



11th International Symposium on Diabetes and Nutrition

« Diabetes Morocco 2022 »

June 30th - July 2nd, 2022

Congress Recommendations

Under the aegis of the Ministry of Health and Social Protection, the Ministry of Higher Education, Scientific Research and Innovation and the National Council of the National Order of Physicians, **the Moroccan League for the Fight against Diabetes**, a member of the International Diabetes Federation, organized in virtual mode, **the 11th International Symposium on Diabetes and Nutrition "Diabetes Morocco 2022"** on June 30 and July 1 and 2, 2022.

This important scientific event was held in collaboration with the International Diabetes Federation MENA Region, WHO, the Moroccan Society of Endocrinology Diabetology and Nutrition (SMEDIAN), the Moroccan Society of Nutrition, Health and Environment (SMSE), the Ibn Tofaïl University of Kenitra, the “Aviesaine” Association and the AFRA/IAEA Designated Regional Nutrition Center (Ibn Tofaïl University – CNESTEN).

With **the participation of more than 20 countries**, the scientific program centered on news in Diabetology and Nutrition was also an opportunity to present not only our country's efforts in the fight against Diabetes and Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs), but also the means for the development of the prevention of their risk factors and the promotion of healthy lifestyles.

At the end of three days of scientific, strategy and health policy debates, the participants held the following recommendations :

We, the participants of the **11th International Symposium on Diabetes and Nutrition "Diabetes Morocco 2022"** on June 30 and July 1 and 2, 2022.

1- Let us pay great tribute to the launch of the major projects initiated by **His Majesty the King, may God Assist Him**, the reform/overhaul of the health system and the

extension of universal social coverage for the fight against precariousness and whose general health insurance for 22 million Moroccans is the cornerstone, allowing greater access to care for all Moroccans and better care for all diabetics in our country;

2- We salute the efforts of the League with its national partners, for the success of this 11th edition of the Colloquium and for a greater integrated multisectoral approach between the various stakeholders at the national level: government, parliament, university, local authorities, civil society and media;

3- Let us recall the sharp increase in Morocco in the prevalence of Diabetes, Obesity and common risk factors for NCDs, as demonstrated through the Stepwise 2017-2018 survey, conducted by the Ministry of Health and Social Protection with the support of WHO;

4- Commend Morocco's efforts to achieve its international commitments on NCDs, in particular Sustainable Development Goal 3.4 to reduce premature mortality due to NCDs by one third by 2030;

5- We are part of the National Multisectoral Strategy for the prevention and control of NCDs 2019-2029, through the promotion of healthy lifestyles, early detection of NCDs and social mobilization;

6- Emphasize the need to integrate an axis relating to the management of NCDs, in the national strategy for responding to public health emergencies in order to ensure the continuity of services to this vulnerable population, including diabetics;

7- Remember that the Covid-19 pandemic, which particularly affects vulnerable people, has highlighted the importance of investment in health.

8- We welcome the adoption by the Moroccan Parliament of the tax on drinks rich in sugar, in December 2018 and the continuation of efforts for its generalization to other products marketed too rich in sugar, as it was debated in Parliament on March 3, 2022 by the Finance and Economic Development Committee in the House of Representatives and the Finance, Planning and Economic Development Committee in the House of Councillors, representatives of the agri-food industry and in the presence of the Minister budget delegate, the Director General of the Customs Administration and Indirect Taxes, other representatives of the ministerial departments concerned;

9- Encourage the public authorities to ensure that the revenues from this behavioral tax as well as part of the taxes due to tobacco are allocated to health, the fight against tobacco and the promotion of physical activity of the population and to the Healthy eating ;

10- We welcome the decision of the Moroccan Parliament within the framework of the 2022 finance law which has just adopted a drastic reduction of more than 93% of customs duties which have fallen from 40% to 2.5% for the import of raw materials of all diabetes hypoglycemic drugs. This decision of historic significance, not only for the development of the drug industry in our country, but also an important step for the accessibility of diabetics to treatment and for the reduction of expenses for the health insurance funds. and for the budget of the Ministry of Health and Social Protection, allocated to drugs.

11- Contribute to the strengthening of the National Nutrition Program developed by the Ministry of Health and Social Protection within the framework of the reform/overhaul of the health system and the generalization of health coverage, by inviting learned societies, universities, researchers and all stakeholders to provide the necessary scientific evidence in order to adapt the messages addressed to the general population in terms of nutrition, healthy eating and the prevention of NCDs;

12- Contribute to strengthening the skills of health professionals in the area of prevention and health education relating to NCDs and Diabetes;

13- Advocate for the increase of funding allocated to the prevention and control of Diabetes and NCDs to face the enormous expenses and the impoverishment of the population who suffer from these diseases;

14- Advocate for the integration of the Nutrition approach, on the scientific, legislative, regulatory and normative levels to effectively strengthen the fight against diabetes, obesity and unhealthy nutrition;

15- Advocate to strengthen surveillance of risk factors that have the greatest impact on mortality and morbidity from NCDs including Diabetes and provide evidence to decision-makers for the development of NCD programs/interventions (realization of surveys such as stepwise...);

16- Advocate for the strengthening of the adoption of the Nutri-Score display system codified from A to E or color system, in addition to the labeling of agri-food products in the context of transparency and protection the consumer, thereby encouraging the food industry to market products that are healthier and/or less harmful to health;

17- Advocate to encourage the mobility and physical activity of the population through the development of the label: “Villes Santé” "City Health" by local authorities (cycle and pedestrian paths, sports fields in neighborhoods, etc.) and exemption of sports halls from

taxes and duties and promote sport at the level of schools and universities.

18- Insist on making available to health professionals, the guide to the nutritional profile of the most consumed recipes in the different regions of Morocco: Nutri-Score approach for monitoring diabetics as soon as it is published on the occasion of the next World Diabetes Day (November 2022);

19- Insist on making available to health professionals, the table of food composition of foods consumed in the different regions of Morocco for the monitoring of diabetics on the occasion of World Diabetes Day (November 2022);

20- Advocate for legal restrictions on television advertising targeting children in terms of promoting foods that are too high in sugar, salt and fat;

21- Advocate to put in place the necessary provisions to provide people with diabetes with essential health services and promote access to diagnostics and essential, quality, safe, effective and affordable medicines, including insulin, oral hypoglycemics and other Diabetes-related medicines and health technologies;

22- Advocate for the reorganization of the sector and the course of coordinated care with the establishment of Reference Centers for the management of NCDs including Diabetes and Obesity, by granting a place of choice for structured programs of 'therapeutic education ;

23- Support the efforts of the Moroccan League for the Fight against Diabetes, which chairs the International Diabetes Federation MENA Region until December 2022, for greater national, regional and African mobilization in the fight against Diabetes and NCDs, through coordination, training and exchange mechanisms for the benefit of healthcare professionals and diabetics.

Done, July 2nd, 2022
For Participants 11th International Symposium on Diabetes and Nutrition
"Diabetes Morocco 2022"

Prof. Jamal BELKHADIR

President of the Moroccan League for the Fight against Diabetes
Chair of the International Diabetes Federation MENA Region

BELKHADIR JAMAL EDDINE