National Commissions on the Calendar

Recent Events Involving Global and National Commission Colleagues

- **Zimbabwe NCDI Poverty Commission convenes first meeting in Harare**
  The [Zimbabwe Commission held its inaugural meeting](https://mailchi.mp/e5fe8ee85cd3/ncdi-poverty-commission-newsletter-february-1132864) September 23-24. The meeting was led by co-chairs Dr. Justice Mudavanhu, Director of NCDs at the Ministry of Health, and Professor James Hakim of the University of Zimbabwe College of Health Sciences. Zimbabwe is the 14th country to launch an NCDI Poverty Commission.

- **UN High Level Meeting on Universal Health Coverage**
  During the 74th UN General Assembly, member states adopted the [Political Declaration on UHC](https://mailchi.mp/e5fe8ee85cd3/ncdi-poverty-commission-newsletter-february-1132864). The NCD Synergies team at PIH, the Program in Global NCDs and Social Change at Harvard Medical School, and the Helmsley Charitable Trust hosted a [PEN-Plus Partnership expert roundtable](https://mailchi.mp/e5fe8ee85cd3/ncdi-poverty-commission-newsletter-february-1132864). The dialogue brought 16 partners together to discuss how severe, chronic NCDs can be prioritized within strategies to achieve UHC.
The Zimbabwe NCDI Poverty Commission, led by Dr. Justice Mudavanhu of the Ministry of Health and Child Welfare and Professor James Hakim of University of Zimbabwe College of Health Sciences, held a 2-day meeting in Harare.

- **PEN-Plus stakeholders meet in Blantyre, Malawi**
  Over 30 national stakeholders, including members of the Malawi NCDI Poverty Commission and Partners In Health/Abwenzi Pa Za Umoyo, attended a two-day PEN-Plus workshop on October 10-11. The discussion and outcomes of the meeting will shape Malawi’s national strategy and operations for PEN-Plus in the coming years.

- **Pan African Society of Cardiology (PASCAR) meeting highlights RHD in Africa**  
PASCAR convened its bi-annual meeting in Johannesburg, South Africa, October 31-November 3. The meeting featured the Bongani Mayosi Memorial Lecture highlighting rheumatic heart disease in Africa. Speakers in the plenary session on RHD included Dr. Ana Mocumbi, co-chair of the global Lancet NCDI Poverty Commission, Dr. Emmy Okello of the Uganda NCDI Commission, and Dr. Prebo Barango, the NCD Focal Point for WHO AFRO's Intercountry Support Team for East and Southern Africa. Members of national NCDI Poverty Commissions who were attending the PASCAR meeting took advantage of the occasion to hold their second Southern Africa Regional NCDI Poverty Dialogue. More details are available here.
• Tanzania NCDI Poverty Commission presents at Multi-Sectoral NCD Conference

The Ministry of Health of Tanzania convened the first National Multi-Sectoral NCD Conference November 11-12 in Dodoma. Dr. Mary Mayige, co-chair of The Tanzania NCDI Poverty Commission presented preliminary findings and recommendations of the group to over 300 national stakeholders.

• Uganda NCDI Commission holds second meeting

The Uganda NCDI Commission convened its second meeting on November 20-21 in Kampala. The group worked on analyzing national data sources and identifying a plan to move forward with the publication of a report next year.

• Liberia NCDI Poverty Commission discusses plans to expand services

The Liberia Commission held its final meeting of the year on November 28 in Monrovia. The Commissioners reviewed their workplan for 2020 and discussed next steps for beginning to expand NCD services across the country.

Upcoming Events

• WHO Global Meeting to Accelerate Progress on SDG Target 3.4 on NCDs and Mental Health to be held in Muscat, Oman on December 9-12, 2019. More information is available here.

https://mailchi.mp/e5fe8ee85cd3/ncdi-poverty-commission-newsletter-february-1132864
The NCDI Poverty Secretariat will be opening a Request for Proposals for countries within the NCDI Poverty Network to apply for funding for implementation of PEN-Plus. More information will follow in early 2020.

Voices of NCDI Poverty

“I always heard about people with diabetes, but I thought it was one of those illnesses 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, Central Plateau, Haiti. To read more about Aldophmy's story click here.

In recognition of World Diabetes Day, we honor Aldophmy and many other patient advocates in our community living with type 1 diabetes.

For feedback or content to include in future newsletters, please contact Amy McLaughlin