



**Alzheimer's Disease
International**

The global voice on dementia

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Minister Zdrowia
Pan Adam Niedzielski
Ministerstwo Zdrowia
ul. Miodowa 15,
00-952 Warszawa
Poland

11 May 2021

Re: Invitation to the launch of Alzheimer's Disease International's 'From Plan to impact' report at the WHO World Health Assembly

Dear Minister Adam Niedzielski,

We cordially invite you to attend the launch of Alzheimer's Disease International's (ADI) ['From Plan to Impact'](#) report at our World Health Assembly side event on 26 May 2021, where we will be discussing the progress and barriers towards the [Global Action Plan on the Public Health Response to Dementia](#). At the event we will also be looking for facilitators, solutions and best practice. ADI is the umbrella organisation of 105 Alzheimer associations around the world.

As we reach the half-way point of the WHO Global Action Plan, unanimously adopted by Member States in May 2017, it is vital that we seek ways to ensure the development and implementation of national dementia plans. While we accept that the COVID-19 pandemic has understandably been the priority of most Ministries of Health, by 2050 the number of people living with dementia is expected to equal the current number of recorded COVID-19 cases globally. Indeed, our community has been the most severely impacted by COVID-19 with an estimated 25% of cases of death from COVID-19 being of people living with dementia.

ADI firmly believes that dementia plans are the best tool available for tackling this immense health and social care crisis. We note that Poland has committed funding to the 7 action areas of Global plan but are yet to develop a national dementia plan. We need countries like Poland to demonstrate leadership by developing a national dementia plan to motivate others in the region and ultimately, gain momentum towards the 2025 goal of 75% of Member States having a functioning plan.

We are working with Polskie Stowarzyszenie Pomocy Osobom z Chorobą Alzheimerem as a civil society organisation to help them further develop and build capacity. Polskie Stowarzyszenie Pomocy Osobom z Chorobą Alzheimerem will play a vital role in helping advance the seven action areas identified in the WHO Global action plan, including increasing awareness, diagnosis and post diagnosis support, healthcare education and training, and importantly care and support for people living with dementia and their carers in Poland. It is my hope that as Minister of Health, you will play an influential and crucial role in accelerating progress towards a plan/strategy in your country. This is a real opportunity for Poland to inspire other countries to move forward with plans of their own – both within Europe and beyond.

Given your expertise and commitment in this area, we would be most honoured if you accepted this invitation to join our World Health Assembly side event. Additionally, please feel free to reach out if you have any questions about the Global action plan on dementia or ADI.

Polskie Stowarzyszenie Pomocy Osobom z Chorobą Alzheimerera will be reaching out to the Ministry after the event to see how they can support you.

Yours sincerely,



Paola Barbarino, CEO
Alzheimer's Disease International

Copy:

Zbigniew Tomczak

Przewodniczący Zarządu

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