



June 8th , 2011.

Rajendra Pratap Gupta
President

Dr.Manmohan Singh
Prime Minister
Government of India
7, Race Course , New Delhi 110001

Subject: UN High-Level Summit on Non-Communicable Diseases, September 2011

Dear Dr.Singh,

I am writing on behalf of **DMAI – Disease Management Association of India** to request your good selves to make a world of difference to people with diabetes.

This September you and your fellow political leaders will have a once-in-a-generation opportunity to halt a global epidemic that is killing and disabling millions of people, impoverishing families and undermining economic progress. The United Nations High-Level Summit on Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) is a chance for the Government of India to play a leading global role in confronting this major threat to health, prosperity and security of all of us and future generations.

Together the four major NCDs – diabetes, cancer, heart disease and chronic respiratory disease - are the world's number one killer. It is estimated that some 35 million people die from NCDs each year, and 14 million of these deaths could be averted or delayed. Diabetes alone creates a huge burden - over 300 million people worldwide have diabetes now, and that figure will rise to half a billion within a generation if we do not act now. One dollar in every eight spent across the world on healthcare last year went on diabetes – a staggering USD378 billion in total. No country rich or poor is immune from the impact. In India there are 50.7 million people diagnosed with diabetes. Every one of us will know someone touched by diabetes.

DMAI – The Population Health Improvement Alliance asks you to attend the UN Summit and work with other political leaders to take action. We attach the NCD Alliance's¹ proposals for the Summit outcomes which we believe should be the basis of the political response to NCDs. The global failure to invest in NCDs has led to the current crisis, yet we have cost-effective solutions that can save lives and make economic sense. These include action on prevention and diagnosis as well as universal access to affordable high-quality essential medicines and medical technologies. We are also calling for the establishment of a Stop NCDs partnership to lead multi-



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sectoral and coordinated action, and a UN Decade of Action on NCDs to implement the commitments governments will make at the UN Summit in New York

I have been invited by the UN & am leaving for New York mid of June to participate in informal discussions with United Nations on the proposed summit and the issue of chronic diseases

DMAI – The Population Health Improvement Alliance would be pleased to provide your office with any further information in preparation for the UN Summit.

NCDs such as diabetes have the power to affect us all. Increasingly diabetes strikes people in younger age groups, including children, threatening international economic progress. But we are not powerless.

We have achievable cost-effective solutions. We need political leadership now to make them a reality. Please be a champion for NCDs by attending the UN Summit in September and safeguard the health and prosperity of future generations in India

Yours sincerely,

CC:

Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad , Hon'ble Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, GOI

Dr.K. Srinath Reddy , President , PHFI

Dinesh Trivedi, MOS- H&FW

Dr.Syeda Hameed, Planning Commission , GOI

Shri K.Chandramouli, Secretary , H&FW , GOI.

Disease Management Association of India

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