



International
Diabetes
Federation



LETTER OF INTENT PROTOCOL OF UNDERSTANDING

1. International Diabetes Federation – European Region (IDF-ER), represented by Dr Wim Wientjens, President of the ER and Novo Nordisk A/S Business Area Europe East (NN EuE), represented by Jerzy Gruhn, Vice President NN Eu East, agreed the establishment of the multinational group of authorities under the name of:

DIABETES EXPERTS' PANEL FROM ACCESSING (TO EUROPEAN UNION IN 2004) COUNTRIES (DEPAC)

The project is based on the assumption that there is an urgent need to exchange opinions about diabetology in accessing countries and European Union.

2. Members of the group will be the representatives of IDF-ER Member Associations (chosen on the position, not personal basis) as well as the experts from other professional and patients' diabetes societies which are not current IDF members. NN EuE will facilitate the Panel, basing on its experience and good relationship with diabetes organizations in the accessing countries. Participants will come from Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia.

The list of the relevant associations is an annex to this protocol. All participants will have to be accepted by IDF-ER and NN EuE.

3. The project as outlined above will be developed and executed on the basis of a partnership between IDF-ER and NN EuE. The partnership will be driven by an open dialogue in a constructive, effective and positive way.
4. The main goals of the group supported by IDF ER as representatives of the whole society dealing with diabetes in the accessing countries are the following:
 - to be advised and supported by IDF ER how to enter / access to EU agendas and to be introduced as a partner for further co-operation with e.g. EU Health Commissioner, EU Diabetes Working Group in the European Parliament;
 - to identify and define current status and the differences in diabetes treatment characteristic for countries accessing to EU and to share ideas about it;
 - to implement actively the diabetes treatment guidelines in accessing countries, tailored to defined differences, and to participate in preparing its update, if considered necessary;
 - to share ideas about managing challenges within diabetology (e.g. patients' register / database, epidemiology, different eating habits etc.);

- to increase patient empowerment through education and training to assist in better self management;
 - to create ways of health promotion, health monitoring, injury prevention;
 - to highlight the costs and benefits from diabetes treatment;
 - to discuss status of National Diabetes Programmes in 8 countries and to facilitate implementation of its goals, as well as setting the priorities for each country.
5. IDF ER will prepare the official announcement about the established initiative. It will be distributed by NN EuE employees in the relevant affiliates directly to the Boards of Member Associations as well as other official representative of diabetologic organizations in EuE countries, together with the invitation to the 1st meeting of the Panel.
 6. Meetings will be organized on the 1-2 yearly basis; subgroups of the Panel (if decided to create) will meet more often by the modern communication media (IDF website with specially designed restricted area, e-mail, video- and tele-conferences).
 7. The 1st meeting of the Diabetes Experts' Panel from Accessing Countries (DEPAC) will be held in Brussels early 2004, probably in connection with the next meeting of EU Diabetes Working Group (Feb-Mar '04).
 - 1st meeting draft agenda will consist of 3-4 hours of workshop:
 - opening address (Dr Wim Wientjens);
 - Novo Nordisk support for Diabetes Experts' Panel (Jerzy Gruhn);
 - current situation in diabetes care system within the European Union;
 - defining needs & differences in diabetologic care in Eu East countries;
 - assignment of the concrete, prioritized tasks for DEPAC members;
 - information about proposed channels of communication between personal meetings;
 - planning the agenda and schedule of next meetings.
 8. Protocol of understanding in the above form is a result of a meeting of Dr Wientjens and NN EuE representatives held in Warsaw on Nov 20th, 2003 and consultation of the project by the Board of IDF ER, made in December 2003. IDF ER and NN EuE will follow its assumptions in order to effective and fast organization of the 1st DEPAC's meeting and all the future co-operation.

Realisation of the intention in this letter should be made before end of December, 2003.

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Signature

Dr Wim Wientjens
President of
International Diabetes Federation
European Region

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Signature

Jerzy Gruhn
Vice President Eu East, Novo Nordisk A/S