



WORLD **DIABETES** FOUNDATION

## MEDIA BACKGROUNDER

### World Diabetes Foundation, members of the board

June 2011

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#### **Prof. Pierre Lefèbvre**

Chairman, World Diabetes Foundation

Prof. Lefèbvre received his MD Degree and PhD at the University of Liège in 1959 and 1967, respectively. Prof. Lefèbvre is presently Emeritus Professor of Medicine at the University of Liège and Consultant at the Liège University Hospital. He is the former President of the International Diabetes Federation (IDF).

Prof. Lefèbvre's research has been devoted to the physiology and pathophysiology of metabolic regulations with particular emphasis on glucagon, insulin and physical exercise. He has published more than 25 books and 900 papers. Prof. Lefèbvre has performed numerous studies on the pathology and treatment of non-insulin-dependent diabetes and obesity and he serves or has served on the editorial board of more than twenty international journals.

Prof. Lefèbvre has been President of the Belgian Diabetes Association and the European Association for the Study of Diabetes.

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#### **Mr. Leif Fenger Jensen**

Vice Chairman, World Diabetes Foundation

Mr. Leif Fenger Jensen has been with World Diabetes Foundation since its establishment and inauguration early 2002 as the Managing Director. Before joining the Foundation, Mr. Jensen worked at Novo Nordisk A/S for more than 10 years where he held several managerial positions. Between 1996 and 2001 Mr. Jensen worked as Regional Finance & HR Director in the Asia Pacific Centre located in Singapore. Mr. Jensen has presently been appointed as Vice President of Strategic Operations at the Novo Nordisk A/S Office in Zürich.

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#### **Prof. Ib Bygbjerg**

Prof Bygbjerg is Professor at the Department of International Health, Immunology & Microbiology at University of Copenhagen, Denmark. As a specialist in tropical medicine and infectious diseases, Prof. Bygbjerg has shared his expertise with organisations including the Danish Ministry of Defence, the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Danish Red Cross, and the World Health Organisation. Prof. Bygbjerg is also a member of DANIDA's Council and of numerous professional bodies, including the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine, UK and the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene. His involvement in such organisations has prompted extensive travel within the developing world and he has spent significant lengths of time in India, Tanzania and the Democratic Republic of Congo.



He has contributed to capacity building in research and teaching of major global health problems in Denmark and abroad for more than 30 years. Interaction between communicable and non-communicable diseases, in particular diabetes and tuberculosis, and prevention of chronic diseases by improving maternal and fetal health have been his main topics of interest, after he became board member of WDF in 2002.

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#### **Ms. Ida Nicolaisen**

Ms. Nicolaisen is a Senior Research Fellow at the Nordic Institute of Asian Studies at Copenhagen University. Before taking up her current position Ms. Nicolaisen held a position as Associate Professor also at Copenhagen University. Ms. Nicolaisen is specialised in cultural anthropology and socio-economic development and holds a great expertise of the challenges of the third world countries through her job and membership of several boards such as the Permanent Forum of Indigenous Issues (UN), DANIDA, the Foundation of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Frederik and International Human Rights. Furthermore, Ms. Nicolaisen is consulting DANIDA, UNSO, Sarawak museum and WWF in different matters.

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#### **Mr. Lars Rebie Sørensen**

Mr. Sørensen is President and CEO of the pharmaceutical company Novo Nordisk A/S, known for its social responsibility and dedication to improve life for people with diabetes. Through this position Mr. Lars Rebie Sørensen is one of the founding fathers of WDF. Mr. Sørensen has spent most of his career in Novo Nordisk A/S. First in Novo Nordisk's Enzymes Marketing Department and later as President of International Operations of the Bioindustrial Group before joining the Corporate Management. In 2000 he was appointed President and CEO of Novo Nordisk A/S. Mr. Sørensen holds an MSc in Forestry from the Royal Danish Veterinary and Agricultural University and a BSc in International Economics from The Copenhagen Business School in 1983.

Mr. Sørensen is a member of the Boards of ZymoGenetics, Inc, US, and DONG Energy A/S and Danmarks Nationalbank, both Denmark, as well as a member of the Bertelsmann AG Supervisory Board, Germany.

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#### **Dr. Kaushik Ramaiya**

Dr. Ramaiya is Consultant Physician & Medical Administrator at the Shree Hindu Mandal Hospital in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

Dr. Ramaiya holds several appointments such as Hon Lecturer, Department of Internal Medicine, Muhimbili University of Health & Allied Sciences (MUHAS) Dar es Salaam; Vice-President, International Diabetes Federation; Hon General Secretary, Tanzania Diabetes Association; Hon General Secretary, Association of Private Health Facilities in Tanzania (APHFTA). He is board member of the Muhimbili National Hospital as well as member of the Medical Council of Tanganyika.

He has produced numerous publications on diabetes research and has implemented many initiatives and studies to put diabetes on the health agenda in Africa. He is also currently studying the HIV/AIDS and its interaction with diabetes and cardiovascular diseases.

For further information please contact



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**The World Diabetes Foundation**

The World Diabetes Foundation is dedicated to supporting prevention and treatment of diabetes in the developing world through funding of sustainable projects. The Foundation creates partnerships and acts as a catalyst to help others do more and strives to educate and advocate globally in an effort to create awareness, care and relief to those impacted by diabetes.

The World Diabetes Foundation has to date funded 270 projects in 100 countries with a total project portfolio of USD 255.5 million, of which USD 85.8 million has been donated by the Foundation. The establishment of the World Diabetes Foundation was announced by its founding father, Novo Nordisk A/S, on World Diabetes Day 2001. The Foundation was legally established in February 2002. A donation programme by the founding company of a maximum of DKK 650 million over a period of ten years was approved by its General Assembly and shareholders in March 2002 (realised 2001 - 2010: DKK 528.8 million).

In March 2008, the shareholders of Novo Nordisk A/S approved an additional endowment of a maximum of DKK 575 million over another ten-year period, bringing the two endowments from Novo Nordisk A/S up to a total maximum of DKK 1.1 billion in the period 2001-2017, i.e. the equivalent of USD 195 million (exchange rate of 5.66). The Foundation is registered as an independent trust and governed by a board of six experts in the field of diabetes care, access to health and development assistance.

For further information please visit our website: [www.worlddiabetesfoundation.org](http://www.worlddiabetesfoundation.org)