**Communication Toolkit for IDF Europe Member Associations**

## **Template Letter for Policy-Makers**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **LOGOS** | Add your associations’, [IDF Europe](https://idf.org/europe/media/uploads/sites/2/2023/12/IDF-Regional-Logo-Europe-RGB.jpg)’s and other relevant logos. |
| **RECIPIENTS** | To: [Insert name and title]  Ideally, the letter will be sent to   * The Minister of Health * The Minister of Finance * The Prime Minister or equivalent * Other relevant Ministers and policymakers |
| **SUBJECT** | Accelerating action on commitments to improve diabetes detection and quality of care |

**TEXT** (Please, translate the text in your national language)

Dear XXXX,

We are writing to you on behalf of the [insert name of all the association(s) signing this letter], the International Diabetes Federation Europe and all the people living with, and affected by, diabetes in [COUNTRY] to draw your attention to the Declaration signed by WHO Europe and IDF Europe, during the High-Level Technical Summit on Diabetes, held in Serbia on 28-29 November 2023, and (insert if you are in the EU/a candidate country) the European Parliament Resolution on Diabetes, adopted in November 2022 at the European Parliament in Strasbourg, by the vast majority of MEPs.

The High-Level Technical Summit was a response to the worsening situation for people living with, or at risk of diabetes in our country. In 2021, XXXX of people lived with diabetes in COUNTRY, of whom X % were undiagnosed, placing them at high-risk of developing life-threatening complications, such as cardiovascular and renal diseases. That year, diabetes itself caused [XXXX] deaths throughout [COUNTRY], and many more as diabetes is the direct driver of many other NCDs such as cardiovascular and renal diseases.

IDF estimates that without further government action to control this situation, the number of adults with diabetes in [COUNTRY] will reach [XXX] million by 2030.

The Declaration resulting from the Summit clearly highlights the various commitments that our government had agreed to, over recent years. These include, for example, a 0% increase in diabetes prevalence and 80% access to essential medicines and devices by 2025 through the 2015 Voluntary Targets. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) committed our country to achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and reducing premature mortality from NCDs by 30% by 2030. More recently, the UN Global Targets for Diabetes called for:

* 80% of people living with diabetes are diagnosed
* 80% have good control of glycaemia
* 80% of people with diagnosed diabetes have good control of blood pressure
* 60% of people with diabetes of 40 years or older receive statins
* 100% of people with type 1 diabetes have access to affordable insulin and blood glucose self-monitoring

The Resolution, meanwhile, represents a direct call to action, from elected MEPs, directly representing the citizens of our country and calls for ambitious action on the part of Member States, notably:

*(This section should be tailored to focus on the areas of most relevance to your country):*

* to demonstrate political commitment and set ambitious targets for reversing the rising trend in numbers of Europeans with diabetes (…) and to improve the care and quality of life of people living with diabetes” (Article 5);
* to develop, implement and monitor diabetes plan and strategies (article 7);
* to reinforce, implement and evaluate properly funded prevention plans (Article 9);
* to ensure continued patient access to primary and secondary care, and diabetes treatments and technologies (...) and to support patients in obtaining and sustaining the skills and understanding needed to enable competent life-long self-management (Article 11);
* to support the digitalisation of national health services and the adoption of new tools and technologies (....) to improve self-management, reduce the risk of diabetes-related complications and other consequences (...) and improve quality of life (...)” (Article 20);
* to support research into unmet clinical needs for diabetes and its many co-morbidities and complications (Article 28)

We kindly ask you to deliver on your commitments and to work to ensure the highest possible quality of life and health outcomes for people living with diabetes, and those at risk, in our country.

[NAME OF THE ASSOCIATION(S)] of [COUNTRY] and the International Diabetes Federation Europe stand ready to support you in this task and we would welcome the opportunity to meet with you at your earliest convenience to discuss diabetes prevention and care in our country.

The health and wellbeing of the future generation is in your hands.

Yours sincerely,

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **SIGNATURE** | signatures from high level officers from all associations supporting this letter |
| **ATTACHMENTS** | * [EU Parliament Resolution](https://idf.org/europe/news/100-years-after-the-discovery-of-insulin-the-european-parliament-adopts-a-landmark-diabetes-resolution/) * [IDF Europe-WHO Europe Declaration](https://idf.org/europe/media/uploads/sites/2/2023/11/Declaration-EN.pdf) |

Please, remember to submit the tailored letter(s) to [martina.boccardo@idf-europe.org](mailto:martina.boccardo@idf-europe.org) and to let us know if you receive a response.