

Rabat, December 18, 2018

Press release

Following the final adoption at the plenary session of December 18, 2018 by the Moroccan Parliament on the taxation of sweetened beverages in the framework of the Finance Law Draft 2019, we would like to express our heartfelt thanks to all parliamentarians for their support for this project. This decision is of great medical and social importance to our country, as it is the first of its kind in the Middle East and North Africa Region (EMRO).

This historic decision is an important step in the fight against diabetes, obesity and other chronic noncommunicable diseases in our country, particularly through the reduction of the consumption of sugary drinks. This project is part of the strategy of the Ministry of Health.

The objective of **the Moroccan League for the Fight against Diabetes and the Moroccan Society of Nutrition, Health and Environment** with the support of parliamentarians, experts from the Ministry of Health, and university researchers specialized in Nutrition and Health, **is to continue to fight for the reduction of sugar content, salt and trans-fat in processed foods. It is in this context that we strongly advocate the development of a responsible and socially responsible agri-food industry.**

In addition, it should be noted that many world institutions (Parliaments of the world, WHO, International Diabetes Federation, World Diabetes Parliament, International Diabetes Foundation, Obesity Task Force) applauded this decision of Moroccan parliamentarians and our country's efforts to promote the well-being and health of our citizens and the future of our children.

On the other hand, we would like to insist on the relevance of dedicating the revenues resulting from this taxation to be dedicated to the benefit of health, sport and the promotion of healthy living.

Finally, we would like to reiterate our warm thanks to all parliamentarians for all their efforts and recall our commitment to continue our advocacy for the reduction of sugar, salt and trans-fat content in all food and industrial products for years to come.

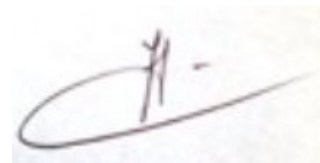
Pr Jaafar Heikel
Président



**Société Marocaine de Nutrition, Santé et
Environnement (SMNSE)**

**Siège administratif : 16 Lotissement Narjiss,
Route d'Azemmour – 20180 – Casablanca
Tel : + 212 522 790/795 - Fax :
+212 522 361 368 - smnse.maroc@gmail.com**

Pr Jamal BELKHADIR
Président



**Ligue Marocaine de Lutte contre le Diabète
LMLCD**

**BP 766, Rabat Chellah
Tél: +2125 37 77 33 41
lmlcd.maroc@gmail.com
www.lmlcd.com**