



World Diabetes Day

Laayoune, 8th and 9th November 2019

The Appeal of Laayoune 2019

Under the aegis of the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of National Education, Higher Education and Scientific Research 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, celebrated the **World Diabetes Day in Laayoune on November 8 and 9, 2019.**

This important scientific and medico-social event was organized in collaboration with the Wilaya of Laayoune - Sakia El Hamra, the Regional Directorate of Health, the WHO, the Moroccan Society of Endocrinology Diabetology and Nutrition (SMEDIAN), the Moroccan Society of Nutrition, Health and Environment (SMNSE) and the AFRA/IAEA Regional Designated Nutrition Center (Ibn Tofail University - CNESTEN).

The scientific program, focused on updates in Diabetology and Nutrition, was also an opportunity to present not only the efforts of our country in the fight against Diabetes and Non Communicable Diseases (NCDs), but also the means for the development of primary prevention and promotion of healthy life style.

The medico-social program focused on the prevention and improvement of the management of Diabetes and NCDs, was carried out in close collaboration with the Ministry of Health and the Regional Directorate of Health. It concerned the education, awareness and screening of Diabetes, Obesity and Hypertension for the benefit of diabetics and the general population of the city of Laayoune and its Region. This program also focused on the continuing education of physicians and health professionals on Diabetes and its complications and prevention methods.

At the end of this celebration, the participants decided to launch the Laayoune 2019 call.

The Appeal of Laayoune 2019

We, the participants in the celebration of the **World Diabetes Day of Laayoune 2019**:

- 1- Let us salute the efforts of the League with its national partners, for the success of the celebration of the **World Diabetes Day 2019 in Laayoune**, allowing a greater coordination of the efforts between the various actors at the national level: government, parliament, local communities university, civil society and media;
- 2- Note the strong increase in Morocco, and more particularly in the southern regions, of the prevalence of diabetes, obesity and common risk factors for NCDs, in particular through the Ministry-initiated stepwise 2017-2018 Health survey with the support of WHO;
- 3- Are part of the National Multisectoral Strategy for the Prevention and Control of NCDs 2019-2029, through the promotion of healthy living, early detection and social mobilization;
- 4- Welcome Morocco's efforts to reach its international commitments on NCDs, including the development objective 3.4 to reduce premature mortality from NCDs by one third by 2030;
- 5- Note with great satisfaction the adoption by the Moroccan Parliament of the soda tax in December 2018 and the support of efforts to generalize it to other products sold too rich in sugar; while urging the public authorities to ensure that the revenues from this behavioral tax as well as a portion of tobacco taxes are allocated to health and the promotion of the physical activity of the population;
- 6- Contribute to the strengthening of the National Nutrition Program developed by the Ministry of Health, inviting scientific medical societies, universities, researchers and all stakeholders to provide the scientific evidence necessary to adapt the messages addressed to the general population about nutrition and prevention;
- 7- Plaid for the realization of the studies on the knowledge, attitudes and practices of the population and health professionals regarding NCDs to better adapt the interventions at the level of the Laayoune Region, Sakia - El Hamra;
- 8- Contribute to strengthening the skills of health professionals in the prevention, and health education related to NCDs and Diabetes;
- 9- Advocate for increased funding for the prevention and control of Diabetes and NCDs to cope with the huge costs and the impoverishment of the population suffering from these diseases;

- 10- Plaid for integrated Nutrition, scientific, legislative, regulatory and normative approach to effectively strengthen the fight against diabetes, obesity and unhealthy nutrition;
- 11- Adopt the display system of Nutri-Score codified from A to E in addition to the labeling of food products in the context of transparency and consumer protection, to thereby encourage the industry of food to market products more beneficial to health;
- 12- Put at the disposal of the health professionals, the guide of the nutritional profile of the most consumed recipes in the different regions of Morocco and in particular **the Region of Laayoune, Sakia - El Hamra**: Nutri-Score approach for the follow-up of the diabetic from its publication on the occasion of World Diabetes Day (November 2020);
- 13- Put at the disposal of the health professionals, the table of food composition consumed in the different regions of Morocco and in particular **the Region of Laayoune, Sakia - El Hamra** for the follow-up of the diabetic on the occasion of the World Day Diabetes (November 2020);
- 14- Plaid for the legal restrictions of television advertising targeting children in the promotion of foods too rich in sugar, salt and fat;
- 15- Reorganize the sector and the path of coordinated care with the establishment of Reference Centers for the management of NCDs including Diabetes and Obesity, particularly in the region of Laayoune Sakia El Hamra;
- 16- Support the efforts of the Moroccan Diabetes Fighting League which takes the presidency of the **International Diabetes Federation MENA Region in December 2019**, for a greater national, regional and African mobilization in the fight against Diabetes and NCDs through coordination, training and exchange mechanisms for the benefit of health professionals and diabetics.

Done in Laâyoune, November 9th 2019
For the Participant of Wild Diabetes Day celebration

Pr Jamal BELKHADIR
President of the Moroccan League for the Fight against Diabetes
Chair Elect of IDF MENA Region

