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**LAUNCHING THE
GLOBAL SPINAL CORD
INJURY CONSUMER
NETWORK**

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Why this initiative?

- To establish an active global network of consumer groups and organisations of people living with spinal cord injury
- To learn from each other, sharing experience and knowledge
- To impact the SCI agenda worldwide

Current global situation

- Developed world: people living with SCI have formed national self-advocacy organisations, but with limited inter-group collaboration
- Developing world: national groups are less common, although there are many small group initiatives often led by charity organisations

Challenges ... and there are many

- To promote the development of SCI consumer groups and organisations in countries where resources are limited
- To promote collaborations between organisations in resource-strong countries

Challenges cont.

- To encourage cross-national / world regional collaborations by providing opportunities to meet and discuss

The journey so far ...

- Nottwil, Switzerland 2006
- New Delhi, India 2010
- Washington DC, USA 2011
- Colombo, Sri Lanka 2011
- London, UK 2012

Collaboration

- To further collaboration between SCI consumer groups worldwide
- To collaborate with SCI professionals on SCI issues including management, research, prevention, education
- To work with all stakeholders in the SCI community to improve quality of life of people living with a spinal cord injury