United Nations NCDs Summit in 2011,

The Round Table of African Health Ministers attending the Diabetes Leadership Forum Africa 2010 agreed to:

- maintain a comprehensive NCD agenda not just focusing on individual diseases,
- ensure the management and implementation of NCD interventions are done in an integrated manner rather than building vertical programs. These models of care need to recognize the linkage between infectious and non-communicable diseases,
- renew focus on health systems strengthening particularly at the primary health care level,

- advocate for new resources for NCD interventions without diverting funds from existing development support, while recognizing concerns raised on the approach to secure new resources.

Consequently, resolved to have active engagement in the upcoming 2011 UN Summit on NCDs by developing a common, unified voice for the continent and do so in an urgent fashion. The exact modalities of reaching this consensus were however not established. We would also seek dedicated African representation on the Modality Resolution Committee that will oversee this process.

The Roundtable of African Ministers of Health attending the Diabetes

Leadership Forum Africa 2010

Johannesburg, South Africa

September 30th, 2010

Participants – Roundtable of African Ministers of Health attending the Diabetes Leadership Forum Africa 2010

**30 September – 2.00 – 4.00 pm
Southern Sun Grayston Hotel
Johannesburg, South Africa**

Participants:

- First Lady Bongzi Ngema, Republic of South Africa
- Ministers of Health and representatives from Ministers:
 - Dr A. Motsoaledi, Minister of Health, Republic of South Africa (chairman)
 - Dr Stephen Oscar Malinga, Minister of Health, Republic of Uganda
 - Dr James Ondicho Gesami, Assistant Minister of Public Health & Sanitation, Republic of Kenya
 - Dr Douglas Tendai Mombeshora, Deputy Minister of Health & Child Welfare, Republic of Zimbabwe
 - Mr Sikelela Dlamini, Under Secretary, Ministry of Health, Kingdom of Swaziland
 - Dr Younoussa Ballo, Secretary General, Ministry of Health, Republic of Guinea
 - Dr Mala Ali Mapatano, deputy Head of cabinet, Democratic Republic of Congo
 - Dr Emmou Ackah Georges Sylvestre, Technical Advisor in charge of Health Programmes, Ministry of Health and Public Hygiene, The Republic of Côte d'Ivoire
 - Dr Llang Bridget Maama Maime, Head of Disease Centre, Ministry of Health, Kingdom of Lesotho
 - Ismael Katjitae, physician, Ministry of Health and Social Services, Republic of Namibia

Observers/technical advisers:

- Jean-Claude Mbanya, President, International Diabetes Federation
- Dr Silver Bahendeka, Chair of the International Diabetes Federation Africa Region
- Anil Kapur, managing director, World Diabetes Foundation
- Boureima Hama Sambo, Regional Adviser, Non Communicable Diseases Management, WHO AFRO
- Professor Melvyn Freeman, NCD cluster manager, Department of Health, Republic of South Africa