



EXECUTIVE BOARD EB146/22.3

Agenda item 22.3

World health days

STATEMENT BY THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF NEPHROLOGY

We welcome the WHO Report on World health days and appreciate the organization's desire to assess the added value of, and guidance for the current 104 world days, weeks, years and decades devoted to health. During the exercise we urge the Secretariat to also inquire whether pressing health topics are currently neglected, effectively being deprived of the opportunity for mobilizing additional support for action, from the local community to the international stage.

Concretely, ISN is urging Member States to mandate World Kidney Day, as an "official" global public health day.

Kidney Disease is an often chronic, debilitating and costly disease associated with severe complications, which poses severe risks for families, communities and Member States' health care systems and economies. Furthermore, a continuous rise of the prevalence of kidney disease, which currently affects around 850 million people worldwide and is projected to become the 5th most common cause of years of life lost globally by 2040, will seriously challenge the achievement of SDG 3.4 and health for all.

In order to raise public awareness of kidney disease and related complications, as well as its prevention and care, including through education and the mass media, Member States, relevant organizations of the United Nations system and other international organizations, as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations and the private sector, should observe World Kidney Day in an appropriate manner.