MINUTES OF AN ISH GENERAL MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 28 SEPTEMBER 2016 FROM 12:30-13:30 HRS
Room 201, COEX, Seoul, South Korea

Present:

Rhian Touyz UK President (Chair)
Amani Al Rahman Sudan
Ibtsam Ahmed Ali Sudan
Christian Aalkjaer Denmark
Asma Abdalaal Abdalla Sudan
Hind Mahmoun Beheiry Sudan
Lawrence Beilin Australia
Sofie Brouwers Switzerland New Investigator Committee Working Group member
Dylan Burger Canada New Investigator Committee member
Louise Burrell Australia Treasurer / Council member
Rafael Castillo Philippines
Fadi Charchar Australia New Investigator Committee member
Chiole Pascal Chijioke Nigeria
Albertino Damasceno Mozambique Africa RAG member
Jan Danser The Netherlands
Peter De Leeuw The Netherlands
Emmanuel Ejim Nigeria
Rania Elkhalfa Sudan
Guido Grassi Italy Council member
Tony Heagerty UK
Masa Horiuchi Japan Council member
Peter Howe Australia
Hugo Huisman South Africa
Elwaled Ibrahim Sudan
Sadayoshi Ito Japan
Garry Jennings Australia
Solomon Kadiri Nigeria
Suang Suang Koid Japan New Investigator Committee Working Group member
Ruan Kruger South Africa
Daniel Lackland USA
Yan Li China
Lars H Lindholm Sweden Council member
Francine Marques Australia New Investigator Committee Working Group member
Geoff Matthews Australia
Safaa Medani Sudan
Anastasia Susie Mihailidou Australia
Trefor Morgan Australia
Peter Nilsson Sweden
B. Onwubere Nigeria Council member
Suzanne Oparil USA
Sheila Patel Australia
Mario Pogiltsch Austria
Jorge Polonia Portugal
Neil Poulter UK President Elect
Maciej Tomaszewski UK Chair, New Investigator Committee and Council member
Agustin Ramirez Argentina Council member
Fumitoshi Satoh Japan
Ernesto Schiffrin Canada Immediate Past President / Council member
Markus Schlaich Australia Council member
Roland Schmieder Germany Treasurer
Alta Schutte South Africa Chair, New Investigator Committee / Council member
Chang-Sheng Sheng China
Ulrike Stecklings Denmark
Naftali Stern Israel Council member
Colin Sumners USA
Thomas Unger Netherlands
1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES:
R. Touyz welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were noted from S. Harrap and Y. Kokubo.

2. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING
The minutes of the last meeting held on 15th June 2014 in Athens were approved.

3. PRESIDENT’S REPORT
R. Touyz presented her President’s report.

Her vision as President for 2014-2016 was to:
1. Expand the global educational activities
2. Develop regionally appropriate teaching aids, slide sets and to encourage ISH-related peer-reviewed publications
3. Collaborate with global leaders & national associations on educational programmes
4. Utilise ISH funds to meet charitable objectives - Fellowship Scheme
5. Support outreach programmes to educate the public on hypertension and to work closely with the WHL and WHF
6. Develop a new programme to support women in hypertension research

Global initiatives and collaborations were addressed by E. Schiffrin under agenda point 10.

The ISH has been involved with a number of peer-reviewed publications in 2016.

R. Touyz has developed a programme to support and mentor women in hypertension research. The Mission of this programme is:
- To promote women scientists and clinicians so that they can fulfil their career aspirations in the field of hypertension and related cardiovascular diseases.
- To provide a platform for networking and mentoring to enable women hypertension researchers to maximise career opportunities. In particular to reach out to those who do not have formal mentoring support.
- To recognise and promote successes of women in the hypertension community.
- Aim to involve all ISH members in promoting equal opportunities for women in science and medicine based on merit.

R. Touyz thanked the members of her Women in Hypertension Research Committee for their great commitment to this initiative: S. Brouwers (Switzerland), L. Burrell (Australia), F. Charchar (Australia), A. Schutte (South Africa) and U. Steckelings (Denmark).

R. Touyz reported that the Launch of the Women in Hypertension Research Programme had taken place two days previously at the Seoul meeting. On this occasion, awards were given to senior female members of the Society who have assumed leadership roles during their careers. An inspirational keynote address was given by B. Casadei (President Elect, ESC) from Oxford University, UK.
R. Touyz reported that she has received positive feedback to the ISH equality statement and comments that it is forward thinking of the Society to introduce such a statement. This states: The ISH is positively committed to opposing discrimination against people on the grounds of gender, race, colour, nationality, religion, marital status, sexual orientation, class, age, disability, having dependants, HIV status or perceived lifestyle.

Part of R. Touyz’s vision was to invest in the next generation of hypertension researchers, grow the Mentorship Scheme, nurture our future ISH leadership and introduce the Emerging Leaders category of membership. These points were covered in the meeting in more detail by A. Schutte and M. Tomaszewski. However, she applauded the NIC on carrying out another very successful Mentorship and Networking event the day previously.

R. Touyz detailed further exciting new activities carried out by the Society.
- Research Foundation – Scholarship to support young investigators in low-income countries and develop expertise and skills in the region/location of the mentor who will be in receipt of the award. 21 applications have been received of which 9 have been shortlisted. The winner will be announced in the next few months.
- Engaging in research activities with other Hypertension Organisations e.g. with the ESH in projects related to Hypertension apps.
- Optimising healthy financial status.
- Creating an Accreditation Education (Sub) Committee to assist with the numerous requests received by the Society.

R. Touyz expressed her thanks to the Executive, Council, Communications Committee and Secretariat for all their contributions during the last two years. She reported that she has felt very privileged to have had the position of ISH President.

4. ISH SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL
   4.1 Departing members
   R. Touyz thanked departing Council members for their important and innovative contributions during their terms of office. Departing ISH Council members were as follows L. Burrell, G. Grassi, B. Onwubere, E. Schiffrin and N. Stern. E. Schiffrin has been an invaluable member of the ISH Executive Committee for 10 years and in leaving Council indicated that it has been a great pleasure for him to participate in Society business at this level.

   4.2 Election of members for 2016-2020
   Nominations were requested from members to fill places on Council (ninety days before the General Meeting - as indicated in the Constitution). There was a strong requirement to ensure that the introduction of new members made the Council more globally representative and regionally balanced. Voting took place (1) electronically in advance of the meeting and (2) during the meeting for those members who had not previously cast their vote. From the 19 nominations received, the members elected to Council from 2016-2020 were as follows.
   1. C. Borghi (Italy) 1st term of office
   2. F. Charchar (Australia) 1st term of office
   3. S. Ito (Japan) 1st term of office
   4. N. Khan (Canada) 1st term of office
   5. D. Prabhakaran (India) 1st term of office
   6. A. Ramirez (Argentina) 2nd term of office
   7. A. Schutte (South Africa) 2nd term of office
   8. T. Unger (Netherlands) 1st term of office

5. MEMBERSHIP
   5.1 Membership report
   A. Schutte presented a report as the Chair of the Membership Committee.

   The aims of the Membership Committee from 2014-2016 have been as follows:
   - Actively recruit new members
   - Attract more geographically comprehensive membership
   - Retain members and encourage active participation
   - Transition members through the Society
   - Increase the number of paying members
   - Update membership categories
   - Update membership application process
To aid the recruitment of members:
- The Society brochure has been updated.
- The ISH New Investigator Committee Recruitment Working Group has been active.
- Society promotion has been carried out via ISH Teaching Faculty member visits globally.
- Recommendations have and will continue to be requested from Council and committee members (Ambassadors) as to potential new Society members.
- An ISH membership slide (including details on the membership categories has been created to include in ISH Council and committee member presentations made globally and a specific Join ISH slide has been created for use in presentations at the Seoul meeting.
- The application process has been simplified. A copy of an applicant’s CV is requested. Applicants are no longer required to complete the free data fields on the online application form. This was a much longer process and potentially off-putting for those applying. Supporting letters will now only be requested from those applying as Research Fellows, again in order to simplify the process.
- A Join ISH automated recruitment campaign was launched after the Council meeting in Milan in June 2015, again to simplify and streamline the application process and, to remind people after set periods to become members.

To retain active participants:
- An automated membership renewal process continues to be used and updated where required.
- The new Emerging Leader membership category has been launched to bridge the gap between the Research Fellow and Professional Member categories and avoid losing younger Society members. These members are asked to pay for the Journal of Hypertension, but the Society membership is waived. After 3 years their membership will be reviewed and it is hoped that they will decide to apply to become Professional Members.
- The membership benefits have been reviewed.
- Enhanced opportunities are offered to new investigators joining the Society (such as inclusion in the Mentorship Scheme).
- Membership communication has been streamlined. Each month a copy of the newsletter or an e-Bulletin is circulated to membership.

Membership category changes implemented at the end of 2015 are as follows.
- Introduction of Emerging Leaders category
- Extension of Research Fellow tenure to up to 6 years on application
- Regular Member title change to Professional Member
- Distinguished Member title change to Distinguished Fellow
- Emeritus Member title change to Emeritus Fellow
- Emeritus criteria update – proposed as follows: 
  A Professional Member who has been a longstanding member of the Society, who is over the age of 65, and who has retired from full-time active work may seek status as an Emeritus Fellow.

Current membership figures:
It is encouraging that in 2016 (as of the meeting), the Society has 1,306 members constituting 948 Professional Members, 102 Society members, 32 Emeritus Members, 7 Distinguished Members, 26 Emerging Leaders, 5 Honorary Members, 162 Research Fellows and 8 Corporate Members (organisation - industry partners). The number of ISH members continues to grow year on year. It is envisaged that the number of Emerging Leaders will continue to steadily grow as ISH Research Fellows go through the ranks.


However, a review of the membership database to remove those people who have not paid their fees consistently over the last 3 years will need to be carried out before the end of the year. Those who are not paying the Society dues should not continue to gain any membership benefits.

Members per country:
A document was tabled indicating Society members per country. There is much room for improvement and growth of membership in several countries and certain regions. A Schutte asked all members to reach out to their colleagues and help recruit new members from the country where they
are based. They should in particular encourage their institute colleagues including students and post doctorate research fellows and students to join the society and build the membership.

The current top 11 members per country were presented: Japan - 144, USA – 132, Japan – 117, Australia – 100, China – 72, UK – 65, Italy – 54, Canada – 53, South Korea – 35, Nigeria - 33, South Africa - 28, Spain – 28.

A slide showing the top 10 figures of Research Fellows per country was presented. USA - 34, Australia - 17, Japan - 13, India - 12, South Africa - 10, UK - 9, Canada - 8, Nigeria - 6, Argentina - 4 and Greece - 4.

Slides were shown to highlight the ISH members per country who are eligible to receive the HINARI reduced fee membership and how many members are benefiting currently from this initiative.

The number of members added and deleted since 2006 were shown. The number of applicants this year is particularly high. The Constitution requires that members who do not pay their Society fees for 2 consecutive years should be removed from membership. As mentioned earlier, a membership data clean is required imminently.

The current membership fee is US$165.00 for ISH only members and US$205.00 for joint ISH-ESH members. Individuals who are eligible for membership as a HINARI members (as well as those from South Africa) are only asked to pay USD 40.00 per year. Their membership includes a free online subscription to the Journal of Hypertension. The fee for Emerging Leaders is USD 130.00 to cover the Journal of Hypertension subscription cost only and not the Society fee. The fee for 2017 is to be confirmed imminently in order for membership renewals to be mailed before the end of the year.

The numbers of paid ISH members from 2005-2016 was presented. The 2016 paid figure is higher than paid figures in the previous years. However, A. Schutte is concerned that the figures are currently too low and that a higher percentage of members should be paying their annual fees.

A. Schutte thanked all her committee members for their assistance in reviewing new membership applications and for the advice that they have given in the updating of the membership application process. Committee members include: L. Burrell, H. Haller, M. Horiuchi, C-H. Kim, D. Prabhakaran, A. Ramirez, M. Tomaszewski, P. Veerabhadrappa, R. Wainford and J. Wang.

5.2 To ratify new members
Members voted to ratify the list of 297 new members (2014-2016) which was tabled at the meeting.

5.3 Corporate Members
L. Burrell reported that the ISH has 8 Corporate Members this year to include: Astellas, Daiichi-Sankyo, Medtronic, Microlife, Novartis, Omron, Servier and Takeda. She expressed her thanks to these organisations for their invaluable contributions.

Support increasingly is coming from device manufacturers rather than pharmaceutical companies. However, the Society would be would like to encourage new membership from institutes and other organisations interested in or supporting research in hypertension. The current annual fee is USD 15,000.

She thanked all her committee members for their efforts to include: S. Brouwers, C-H. Kim, Y. Kokubo, J-B. Park, N. Poulter, E. Schiffrin, M. Schlaich, A. Schutte, M. Tomaszewski and M. Weber.

6. TREASURER’S REPORT
L. Burrell presented the 2015 Society accounts and showed comparative figures from 2008 to 2015. There was a total income of USD 260,947 in 2015 primarily gained via the Journal royalties and Corporate Membership. The Journal income has remained quite constant, as has income from individual membership fees.

The Society is still waiting to receive CAD 265,000 from the Vancouver 2010 meeting and once the Canadian Revenue Agency has approved this. She thanked E. Schiffrin for this great input in this regard. Of note, there has been a downward trajectory since the 2008 event in relation to the level of income received from ISH Biennial Meetings.

The total expenditure in 2015 was USD 374,881 in comparison with USD 433,401 in 2014 and USD 378,023 in 2013. The Society incurred additional secretariat expenses in 2014 due to the transfer to a new secretariat in April 2014.

She reported that annual funds are allocated to each of the 5 Regional Advisory Group (RAG) and the New Investigator Committee (NIC). If not all this money is spent it will be returned to the main ISH funds.

The Society remains in a strong position financially and this will allow the Society to explore new activities to meet its charitable objectives. The Society will make plans to investigate enhanced use of Society funds to meet the requirements of the Charity Commission moving forward. In this regard, the funding for mentors to train research scholars in low income countries was seen to be an important initiative.

7. COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

N. Poulter presented his report on behalf of the Communications Committee. He congratulated L.H. Lindholm on the progress of Hypertension News (the quarterly) newsletter. This is going from strength to strength. The NIC’s contributions to the newsletter have also helped to improve the content and make this a stronger offering to new and ongoing Society members.

Regular Committee Meetings have taken place over the last few months and Society communication is sent to membership every month. This is either the quarterly newsletter ISH Hypertension News or the e-Bulletins (sent 8 times per year). The New Investigator Committee (NIC) Media Group continue to make fantastic contributions to the ISH social media platforms.

The Society brochure has been updated for the Seoul meeting and a 50th Anniversary video will be launched during the Opening Ceremony. To add to this, a PR Agency has been employed on a project basis to highlight The Lancet Commission on Hypertension.

N. Poulter highlighted key updates that have been made to the Society website.

- Regular news has included teaching faculty member meeting reports, World Hypertension Day, new investigator spotlight features and events.
- The - What's on my desk - feature is an ongoing initiative by the NIC.
- A Join ISH – automated campaign was launched via the website just after the Milan 2015 Council meeting.
- NEW for 2015: A Women in Hypertension Research section was added.
- NEW from August: An updated homepage image was added for the for 50th ISH anniversary
- NEW following the Seoul meeting: A page will be added to the ISH website to celebrate the ISH in video and audio with contributions from ISH members.

During his 2016-2018 Presidency he proposed separating the ISH Hypertension News sub-committee from the other communication activities. The newsletter content is rich and up to date and fantastic feedback is gained from those who read it. Members were encouraged to read this document and share this with colleague and friends. From 2016 there will be a new Communications Committee chair and it is planned that there will be an increased focus on social media and a review of the website content.

N. Poulter gave thanks to his fellow committee members - D. Burger (Canada), L.H. Lindholm (Sweden) and T. Kahan (Sweden).

8. NEW INVESTIGATOR COMMITTEE REPORT

A report was presented by M. Tomaszewski as Chair of the New Investigator Committee (NIC). He presented the current structure of the NIC, including a list of his talented members - 24 people from 15 countries all belonging to one of the three working groups (1) Media (2) Networking and Mentorship or (3) Recruitment. 42% of the current members (10) are female.

He highlighted the work of the Media Working Group. The NIC has a very strong presence on the ISH website and on social media platforms including Facebook, Twitter, YouTube (via the videos - ISHCasts) and LinkedIn. Committee members very actively contribute to the ISH New Investigator Network Facebook page which was established in March 2011. There are 2,068 followers currently, 53% men, 47% women. Last year the NIC made around 200 posts on the Facebook page and each post had an average reach of around 350 people.

The Twitter page has been active since 2014. It has 246 followers of which 49% are male and 51% female and from 80 organisations including ESH, ASH, WHF and Omron). The NIC have made a total of 621 tweets and last year there were 35,000 impressions from the twitter page.
The YouTube channel was established in December 2011. It includes a total of 30 videos which have been received a total of 2,000 views. ISHCasts (new investigator interviews) have been recorded with award winners on Healthy blood pressure tips (World Hypertension Day feature) an Editors Series with interviews to date from the Editors of Clinical Science and Hypertension.

The ‘What’s on my desk’ initiative is run by the NIC Media Working Group and features prominent ISH scientists who provide the title and details of an article that is of interest to them at the moment. It provides new investigators with an insight into the minds of world leaders in hypertension research. There have been 11 profiles to date focusing on both the academic interests and leisure pursuits of the leaders featured.

The new investigator monthly spotlight was established in August 2011 and continues to feature new investigators from around the globe. M. Tomaszewski highlighted a testimonial from a member including in a past spotlight, Sonja Nikolic from Tasmania. She states that she was complimented by her supervisors and other researchers for her involvement with the programme.

The ISH Mentorship Scheme was established in 2014. 10 mentors-mentees were matched by the NIC during the period 2014-2015. These matches have been monitored by the NIC Mentorship and Networking Working Group, feature on the ISH website and have been profiled in Hypertension News and the monthly bulletin. Annual mentoring events take place during ISH/ESH meetings and he reported that a successful event had taken place the day previously at a venue called LU in the Coex, Seoul venue.

The aims of the Mentorship Scheme are:
1. to reach out to Early Career members of the ISH and help these young clinicians and scientists develop their professional careers;
2. to promote the highest possible quality of science and practice in cardiovascular disease and hypertension throughout the world by enriching the scientific base of junior scientists and clinicians;
3. to facilitate and increase international collaboration in basic and clinical research in cardiovascular disease;
4. to introduce bright younger investigators to established labs;
5. to enhance the educational, social and personal growth of new investigators through a supportive relationship with their mentor;
6. to add value to membership of the ISH.

M. Tomaszewski highlighted mentorship success stories regarding matches between F. Marques and G. Lambert (both from Australia) and Y. Kokubo (Japan) and V. Ivkovic (Croatia).

Recent NIC collaborations have been as follows.
Within the Society
- Corporate Liaison Committee – 3 NIC members (M. Tomaszewski, S. Brouwers, A. Schutte) are members of this committee
- Communication Committee – Dylan Burger makes regular contributions to the newsletter (Hypertension News), the monthly e-Bulletin and the Society website
- Membership Committee – 4 NIC members are involved (A. Schutte – chair, M. Tomaszewski, P. Veerabhadrappa, R. Wainford)
- Awards Committee – 1 NIC member (A. Schutte) contributes
- Council – 3 members of the NIC are Council members
- Women in Hypertension – 2 NIC members are involved (A. Schutte, F. Charchar)

Other Societies
- AHA Council of Hypertension – an annual joint new investigator programme takes place
- Argentine Society of Hypertension

Partnerships with journals
- Hypertension – awards jointly funded by ISH NIC, AHA TAC
- Journal of Hypertension – publication of the NIC annual conference contributions
- American Journal of Hypertension, Hypertension Research, Clinical Science, Journal of Human Hypertension – financial contributions to the NIC poster presentation awards during the annual conference

9. WOMEN IN HYPERTENSION RESEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT
See agenda point 3.
10. **GLOBAL INITIATIVES**

E. Schiffrin summarised Regional Advisory Group (RAG) activities (as follows) which have contributed to knowledge translation globally.

Key educational activities that have taken place from July 2015 to September 2016 are as follows. E. Schiffrin indicated the global spread of these initiatives by presenting their location on a map.

- **August 2015:** Asia & Australasia Summer School, Beijing, China
- **August 2015:** Congress of the Brazilian Society, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- **August 2015:** Indonesian Society of Hypertension - InaSh - 2016 Meeting, Jakarta, Indonesia
- **Sept. 2015:** American Heart Association (AHA) Scientific Sessions, NIC collaboration, Washington D. C., USA
- **Oct. 2015:** ISH Symposium (at the Pan African Society of Cardiology - PASCAR meeting), Mauritius
- **Nov. 2015:** 2nd International Conference of Sudanese Society of Hypertension
- **Jan. 2016:** Bangalore Integrated Medicine Conference
- **Feb. 2016:** Gordon Research Seminar (GRS) on Angiotensin
- **March 2016:** Africa Hypertension Summer School, Maputo, Mozambique
- **April 2016:** Argentina Arterial Hypertension Society - NIC Collaboration
- **May 2016:** World Congress of Cardiology, Mexico - Mexico Declaration
- **June 2016:** Japanese Society of Hypertension (JSH) Kyoto Hypertension Summit - Kyoto Declaration
- **August 2016:** ISH & Asian Pacific Society of Hypertension (APSH) Summer School, Lucknow, India
- **Aug. 2016:** ISH symposium – ESC Congress, Rome
- **Sept. 2016:** AHA- NIC collaboration, Orlando, USA

Workshops and activities will additionally take place in 2016 as listed below.

- **October 2016:** Latin American Society of Hypertension (LASH) / SCCH Congress, Guatemala City
- **Ongoing:** Certificate Course in Management of Hypertension, India – to be launched in Seoul and with global expansion plans being made currently
- **Ongoing:** ISH Funding for Mentors and Organisations to Train Research Scholars in Hypertension

Work that has been carried out with global leaders and hypertension societies was summarised.

- **AstraZeneca (AZ)** - The AZ Healthy Heart Africa Initiative supported the ISH Maputo Teaching Seminar in May
- **European Society of Cardiology** - A joint ISH-ESC session took place at the ESC 2016 in Rome
- **International Federation for Pharmaceutical Manufacturers & Associations (IFPMA)** – ISH produced an infographic with this organisation at the time of World Hypertension Day in May 2016
- **Japanese Society of Hypertension** - The ISH was a co-signatory on the Kyoto Declaration indicating that the Societies are committed to reducing the world burden of hypertension
- **Journals** - Several Journals have supported the ISH 2016 New Investigator Poster Awards
- **The Lancet** - The Lancet Commission on Hypertension is supported financially by the ISH
- **Novartis Foundation** - Discussions have taken place with this organisation in relation to collaboration with educational activities in low and middle income countries.

As concerns interacting with global leaders, the Society has been involved as follows.

- **World Heart Federation (WHF):** representation at the World Congress of Cardiology (WCC 2016 Congress), endorsement of the WHF Roadmap, Mexico Summit Attendance and signing of the Declaration for Circulatory Health, as well as involvement with their White Paper on Salt and CVD committee
- **World Health Organization (WHO):** Attendance at the WHO Meeting on Cardiovascular Prevention on a Global Scale and involvement with their Global Hearts Initiative
- **World Hypertension League:** Salt Steering Committee participation / World Hypertension Day

11. **ISH SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS 2018-2022**

Members were encouraged to attend future Society meetings – as follows.

- **10-15 October 2018, Beijing, China** - A joint meeting with APSH
- **2020, Glasgow, UK** - A joint meeting with ESH
12. **INTRODUCTION TO NEW ISH PRESIDENT**  
R. Touyz introduced N. Poulter as the incoming ISH President – 2016-2018. She wished him all the very best for his Presidency. On behalf of the Society, N. Poulter thanked R. Touyz for her extraordinary hard work, dedication and excellent leadership during her tenure as President.

N. Poulter reported that these are exciting times for the Society. Interest in Society membership and indeed for members to join Council is growing year on year. The ISH was delighted that The Lancet Commission of Hypertension was launched at the Seoul meeting and a successful session was held on this subject the day previously.

He presented the 3 key aims of his Presidency.

- Collaborate with WHL to turn World Hypertension Day into a monthly event with the aim of screening 25 million people over the course of the month of May. To reach this target, screening would need to take place in 100 countries and within 100 sites in each of these countries. At these sites 100 people would need to be screened each day.

- To work with D. Prabhakaran and colleagues at the Public Health Foundation of India to ensure that the Certificate Course in Management of Hypertension currently running in India, and launched at the Seoul meeting, can be rolled out globally and in particular in Africa and perhaps also Latin America where there has been interest.

- To fill the gaps in our knowledge concerning what combination of drugs are optimal for blood pressure lowering and cardiovascular disease prevention in each of the world’s major ethnic groups.

13. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING & CLOSING REMARKS**  
The next meeting will take place at the time of the ISH 2018 meeting in Beijing, China (October 2018).