



**Parliamentarians
for Diabetes
Global Network**

A programme of the
International Diabetes Federation

REPORT OF THE

**International Diabetes Federation
Parliamentarians for Diabetes Global
Network
Parliamentary Champions Forum
Vancouver
28-30 November 2015**

Executive Group 2013-2015

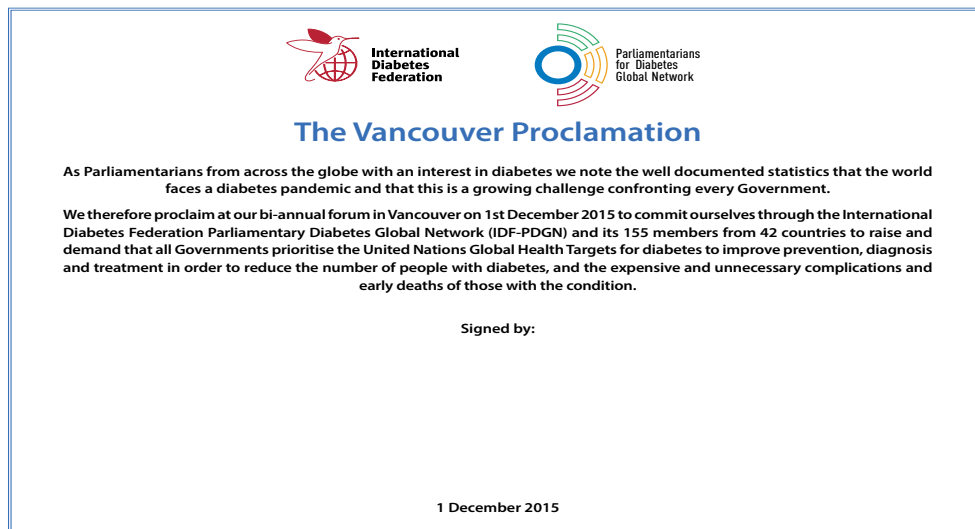
Co-Chairs:	Sir Michael Hirst & Mr. Guy Barnett MP
President:	Mr. Adrian Sanders
Vice Presidents:	Hon Dr. Simon Busuttil MP Hon Dr. Rachael Nyamai MP
Global Coordinator:	Hon Judi Moylan GAICD
Executive Assistant:	Ms. Jana Allan

A highly successful Second Parliamentary Champions Forum was held at the Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue in Vancouver.

Its success was in no small measure due to the remarkable level of sponsorship offered by a host of contributors including:

Astra Zeneca, Sanofi Diabetes, Johnston & Johnston, Takeda, Abbott, Merck Diabetes, FEND, the Watson Foundation, Bermuda Diabetes Association and Argus Group

The Forum theme was ***The Human, Social and Economic Impact of Diabetes*** and culminated in the signing of ***The Vancouver Proclamation below:***



This committed PDGN to ***raise awareness and demand that all governments prioritise the United Nations Global Health Targets for diabetes to improve prevention, diagnosis and the expensive and unnecessary complications and early deaths of those with the condition.***

Signing up to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal on Health, which targets 100% access to health care, with the agreement of every government around the globe is a very significant step forward.

Parliamentarians for Diabetes Global Network is made up of individuals elected to parliament, who have a particular interest in improving diabetes treatment and care.

The proclamation on Universal Access to Healthcare was discussed, passed unanimously and signed by delegates at the conclusion of the Forum.

We would anticipate that they, along with registered members of IDF PDGN, will carry this message, on the need for Universal Access to Healthcare to their

respective parliaments lifting the level of debate and urging action to meet the UN target.

IDF PDGN will continue to highlight the need for action by individual members and parliamentary diabetes groups on the Proclamation.



Figure 1 Sir Michael Hirst & PDGN delegates sign the Vancouver Proclamation

The Vancouver Forum and Proclamation builds on the work of the Inaugural Forum in Melbourne and the signing of the Melbourne Declaration in 2013, which offered formal expression to the increasingly serious health, economic and social impacts on developing and developed nations from the diabetes pandemic and agreed to:

- Eliminate discrimination toward people with diabetes
- Encourage governments to take comprehensive action to meet the targets set at the 66th World Health Assembly in 2013
- Work toward urgent action through exchanging views and seeking further knowledge
- Attend IDF organized meetings from time to time (where practicable) to facilitate exchange of ideas and provide a support network
- Establish a platform for dialogue

Since Melbourne, the membership of IDF PDGN has grown from 47 parliamentarians to approximately 155, representing 42 countries.

One of the unique characteristics of PDGN is that all its registered members have a particular commitment to diabetes policy.

IDF has a twitter account and quarterly newsletter is available on the IDF website at: <http://idf.org/advocacy/pdgn>

This site seeks to promote and facilitate action in individual countries and the quarterly newsletter is separately transmitted by email to all registered members of PDGN.

Invitations to delegates to attend the Vancouver Forum were sent to approximately 200 Members and Senators from 100 targeted countries.

These target countries included:

1. Albania
2. Argentina
3. Australia
4. Belgium
5. Bolivia
6. Canada
7. Cameroon
8. Chile
9. Cook Islands
10. Dominica
11. Ghana
12. Grenada
13. Guinea
14. Indonesia
15. Kazakhstan
16. Kenya
17. Lesotho
18. Malta
19. Malawi
20. Mexico
21. Morocco
22. New Zealand
23. Niue
24. Norway
25. Philippines
26. Portugal
27. Romania
28. Russia
29. Samoa
30. Scotland
31. South Africa
32. Suriname
33. Togo
34. Tokelau
35. Turkey
36. Tuvulu
37. Uganda
38. Ukraine

39. United Kingdom
40. Zambia
41. Zimbabwe
42. United States of America
43. China
44. India
45. Finland
46. Singapore
47. Italy
48. Kosovo
49. Faroe Island
50. Kuwait
51. Saudi Arabia
52. Qatar
53. Taiwan
54. Niger
55. Iraq
56. Swaziland
57. Jordan
58. Oman
59. Uzbekistan
60. France
61. Paraguay
62. Peru
63. Czech Republic
64. Salvador
65. Brunei
66. Colombia
67. Moldova
68. Tajikistan
69. Sudan
70. Republic of Korea
71. South Africa
72. Somalia
73. Romania
74. Mali
75. Liberia
76. Comoros
77. Bulgaria
78. Benin
79. Bermuda
80. Belarus
81. Dominican Republic
82. Hungary
83. Japan
84. Lebanon
85. Tunisia
86. Ethiopia
87. Belarus

88. Spain
89. Germany
90. France
91. Switzerland
92. Uzbekistan
93. Malaysia
94. Pakistan
95. Kuwait
96. Botswana
97. Brazil
98. Nigeria
100. Western Pacific Islands

The invitation list was comprised of nominees from IDF Member organisations, in addition to PDGN registered members.

In all, Sixty-four delegates accepted the invitation to attend which given the financial constraints, represented a full house.

Able chaired by PDGN Co-chair, Mr Guy Barnett MP, the Forum opening included an official welcome to the City by Councilor Andrea Reimer, Deputy Mayor of the City of Vancouver, and a First Nation Welcome by Ann Whonnock, Co-chair of Squamish Nation Chiefs and Council.

Sir Michael Hirst once again opened the proceedings with a powerful and inspiring address on the growing challenge of diabetes and the pressing need for ongoing parliamentary advocacy.

There were twenty-one outstanding speakers in the main sessions on relevant diabetes related topics including:

- ***Advances in Diabetes Care,***
- ***Access to Medicines & New Technology in Diabetes Care,***
- ***The Role of E-Health & Mobile Health in Diabetes Care,***
- ***The Economic Impact of Diabetes, Health Cities,***
- ***Government's Role in Diabetes Policy Making and***
- ***The Need for Universal Access to Health Coverage for People With Diabetes***

Country Reports were a major feature of the Forum with nineteen speakers providing updates on progress in diabetes management and care.

Country Report speakers included:

- | | |
|------------------------------|----------------|
| Dr Godfrey Farrugia MP – | Malta |
| Senator Guido Girardi | Chile |
| Mr Rowan Ramsey MP | Australia |
| The Rt Hon George Howarth MP | United Kingdom |
| Dr Hedy Fry MP | Canada |
| Mr David Stewart MP | Scotland |

The Hon Ivor Stephenson MP	Dominica
Ms Marina Shipulina (on behalf of Mr Sergie Mironov)	Russia
Mr Sveinung Stensland MP	Norway
Hon Cardigan Connor M	Anguilla
Dr Oleg Musii MP Dep. Head, Standing Committee on Healthcare	Ukraine
Senator Dr Thamrong Dasananjali	Thailand
Member of the National Legislative Assembly, First Vice-Chairman, Standing Committee on Public Health	
Senator Hon Daniel Lugay	Dominica
Dr Wesley Schmidt Director General of Public Health	Paraguay
Dr Mostafa Brahim MP	Morocco
Ms Susan Jackson MP	Bermuda
Hon Dr Rachael Nyamai MP	Kenya
Hon Comfort Doyoe Cudjoe Ghansah MP, Minister of State	Ghana
Hon Dr Baritse Dametoti, MP	Togo

There were significant benefits accruing from the inaugural Melbourne Forum. Updated Country Reports were presented outlining parliamentary action taken since 2013. These included:

KENYA - Hon Dr Rachael Nyamai MP, Vice President of PDGN, Chair Parliamentary Committee on Health, gave an excellent overview of the challenges and the progress of the government of Kenya in diabetes Policy.

Dr Nyamai highlighted the anticipated rapid growth in people with diagnosed diabetes and outlined recent progress including having:

- Domesticated the WHO Global Action Plan for NCD'S 2013-2020
- Launched Kenya's national NCD Strategy 2015 - 2020
- Launched the community health care workers training manuals on NCD's
- Revised the national Diabetes strategic plan
- Integrated diabetes care in other platforms including maternal care & community care.

AUSTRALIA – Mr Rowan Ramsey MP, Co-chair of the Friends of Diabetes in the Australian Parliament provided an update on activity since the 2014 Forum. At that time the newly elected government announced the establishment of a National Diabetes Strategy Advisory Group. The work of this group has now concluded and and report was delivered to the Minister for Health the Hon Sussan Ley MP in November 2015 outlining a strategy to better manage diabetes in Australia.

MALTA – PDGN Vice President Hon Dr Simon Bussutil, worked to establish the Parliamentary Working Group on Diabetes Mellitus in the Parliament of Malta on his return from the Melbourne Forum. The Group chaired by his colleague and former Health Minister Hon Dr Godfrey Farrugia, reported to the Vancouver Forum on progress since Melbourne.

GHANA – Hon. Mrs Comfort Doyoe Cudjoe Ghansah MP, Minister for State in Ghana, reported a strong program she initiated since the Melbourne Forum to assist people with diabetes in remote area of Ghana. Her presentation was supported by a video of her activity.

RUSSIA – Ms. Marina Shipulina provided the report on behalf of Mr. Sergei Mironov MP from Russia. Mr Mironov an IDF PDGN member has been instrumental in ensuring that diabetes policy was a priority at the 7th BRICS Summit in June 2015. (BRICS countries include Brazil, China, India, Russia and South Africa).

UNITED KINGDOM – the Rt Hon. George Howarth MP presented the Country Report for the United Kingdom, setting out the dimension of the challenge in the UK particularly in relation to the cost and the complications of diabetes. During his time in the UK Parliament Adrian Sanders has been a driving force in the UK All Party Parliamentary Diabetes Group and Mr. Keith Vaz MP continues to be a powerful voice in the parliament in regard to improving diabetes policy.

CHILE - Senator Guido Girardi, Majority leader in the Senate, spoke of the extraordinary legislative initiatives on food labeling in the Parliament of Chile in an effort to prevent diabetes and other NCD's.

UKRAINE – Dr. Oleg Musii MP Deputy Head of Health Committee Ukraine reported progress with a taskforce in the Ministry of Healthcare, which is actively working on changes to the medication reimbursement system commencing January 2016. This will include: accessible, timely and smooth insulin provision, rational use of budget funds and better healthcare for people with diabetes.

Delegates from other countries also gave excellent reports outlining the dimension of the diabetes challenge and outlining the action being taken in their parliaments. Highlights included:

TOGO – Hon. Dr. Baritse Dametoti MP from Togo attended Melbourne and was subsequently inspired to take action in the Parliament on his return.

He and his colleagues found support in the Parliament to encourage the Ministry of Health to make budgetary provision for a National NCD program in 2015.

Despite an initial postponement of the vote in the Parliament, two days later a budget for NCD prevention and control was adopted by the parliament.

The funding enabled the National NCD program to extend the WHO PEN package this year, especially for diabetes and hypertension control programs in primary health care.

The Togolese parliamentary delegation to the PDGN Forum in Vancouver have re-committed to continue their joint efforts to prevent and control diabetes, through the creation of an official pressure group in the National Assembly of Togo, with a view to continuing to encourage the Ministry of Health to increase funding, inform all MP's of the burden of diabetes and take sensible measures for the prevention of diabetes.

MOROCCO - Dr. M Brahimi, Deputy Vice Chairman of the Committee on Social Sectors, Moroccan Parliament reported on a recent initiative launched by the Minister of Health in June 2015 *Together Against Diabetes* a \$US1.5million campaign to raise diabetes awareness.

Election of Office Bearers 2015-2019

On the concluding day of the Forum new office bearers were elected as follows:

Co-Chairs:

Sir Michael Hirst

Mr Adrian Sanders

President: Mr Guy Barnett MP, Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier
Tasmania Australia

Vice Presidents:

Hon Dr Simon Bussutil MP, Leader of the Opposition, Malta

Hon Dr Rachael Nyamai MP, Chair Parliamentary Committee on Health, Kenya

Dr M Brahimi, Deputy Vice Chairman of the Committee on Social Sectors,
Morocco

Senator Dr Professor Florian Bodog, Romania

Ms. Susan E Jackson MP, Bermuda

The Forum unanimously appointed all office holders for a term of 4 years.

The Forum discussed future standard operating procedures and agreed to allow the executive group to further progress the discussion with the International Diabetes Federation.

Additional highlights of the Forum:

- An opening night dinner with special guest speaker, Dr Susan Alberti AO, Australian philanthropist and founder of the Susan Alberti Medical Research Foundation Inc (SAMFRI). Susan provided a very personal and inspiring keynote address on her own journey with diabetes and the inspiration behind the SAMFRI. IDF Board members were invited to join MP's for this special occasion.
- Sunday joint lunch with PDGN and Young Leaders With Diabetes hosted by the Bermuda Diabetes Association, sponsored by the Argus Group. This provided a great opportunity for the young leaders to have a fruitful exchange of ideas with members of parliament and was a great highlight of the Forum.
- Sunday evening dinner where delegates were fortunate to hear of the determination of Madam Bongzi Ngema-Zuma, the First Lady of the Republic of South Africa to address the rising number of people with diabetes through the establishment and continuing success of the BNZ Foundation and the Impact of Diabetes in South Africa.
- CEO & President of the Canadian Diabetes Association Rick Blickstead

hosted a very successful lunch on Monday at the Forum to release its 2015 Report on Diabetes, ***Driving Change*** and following the recent Canadian elections launched the new ***Federal Diabetes Caucus*** in the Parliament.

- Mrs. Anne-Marie Felton, Founder and President of Foundation of European Nurses in Diabetes (FEND), provided an excellent report: ***Diabetes in Europe: The State We Are In.***

Other speakers included Dr Shaukat Sadikot, the newly elected President of IDF and Mr. Adrian Sanders whose ongoing commitment to diabetes, following his great advocacy during his parliamentary career will continue to be of immense value to the PDGN in his new position as co-chair.

The Executive Group gratefully acknowledges the contribution of Dr. Petra Wilson CEO International Diabetes Federation and the assistance of Ms. Corrine Gil and Ms Aneta Tyszkiewicz in the preparations for the Vancouver Forum.

Our special thanks also to Dr. Wendy Leong and her group of volunteers, whose cheerful and warm personalities made delegates feel so welcome and aided the smooth running of the Forum.