



Dr Jamal Belkhadir
Ligue Marocaine de Lutte contre le Diabète
President
BP 766
Chellah, Rabat
Morocco

Brussels, 31 January 2017

Dear Dr Belkhadir

RE: 7th International Conference on Diabetes and Nutrition, Rabat 6 - 8 July 2018

On behalf of the International Diabetes Federation (IDF), it is my great pleasure to extend the support of IDF for the **7th International Conference on Diabetes and Nutrition**, which will take place in Rabat on 6 - 8 July 2018.

As you are aware, diabetes currently affects **425 million adults worldwide** and this total is set to reach **629 million by 2045**. Over **1.6 million adults** are estimated to be living with diabetes in Morocco, **43% of which are undiagnosed**. These numbers reiterate the urgency to strengthen awareness, promote early diagnosis and improve access to care to prevent the serious complications associated with diabetes and reduce the economic and social burden that the disease currently represents all over the world.

Health professional education and knowledge-sharing is a critical component of the fight against diabetes, particularly in developing countries where the pandemic currently has the strongest impact. Conferences such as the one that you preside, which bring together national, regional and global experts to share best practice and discuss cost-effective solutions to this urgent issue, are therefore much needed to improve the health and wellbeing of future generations.

I wish your conference much success and look forward to the positive outcomes for people with diabetes and those at risk in your country, the region and beyond.

Yours Sincerely,



Prof. Nam H. Cho
President 2018-19
International Diabetes Federation