National Commissions on the Calendar

Recent Events Involving Global and National Commission Colleagues

- **Workshop on Global Burden of Disease, focus on NCDs - Chhattisgarh State, March 5, 2019** - The Chhattisgarh Group hosted its first preliminary meeting with stakeholders from the Global NCDI Poverty Commission, the Department of Health & Family Welfare of the State of Chhattisgarh, Jan Swasthya Sahyog (People's Health Support Group) and the Commission Secretariat.

- **Afghanistan National NCDI Poverty Commission presented report findings at the Ministry of Public Health's Eighth Health Results Conference in Kabul, April 8, 2019.** Dr. Said Habib Arwal, Coordinator of the Afghanistan Commission, presented preliminary findings and received an award for the Commission's work. The team has since completed its report and is planning an official launch in the next few months.

- **Sierra Leone NCDI Poverty Commission launched on Tuesday April 16, 2019** - The Sierra Leone Commission will be led by Dr. Santigie Sesay of the Ministry of Health, and
Dr. Marta Lado from Partners In Health Sierra Leone.

- **UN High Level Meeting on UHC - Civil Society Briefing in New York, Apr 29, 2019**
- **NCDI Poverty Secretariat hosts side event at 72nd World Health Assembly** - On May 22, 2019, The NCDI Poverty Secretariat, Helmsley Charitable Trust, Kletjian Foundation and the Program in Global Surgery and Social Change at Harvard Medical School, hosted an event during this year's WHA. Over 140 people attended the dialogue that highlighted comprehensive delivery strategies to achieving UHC, ensuring that no one is left behind.

Chhattisgarh State Ministry of Health led a workshop on Global Burden of Disease analysis for NCDs with numerous stakeholders and partners from the State on March 5, 2019.

- **Nepal NCDI Poverty Commission, mid-term review of Phase II, June 6, 2019** - The Nepal Commission met to review progress on the three objectives that were set at the beginning of the Commission’s second term: (1) to disseminate the findings of the Commission report to a wider audience of policy makers, academicians, and the public; (2) to determine readiness and provide catalytic support for implementation of the report’s recommendations; and (3) to analyze NCDI Poverty issues among children and young adults in Nepal.

- **Kenya NCDI Poverty Commission Launches Phase II of the Commission, June 11, 2019** - The Kenya Commission officially launched the next wave of its work at a meeting in Nairobi. This will include completing baseline facility assessment of a small number of facilities for provision of NCD services.

- **Zambia NCDI Poverty Group convened its first meeting, June 18, 2019** - The Zambia Group will be chaired by Dr. Kennedy Malama, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of
Health, and supported by teams in the Ministry of Health and the Centre of Infectious Disease Research in Zambia (CIDRZ)

Photos clockwise from upper left: Zambia NCDI Poverty Group members at first meeting held in Lusaka, 18 June 2019; members of the Nepal NCDI Poverty Commission at the mid-term review of Phase II of their work on 6 June 2019; Dr. Said Habib Arwal, Coordinator of the Afghanistan NCDI Poverty Commission, receiving an award at the Sixth Health Results Conference in Kabul where he presented an abstract of the Commission's preliminary findings; and the Sierra Leone NCDI Poverty Commission at their launch meeting, April 16, 2019.

Upcoming Events

- **WHO AFRO PEN-Plus Meeting, July 29 - August 1, 2019** – The WHO Regional Office for Africa (WHO AFRO) – in collaboration with Harvard Medical School, Partners In Health/Inshuti Mu Buzima, and the Rwanda Ministry of Health – will host a technical consultation in Kigali on a model to deliver integrated care for severe chronic NCDs through out-patient clinics at district hospitals (PEN-Plus). This four-day meeting will bring WHO Country Representatives and Ministry of Health colleagues together to review national operational plans and a regional strategy for implementation of this PEN-Plus model to complement WHO's Package of Essential NCD Services (PEN) delivered at health centers and in the community.

- **Zimbabwe NCDI Poverty Commission launch, August 2019** – The Zimbabwe Commission will launch this coming August, led by the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare and SolidarMed.
UN HLM on UHC, September 23, 2019 – The UN will host its first ever High-Level Meeting on UHC this coming September. The zero draft of the political declaration is available here, and negotiations between UN Member States are ongoing. Please contact the secretariat if you have any questions on the process leading up to the High Level Meeting.

Each newsletter highlights the work of one or more of the National NCDI Poverty Commissions or Groups.

Following the publication and launch of the Nepal NCDI Poverty Commission's report in March 2018, five additional commissions – Mozambique, Malawi, Kenya, Liberia and Ethiopia – launched their reports in 2018. Additional write-ups and information are available here.

Voices of NCDI Poverty
"I always heard about people with diabetes, but I thought it was one of those illness that can be healed right away. Now that I have it, I've learned that it's an illness you can control and live with for a long time. But it can't be healed. Not yet." - Aldophmy Joseph, 18 years old, Central Plateau, Haiti. Read Aldophmy's story here.