

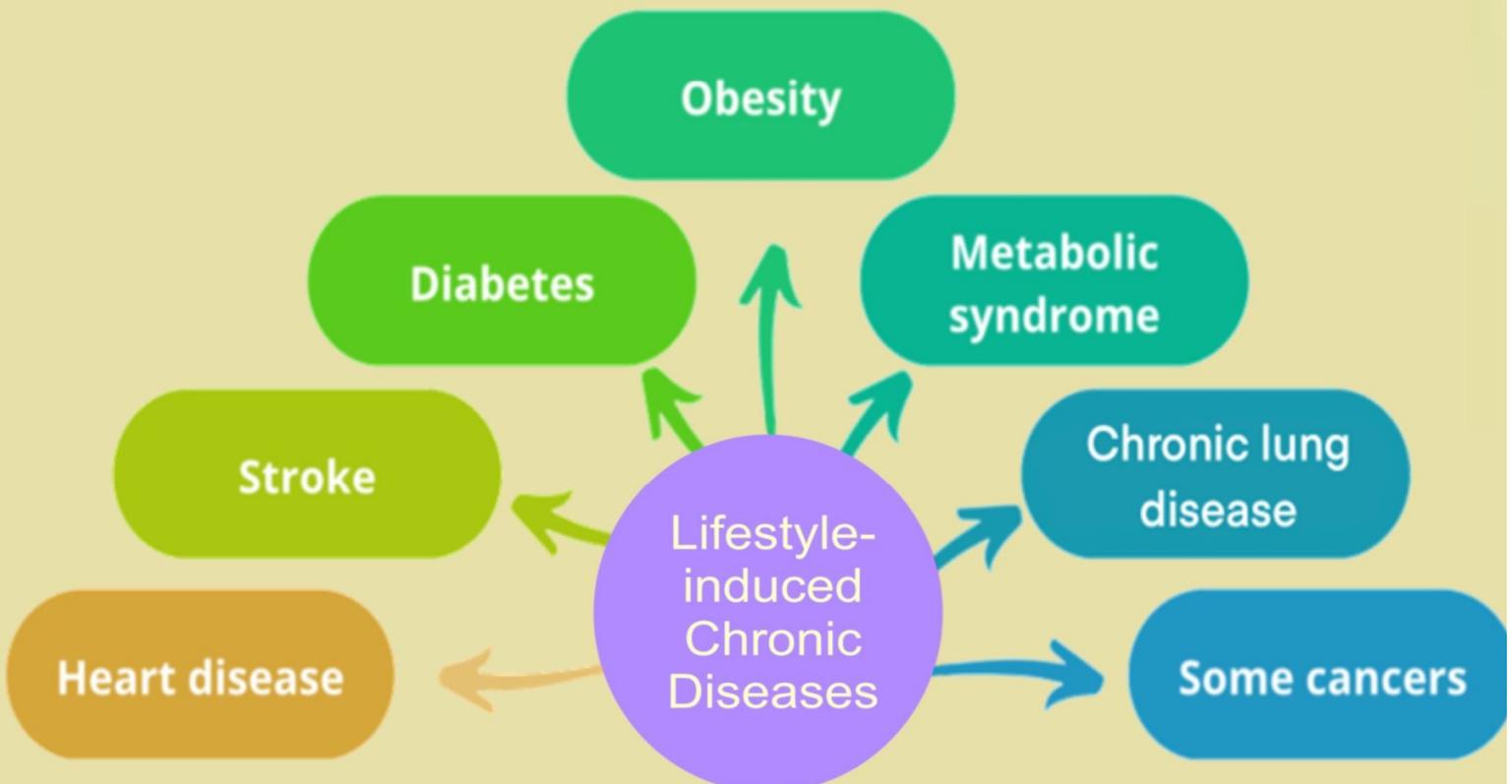


CENTRE FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE
NON-ALIGNED AND OTHER DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
(NAM S&T CENTRE), NEW DELHI, INDIA

JSS ACADEMY OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND
RESEARCH, MAURITIUS

**International Conference
On
Lifestyle Diseases in the Developing World:
Perspectives, Current Status and
Future Challenges**

**14-15 May 2026
Mauritius**



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
ON
**Lifestyle Diseases in the Developing World:
Perspectives, Current Status and Future Challenges**
14 – 15 May 2026
MAURITIUS
Hybrid Mode

INTRODUCTION

In recent decades, *Lifestyle Diseases*, also known as *Non-communicable Diseases (NCDs)* have emerged as the leading cause of morbidity and mortality across the globe, including in the developing world. These diseases, including diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, cancer, chronic respiratory illnesses and obesity are closely linked to changing lifestyles, urbanization, sedentary behavior, poor dietary patterns and increasing stress levels.

While once considered the health burden of high-income nations, the rapid epidemiological transition in developing countries, particularly in Africa, Asia and Latin America has created a dual burden of disease. These regions continue to grapple with infectious diseases while simultaneously facing a surge in NCDs. The lack of robust health infrastructure, inadequate surveillance systems, limited access to early diagnosis and care, and socio-economic disparities make lifestyle diseases an even more formidable challenge in these settings.

Regional differences in risk factors, healthcare access, policy implementation and indigenous knowledge systems must be studied and addressed through locally contextualized frameworks rather than ‘one-size-fits-all’ global approach. The growing burden of lifestyle diseases poses a significant threat to achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly: **SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being** that explicitly aims to reduce premature mortality from NCDs by one-third by 2030 through prevention and treatment; **SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities** – Lifestyle diseases disproportionately affect marginalized communities with limited access to care; **SDG 1: No Poverty** – NCDs often push families into poverty due to long-term health expenditures and productivity losses; and **SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals** – addressing lifestyle diseases requires robust collaborations across governments, academia, industries and civil society, especially in South-South cooperation scenarios.

In this context, the Centre for Science and Technology of the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries (NAM S&T Centre), New Delhi, India; in partnership with the JSS Academy of Higher Education and Research, Mauritius (JSSAHERM) is pleased to organise a Joint **International Conference** on “*Lifestyle Diseases in the Developing World: Perspectives, Current Status and Future Challenges*” during **14-15 May 2026** in **Mauritius**. The Conference will be hosted by JSSAHER, Mauritius.

This conference aims to build cross-national dialogue, encourage capacity building and promote evidence-based, inclusive and affordable strategies that can help countries curb the lifestyle disease epidemic. Special attention will be given to *youth health, urban slums, rural-urban divide* and *women’s health* - areas that often remain under-addressed in NCD discourse. This conference offers a timely platform to convene experts, researchers, pharmacists, medical practitioners and policymakers to deliberate upon the pressing challenge of lifestyle diseases and to explore strategic interventions tailored to the unique needs of the developing world. It aims to facilitate the sharing of experiences and best

practices across nations with hope that discussions on “*Health Delivery Systems*” would enable us to learn more from each other and strengthen collective responses.

CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this conference are to:

1. **Deliberate on the current trends, risk factors and socio-economic burden of lifestyle diseases** in the developing world with particular emphasis on the African and South Asian regions.
2. **Share scientific innovations, preventive strategies, health policies and research findings** aimed at reducing the burden of lifestyle-related NCDs.
3. **Strengthen health systems and primary healthcare responses** for the prevention, early detection and management of lifestyle-related NCDs, in line with WHO frameworks and Universal Health Coverage goals.
4. **Promote evidence-based policy dialogue and multi-sectoral action** to address modifiable risk factors and social determinants of health, supporting progress towards **SDG 3(4)**.
5. **Identify priority actions and future pathways** for regional and global cooperation in combating lifestyle diseases in the developing world; and **foster partnerships and collaborative networks** among Member Countries of the NAM S&T Centre and other developing countries to address shared challenges in NCD surveillance, healthcare delivery and health promotion.

TOPICS TO BE COVERED

1. **Epidemiology of Lifestyle Diseases in the Developing Nations:** Emerging Trends, Regional Patterns and Data Gaps
2. **Nutrition Transition and Urbanization:** Key Drivers of Metabolic Disorders; Obesity and Diabetes in the Global South
3. **Youth, Mental Health and Sedentary Lifestyles:** Emerging Public Health Challenges
4. **Integrative Approaches to NCD Prevention:** Role of Traditional Medicine; Yoga and Community-Based Interventions
5. **Health System Strengthening for NCD Control:** Surveillance; Early Detection and Equitable Access to Essential Medicines
6. **Digital Health and Artificial Intelligence (AI) for Lifestyle Disease Management:** Opportunities and Challenges in Low-Resource Settings
7. **Women and NCDs:** Gender Disparities in Risk Factors, Access to Care and Health Outcomes

IMPORTANT DATES

ACTIVITY	DATES
Conference Dates	May 14 – 15, 2026
Submission of Application Starts	February 23, 2026 (Monday)
Last Date for Submission of Applications	March 26, 2026 (Thursday)

TENTATIVE PROGRAMME OF THE CONFERENCE

Session Details			
Programme (MUT: GMT+4hrs.)	14 th May, 2026	Programme (MUT: GMT+4hrs.)	15 th May, 2026
09:00-10:00 hrs	Inaugural Session and Group Photograph	09:00-09:30 hrs	Keynote Lecture 3
10:00-10:15 hrs	Tea/Coffee Break	09:30-10:30 hrs	Technical Session 5: <i>Digital Health and AI for Lifestyle Disease Management</i>
10:15-10:45 hrs	Keynote Lecture 1	10:30-10:45 hrs	Tea/Coffee Break
10:45-11:45 hrs	Technical Session 1: <i>Epidemiology of Lifestyle Diseases</i>	10:45-11:45 hrs	Technical Session 6: <i>Women and NCDs</i>
11:45-12:45 hrs	Technical Session 2: <i>Emerging Public Health Challenges</i>	11:45-12:45 hrs	Technical Session 7: <i>Integrative Approaches to NCD Prevention</i>
12:45-13:45 hrs	Lunch	12:45-13:45 hrs	Lunch
13:45-14:15 hrs	Keynote Lecture 2	13:45-14:45 hrs	Adoption of Resolution
14:15-15:15 hrs	Technical Session 3: <i>Nutrition Transition and Urbanization</i>	14:45-15:00 hrs	Tea/Coffee Break
15:15-15:30 hrs	Tea/Coffee Break	15:00-15:15 hrs	Certificate Distribution & Distribution of Prizes
15:30-16:30 hrs	Technical Session 4: <i>Strengthening of Health System</i>	15:15-15:45 hrs	Concluding Session
End of the day			

- Keynote Lectures from invited speakers: **30 min each**
- Paper Presentations by participants under various technical sessions: **15 min each**

Note: A detailed Session-wise Programme will be made available before the Conference.

TARGETED PARTICIPANTS

Researchers, scientists, government officials and policymakers, representatives from non-government organizations, pharmaceutical associations, research and academic organizations from the NAM and other developing countries, who are engaged in the field of health, pharmaceuticals, environment, social issues, technology and any related experts, are invited to participate in this Conference.

The combination of participants from various developing countries will allow the exchange of knowledge, ideas and experiences as well as opportunities for global networking and collaboration.

The conference is also open for other than non-aligned countries participants. For more information visit www.jssaher.edu.mu

Note: English will be the official language of the programme.

RESOURCE PERSONS

The resource persons for the Conference will comprise eminent experts and professionals in the relevant fields from the NAM and other Developing Countries.

ABOUT THE ORGANISERS

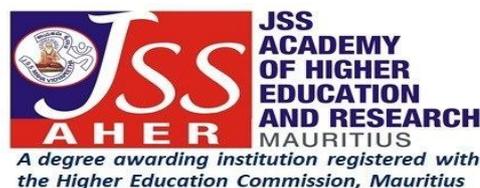
NAM S&T Centre, New Delhi

The Centre for Science and Technology of the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries (NAM S&T Centre) is an Inter-Governmental Organisation with a Membership of 47 countries spread over Asia, Africa, the Middle East and Latin America. The Centre was set-up in 1989 in New Delhi, India based on the decisions taken during various NAM Summits and is mandated to undertake a variety of programmes, including organization of International Conferences, Training Programmes/Workshops and implementation of multilateral collaborative S&T projects. It also offers short-term fellowship programmes to scientists and researchers from developing countries in association with the Centres of Excellence in various countries. The Centre also brings out technical books, monographs and other scientific publications in different S&T subjects of interest to the developing countries. The Centre's activities provide an opportunity for scientist-to-scientist contact and interactions; familiarizing participants on the latest developments and techniques in the subject areas; identification of the requirements of training and expert assistance; locating technologies for transfer between the Members and other developing countries and dissemination of S&T information etc. In addition, the Centre encourages Academic-R&D-Industry interactions in the developing countries through its "NAM S&T-Industry Network". The Centre is giving special focus on helping the NAM S&T Centre Member Countries in their capacity building to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals – 2030. More details about the Centre are available at www.namstct.org.



JSS ACADEMY OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND RESEARCH, Mauritius (JSSAHERM)

The JSS Academy of Higher Education and Research, Mauritius (JSSAHERM) was established in 2018 with degree-awarding powers and is an approved and registered institution with the Higher Education Commission, Mauritius. JSSAHERM is located on a sprawling eight-acre freehold campus at Bonne Terre, Vacoas, the only one of its



kind in the country, including some 15, 000 sq. mts. of built- up area with necessary academic, learning, and recreational infrastructure. The campus also comprises of hostels for boys and girls students, sports facilities such as Volleyball, Basketball, Football and in-door games. There are also residential units for staff and guests. Building on its philosophy of quality education at affordable costs, JSSAHERM aims to present itself as the destination of choice for higher education and training in Mauritius and the Indian Ocean region. The Bachelor of Pharmacy (B Pharm) programme of JSSAHERM has received full accreditation and Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm D) Pre-accreditation from the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), USA, making JSSAHERM the first institution in African region to get ACPE-certification. JSSAHERM received accreditation of MBBS programme from Higher Education Commission and starting its first batch by March 2026. JSSAHERM is making great progress in grooming graduates and post graduates by providing effective value-based education by focusing on the overall development of an individual through state-of-art facilities to make every learner a useful citizen to the society.

JSS Mahavidyapeetha (JSSMVP), Mysuru, India is the sponsoring society of JSSAHER, Mauritius. JSSMVP has established more than 360 educational institutions in India, Dubai, Mauritius and USA with a total student population over 100,000 and staff strength over 15,000. The parent institution for the establishment of JSSAHERM is the JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research, Mysuru (JSS AHER, Mysuru, India), formerly known as the JSS University. The Times Higher Education Impact ranking 2024, JSS AHER, Mysuru has been ranked 1st in the World for SDG 3 - Good Health & Well-being. Caring the legacy of JSS AHER Mysuru, JSSAHERM entered the international ranking for the first time and has been ranked in the band of 81-100 in Times Higher Education Sub-Saharan Africa University Ranking 2024.

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

Experts and scientists desirous of participating in the Conference, *except those from Mauritius*, should submit their application **electronically** to the Director General, NAM S&T Centre, New Delhi at namstcentre@gmail.com as early as possible, but latest by **26 March 2026 (Thursday)**.

However, applicants from Mauritius should submit their requests directly to the Head, Faculty of Health Sciences, JSSAHER, Mauritius at dradwadhvani@jssuni.edu.in or ashishwadhvani@jssaher.edu.mu.

Following documents must be submitted as **e-mail attachments**:

- a) Filled in Application Form (Blank form **enclosed**).
- b) An Opinion/Write-up (a short paragraph; in MS Word format) on how the applicant qualifies to participate in the Conference.
- c) A Short Biography (to be written in third person; 250-300 words max) highlighting the current engagement, areas of expertise, major achievements, academic qualification and professional experience as succinctly as possible.

- d) An Abstract (about 300 words in MS-Word only) of the Paper/Country Status Report that would be presented at the Conference.
- e) A copy of relevant pages of valid Passport.

*Note: The documents (b), (c) and (d) above must be in MS-Word format only; PDF or image files will not be accepted. Hard copies of the Application Form and the above attachments are **NOT REQUIRED** to be submitted.*

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS

Participants are expected to present a Country Status Report and /or a research/scientific paper on any of the themes appropriate to the Conference.

LOCAL HOSPITALITY AND TRAVEL

Local hospitality in Mauritius including accommodation, meals and local transport including the airport transfers to the foreign participants sponsored by the NAM S&T Centre will be provided from **13 May 2026 (noon) to 16 May 2026 (noon)** [i.e. from one day before to one day after completion of the Conference]. The participants are requested to book their flights accordingly; otherwise, they will have to make their own arrangements to stay beyond these dates.

FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR TRAVEL

The financial terms and arrangements for international travel of the foreign participants will be conveyed to individual applicants on receipt of their application and other documents.

ENTRY FORMALITIES AND IMMIGRATION

Participants of the Conference **must be in possession of a current passport or any other internationally recognized travel document**, which must have a **period of validity of at least six months beyond the period of stay in Mauritius** and must be endorsed for travel to Mauritius.

Participants should have a **valid visa for entry into Mauritius**. The Mauritian diplomatic mission located in or closest to the country of the participant should be approached for obtaining an entry visa. For a large number of countries, however, online visa application is available. Upon request, the organisers will facilitate the issuance of visa by providing the participants with an official letter of invitation.

Note: The governments/institutions of the selected participants will be required to bear the following costs:

- All expenses in the home country incidental to travel abroad, including expenditure for passport, required medical examinations, vaccinations and miscellaneous expenses such as internal travel to the airport of departure in the home country.
- Salary and other related allowances for the participants during the period of the Conference
- Cost of medical insurance to cover the period of participation in the Conference.
- The organisers of the Conference will not assume responsibility for the following expenditures in connection with the participant's attendance in the Conference.
 - Expenses incurred for any insurance, medical bills or hospitalization fees.

- Compensation in the event of death, disability or illness of participants.
- Loss of personal belongings or compensation for damage caused to them by climatic or other conditions.
- Other costs, including the visa fee, airport taxes, flight cancellation and excess baggage, etc.

OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION

- The temperature in Mauritius during the Conference period would be around 25°C, with evenings staying nice and warm at 20°C
- Mauritius Standard Time is **+04 hours ahead of GMT**.
- The Mauritian Currency is Rupee (MUR); the present current exchange rate is US 1\$ = ~ 47 MUR.

MODE OF EXECUTION

The Conference will be organized in **Hybrid Mode**. **While the invited speakers, participants from Mauritius and foreign participants sponsored by NAM S&T Centre will attend the Conference physically**, rest all other participants may attend offline/online.

SELECTION OF APPLICANTS

Selection of applicants will be made based on their academic and professional background, relevance of their current engagements in the relevant field and the abstract of paper submitted by them. Successful applicants will be electronically informed about their selection.

For those who would be attending the Conference virtually, details about the *Virtual Platform* will be provided well within the time after the selection procedure is completed.

Other details and terms and conditions for the participation of scientists from various countries will be given to the individual candidates on receipt of their applications.

SECRETARIAT AND ENQUIRIES

NAM S&T CENTRE

Dr. Amitava Bandopadhyay

Director General,
Centre for Science and Technology of the
Non-Aligned and other Developing Countries (NAM S&T Centre),
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Tel: +91-11-24645134, 24644974
E-mail: namstcentre@gmail.com
Website: <http://www.namstct.org>

JSS ACADEMY OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND RESEARCH, MAURITIUS (JSSAHERM)

Prof. (Dr.) Ashish Wadhvani

Head and Coordinator,
Faculty of Health Sciences, School of Pharmacy,
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CENTRE FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE
NON-ALIGNED AND OTHER DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
(NAMS&TCENTRE)

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
ON

**Lifestyle Diseases in the Developing World:
Perspectives, Current Status and Future Challenges**

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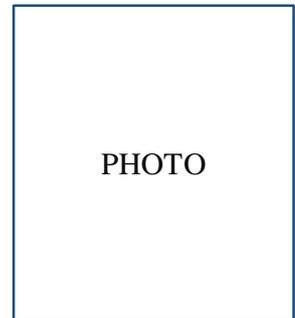
MAURITIUS

Hybrid Mode

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SECTION-A

(To be filled in by the Applicant)



- 1 **(As in Passport)**
(Prof. /Dr. /Mr. /Mrs. /Ms.)
First Name:
Middle Name:
Last Name:
- 2 Designation (Position held):
- 3 Nationality:
- 4 Date of Birth:
Place of Birth (City)..... (Country).....
- 5 Passport No:
Place of issue:
Date of Issue: Valid up to:
- (Please **attach** copies of the relevant pages of your Passport)*
- 6 Name of the Parent Institution (Employer).....
Full Address (Office):
Phone: Mobile:
Fax: E-mail:

7 Full Address (Home):

.....
.....

Phone: Mobile:

Fax: E-mail:

8 Educational Qualifications:

Highest Degree.....

Year of Award:

University:

Field of Study:

9 A Short Biography (to be written in third person; 250-300 words max; in MS Word only – to be **ATTACHED**)

10 An Opinion/Write-up (a short paragraph; in MS Word only) on how the applicant qualifies to participate in the Conference - to be **ATTACHED**

11 An Abstract (about 300 words, in MS-Word only) of the Paper/Country Status Report that would be presented by you at the Conference - to be **ATTACHED**

Date: Signature:

SECTION-B
ENDORSEMENT BY THE NOMINATING AUTHORITY

(The Applicant in a Member Country of the NAM S&T Centre must get the Application Form endorsed by the Focal Point of the Centre in his/her country, if he/she wishes to take advantages extended to the official nominee of the country. For the list of Member Countries and names/addresses of the Focal Points please visit the Centre’s official website; www.namstct.org).

Name (in full):

Designation:

Date: Signature:

SEAL

Enclosures:

- An Opinion/Write-up (a short paragraph; in MS Word format) on how the applicant qualifies to participate in the Conference.
- A Short Biography (to be written in third person; 250-300 words max; in MS Word only) highlighting the current engagement, areas of expertise, major achievements, academic qualification and professional experience as succinctly as possible.
- An Abstract (about 300 words; in MS-Word only) of the Paper/Country Status Report that would be presented at the Conference.
- A copy of relevant pages of your valid Passport [It must have a period of validity of at least six months beyond the period of stay in Mauritius].
